



PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA

COUNCIL

9:00 AM- DELIBERATIONS LONG TERM PLAN
2024-34, WEDNESDAY 29 MAY 2024

COUNCIL CHAMBER, FIRST FLOOR
CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
32 THE SQUARE, PALMERSTON NORTH

MEMBERS

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Grant Smith (Mayor) | |
| Debi Marshall-Lobb (Deputy Mayor) | |
| Mark Arnott | Leonie Hapeta |
| Brent Barrett | Lorna Johnson |
| Rachel Bowen | Billy Meehan |
| Vaughan Dennison | Orphée Mickalad |
| Lew Findlay (QSM) | Karen Naylor |
| Roly Fitzgerald | William Wood |
| Patrick Handcock (ONZM) | Kaydee Zabelin |

AGENDA ITEMS, IF NOT ATTACHED, CAN BE VIEWED AT

pncc.govt.nz | Civic Administration Building, 32 The Square
City Library | Ashhurst Community Library | Linton Library

Waid Crockett

Chief Executive | PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

Te Marae o Hine | 32 The Square
Private Bag 11034 | Palmerston North 4442 | New Zealand
pncc.govt.nz

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PALMERSTON
NORTH
CITY

COUNCIL MEETING

29 May 2024

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Karakia Timatanga

2. Apologies

3. Notification of Additional Items

Pursuant to Sections 46A(7) and 46A(7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, to receive the Chairperson's explanation that specified item(s), which do not appear on the Agenda of this meeting and/or the meeting to be held with the public excluded, will be discussed.

Any additions in accordance with Section 46A(7) must be approved by resolution with an explanation as to why they cannot be delayed until a future meeting.

Any additions in accordance with Section 46A(7A) may be received or referred to a subsequent meeting for further discussion. No resolution, decision or recommendation can be made in respect of a minor item.

4. Declarations of Interest (if any)

Members are reminded of their duty to give a general notice of any interest of items to be considered on this agenda and the need to declare these interests.

5. Public Comment

To receive comments from members of the public on matters specified on this Agenda or, if time permits, on other matters.

6. **Confirmation of Minutes** Page 5
"That the minutes of the ordinary meeting of 15 May 2024 Part I Public be confirmed as a true and correct record."

7. **Notice of Motion - Alteration of Fees and Charges for the Impounding of Animals** Page 39
Notice of Motion, presented by Councillor William Wood.

8. **Deliberations on Submissions - Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan** Page 45
Memorandum, presented by Peter Ridge - Senior Policy Analyst, and Natasha Hickmott - Activities Manager - Resource Recovery and Sustainability.

9. **Deliberations on the 2024-34 Long-Term Plan and Associated Documents** Page 71
Memorandum, presented by David Murphy - Chief Planning Officer, Cameron Mackay - Chief Financial Officer and Chris Dyhrberg - Chief Infrastructure Officer.

10. **Karakia Whakamutunga**

11. **Exclusion of Public**

"That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting listed in the table below.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

| General subject of each matter to be considered | | Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter | Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for passing this resolution |
|---|--|---|---|
| | | | |

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public as stated in the above table.

PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting Part I Public, held in the Council Chamber, First Floor, Civic Administration Building, 32 The Square, Palmerston North on 15 May 2024, commencing at 9am.

Members Present: Grant Smith (The Mayor) (in the Chair) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Roly Fitzgerald, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Apologies: Councillors Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta (early departure)

Karakia Timatanga

Councillor Debi Marshall-Lobb opened the meeting with karakia.

76-24 Apologies: Sessions 1 and 2 – 15 May 2024

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council receive the apologies.

Clause 76-24 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Roly Fitzgerald, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor William Wood declared an interest in Submission 252 Josephine Gutry, for the Cancer Society of Manawātū (252) and sat in the gallery for this submission.

77-24 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That the minutes of the Council meeting of 1 May 2024 Part I Public and Part II Confidential be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Clause 77-24 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Roly Fitzgerald, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

78-24

Extension of meeting time

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council resolve as per Standing Order 2.1.7 that the meeting be extended until 8.00pm on Friday 17 May 2024.

Clause 78-24 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Roly Fitzgerald, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

79-24

Appointment of Chairs for following sessions

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council agree the Chairs for the remaining sessions as follows:

| Date | Session | Timeslot | Chair |
|--------|---------|--------------|-----------------------|
| 15 May | 3 | 1.30pm-3pm | Cr Debi Marshall-Lobb |
| | 4 | 3.30pm-5pm | |
| | 5 | 5.30-7.30pm | Cr Pat Handcock |
| 16 May | 6 | 9am-10.30am | Cr Mark Arnott |
| | 7 | 11am-12.30pm | |
| | 8 | 1.30pm-3pm | Cr Karen Naylor |
| | 9 | 3.30pm-5pm | |
| | 10 | 5.30-7.30pm | Cr William Wood |
| 17 May | 11 | 9am-10.30am | Cr Kaydee Zabelin |
| | 12 | 11am-12.30pm | |
| | 13 | 1.30pm-3pm | Cr Roly Fitzgerald |

| | | | |
|--|----|-------------|-------------------|
| | 14 | 3.30pm-5pm | |
| | 15 | 5.30-7.30pm | Mayor Grant Smith |

Clause 79-24 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Roly Fitzgerald, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

80-24

Hearing of Submissions - Long-Term Plan 2024-34 and the Waste Management and Minimisation Policy

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That the Council hear submissions from presenters who indicated their wish to be heard in support of their submission.
2. That the Council note the Procedure for Hearing of Submissions, as described in the procedure sheet (Attachment 1).

Clause 80-24 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Roly Fitzgerald, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Council considered submissions on the Long Term Plan 2024/34, Rates Review and Waste Management and Minimisation Policy together with supporting oral statements including additional tabled material.

The following persons appeared before the Council, made oral statements in support of their submissions and replied to questions from Elected Members.

John Holmes (236)

John Holmes spoke to his submission and made the following additional comment:

- Opposed Featherston Street changes especially the bus stop in the middle of the road.

Keith Beverage (1184)

Keith Beverage spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

Niuvaka Trust (503)

Dana Kunaiti spoke to their submission and made a Powerpoint presentation (attached separately).

Susan Baty (809)

Susan Baty spoke to her submission and made the following additional comments:

- Annual rates review - Council should look at costing multiple unit properties differently (add a differential).
- Gold Card parking fees exemption card - should increase from \$10 to \$25-50 per annum to protect it. It should be cost neutral. The extension of hours has meant parking spaces can be used all day by working seniors.
- Awapuni Community Hub – it was a good idea to purchase the land. Council should use the Te Aroha Noa model to reduce the scale to \$5M. A partnership could be with Rangitāne at Maxwell's Line.
- Cycleway to Ashhurst - would like to see finished.

REACH – Roslyn Education and Community Health Group (814)

Susan Baty (Chair) spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Councillor Leonie Hapeta left the meeting at 9:58am.

River Stop Awapuni (573)

Beverley Page supported by David Chapple from Menz Shed spoke to their submission and made the following additional comments:

- Supportive of the new Awapuni hub as the current Awapuni Library is too small and the current Awapuni community centre is always fully booked.
- The proposed new Awapuni hub will only be used as the central library when it is closed for earthquake submission.
- New building would allow groups such as Menz Shed to be accommodated in the hub
- Prefer a more modest building as the proposed design is the right size but does not need a big foyer area.

Joe Hollander (688)

Joe Hollander spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments:

- Supports the improvement of heritage projects as costs only increased over time.
- Of the 19 priority items listed in his submission, Council should prioritise advancing the Civic and Cultural Precinct Master Plan

(3) creating a City Heritage Plan (8) and the Creation of a Heritage Advisory Panel (14).

Brian Goldfinch (750)

Brian Goldfinch spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

David Chapple (855)

David Chapple spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

Manawatū Rugby Union (874)

Doug Tietjens spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

St Peter's College Year 13 Geography Class (436)

The St Peter's College Year 13 Geography Class spoke to their submission and made a Powerpoint presentation (attached separately).

The meeting adjourned (Session 1 finished) at 11.00am.
The meeting resumed (Session 2 started) at 11.20am.

Councillor Billy Meehan was not present when the meeting resumed at 11:20am.

Cancer Society of Manawatū (252)

Josephine Gutry spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Note: Councillor Wood declared an interest in Submission 252 and sat in the gallery.

Ross Linklater

Ross Linklater spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments:

- Feilding – Palmerston North cycleway: he would like to see a 5km extension to follow the Te Araroa pathway, this could possibly could seek additional central government funding.
- An off-road cycle path is preferable to following a busy road.

Ross tabled a map of the route he thought the cycleway should follow (attached separately).

Senior Reference Group (790)

Jim Jefferies (Chair) spoke to their submission and made the following

additional comments:

- Rates increases – significantly affects people on fixed incomes.
- Wastewater Project - concerned around the \$1000 levy being unaffordable for individuals. Questioned whether other projects should be eliminated to reduce the impact of the Wastewater Project.

Jim Jefferies (911)

Jim Jefferies spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

ACROSS Te Kotahitanga o Te Wairua (890)

Susan Turner, and Gail Wood spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Renee and Hugh Dingwall (921)

Renee and Hugh Dingwall (921) spoke to their submission and made the following additional comments:

- Importance of social housing in the city.
- Age friendly city with options for everyone.
- Need to have accessible public bathrooms for large powered wheelchairs.

Naoki Sakai (828)

Naoki Sakai spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments:

- Worried about affordability of proposed rates increase - 40% increase in rates expected on lifestyle blocks.
- Rating system - Staged increased is appreciated.
- Council needs to encourage growth and reduce spending during this period.

Kim Penny (945)

Kim Penny spoke to her submission and made a Powerpoint presentation (attached separately).

Paul Barris (985)

Paul Barris spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments.

- Council needs to decide the amount it wants to spend on items each year rather than offering all these projects unfunded.
- City Growth – need to allow more land to be developed. eg Golf

course on Railway Road.

- Development contributions changes make sense but more analysis needs to be done.

Walter Davis (1228)

Walter Davis spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

The meeting adjourned (Session 2 finished) at 1.01pm.

The meeting resumed (Session 3 started) at 2.00pm.

Members Present:

Councillor Debi Marshall-Lobb (in the Chair), Grant Smith (The Mayor) and Councillors Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Roly Fitzgerald, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Apologies:

Councillor Debi Marshall-Lobb took the Chair.

Councillor Lew Findlay joined the meeting for the new session.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Kaydee Zabelin declared an interest in Submission 864 Simon Ferry and sat in the gallery for this submission.

Hearing of Submissions - Long-Term Plan 2024-34 and the Waste Management and Minimisation Policy

Council considered submissions on the Long Term Plan 2024/34, Rates Review and Waste Management and Minimisation Policy together with supporting oral statements including additional tabled material.

The following persons appeared before the Council, made oral statements in support of their submissions and replied to questions from Elected Members.

North Street Development Ltd (1126 and 1127)

William Wallis and Hannah Wallis spoke to their submissions and made no additional comments.

Dale O'Reilly (428)

Dale O'Reilly spoke to her submission and tabled a document

(attached separately).

Brett Neill (773)

Brett Neill and Donna Whale spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

Wendy Brock (725)

Wendy Brock spoke to her submission and made no additional comments.

Simon Ferry (864)

Simon Ferry spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments.

- He would like to see a greater push back on some of the directives from central government.
- He would like to see Council as visionary leaders rather than managers.

Note: Councillor Kaydee Zabelin declared an interest in Submission 864 and sat in the gallery.

Matthew Willey (902)

Matthew Willey spoke to his submission and made a Powerpoint presentation (attached separately).

Central Economic Development Agency (949)

Jerry Shearman (Chief Executive) spoke to their submission and made a Powerpoint presentation (attached separately).

Unions Manawatū (957)

John Shennan, and Ben Schmidt spoke to their submission and made the following additional comments.

- Suggested Council seek a sister city in Palestine preferably in Gaza.
- Commended Councillors who voted in favour of retaining Māori wards.

The meeting adjourned (Session 3 finished) at 3.33pm.

The meeting resumed (Session 4 started) at 4.00pm.

Councillor Roly Fitzgerald was not present when the meeting resumed at 4:00pm.

Councillor Billy Meehan returned to the meeting at 4:00pm.

Councillor Leonie Hapeta returned to the meeting at 4:00pm.

Environment Network Manawatū (WMMP 291)

Helen King, spoke to their submission on the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan and made no additional comments.

Helen King (WMMP 304)

Helen King, spoke to her submission on the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan and made no additional comments.

Mike Clement (565)

Mike Clement spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments.

- There is no need to implement every directive from central Government.

Athena Women's Collective (1013)

Jean Hera and Maryanne Mechen, spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Graham Brocklebank (1117)

Graham Brocklebank spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

The Mayor entered the meeting at 4.47pm.

Te Araroa Manawatū Trust (1017)

Brian Way, (Chair) and Anthony Behrens (Trustee) spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Councillor Roly Fitzgerald entered the meeting at 4.52pm.

Kim Ace (1034)

Kim Ace spoke to her submission and made no additional comments.

Central Football (1040)

Darren Mason, (Chief Executive) and Donald Piper (Chief Operations Manager) spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Councillor Leonie Hapeta left the meeting at 5.13pm.

Manawatū Multicultural Council (1173)

Rangita Sengupta (President) spoke to their submission and made the following additional comments:

- Hancock Community House is a learning hub and the space restricts numbers for larger social events. With a larger facility they

would be able to utilise it every day of the year.

John Aitken (439)

John Aitken spoke to his submission and made a presentation (separately attached).

Te Pū Harakeke – Community Collective Manawatū (791)

Tim Kendrew, (Manager) spoke to the submission and made no additional comments.

The meeting adjourned (Session 4 finished) at 5.38pm.
The meeting resumed (Session 5 started) at 6.08pm.

Members Present: Councillor Patrick Handcock (in the Chair), Mayor Grant Smith and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Roly Fitzgerald, Lorna Johnson, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Apologies: Councillors Billy Meehan, Leonie Hapeta, Brent Barrett (late arrival), Roly Fitzgerald (early departure).

Councillor Patrick Handcock took the Chair.

81-24 Apologies - Session 5, 15 May 2024.

Moved Patrick Handcock, seconded Grant Smith.

RESOLVED

That Council receive the apologies from Councillor Billy Meehan, Brent Barrett (late arrival), Roly Fitzgerald (early departure), Leonie Hapeta.

Clause 81-24 above was carried 12 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Roly Fitzgerald, Patrick Handcock, Lorna Johnson, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Hearing of Submissions - Long-Term Plan 2024-34 and the Waste Management and Minimisation Policy

Council considered submissions on the Long Term Plan 2024/34, Rates Review and Waste Management and Minimisation Policy together with supporting oral statements including additional tabled material.

The following persons appeared before the Council, made oral statements in support of their submission and replied to questions from Elected Members.

Councillor Orphee Mickalad entered at 6.12pm.

Manawatū District Council (1131)

Mayor Helen Worboys, Hamish Waugh (General Manager – Infrastructure) and Lisa Thomas, (Senior Policy Advisor) spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Manawatū District Council (WMMP 294)

Mayor Helen Worboys, Hamish Waugh, (General Manager – Infrastructure), and Lisa Thomas, (Senior Policy Advisor) spoke to their submission on the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan and made no additional comments.

Councillor Billy Meehan entered the meeting at 6.27pm

Manawatū Estuary Management Team (1123)

Brett Russell (Chair) spoke to the submission and made the following additional comments:

- It is Council's responsibility to oversee the discharge to the river from the city.
- Ignore the information in his submission on the impact of climate change on Himatangi as he now realises this is the responsibility of the Manawatū District Council.

Manawatū Skating Club (574)

Lisa Thomas (Coach) and Nina Mercer (Co-President) spoke to the submission and made the following additional comments:

- Bell Hall in its current state is fit-for-purpose for what they primarily use it for. However, their competing skaters use Arena 3 for the floor size because Bell Hall is not an international sized rink.
- Need to be a part of the planning process for any new facilities so the builders know what they need for their skaters such as no pillars down the middle for safety reasons, and storage requirements.

Bobbi Murray on behalf of Denial Mudgway (608)

Bobbi Murray spoke to the submission and made no additional comments.

Councillor Roly Fitzgerald left the meeting at 6.53pm

Councillor Brent Barrett entered the meeting at 6.55pm

Palmerston North Heritage Trust (1037)

Margaret Tennant spoke to their submission and made the following additional comments:

- They have members belonging to a range of heritage organisations such as Secondary and Tertiary Teachers, Te Manawa Society, Caccia Birch Advisory Committee, Archives and Records Association, Historic Places Manawatū, local genealogist and military history – although not speaking for them, they have a wide interest that goes beyond archives.

Brett Hill and Tom Santing (1064)

Brett Hill and Tom Santing spoke to their submission and made the following additional comments:

- Rates review – 11% circa does not seem unreasonable.
- The additional \$1000 over next 30 years is not affordable.
- Do not like any of the options.
- Support the nice to haves which are sometimes needs – the bigger need is for people to be able to afford to pay their rates so the city can continue to provide a service.

Mandy Shaw (1081)

Mandy Shaw spoke to her submission and made no additional comments.

Manawatū Rugby Football League (497)

Lawrence Erihe, (General Manager) and Kiri Rimene, (Administrator) spoke to their submission and made the following additional comments:

- Current infrastructure concerns for hosting opportunities such as the Tamariki Māori league competition and International Masters.
- Insufficient facilities capacity to hosting large sporting events.

New Zealand Manawatū Rugby Museum (1115)

Stephen Berg, (Director) spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Karakia Whakamutunga

Councillor Debi Marshall-Lobb closed the day with karakia.

The meeting adjourned (Session 5 finished) at 7.45pm.

The meeting resumed (Session 6 started) at 9.00am, Thursday 16 May 2024

Members Present: Councillor Mark Arnott (in the Chair), The Mayor (Grant Smith), Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Roly Fitzgerald, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Karen Naylor and Kaydee Zabelin.

Apologies: Councillors William Wood (late arrival), Orphee Mickalad, Rachel Bowen (early departure), The Mayor (early departure on Council business), Vaughan Dennison (early departure).

Councillor Mark Arnott took the Chair.

Karakia Timatanga

Councillor Kaydee Zabelin opened the day with karakia.

82-24 Apologies - Session 6 and 7, 16 May 2024.

Moved Mark Arnott, seconded Pat Handcock.

RESOLVED

That Council receive the apologies.

Clause 83-24 above was carried 14 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Roly Fitzgerald, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Karen Naylor and Kaydee Zabelin.

Hearing of Submissions - Long-Term Plan 2024-34 and the Waste Management and Minimisation Policy.

Council considered submissions on the Long Term Plan 2024/34, Rates Review and Waste Management and Minimisation Policy together with supporting oral statements including additional tabled material.

The following persons appeared before the Council, made oral statements in support of their submission and replied to questions from Elected Members.

Horizons Regional Council (1140)

Chair Rachel Keedwell and Councillor Wiremu Te Awe Awe spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Soala Wilson (793)

Soala spoke to her submission and made the following additional comments:

- Questions whether Council is really listening.
- Made comparison to life in Auckland where there was no consultation and the same issues such as Featherston Street.
- Projects need to be planned with all members of the community in mind.

Malia, Kate and Adaline (704)

Malia, Kate and Adaline spoke to their submission and made the following additional comments:

- They conducted their own survey of 429 participants. 82.3% of participants felt unsafe walking outside in the dark and in particular around the Manawatū river walkway.
- Lights should be strategically placed.
- Some areas around town such as Broadway Avenue and The Square are unsafe after dark and could do with more lighting.

Bainesse and Districts Community Development Trust (913)

Alice Williamson spoke to their submission and made a Powerpoint presentation (attached separately).

Manawatū Kiwi Canoe Polo Club (961)

Greg Sawyer, (Treasurer) and Paul Hocquard, (Committee Member) spoke to their submission and made no additional comments,

Paul Perry (982)

Paul Perry spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

Councillor Rachel Bowen left the meeting at 10.00am during consideration of submission 982.

Sheridan O'Hara (1090)

Sheridan O'Hara spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments:

- Consider a Park 'n' Ride service. Possible locations on the outskirts of Napier Road and the like.
- Would consider attending more public planning sessions but can be difficult to attend with small children.

Ann Atkinson (1108)

Ann Atkinson spoke to her submission and made no additional comments.

Geoff Watson (1118)

Geoff Watson spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

Zains Alsamarae (994)

Zains Alsamarae spoke to her submission and made no additional comments.

The meeting adjourned (Session 6 finished) at 10.48am

The meeting resumed (Session 7 started) at 11.05am

Councillor William Wood entered the meeting at 11.05am

The Mayor and Councillor Billy Meehan were not present when the meeting resumed.

West Te Wanaka Road Group (1182)

Neil Wright and Grant Binns spoke to the submission and made no additional comments.

Councillors Rachel Bowen, Leonie Hapeta and Billy Meehan entered the meeting at 11.10am during submission 1182.

Ruth Jackson (1122)

Ruth spoke to her submission and made no additional comments.

Bowls Palmerston North (1120)

John Dunlop, Gary Fryer, (President) and Mike Symons (Vice President) spoke to their submission and made the following additional comments. A video was shown at the meeting (available on Youtube).

- They have a lot of support for a covered green which will cost around \$2m and they would like some support from Council.
- National event capabilities with current undertaking from Bowls New Zealand to bring a televised event to the Manawatu if the facility is in place.

Les Fugle (950)

Les spoke to his submission and made the following additional comment.

- Development contributions acts as a barrier to development.

Councillor Vaughan Dennison left at 11.44am after consideration of Submission 950.

Manawatū Regional Volleyball Association Incorporated (1164)

Kelsey Higgins (General Manager) spoke to their submission and made the following additional comments:

- Supports investment towards the masterplan around Central Energy Trust Arena – Option 1.
- This is their primary community sport hub and it is an irreplaceable asset for volleyball and other sports.
- Sport has a positive impact on the community.
- Arena states it has over 3000 bookings annually. One volleyball booking alone would easily be over 300 participants per night.
- They need to be able to plan long-term for the city and around its use.
- Between volleyball, basketball and netball they use the main areas. With the proposed growth of these sports and the growth of the city, the current infrastructure – it is not sustainable.
- Advocates for its commercial viability.
- Would like to see more cost breakdown.

Councillor William Wood left the meeting at 11.56am

Helen King (1116)

Helen King spoke to her submission and made no additional comments.

Ian Staples (1176)

Ian Staples spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

Creative Sounds Society Incorporated – The Stomach (1179)

Abi Symes, (Manager) and Amelia Shad spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

The Mayor entered the meeting at 12.14pm during consideration of Submission 1179.

Sport Manawatū (1185)

Kelly Shanks, (Chief Executive) and Carl Johnston (General Manager Partnerships – Environments) spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Kelvin Grove Community Association Incorporated (1227)

John Charlton (Treasurer) spoke to their submission and made a Powerpoint presentation (attached separately).

Environment Network Manawātū (1128)

Helen and Mads BatachEl spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

The meeting adjourned (Session 7 finished) at 12.55pm.

The meeting resumed (Session 8 started) at 1.45pm.

Members Present: Councillor Karen Naylor (in the Chair), The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Roly Fitzgerald, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Apologies: Councillors William Wood (early departure), Orphee Mickalad, Billy Meehan (early departure)

Councillor Karen Naylor took the Chair.

83-24 Apologies - Sessions 8 and 9, 16 May 2024.

Moved Karen Naylor, seconded Brent Barrett.

RESOLVED

That Council receive the apologies.

Clause 83-24 above was carried 14 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Roly Fitzgerald, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Hearing of Submissions - Long-Term Plan 2024-34 and the Waste Management and Minimisation Policy.

Council considered submissions on the Long Term Plan 2024/34, Rates Review and Waste Management and Minimisation Policy together with supporting oral statements including additional tabled material.

The following persons appeared before the Council, made oral statements in support of their submission and replied to questions from Elected Members.

Councillor Billy Meehan entered the meeting at 1.49pm

Disability Reference Group (848)

Hugh O'Connell (Chair) spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Summerset Group Holdings Limited (1119)

Tom Calvin, (Senior Development Manager) spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Robert Cuff (1124)

Robert Cuff spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments:

- Regarding cycleways and all other projects, he has not seen anything in the budget for ongoing maintenance costs. Has Council factored this in?

Jackie Wheeler (1177)

Jackie Wheeler spoke to her submission and made no additional comments.

Neil Jepsen (1183)

Neil Jepsen spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

Rowan Bell (908)

Rowan Bell spoke to his submission and made a Powerpoint presentation (attached separately).

James Irwin (265)

James Irwin spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments:

- Proud of our multiculturalism; opportunities for our children in Palmerston North.
- Changes to occur in our urban environment need to be city-wide.
- Council needs to introduce mode-shift to our population; other forms. No benefit if nobody is using it.
- There is a hierarchy involved in design- as published in the Roads and Streets framework where pedestrians are given the highest priority.
- Safety is important.

Agness Ruwangalegedara (Grace) (462)

Grace spoke to her submission and made no additional comments.

Robert Gibb (1187)

Robert Gibb spoke to his submission and made a Powerpoint presentation (attached separately).

Awapuni Park Community & Recreation Centre (1219)

Dan Mateer, (Chair) spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Councillor Billy Meehan left at 3.23pm during Submission 1219

The meeting adjourned (Session 8 finished) at 3.27pm.

The meeting resumed (Session 9 started) at 4.00pm.

Councillors Vaughan Dennison, Billy Meehan and Orphee Mickalad were not present when the meeting resumed.

Julia Manssen (962)

Julia Manssen spoke to her submission and made no additional comments.

Palmy Youth Council (1166)

Malia and Zaina (Co-Chairs) spoke to their submission and made the following additional comments:

- Developments should not overlook the youth perspective and their future.
- Voices of youth are not only voices of tomorrow but also voices of today.

Caccia Birch Trust Board (959)

Jill Brider (Chair) spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Peter W French (1089)

Peter W French spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments. Peter presented an image (attached separately).

- He would like Council to consider his idea of introducing two give way signs in Vogel Street to allow free flowing traffic and mitigate speed. Better flow to all traffic.
- He would like officers to provide a third option to allow public participation in the design.

Eric Constantine (690)

Eric Constantine spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments:

- This consultation has been the worst consultation in the past 34 years.

- Openness and transparency has been ignored and replaced by deception.
- Council's rating data is not accurate and he questions the calculations.
- Calculations are chaotic where the only simple option Land Value.

Councillor Vaughan Dennison entered the meeting at 4.51pm during Submission 690.

Paul Robertson (1169)

Paul Robertson spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments.

- When he talks to others he says Palmerston North is the best city to live but currently he does not see his opinion staying this way.
- Every house he has owned he built, 3 houses. First house 1983, he cut back on spending, was an apprentice etc to save for his deposit. He took on extra jobs to cover costs. Since then was divorced 10year separation that cost a lot. Also been made redundant twice. Now he owns his own home, another home and is mortgage free. He has been able to achieve all this by putting in effort and thinking about how he manages finances. He thinks if he can do this why can't Council do this.
- He encourages Council to save money, get best value for money and reduce debt. Would like to see Council to focus on core services.
- Thinks social housing should be covered by central Government.
- Rent for social housing he knows is around \$100 per week. As a homeowner with the proposed increases around 20-22% his rates will be around \$5k per year. People on social housing don't have to pay for that – he does.
- Land value is best as it discourages land banking.

Councillor William Wood left the meeting at 4.58pm during submission 1169.

Nigel Fitzpatrick (1172)

Nigel Fitzpatrick spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

Manawatū Tenants Union (1221)

Cameron Jenkins (Union Coordinator) spoke to their submission and made the following additional comments:

- Supports Te Pū Harakeke's request to double Strategic Priority Grant funding.

- Average person looks at CPI and not the other market labour force index or other measures.
- When a tenant cannot pay their rent they are homeless, when a landlord cannot pay their rates they sell the house and keep the capital gains.

The meeting adjourned (Session 9 finished) at 5.20pm.

The meeting resumed (Session 10 started) at 6.00pm.

Members Present: Councillor William Wood (in the Chair), The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Lorna Johnson, Roly Fitzgerald, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, and Kaydee Zabelin.

Apologies: Councillors Billy Meehan, The Mayor (early departure – Council business)

Councillor William Wood took the Chair.

84-24 Apologies - Session 10, 16 May 2024.

Moved William Wood, seconded Patrick Handcock.

RESOLVED

That Council receive the apologies.

Clause 83-24 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Roly Fitzgerald, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Leonie Hapeta declared a conflict of interest in submission 1002 Sam Illing and did not participate in discussion.

Hearing of Submissions: Long Term Plan 2024-34 and the Waste Management and Minimisation Policy

Council considered submissions on the Long Term Plan 2024/34, Rates Review and Waste Management and Minimisation Policy together with supporting oral statements including additional tabled material.

The following persons appeared before the Council, made oral statements in support of their submission and replied to questions from Elected Members.

Peter and Isobel Wilson (339)

Peter and Isobel Wilson spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Sam Illing (1002)

Sam Illing spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments.

- People are struggling with the costs of living, and so Council needs to be mindful of its expenditure.
- Debt is not a solution – recognise need for some of the expenditure

Note: Councillor Leonie Hapeta (online) declared a conflict of interest and did not participate in the discussion.

Aaron Fox (1060)

Aaron Fox spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

Palmerston North Surf Life Saving Club (1074)

Alec MacKay spoke to their submission and made the following additional comment:

- They would like annual funding for the Surf Lifesaving Club included in the Long Term Plan.

Stewart Hubbard (1158)

Stewart Hubbard spoke to his submission and made the following additional comment:

- Supports the shared pathway to Ashhurst being completed.

Malcolm Frith (1160)

Malcolm Frith spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

Jeff Cruickshank (1168)

Jeff Cruickshank spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

Housing Advice Centre (983)

Peter Grey and Susan Baty spoke to their submission and made the following additional comments:

- Additional Council support is needed across the community sector as the combination of increased need and increased costs is putting significant pressure on community services' ability

to deliver.

Karakia Whakamutunga

Councillor William Wood closed the day with karakia.

The meeting adjourned (Session 10 finished) at 7.25pm.

The meeting resumed (Session 11 started) at 9.01am, Friday 17 May 2024.

Members Present: Councillor Kaydee Zabelin (in the Chair), and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad and Karen Naylor

Apologies: Councillors William Wood and Roly Fitzgerald, Mayor Grant Smith (late arrival - Council business).

Councillor Kaydee Zabelin took the Chair.

Karakia Timatanga

Councillor Kaydee Zabelin opened the day with karakia.

85-24 Apologies - Sessions 11 and 12 - 17 May 2024.

Moved Kaydee Zabelin, seconded Patrick Handcock.

RESOLVED

That Council receive the apologies.

Clause 85-24 above was carried 13 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, and Kaydee Zabelin.

Hearing of Submissions: Long Term Plan 2024-34 and the Waste Management and Minimisation Policy

Council considered submissions on the Long Term Plan 2024/34, Rates Review and Waste Management and Minimisation Policy together with supporting oral statements including additional tabled material.

The following persons appeared before the Council, made oral statements in support of their submission and replied to questions from Elected Members.

Jacqueline Yvonne Carr (1199)

Jacqueline spoke to her submission and made no additional comments.

Maurice Job (694)

Maurice Job spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

Neighbourhood Support (Summerhill/Titirangi Drive), (863)

David spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Mason Ngatoa-Spooner (526)

Mason spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments:

- He is a DJ and concerned there is nothing in the Long-Term Plan for the night life of Palmerston North.
- Process around liquor licensing needs to be faster.
- There is no collective voice for the night life socialites.
- He sees extra safety systems could be introduced such as scanning IDs like in Taupo.
- He would like to see a Social Worker type representative.
- He would like to see more youth see Palmerston North as a place they want to go.
- Council could play a part to make it look appealing and to draw in the crowds.

Jonathan Mason (853)

Jonathan Mason spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments:

- Born and raised in the Manawatū with great amenities that are well maintained – he is very privileged to live here.
- He would like to see further adherence to good governance.
- Increase in rates could be onerous but happy to pay more if he knew where it was going.
- Priority should be given on what is essential at this point in time and not on what is a nice to have such as street frontages.
- Get in step with the rest of the country to try and curb expenditure, thinking of future costs of fuel and the flow on effect through to transport and then onto production of food.
- Projects in the past have not been completed and money needs to be put towards completing these such as stormwater.
- Supports the principle of majority rather than consensus.

Karen Keenan (1153)

Karen Keenan spoke to her submission and made no additional comments.

John Farquhar (1001)

John Farquhar spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments:

- Fairness definition has different interpretations.
- Rates from business and farmers are a deductible expense.
- No benefit from rating roads.
- Half the debt is sewage systems and the other half should be scrutinised.
- He is not comfortable with the increase in debt.
- He is not sure how to reduce the debt, referenced Kaipara as an example of what we do not want to happen.

Councillor Vaughan Dennison left the meeting at 10.18am.

Amanda Coats (1052)

Amanda Coats spoke to her submission and made the following additional comment:

- Some major projects are completely unaffordable especially where external funding is not committed and this is a major risk.

Councillor Vaughan Dennison entered the meeting at 10.26am.

Lydia I (1054)

Lydia I spoke to her submission and made the following additional comments:

- She is not part of any lobby group.
- The community is more valuable than the building they meet in. She has been to many cultural gatherings and it is the people that make it not the building itself.
- She supports a user pays approach as the process of fundraising builds community.
- It is unfair to force all rate payers to contribute – this may divide the community rather than bring it together.
- Please keep rates low so people will have more time to spend with each other.
- Spend on sensible things – building roads, maintenance, water and core things which are essential.
- Removing car parks in the town centre may have opposite

effect. It causes lack of convenient car parking where weather is not always good and supports shops.

- A utopian idea is not always practical in Palmerston North.

Joanne Wilson (917)

Joanne Wilson spoke to her submission and made the following additional comments:

- She believes wholeheartedly in Palmerston North.
- All the proposed projects have merit if there was unlimited funds.
- Council needs to consider flow-on impact.
- Increases are unsustainable and unaffordable. They need to be fair and equitable and priority given to essential services.
- Fixed income households will need to reduce expenses to afford rates. Such as cutting insurances, not heating their homes and cancelling doctors' appointments.
- Not everyone can tap into the rates rebate.
- Younger folk are being saddled with the high cost of living.
- One aspect that needs to be central is the wellbeing of people. Importance of relationship is important. Money being spent on strengthening these services as suicide rates are terrible and for continued work around social housing.
- Is Council prepared to saddle the people of Palmerston North in the debt? – they need to be good stewards of our money.
- Non-essential examples are Awapuni library, marae complex, Arena, Cuba St, Cycleway to Ashhurst and Feilding.

The meeting adjourned (Session 11 finished) at 10.49am.

The meeting resumed (Session 12 started) at 11.29am.

Chris Teo-Sherrell (WMMP 295)

Chris Teo-Sherrell spoke to his submission on the Waste Management and Minimisation Policy and made no additional comments.

Chris Teo-Sherrell (1134)

Chris Teo-Sherrell spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

Councillor Debi Marshall-Lobb left the meeting at 11.49pm.

Manawatū Business Chamber (1133)

Amanda Linsley (Chief Executive), Steve Davey (Chair) and Nikki Maw, (Vice Chair) spoke to their submission and made no additional

comments.

Planetary Accounting Network, (1129)

Sue Lund and Lauren Boyd spoke to their submission and made a presentation (attached separately).

The meeting adjourned 12.11pm due to a fire alarm.

The meeting resumed at 12.31pm.

The Mayor and Councillor Debi Marshall-Lobb entered the meeting when the meeting resumed at 12.31pm.

Federated Farmers of New Zealand (1135)

Ian Strahan, James Stuart and Hamish Easton spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Kiwi Property Holding Limited (1230)

Daniel Minhinnick (Counsel for Kiwi Property Holding Limited) and Andrew Heaphy (Plaza, Centre Manager) spoke to their submission and made the following additional comments outlined in their tabled document (attached separately).

Mapperley Family Trust (1136)

Michael Sharpe spoke to their submission and made the following additional comments:

- Introduced himself as the owner of the Sanitarium complex.
- To increase Council's revenue they could consider expanding the electronic parking system and widen their rates base and build more houses.

Te Awa Community Foundation (1138)

Cat Rikihana (Co-General Manager) and Clive Pedley (Chair) spoke to their submission and no additional comments

The Mayor left the meeting at 1.04pm during Submission 1141.

Whatunga Tuao Volunteer Central (1141)

Chris Atherton (Chair) and Kate Aplin (Manager) spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

The meeting adjourned (Session 12 finished) at 1.23pm.
The meeting resumed (Session 13 started) at 2.00pm.

Members Present: Councillor Roly Fitzgerald (in the Chair) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Apologies: Councillor Billy Meehan, Mayor Grant Smith (late arrival – Council business)

Councillor Roly Fitzgerald took the Chair.

86-24 Apologies - Sessions 13 and 14, 17 May 2024.

Moved Roly Fitzgerald, seconded Vaughan Dennison.

RESOLVED

That Council receive the apologies.

Clause 85-24 above was carried 14 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Roly Fitzgerald, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Hearing of Submissions: Long Term Plan 2024-34 – Session 13, 2.00pm, 17 May 2024

Council considered submissions on the Long Term Plan 2024/34, Rates Review and Waste Management and Minimisation Policy together with supporting oral statements including additional tabled material.

The following persons appeared before the Council, made oral statements in support of their submission and replied to questions from Elected Members.

Papaioea Pasifika Community Trust (566)

Sunlou Liuvaie spoke to their submission and made a Powerpoint presentation (attached separately).

Councillor Billy Meehan entered the meeting at 2.18pm.

Pasifika Reference Group (1170)

Andrew Jamieson and Courtney Sowman (Co- Chairs) spoke to their submission and showed a video (available on Youtube).

Foodstuff New Zealand Limited (1043)

Simone Williams and Matt Norwell spoke to their submission and made

no additional comments.

Te Manawa Museum (947 & 948)

Susana Shadbolt (Chief Executive) spoke to their submission and made the following additional comment:

- Art and culture are an essential service not a luxury.

The Mayor (Grant Smith) entered the meeting at 2.40pm.

Kevin Low (974)

Kevin Low spoke to his submission and made a Powerpoint presentation (attached separately).

Hugh Wilde (991)

Hugh Wilde spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

Mark Gunning (1130)

Mark Gunning spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments:

- Council should focus on what it can afford rather than what we want.
- Awapuni community hub – questioned the need for a new facility as there are a good range of facilities across city. Is there potential to improve existing facilities rather than build a new facility.
- Anzac Park – site of significance but struggles to see commercial viability of the project particularly the café.
- Believes it is harsh to start charging interest payments on development levies.

Marianne Poole (1157)

Marianne Poole (1157) spoke to her submission and made no additional comments.

Jeremy Neild (1161)

Jeremy Neild spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Grant Stevenson (1162)

Grant Stevenson (1162) spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

The meeting adjourned (Session 13 finished) at 3.45pm.

The meeting resumed (Session 14 started) at 4.01pm.

Councillors Lorna Johnson and Billy Meehan were not present when the meeting resumed.

Manawatū Toy Library (1210)

Emma Ochei (President) spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Councillor Lorna Johnson entered the meeting at 4.11pm during Submission 1210.

The Mayor left the meeting at 4.13pm.

Amanaki Stem Academy(1026)

Taupo Tani (Board member) spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Councillor Billy Meehan entered the meeting at 4.17pm.

Lisa Wilde (1175)

Lisa Wilde spoke to her submission and made no additional comments.

The Mayor returned to the meeting at 4.25pm.

Councillor Brent Barrett left the meeting at 4.27pm.

Hockey Manawatū (1186)

Dilan Raj, (General Manager) spoke to their submission and made no additional comments. Dilan showed a video of the hockey turfs (available on Youtube).

Pathways Presbyterian Church (1220 and 1226)

Roy Tankersley, and Judy Secombe spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Lesley Shaw (1174)

Lesley Shaw spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Jeanine Gribbin (1041)

Jeanine Gribbin spoke to her submission and made no additional comments.

Annette Nixon (687)

Annette Nixon spoke to her submission and made the following additional comments.

- Congratulated Council on the creation of the Asset

Management Plan for Property which looks at maintenance needs for the next 30 years and shows a pictorial of Council's property portfolio.

- The Awapuni Community Hub should include civil defence facilities.

John Bent (1229)

John Bent spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments:

- Public notices are not all on Councils website.

John Monro (1031)

John spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments:

- He would like to propose relocating the canoe polo venue at the Lagoon as it is very close to homes, it is a loud sport with lots of shouting.
- Consider creating a dedicated facility for this sport so it does not cause stress to residents. It causes him a lot of distress and he does not enjoy looking out on it.
- Residents have never been consulted regarding compliance with the RMA and access of this sport at the Lagoon. He thinks it's a breach of the Act as it is so close to residents.
- Proposed to have this moved up the other end of the Lagoon between a stretch where there are no homes right next to it.
- It would not be expensive to move it.

The meeting adjourned (Session 14 finished) at 5.39pm.

The meeting resumed (Session 15 started) at 6.02pm.

Members Present: Mayor Grant Smith (in the Chair) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Roly Fitzgerald, Patrick Handcock, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Apologies: Councillors Billy Meehan, William Wood (early departure).

Mayor Grant Smith took the Chair.

87-24 Apologies - Session 15– 5.30pm, 17 May 2024.

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

That Council receive the apologies.

Clause 85-24 above was carried 14 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Roly Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Vaughan Dennison declared a conflict of interest in Submission 1213 Homes for People and took no further part in discussion.

Hearing of Submissions: Long Term Plan 2024-34 – Session 15, 5.30pm, 17 May 2024

Council considered submissions on the Long Term Plan 2024/34, Rates Review and Waste Management and Minimisation Policy together with supporting oral statements including additional tabled material.

The following persons appeared before the Council, made oral statements in support of their submission and replied to questions from Elected Members.

Palmerston North Public Sculpture Trust (749)

Sue Mordaunt (Secretary) and Simon Barnett (Chair) spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Councillor Billy Meehan entered the meeting at 6.10pm after Submission 749.
Councillor Pat Handcock entered the meeting at 6.12pm after Submission 749.

Homes for People (1213)

Darren Birch (Chief Executive Officer and Founder) Cheri Birch (Team Leader and Founder) and Vaughan Dennison spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Note: Councillor Vaughan Dennison declared a conflict of interest, in Submission 1213 Homes for People and took no further part in discussion.

Central Palmerston North Business Improvement District Incorporated, (1207)

Mathew Jeanes (General Manager) spoke to the submission and made no additional comments.

Bruce Wilson (1181)

Bruce Wilson spoke to his submission and made the following additional comments:

- He lost a week to review the hard-copy of the document.
- Consultation style surprised him as it restricted the audience.
- Supplementary booklet design was not easily to navigate, page number, contents page – not well put together. The last one was very good.

Marilyn Rossiter and Andrew (1056)

Marilyn spoke to her submission and made the following additional comments:

- Keep expenditure to a reasonable level and not going for all the non-essentials.
- Focus on the core infrastructure projects such as Nature Calls
- Anzac Park and Awapuni Library hub are not essentials.
- CET, she has concerns on cost but knows it is well used.
- Seismic upgrades - wait and see what the final results are from Government before any work is done. Some common sense will prevail on what needs to be done.
- User pays on council facilities and services.
- She sees Palmerston North as an urban service centre and intends to retire here if rates are not exorbitant.
- Do not take away car parks and no more cycleways. She wants to be able to get near the shops. People should know the road code so you should not need separated cycleways.
- She accepts the legality that rates are a tax and not a fee for service.
- Wealth and the ability to pay tax are not related. For example, you could have a wealthy property but the income can be non-existent.

Roslyn Commons Project (1125)

Joshua Parsons spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Paul Smillie (317)

Paul Smillie spoke to his submission and made no additional comments.

Peter Claridge (1188)

Peter Claridge spoke to his submission and made no additional

comments.

Swamp City Roller Derby (1204)

Katherine Parlane spoke to their submission and made no additional comments.

Councillor William Wood left the meeting at 7.29pm during Submission 1204.

Manawatū Basketball (1231)

Mike Ryan (General Manager) spoke to their submission and made the following additional comments:

- More cameras down Pascal Street could deter assaults, which are a regular occurrence.

Karakia Whakamutunga

Councillor Debi Marshall-Lobb closed the meeting with karakia.

The meeting finished at 7.46 pm, 17 May 2024

Confirmed 29 May 2024

Mayor

NOTICE OF MOTION

TO: Council

MEETING DATE: 29 May 2024

TITLE: Notice of Motion - Alteration of Fees and Charges for the Impounding of Animals

FROM: Councillor William Wood

THAT COUNCIL RESOLVES:

1. To substitute the dog adoption fee from \$559 including de-sexing, registration, flea & worming and microchipping to instead a fee of \$250, noting the remainder of the fees set out in [Appendix 6](#)- Attachment A will remain unchanged
-

NOTICE OF MOTION

Under Standing Order 2.24. TE WHAKAKORE, TE WHAKAREREKE RANEI I TETAHI WHAKATAUNGA I REVOCATION OR ALTERATION OF RESOLUTION, 2.24.1 Revocation or alteration of resolutions.

I, William Wood, give notice of motion to alter the resolution of the Council on 6 March 2024:

That Council agree the fees and charges for the Impounding of Animals (in terms of section 14 of the Impounding Act 1955) and for Dog Registration and Dog Impounding (in terms of sections 37 and 68 of the Dog Control Act 1996) as proposed in Appendix 6 - Attachment A for public notification to take effect from 1 July 2024.

and give notice of my intention to move the following alteration at the Council meeting of 29 and 30 May 2024:

To substitute the dog adoption fee from \$559 including de-sexing, registration, flea & worming and microchipping to instead a fee of \$250, noting the remainder of the fees set out in Appendix 6- Attachment A will remain unchanged.

Rationale

LTP Submission 1034 specifically submitted on this issue and called for Council to lower the dog adoption fee. They cited the higher level of dog euthanasia, animal rights, and moral obligation of Council to rehome dogs as their rationale for this. In their submission they suggested \$425 as a base cost for adopting a dog but in verbal questions confirmed a lower cost would be better, although not zero.

We believe this notice of motion is important so this can be considered alongside our LTP deliberations. The exact change to the fee can be debated and an amendment could be put up by councillors if they sought a different fee than \$250. Regardless of exactly what the fee is set at it is important we have the ability to have this debate in our LTP deliberations.

With 40 - 50 dogs being adopted per year, in the 2023-2024 year these were \$400, meaning a drop to \$250 would result in an actual decrease in income of \$6,000 - \$7,500 which we believe is negligible compared to the benefits in saving the lives of re-homeable dogs.





Moved: Councillor William Wood

Seconded: Councillor Mark Arnott


C. Wood.


MARK ARNOTT

Signatories

Kaydee Zobel 
Brent Barrett 
Grant Smith 


ATTACHMENTS

1. Officers response - Notice of Motion - Dog Adoption Fee [↓](#) 

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council

MEETING DATE: 29 May 2024

TITLE: Officer Response to Notice of Motion for fees and charges for the Impounding of Animals

PRESENTED BY: Rebeka Adamson, Acting Environmental Protection Services Manager

APPROVED BY: Kerry-Lee Probert, Acting Chief Customer Officer

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

1. That Council receive the Officer response.
-

1. ISSUE

- 1.1 In relation to the proposed motion outlined in the Notice of Motion, officers provide the following information.
- 1.2 If the Notice of Motion was to be agreed by Council, a reduction in revenue can be expected, however this is not likely to affect rates as the total amount estimated to be covered as the difference is a small figure.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In accordance with Section 69A of the Dog Control Act 1996, impounded dogs must be microchipped and registered before release.
- 2.2 In accordance with Section 10 of the Animal Welfare Act 1999, the physical, health, and behavioural needs of the animal must be met in a manner that is in accordance with both good practice and scientific knowledge.
- 2.3 A decrease in adoption fee to either \$250 (according to Notice of Motion) or to \$425 (as suggested by submitter 1034) could be accommodated within Council's Revenue and Financing Policy, which was set at Medium/High (60-79%) by resolution on 6 March 2024 (24.7-24).

3. ANALYSIS

- 3.1 The following table provides data on the number of dogs registered, impounded and adopted during the last three financial years.

Table 1. Number of dogs registered, impounded, and adopted per Financial Year

| Number of dogs per annum | FY 2020/21 | FY 2021/22 | FY 2022/23 |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Registered | 9,021 | 9,565 | 9,636 |
| Impounded | 375 | 351 | 428 |
| Rehomed ¹ | 30 | 44 | 45 |

- 3.2 The FY 2024/25 adoption fee of \$559 was expected to cover most costs. It was calculated taking into account the average cost per dog over the last 3 years at a veterinary cost of: \$311 for vaccination, worming and flea treatment, microchipping and de-sexing, and then a further charge for registration (adjusted annually).
- 3.3 It should be noted that the cost of de-sexing is dependent upon the size and sex of the dog, and in the case of medium to large female dogs, the actual cost is not expected to be covered by the adoption fee. For FY 2023/24 the costs for de-sexing a female dog ranged from \$280-\$650, while the de-sexing of male dogs was a fixed fee of \$220. De-sexing costs are reviewed annually and are expected to increase.
- 3.4 The 1 July 2024 fee nor the adoption fee proposed by the Notice of Motion include sustenance for the dog while in Council care (\$23 per day) or officer time. The average length of time to rehome a dog for the current FY year is 22 days, which is calculated from the date of behavioural assessment until the date rehoming is confirmed.
- 3.5 The following table is based on an assumption of 40 dogs being adopted per year and provides a comparison of three different adoption fees.

¹ Officers work with organisations such as SPCA, Paws, HUHA, Retired Working Dogs NZ, and other councils across New Zealand to rehome dogs. In FY 2020/21 14 dogs, FY 2021/22 13 dogs and in FY 2022/23 20 dogs were successfully rehomed in this way and are included in the rehoming statistics in Table 1.

Table 2. Comparison between pricing models

| | Notice of Motion | Submitter suggestion | Fee as of 1 July 24 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Adoption Fee | \$ 250.00 | \$ 425.00 | \$ 559.00 |
| Expected Revenue | \$ 10,000.00 | \$ 17,000.00 | \$ 22,360.00 |
| Reduction in revenue | -\$ 12,360.00 | -\$ 5,360.00 | |

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 If the fee for 1 July was to be reconsidered, officers advice is that it be set at a minimum of \$311 to cover most costs associated with rehoming.

5. COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

| | |
|--|--|
| Does the Council have delegated authority to decide? | Yes |
| Are the decisions significant? | No |
| If they are significant do they affect land or a body of water? | No |
| Can this decision only be made through a 10 Year Plan? | No |
| Does this decision require consultation through the Special Consultative procedure? | No |
| Is there funding in the current Annual Plan for these actions? | Yes |
| Are the recommendations inconsistent with any of Council's policies or plans? | Yes |
| As stated in the Notice of Motion, this decision in contrary to the 6 March 2024 agreement of fees and charges relating to dog impounding. | |
| The recommendations contribute to Goal 3: A Connected and Safe Community | |
| The recommendations contribute to the achievement of action/actions in Safe Communities | |
| The action is: Provide regulatory services including Dog Control Policy and Bylaw | |
| Contribution to strategic direction and to social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being | Levels of service are not affected by the proposed motion. |

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council

MEETING DATE: 29 May 2024

TITLE: Deliberations on Submissions - Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan

PRESENTED BY: Peter Ridge - Senior Policy Analyst, and Natasha Hickmott - Activities Manager - Resource Recovery and Sustainability

APPROVED BY: David Murphy, Chief Planning Officer

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

1. That Council receive the [submissions](#) on the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2024.
 2. That Council amend action 3.6 of the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2024 to read:
"Action 3.6 - Develop a city-wide kerbside food scraps and green waste collection service"
 3. That Council amend action 3.7 of the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2024 to read:
"Action 3.7 - Introduce residential food scraps and green waste collection and processing"
 4. That Council instruct the Chief Executive to prepare a draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan incorporating the changes above for presentation to the Council meeting on 26 June 2024 for adoption.
-

1. ISSUE

- 1.1 The community has had an opportunity to respond to Council's draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP). This draft Plan sets out Council's objectives for managing and minimising waste and includes the proposed actions for achieving those objectives.
- 1.2 The Council received 314 written submissions on the draft WMMP. The Council also received approximately 300 further written submissions through the consultation on the draft Long-Term Plan (LTP) in relation to the Resource Recovery Activity. There are significant overlaps between these two sets of submissions, and they are considered together as being relevant to decisions about the draft WMMP.

- 1.3 This memorandum provides analysis of the issues raised by submitters and identifies any changes which we recommend should be made to the draft WMMP before it is adopted.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council is required by the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 to review its WMMP at least once every six years. The Council adopted the current WMMP in 2019, just before the development of the 2021-31 LTP.

- 2.2 Before undertaking a review of the WMMP, the Council must prepare a waste assessment in accordance with sections 50 and 51 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008. We contracted Eunomia to conduct the waste assessment on our behalf. The period assessed was May – June 2022. The draft report was then used to inform the development of the draft Resource Recovery Plan.

- 2.3 On 14 February 2024, Council received the Palmerston North Waste Assessment 2023 and made the following resolution:

"That Council confirm it has considered the Palmerston North Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2019 in light of the draft Palmerston North City Council Waste Assessment 2023 and agree to develop a replacement Waste Management and Minimisation Plan."

- 2.4 On 13 March 2024, the Sustainability Committee considered the draft WMMP and approved it for public consultation concurrent with the draft 2024-34 LTP consultation.

- 2.5 The written submission period was open from 8 April until 9 May 2024. Between 15-17 May the Council heard oral submission on the draft WMMP as part of the hearings for oral submissions on the draft LTP.

3. ANALYSIS

- 3.1 We have provided analysis of the issues raised by submitters in Attachment 1 to this memorandum. This analysis addresses the points raised by submitters in response to the specific proposals included in the draft WMMP. We also provide analysis and suggested responses to issues which were not included in the draft WMMP but which are related to the resource recovery activity. Some matters are out of scope for the draft WMMP but may be considered as part of the deliberations on the draft LTP.

4. RECOMMENDED CHANGES

- 4.1 We recommend amending actions 3.6 and 3.7 of the draft WMMP, as shown below:

"Action 3.6 - Develop a city-wide kerbside food scraps and green waste collection service."

"Action 3.7 - Introduce residential food scraps and green waste collection and processing."

- 4.2 These amendments are in response to the strong level of support for including green waste along with the proposed food scraps kerbside collection. Action 3.6 provides for a detailed investigation of the proposed service, which will inform the design and procurement process in action 3.7, for introduction of the service in 2028.
- 4.3 We do not recommend any further changes to the draft WMMP, though we note in the analysis document many actions which are currently underway or are already planned to happen. For instance, we will be drafting a replacement Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw in 2024/25, and we will consider the suggestion around making recycling mandatory at events as part of that review process.
- 4.4 In other instances, there are discussions underway which will continue and inform the progress of actions in the draft WMMP following adoption, such as considering the suggestion by Manawātū District Council for some kind of partnership or collaboration when we undertake the service delivery review.

5. NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 If the Council agrees to the recommendations in this memorandum then we will incorporate the changes into the draft WMMP for adoption by the Council on 26 June, alongside the draft LTP.

6. COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

| | |
|--|---|
| Does the Council have delegated authority to decide? | Yes |
| Are the decisions significant? | No |
| If they are significant do, they affect land or a body of water? | No |
| Can this decision only be made through a 10 Year Plan? | No |
| Does this decision require consultation through the Special Consultative procedure? | Yes |
| Is there funding in the current Annual Plan for these actions? | Yes |
| Are the recommendations inconsistent with any of Council's policies or plans? | No |
| The recommendations contribute to Goal 4: An Eco City | |
| The recommendations contribute to the achievement of action/actions in Resource Recovery | |
| The action is: Review the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan | |
| Contribution to strategic direction and to social, economic, | This analysis of submissions informs the Council's decision-making on the new Waste Management and Minimisation Plan. This will set out how the Council will work towards |

| | |
|--|--|
| environmental, and cultural well-being | achieving its waste minimisation outcomes over the next six years. |
|--|--|

ATTACHMENTS

1. Analysis of WMMP Submissions - May 2024 [↓](#) 

Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan

Analysis of issues raised during
consultation and recommendations for
changes

May 2024

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to summarise the key points raised by submitters and provide analysis of those issues. Where appropriate we have recommended changes to the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) for the Council to consider as part of its deliberations on the draft WMMP and the draft Long-Term Plan 2024-34 (LTP).

We carried out public consultation on the draft WMMP between 8 April and 9 May 2024. The consultation process was conducted concurrent with the public consultation on the draft LTP.

We facilitated several opportunities for people to learn more about the draft WMMP, ask questions of staff, and make a submission:

- The Council hosted a session for the Environment Sector along with Environment Network Manawātū (ENM) on 8 April, where attendees from organisations affiliated with ENM were presented with information about the draft LTP and WMMP.
- We held a meeting with representatives of the Waste Sector on 11 April to present information about the draft WMMP, and answer questions about the proposals in the document.
- We ran an open-day at the Awapuni Resource Recovery Centre on Saturday 13 April where approximately 120 members of the public were given a tour of the recycling facility and given the opportunity to take away information about the draft WMMP. Staff were on site to answer questions about the draft WMMP.
- We held a community drop-in session at the Central Library on Thursday 18 April from 4-6pm, where members of the public could drop-in and ask questions about the draft WMMP, and take away copies of the consultation document and submission form.
- The Council ran the LTP Expo at the Conference and Function Centre on Saturday 20 April from 10am until 1pm. Resource Recovery had a stall at the Expo where people could have discussions with staff about waste minimisation, the proposals in the draft WMMP, and take away the consultation material.

All of these consultation events were very well attended, and engagement with the public was extensive.

In addition to making the consultation material and submission form available online, we also promoted our consultation on the draft WMMP via Council's social media platforms. We received a total of 214 comments across four posts. More details are included in the Social Media comments section on page 19.

We received 314 submissions on the draft WMMP. We received approximately 300 further submissions via the LTP consultation process. These submissions were in relation to the draft Resource Recovery Plan and waste-related issues including the draft WMMP.

Oral submissions on the draft WMMP were heard as part of the draft Long-Term Plan submission hearings.

Key proposals

The draft WMMP sets out how the Council proposes to minimise waste over the next six years, across six objectives. The draft Plan includes 24 actions that we think will help us to achieve our objectives.

Through the public consultation we sought feedback on all aspects of the draft Plan, specifically on our key proposals. These were:

- Whether they supported the proposal to introduce a food scraps kerbside collection, and whether the collection should include food scraps only, food scraps and green waste, or neither
- Whether they supported the proposal to undertake a review of our kerbside collection services, particularly whether there is a better way to deliver services to improve waste minimisation outcomes
- Whether they supported our proposed waste minimisation targets, or if they thought we should set alternative targets.

Analysis

Kerbside food scraps collection

We received 303 submissions on this part of the proposal. The vast majority were in favour (259 submitters, 82% of submitters). Just under 9% did not support the proposal for a kerbside food scraps collection service, with the remaining 9% either not sure or not commenting on this proposal.

Submitter points made in favour of the proposal:

- Gets waste out of landfill and reduces need for waste bins/bags
- Inability to compost at home (lack of space, lack of knowledge, lack of time, concerns about attracting pests) makes this beneficial
- Has worked well in other places (e.g. Tauranga, New Plymouth)
- Will promote thoughtfulness to be less wasteful
- May not use it personally, but should be available for others who don't compost at home
- Production of compost is a useful resource and would reduce anaerobic decomposition if it's not buried in landfill

Submitter points made in opposition:

- Bins are smelly and gross, and attract pests and rodents
- Should be opt in/opt out/user pays
- Completely unnecessary for rural dwellings or lifestyle blocks where people have space to compost, animals to feed food scraps, or land in which to bury food scraps
- Should encourage people to compost at home, this would be more sustainable and cheaper
- Shouldn't have to pay more for a kerbside food scraps collection when we already pay for waste collection in our rates
- Don't want the cost added to our rates
- Don't need a food scraps collection – use Insinkerator instead – but would use a green waste collection

Concerns and suggestions:

- The service should be introduced earlier
- Concerns about smell, mess (especially cleaning a food scraps bin), and risk of attracting rodents/pests
- Concerns about cost via rates. Many already have a green waste collection service and wanted assurance that the new service wouldn't cost more than they currently pay privately
- Should be optional (i.e. opt in/opt out) rather than mandatory as some people already compost or have a system for dealing with food scraps
- The resulting compost should be free for ratepayers
- Make sure it is complementary to existing services such as community composting

Green waste

We also asked whether the collection service should be food scraps only, or a combined collection of food scraps and green waste, or neither. Again, the overwhelming majority favoured collection of both food scraps and green waste with 87% in favour. A very small number (2%) preferred a food scraps only collection, while just under 11% said we should collect neither food scraps or green waste, or didn't comment at all.

Submitter points made in favour of including green waste with the food scraps collection:

- We produce a lot of green waste but have nowhere to put it, or no capacity to compost it
- Don't want to contaminate my compost with weeds
- Would be good to share my green waste and for others to benefit from the compost
- Not everyone has the space to compost, especially on smaller sections or in apartments
- Many have a process for dealing with food scraps, but struggle to deal with green waste.
- Some people don't have a car to take green waste to Awapuni so a kerbside collection that included green waste would be helpful
- Combined food scraps and green waste in a single bin for collection could be less smelly
- A larger combined bin could be more rodent resistant
- Would reduce the size of waste bin needed, and wouldn't have to pay so much
- Would allow properties to be better maintained
- Making it more flexible by including both food scraps and green waste will make it more accessible and efficient to collect

Submitter points made in opposition to including green waste in the food scraps collection (either food scraps only, or neither):

- Shouldn't contaminate green waste with food scraps like meat and bones
- People are lazy – if they can't be bothered to compost at home they won't bother to put out a bin
- Would increase the number of pests and rodents
- Happy with the current arrangements
- I don't produce much waste so don't need it
- Council isn't competent enough to collect garden rubbish at the kerbside. Will be another expensive blow out failed service like current waste collection.

- A green waste only collection would be helpful; don't need a food scraps collection as we already compost our food scraps.

Recommendation: amend action 3.6 to “Develop a city-wide kerbside food scraps and green waste collection service” and amend action 3.7 to “Introduce residential food scraps and green waste collection and processing.”

The draft WMMP includes the action to develop a food scraps kerbside collection service (and potentially include green waste in this service). There are strong arguments from submitters for making this service more comprehensive than just collecting food scraps – the emphasis on reducing the amount that is sent to landfill, the difficulty many have in correctly disposing of green waste, and how this has worked well for other Councils that have implemented a green waste or combined collection.

The specific details of the service have yet to be developed. These will be considered once the detailed investigation has been completed. The design of the service will consider the factors raised by submitters including the size of the bin, whether it will be a co-mingled collection, what is permitted or prohibited for collection, frequency of collection, and how to minimise negative impacts such as smell and pests. The proposed service will be presented to Elected Members, and there will be a community engagement process which will provide further useful feedback once details of the design and the projected costs are known.

We recommend that actions 3.6 and 3.7 are amended to reflect the inclusion of green waste as well as food scraps in the proposed kerbside collection service. The budgets for these actions which were included in the draft LTP were based on a food scraps only service. The investigation we carry out in action 3.6 will identify more detailed costs, including for a food scraps and green waste kerbside collection service. These costs are therefore likely to be higher than what has been included in the draft LTP for action 3.7 (which is based on a food scraps only collection).

Review of services

We received 298 submissions on our proposal to review our kerbside collection services. A large majority of submitters supported our proposal (just under 74% of all submitters on the draft WMMP), with a sizeable group (just under 18%) who were not sure or who didn't comment. Just under 9% didn't support this proposal.

There was some confusion among submitters over what this action would involve. This was combined with misinformation from some submitters that Council rated for a kerbside waste collection service (and that therefore they would be charged twice if the kerbside service collected was contracted out). Some assumed that Council had already decided that services would be contracted out regardless, or that it was a cost-saving measure (or that costs would continue to increase regardless).

Most of the comments speculated on what the service review would recommend. As a result submitters made suggestions for what they would like to see change in the delivery of kerbside collection services rather than commenting on whether Council should review the way services are delivered.

Submitter points made in favour:

- If Council provided a wheelie bin as well as bags it would be more appealing, gives more choices
- If it creates a cost saving then it is a good idea
- Having services provided by third parties allows Council to act as a regulator with oversight/overview
- Providing small kerbside bins would dramatically reduce littering
- Bins are better than bags, don't get ripped open and are easier to take out to the kerb.
- Ratepayers shouldn't be subsidising anything. Should be opt-in with full cost recovery by user pays
- We need soft plastic recycling (e.g. FuturePost)
- Good idea – too many trucks coming down a street on the same day. Needs to be more efficient
- Opportunity to work with Manawātū District Council to improve service delivery and diversion from landfill

Submitter points made in opposition

- Council doesn't need to be involved, it should be left to the private sector
- It's not broken, so there's no need to fix the system
- People use wheelie bins rather than Council bags because the bags are too expensive.
- Outsourcing is grossly inefficient and expensive. We already pay for these services in our rates, so Council should just get on and provide the services
- Services that everyone uses should be public-owned and publicly-provided
- Moving services to the private sector might be efficient in the short term but it will move the focus to profit and doesn't account for social value
- Current system works well, pickups are efficient, so there isn't a problem
- Plenty of private companies to choose from. Stick to bags as a user pays system
- Different companies providing these services could lose out
- Privatisation of public services leads to cost increases
- The Council's rubbish and recycling team are reputation-enhancing legends. But savings by contracting out services come at the cost of workers
- Don't need a costly review increasing rates

Recommendation: no change

While some submitters argued that the current system is working well, most submitters agree that there is value in conducting a review of services – even if there are different views on what should be done as a result of that review.

The results of that review, once it is conducted, have not been predetermined. The purpose is to gather information, identify a range of options that could meet the outcomes for effective and efficient waste management and minimisation, and provide advice to Elected Members on which options the Council should consider developing further. Further community engagement on a

detailed proposal for any change to Council's services would enable the Council to receive community feedback that relates specifically to changes that impact on them.

Staff have already had preliminary discussions with staff from Manwatū District Council on opportunities to work together in the way services are delivered. These discussions will continue, and can be incorporated as part of the service delivery review.

Waste Minimisation Targets

We received 288 submissions on our proposal to set waste minimisation targets related to the performance targets set by Ministry for the Environment (MfE). A large majority of submitters were in favour – just over 73%. A very small number of submitters were opposed to these targets (6%) with nearly 21% not sure or not making any comment about the waste minimisation targets.

Submitter points made in favour:

- Minimising waste is a good idea, and collecting food scraps would help achieve the minimisation targets
- 30% is a low target, aim higher
- If the government lowers the targets, they should stay at the current level
- Businesses need to take more responsibility for the waste they produce
- Should focus on reducing amount of waste created in the first place
- Need to make it easy for people to meet the targets
- Education is necessary to get people on board
- Make it the collectors responsibility to sort, will make it easier to meet the targets
- Plenty of scope to meet the targets by reducing construction waste

Submitter points made in opposition:

- Targets are pointless because it all goes to landfill anyway
- Responsibility belongs with the source of the waste – manufacturers and suppliers – before the products reach consumers
- Standards are too high
- Council should represent ratepayers rights and deliver first class service instead of pandering to government and global agenda with ministry targets
- Confused about how targets will be measured or applied
- Only support the targets if it didn't penalise households already meeting the targets
- Concerned about the cost, need to be careful with ratepayers money

We also asked if people wanted the Council to consider alternative waste minimisation targets, and what they should be. Just six submitters answered this question, but most did not suggest alternative targets. Some suggested that we should just try harder or work to do better than the previous year, while others were disapraging of setting targets altogether. One submitter suggested that the targets could be related to the number of people that are residing at a house. They also suggested that the targets should be set much lower (beginning at 15%, rising to 20% by 2030).

Recommendation: no change

While those who were opposed or unsure about the targets are rightly concerned about the costs that Council faces, and the impacts of those costs on the entire community, there are higher costs for non-compliance with the performance standards proposed by MfE. In monetary terms, the Council could potentially lose millions of dollars in waste levy funding, which would create a shortfall in the Resource Recovery Activity. To meet the shortfall the Council may have to consider raising rates or other charges. There are also significant environmental costs associated with increased amounts of waste being sent to landfill.

While the proposed targets are based around the performance standards set by MfE, there remains uncertainty about when those standards will come into effect. There is also uncertainty about how performance will be measured, and therefore it is unclear whether our proposed actions will be sufficient to meet the target set for 2028. If the WMMP includes the waste minimisation targets as proposed, then it provides the Council with a clear direction for minimising waste on an increasing basis over the next six years.

The alternative targets suggested by submitters are not practical. The lower target proposed (15%, rising to 20% by the end of the decade) is already being met so would not achieve a meaningful improvement in our waste minimisation outcomes. The other suggestion – basing targets based on the number of people in each household – would be impractical to monitor and administratively burdensome.

Costs

Many submitters expressed general concerns about costs, both in relation to the proposal to introduce a new kerbside collection, and the cost of disposing of waste more generally. From comments it appears that submitters believe the Council operates “the tip” or the waste transfer station. While the Council does operate the Ashhurst Waste Transfer Station it does not own or operate the waste transfer station on Matthews Ave (what some may identify as “the tip”), neither does it own or operate the landfill at Bonny Glen in Marton.

Submitter comments:

- The fee for any new food scraps or organics collection should be low or comparable to existing green waste collections offered by private collectors
- Overall concern about the affordability of rates and the costs to dispose of waste
- Council should offer one free pass per year to households to dispose of waste at the tip
- Make compost available to people for free, or offer people a credit for compost when dropping off green waste at Awapuni.

Recommendation: no change

We acknowledge the concerns and frustrations with costs in relation to resource recovery. However the Council has no control over the charges set for use of the Matthews Ave Transfer Station or the fees charged by the Bonny Glen landfill (which impact on the cost of collecting and disposing of waste. Approximately a quarter of the cost to dispose of waste is the waste levy which is set by MfE. This has been deliberately increased over recent years to disincentivise disposing of waste.

However, the Council receives part of this waste levy which is used for waste minimisation activities set out in the WMMP. Without that levy funding, the Council would have to fund those activities from other sources such as rates or forego those activities altogether.

One aspect where the Council has direct control over waste disposal costs is the cost of Council rubbish bags. This is a user-pays system which is not funded by rates – the full costs of providing the kerbside waste collection service is met by the revenue from selling rubbish bags. The cost of these bags have risen in the past several years to reflect the increase in costs for Council to provide this service (including the rising cost to dispose of this waste to Bonny Glen).

The costs of kerbside services will be considered as part of the Service Delivery Review which we have proposed to carry out as part of the draft WMMP. While cost may not be the principal factor under consideration, the Council is always mindful of the cost of any services it introduces.

Providing a free annual pass to dispose of waste at the tip (presumably, the Waste Transfer Station at Matthews Ave) is not recommended. While this would be convenient for many households, it would act as incentive to dispose of waste rather than find alternative uses such as recycling or repurposing materials, contrary to the purpose of the draft WMMP. Also, as the Council does not own or operate the landfill or the Matthews Ave Transfer Station, the cost for these “free” passes would come from rates at a significant expense.

Council currently sells compost which it generates using the green waste dropped off at Awapuni. There is a charge to drop off green waste. However, the revenue generated from the sale of compost together with the charges we receive for taking green waste do not fully meet the cost of this activity, so there is a partial subsidy of this activity from general rates. If the Council decided to make compost available for free to the general public then the net effect would be an increase to the rates to make up for the revenue shortfall. Council already provides a portion of its compost free to community groups.

Complexity

Several submitters observed that the recycling system was complicated and confusing that this was a barrier to good outcomes. Some suggested that it was easier to put everything in the rubbish rather than sort through recycling. There was also frustration at recent changes to recycling rules limiting what can be put in the kerbside collection.

Submitter comments:

- It’s difficult to work out what goes where
- Too many things can’t be recycled anymore
- Keep it simple or people won’t use it

Recommendation: no change

We acknowledge the frustration that many people feel with the complexities of the current system. The proposed Service Delivery Review offers an opportunity to consider ways in which we can

simplify some aspects. There is also an opportunity to invest more in education, including in more innovative ways to engage and educate people.

Education

The importance of education in recycling was especially important to many submitters. The recent open day at Awapuni Resource Recovery Centre was noted as a big success, with calls to make the open day a regular opportunity.

Submitter comments:

- Education is very important, keep it up
- The open day at Awapuni Resource Recovery Centre was very popular, should be a regular feature
- Provide more direct communication to households (e.g. not via social media or on the website) so it's easier to know what can be recycled.
- Involving kids with recycling education is great, especially at primary schools
- Consider educating people about how to compost at home

Recommendation: no change

We recognise the importance of education in the resource recovery activity. There is an opportunity to revisit some of our existing approaches to education, identify new or more innovative ways to educate people, and ensure that the messages are reaching the right people in the right way. We will take on board the comments from submitters as we consider the types of education programmes we will develop for the coming years.

Kerbside collections

In addition to the specific questions about the proposed food scraps collection service, there were general comments about the kerbside collections that the Council offers, and how these compare to private waste collections. Submitters expressed a strong preference for wheelie bins for waste collection, rather than bags.

Submitter comments:

- Review the frequency of the waste collection (fortnightly instead of weekly)
- Council should introduce a wheelie bin for waste instead of using plastic bags. Would be more convenient and put less plastic in landfill
- Consider a central collection area within a group of streets so that trucks don't have to go down each street to collect rubbish
- Learn from other councils (several examples were suggested such as New Plymouth, Tauranga, Christchurch, and some cities in Australia as well)

Recommendation: no change

Many of the issues and suggestions raised by submitters will be considered as part of the Service Delivery Review. We recognise the advantages of moving to a wheelie bin for kerbside waste collection, however this should be considered as part of a broader review of our kerbside services, and with a view to the upcoming requirement to introduce a kerbside food scraps collection by 2030. The Service Delivery Review is planned to begin in the 2024/25 financial year, so this will be a priority action once the draft WMMP is adopted.

Additional collections

Several submitters made suggestions about additional collections such as an inorganic collection or the hazardous waste collection.

Submitter comments:

- Introduce a regular inorganic collection (suggested frequency could be 6-monthly or annually). This would be especially beneficial for those who don't have transport and can't take waste to the tip
- Make the hazardous waste collection an annual service
- Consider a "swap meet" where people can bring inorganic waste for others to take away (for a donation), and whatever is not taken away is then taken to the tip

Recommendation: no change

We have previously evaluated the benefits and disadvantages of an inorganic kerbside collection. However, these types of collection are often costly in relation to the benefit they provide in minimising the amount of illegal dumping or "fly tipping." Informal discussions with other local authorities show that they are moving away from offering these types of collections, whilst some Councils (such as Auckland Council) require that residents "book" their collection to avoid unsightly collections of waste around the city.

The "swap meet" suggestion has a similar function to a kerbside inorganics collection, except that it relies on a central place for people to bring their waste. This would make eventual collection of residual waste easier, but it also relies on residents being able to bring their waste to the central location. Many of those who favour an inorganic collection cite lack of transport as a reason for needing such a collection.

The Council has previously considered whether the hazardous waste collection should be offered as an annual service, but ultimately decided on a biennial service. If Council wishes to make the collection annual then there would need to be a consequent increase in the related budget.

Recycling

Submitters made suggestions for additional recycling initiatives which they think the Council should adopt or investigate. One initiative in particular concerns soft plastics, which submitters noted many other major urban centres already provide.

Submitter comments

- Have a place for recycling soft plastics; work with Soft Plastic Recycling NZ/Packaging Forum to offer this service in Palmerston North
- Set up a shop at the tip where recovered goods can be sold to the public
- The scope of what can be recycled has shrunk. Council should investigate more options for recycling these items, including polystyrene
- There needs to be a better program for recycling batteries
- Can't recycle broken glass in kerbside collection.

Recommendation: no change

The soft plastics recycling scheme provides the opportunity for the public to take soft plastics to drop off points, often located in supermarkets. This is run by the Packaging Forum and is funded by Soft Plastic Recycling Scheme Members (including brands, manufacturers, retailers, and service providers). The collected plastic is taken to Future Post (either in Waiuku or Blenheim) and processed alongside other plastic resin grades to form fence posts and rails among other things.

We have some concern that this process may not be consistent with the new direction outlined in the New Zealand Waste Strategy 2023 *Rautaki Para* around creating a circular economy. However, given the demand for this programme in our region, we have continued to investigate how this recycling opportunity could be offered in Palmerston North.

We have reached out and had discussions with the scheme manager. The main challenges for the scheme being rolled out in Manawatu are:

- a) Establishing a collection provider for the materials (soft plastics) from all the participating stores in the region; and
- b) Determining an adequate storage facility for the unbaled (lose) soft plastics. This needs to be a covered and dry space and provide the ability to bale the soft plastics – prior to bulk dispatch the Future Post (in either Waiuku or Blenheim).

In most regions that have the soft plastics recycling scheme the operations are undertaken by the private market. We have been unable to determine whether the scheme managers have proactively approached private entities in the region for this. Given that, we have investigated Council being the possible service provider i.e. we provide the collections, storage, baling, and logistic support to freight.

We do not currently have the storage, fleet, or collection capacity to deliver this without capital and on-going operational investment. These costs are as yet undetermined. We note that the scheme does provide revenue for the service, but we would need to understand whether this would recover all costs incurred by Council. We intend investigating this as part of the action to carry out a Service Delivery Review included in 2024/25, as indicated in the draft WMMP.

The Council does not own or operate the landfill or the Matthews Ave transfer station, so the responsibility for establishing a shop where recovered material could be sold to the public would rest with Envirowaste as the owner and operator of the transfer station. However, the main issue is

the lack of suitable space for such a facility. We can initiate discussions with Envirowaste about this opportunity, but the decision would rest outside of Council's ability to influence.

We have been working on the establishment of a polystyrene recycling service for several years and expect to announce the launch of a service for polystyrene recycling later in 2024. Our draft WMMP includes an action to investigate opportunities for recycling "hard to recycle" materials. This is an ongoing action which reflects our endeavours to improve the range of recycling opportunities in the city.

We already provide a battery recycling option at the Ferguson Street Recycling Centre. This service accepts all batteries except for larger traction batteries from electric vehicles (EV). However, such traction batteries may be accepted by scrap yards as recoverable for recycling or repurposing.

We don't accept broken glass in our kerbside collection because this is a health and safety matter. We note in our education and communications about recycling that any broken glass should be wrapped in paper and placed in the rubbish collection. We don't have any plans to change this current requirement.

Licensing

The Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw includes provisions for licensing waste collectors, but these provisions have not been implemented yet due to complexity and resourcing. Several submitters drew attention to the lack of licensing, and suggested that this should be expedited.

Submitter comments:

- Licensing waste collectors needs to be a priority
- The licensing system should be self-funding (i.e. costs should fall on the waste collectors)
- Licensing is important because it will improve data collection
- Licensing should be used to impose conditions on waste collectors to hold them to high standards and achieve waste minimisation outcomes

Recommendation: no change

We appreciate the frustration that submitters have expressed with the lack of progress on licensing waste collectors. The development of a suitable licensing system has proven to be more complex than anticipated, further complicated by Council's dual role as both regulator and a collector. This is one of the reasons for proposing to undertake a review of how we deliver services, to ascertain whether a change in our role as a waste collector would allow us to better regulate other waste collectors.

An added complication is the 2023 National Waste Strategy *Rautaki Para* which identified changes to how waste collectors are to be licensed. The details have not yet been announced, but it is expected to be released later in 2024, with legislative change to follow. Based on the expected timing for passage of that legislation, we have indicated that work on licensing collectors could begin from 2026, subject to the details of that new licensing framework. Bringing the action forward could make

the work redundant if changes to legislation in the next 12 months significantly alter the Council's ability to license waste collectors.

Other issues

The following issues were raised by one or two submitters:

- Construction/demolition and commercial waste is a big area for improvement, where more needs to be done.

Recommendation: no change

As a waste collector we control only a small part of the waste stream (what we collect at the kerbside from primarily residential properties). This means that we have very little control over the diversion of waste material generated in the construction and demolition (C&D) sector, or in the institutional/commercial/industrial (ICI) sector. However, we have included an action in the draft WMMP for year 1 to develop guidance targeted at builders for developing a Construction Site Waste Management Plan. This would work in tandem with our education initiatives. We have also been involved in discussions for the location of a construction and demolition waste facility in the city, which will provide facilities for sorting construction and demolition waste. We will continue to work with the developers of this facility over the next 18 months.

- The public space rubbish and recycling bins are too few and too small

Recommendation: no change

We have undertaken a program of renewals of our public space rubbish and recycling bins. The existing 60L waste bins are being replaced with larger 80L bins, typically with a smaller aperture to minimise the risk of waste escaping and becoming litter. This program is continuing, and is funded from our renewals budget.

Data on use of our public space recycling bins show that they are often misused with higher rates of contamination. The level of contamination undermines the value of offering dedicated recycling bins, so we have prioritised public space recycling bins in areas where there is likely to be a higher rate of compliance. We also ensure that recycling bins are located in areas where they can be reached by service trucks for emptying, but this means that recycling bins are less likely to be located in more remote areas.

- The Albert Street Depot (where the Ferguson St Recycling Centre is located) should not be rezoned for housing

Recommendation: no change

This issue is out-of-scope for the draft WMMP. The option to rezone the Albert Street site for housing was included in the Future Development Strategy as a long-term option. The Council will be considering the draft FDS for adoption in June, and could choose to discuss the issue at that opportunity.

- The Council should investigate waste to energy facilities, using clean incinerators to burn waste to generate energy

Recommendation: no change

There is currently no waste-to-energy facility operating within New Zealand, so this suggestion is impractical until such a facility is consented and constructed. However, there are a number of additional barriers which make this suggestion impractical. For a waste-to-energy facility to be viable it requires a significant and steady volume of waste material for incineration. The volumes can often exceed what is generated locally; in facilities overseas this can often require waste to be imported from other areas to ensure that the facility is able to run effectively. Also, the material to be incinerated typically needs to be of a high quality (including material that could otherwise be recycled). This can then have the effect of reducing the availability of that material for recovery and reuse. The “philosophy” of a waste-to-energy facility also runs contrary to the Revised Waste Hierarchy, which emphasises a circular economy and gives preference to actions at the top of the hierarchy. A waste-to-energy facility would be near the bottom of the hierarchy, with the destruction of the resources rather than their re-use. The need for waste to fuel the incinerators would likely encourage the generation of waste rather than its overall reduction.

If Council supported the idea of a waste-to-energy facility for Palmerston North then we would recommend an action is included in the draft WMMP for adoption to conduct a desktop review of existing proposed waste-to-energy facilities in New Zealand (none are currently operating), and identifying the benefits and disadvantages so that a fully-informed decision could be made.

- Recycling at events should be made mandatory

Recommendation: staff will revise the requirements for event waste management as part of the development of the new Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw in 2024.

The Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw already includes a requirement for organisers of events held on Council land or with Council funding to prepare an Events Waste Management and Minimisation Plan. The conditions include requiring the event organiser to “take all reasonable steps to encourage recycling opportunities for materials used at the event.” There may be an opportunity to revise these conditions and place stronger conditions on event organisers.

- The Bonny Glen landfill is expected to be full by 2050, so the Council should consider establishing a new site near Te Utanganui

Recommendation: no change

The Council has not owned or operated an active landfill since the Awapuni landfill was closed in 2007. Currently, all waste collected in Palmerston North is disposed of in the Bonny Glen landfill operated by MidWest Disposals. We have a contract with MidWest Disposals until 2026.

If the Council is concerned about the long-term viability of being able to dispose of waste to Bonny Glen then there are several options to consider:

1. Seek a contract to dispose of our waste to another landfill within the lower North Island
2. Begin plans to develop a new landfill within our local authority boundary
3. Undertake discussions with MidWest Disposals to ascertain its long-term plans for waste disposal beyond 2050.

Staff could be asked to undertake preliminary investigations of these three options and present recommendations for consideration as part of the 2027 Long-Term Plan.

- The Council should consider establishing a natural burial cemetery in conjunction with the land proposed to be used for irrigation as part of Nature Calls

Recommendation: refer this suggestion to the Parks Team and Three Waters Team for consideration.

This is out-of-scope for the draft WMMP, and should be considered by the Parks team (which have responsibility for cemeteries including any plans to establish a natural burials cemetery) and the Three Waters team (which have responsibility for the delivery of the Nature Calls project).

- The Council should hold producers to account for goods that don't have recyclable packaging

Recommendation: no change

While we acknowledge the frustration that submitters have with producers that do not use packaging which can be readily recycled, the Council does not have any legal ability to influence the type of packaging which they use. The Ministry for the Environment is responsible for the development of product stewardship schemes, which places the responsibility for the life of packaging materials on the producer. There have been several product stewardship schemes introduced recently such as Tyrewise, which imposes a levy on the disposal of used tyres to ensure they are responsibly recycled or disposed of.

- Consider a new site for green waste/recycling drop off

Recommendation: no change

We have identified the need for an additional recycling drop off point in the Kelvin Grove area, to accommodate our growing population. This is planned for implementation in years 5 and 6 of the draft LTP (programme 1373).

- Concerned about the impact of junk mail

Recommendation: no change

We already have provisions in our Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw to address unsolicited mail. If a person marks their letterbox "no circulars" or "no junk mail" or with similar words, then our Bylaw prohibits anyone from putting unsolicited mail in that letterbox. However, we have few practical tools to enforce these provisions. Where someone complains that unsolicited mail has been placed in their letterbox, we will contact the companies that distribute the unsolicited mail and make them aware of the complaint, and request that they refrain from depositing unsolicited mail in letterboxes which are clearly marked as "no junk mail." If there are repeated or deliberate breaches of the Bylaw, the Council reserves the right to prosecute any person who breaches the Bylaw. If convicted, the maximum penalty is \$20,000.

- Concerned about illegal dumping, including tyres

Recommendation: no change

We have powers under the Litter Act 1979 to address illegal dumping (also known as fly tipping) or littering. However, there are often practical issues with identifying the person responsible for illegal dumping. Where we are able to positively identify the person responsible we have the ability to issue an infringement notice and charge a penalty.

A new product stewardship scheme for tyres (TyreWise) will come into effect from September 2024.

Social media comments

We promoted the draft WMMP across our social media channels, encouraging people to read the consultation material and make a submission.

There were four posts across the consultation period. These posts (illustrated below) drew connections with our consultation events (such as the Awapuni Resource Recovery Centre open day) and with the specific questions we asked in our consultation document.

We received a total of 214 comments across four posts. The comments broadly aligned with the themes identified through the formal submission process. The most common theme related to the proposed food scraps collection, and whether green waste should or shouldn't be included. Commenters also expressed concern about the cost of the service (and concerns about costs in general). Other themes that emerged included the need for a way to recycle soft plastics in the City, and recent changes that have reduced the scope of what can be recycled.



Figure 1 - Facebook post on 10 April: 114 comments

 **Palmerston North City Council** 
★ Favourites · 16 April · 

Meet Archie, our newest recruit! 🧑‍🚒




He was one of 130 visitors who came along to our Awapuni recycling centre tours on Saturday. They all got to check out the hard mahi that goes on once their recycling is picked up from the kerb. 🚚

But it wasn't just about showcasing our operations; we seized the opportunity to answer any questions about our Waste Plan which we're consulting on at the moment.

We even quizzed the kids on what can and can't be recycled, and it's safe to say – we've got quite a few little recycling superheroes in Palmy! 🦸‍♂️



Figure 2 - Facebook post on 16 April: 5 comments

 **Palmerston North City Council** 
★ Favourites · 17 April · 

Thank you for all of your comments. We've switched off comments on this post, but you can still react to it or share. We've switched off the comments so we can continue to respond to other questions and comments on new posts about these topics and keep on top of them. Please ensure you make a submission at www.pncc.govt.nz/wasteplan

What do you think we should do to reduce waste to landfill? 🤔

All of Palmerston North sent 55,000 tonnes to landfill in 2022.

And the shocking thing is - almost half (46%) could have been diverted (e.g. recycled, composted, reused or recovered instead).

We have a new plan for how we'll manage and minimise our waste. Some of our actions include introducing a city-wide food scraps collection (which could also include green waste), reviewing our kerbside services to see if things could be done better and replacing our near outdated machinery at our recycling centre.

🕒 Read the draft plan and let us know your thoughts by 9 May.

👉 Fill out the submission form at www.pncc.govt.nz/wasteplan

We want to know:

- 👉 What do you think about the actions we have planned?
- 👉 Do you think we are on the right track?
- 👉 Are there some other things you think we should be doing to manage and minimise waste?

We've got a lot planned to reduce our waste to landfill in the future, and your input on these is vital.



Figure 3 - Facebook post on 17 April: 55 comments

 **Palmerston North City Council** 
 ★ Favourites · 3 May at 10:00 · 🌐

Did you know that a lot of what we're throwing in the rubbish could actually be recycled, reused or composted?

Food waste is the biggest culprit, followed by green waste (lawn clippings and garden waste). 🍌

We're going to be introducing a kerbside food scraps collection, but we want to know whether you think this should include green waste too.

🕒 Let us know your thoughts by Thursday 9 May.

👉 Fill out the form at www.pncc.govt.nz/wasteplan

This is just one of the areas of feedback we're wanting during our draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan consultation. You've got just under a week left to have your say!

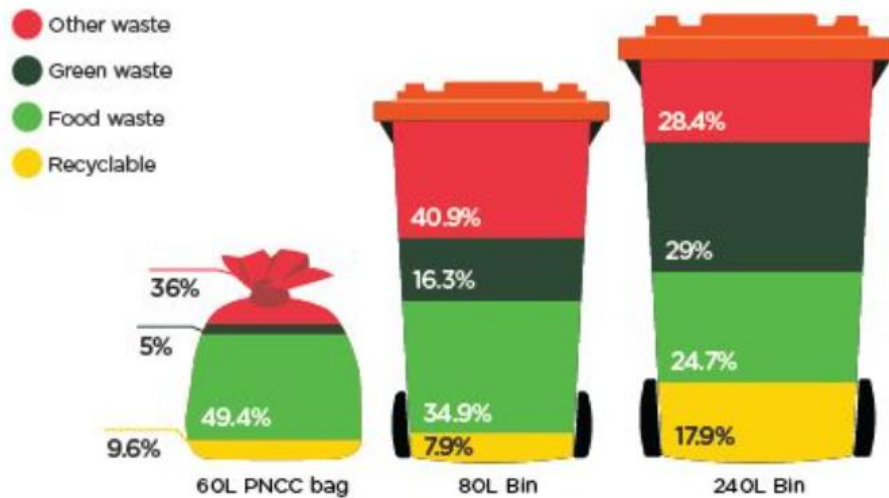


Figure 4 - Facebook post on 2 May: 40 comments

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council

MEETING DATE: 29 May 2024

TITLE: Deliberations on the 2024-34 Long-Term Plan and Associated Documents

PRESENTED BY: David Murphy - Chief Planning Officer, Cameron Mackay - Chief Financial Officer and Chris Dyhrberg - Chief Infrastructure Officer

APPROVED BY: Waid Crockett, Chief Executive

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

1. That Council receive [submissions](#) on the 2024-34 Long-Term Plan. Noting submissions include comments on the Oranga Papaioea City Strategy and Plans, Financial and Infrastructure Strategies, Development Contributions Policy, Revenue and Financing Policy, the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies, rating system options, and the Significance and Engagement Policy.
2. That Council instruct the Chief Executive to prepare a draft of the final Long-Term Plan for consideration by the Council and that it incorporates the following:
 - a. changes to assumptions and budgets as set out in sections 5.2 – 5.5
 - b. carry forwards of incomplete capital programmes as set out in section 5.6 and Attachment 3
 - c. changes to budgets as a consequence of previous Council decisions and further recommendations from officers as set out in section 5.7
 - d. any additional officer proposed budget changes (see sections 5.10-5.19)
 - e. an updated corporate emissions reduction target of a 2034 interim target of a 60% reduction compared to the 2015/16 baseline
 - f. any other recommendations from Committee (see section 5.20)
 - g. any amendments as a result of public consultation as determined by this meeting of Council.
3. That Council instruct the Chief Executive to assume, in preparing the updated Revenue and Financing Policy and the Long-term Plan that the rates system from 1 July 2024 will incorporate:

EITHER

Council's preferred option of a general rate based on the land value and a targeted rate based on the capital value (known as hybrid option of 70% LV/30%

CV), introduced in one step and a rural differential of 65% for the rural/semi-serviced (0.2 to 5ha) group

OR

Another option in response to submissions.

4. That Council instruct the Chief Executive to prepare updated drafts of the Oranga Papaioea City Strategy and Plans, Financial and Infrastructure Strategies, Development Contributions Policy, Revenue and Financing Policy and Rates Remission and Postponement Policies incorporating any changes consequential on the recommendations above for consideration by the Council.
 5. That Council call an extraordinary meeting on Monday 10 June 2024 at 9am, Council Chambers 32 Te Marae o Hine, The Square to consider the final draft Long-Term Plan 2024/34.
-

1. ISSUE

- 1.1 Council has just completed its consultation on the proposed 2024-34 Long-Term Plan (LTP).
- 1.2 Council now needs to consider the consultation feedback and decide what changes it would like to make in response. Officers will then prepare the final Long-Term Plan for Council to consider on 10 June and adopt, following the finalisation of the audit, on 26 June.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Council started to develop the 2024 LTP shortly after the 2022 Local Government elections. It adopted the consultation material on 3 April 2024 and consulted the community between 8 April to 9 May 2024.
- 2.2 A full description of Council's LTP process to date was presented in the LTP report that went to Council on [3 April 2024](#).

3. CONSULTATION

- 3.1 The consultation involved:
 - A brochure to all households
 - A letter to all ratepayers
 - Sector sessions for specific stakeholder groups
 - Working with high schools
 - Public drop-in sessions
 - Planning Palmy Expo
 - Information at libraries, customer service centres, relevant community facilities
 - An LTP hub on the Council's website

- A property search tool on the Council's website demonstrating possible rates incidence for three rates scenarios including the Council's preferred option
- Facebook / YouTube Live with Elected Members
- Media, stakeholder communications, social media advertising.

3.2 Council held a hui with Rangitāne o Manawatū on 1 May as part of our partnership agreement and to obtain feedback on the proposed LTP.

3.3 For a full description of the consultation process see Attachment 1.

3.4 Council received 1441 submissions and 150 submitters presented to Council at hearings held on the 15-17 May.

3.5 Council also consulted on the Future Development Strategy, the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan, the Development Contributions Policy, Revenue and Financing Policy, the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies and the Significance and Engagement Policy.

4. SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS

4.1 Council received 1441 submissions, covering a wide range of comments on the proposed LTP.

4.2 The most common theme running through the submissions is that Council should stick to the basics to keep costs down.

4.3 There is clear agreement that the "basics" includes water, wastewater and stormwater. This includes Nature Calls, although many submitters were unsure how to pay for it.

4.4 The "basics" also includes rubbish and recycling. However, while submissions want an extended list of items that can be recycled, there were mixed views on food scraps and green waste recycling, with many submissions saying these are for households to manage themselves.

4.5 Transport is also seen as a "basic" - although there are contrasting views on how much Council should focus on providing cycling.

4.6 Housing also has some support as a "basic" – in particular residential housing. Social housing had contrasting views, with some seeing it as something Council should provide, while others say it is a Central Government responsibility. There are contrasting views on growth, and in particular infill vs greenfield developments.

4.7 For a full summary of the key themes in the submissions see Attachment 2. This summary also covers the Oranga Papaioea City Strategy and Plans, Financial and Infrastructure Strategies, Development Contributions Policy, Revenue and Financing Policy, the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies and the Significance and Engagement Policy.

- 4.8 While not prominent in written submissions, an emerging theme in the LTP forums was concern that parts of the District Plan are no longer fit for purpose in facilitating development in the City. Post the completion of the Sectional District Plan Review in 2019, the focus of the City Planning work programme has been on enabling urban growth. The process of rezoning land is complex, time-consuming, expensive and technically demanding. Progress has been slow and is not meeting the expectations of Council or the community. Where land has been rezoned, infrastructure upgrades have been slow to respond and / or reliant on third parties such as NZTA Waka Kotahi. The challenge is balancing increasingly complex issues, national direction, working within budgets and growing internal capability, whilst also making progress on the rezoning proposals.
- 4.9 Further reflection on the way in which urban design is incorporated within the District Plan and applied via the resource consent process is also required. In the last decade we have seen positive change in the quality of urban development delivered in the City. However, at times this change has been a source of frustration for the development community and an appropriate balance is required. This will be a key issue that needs to be addressed as part of the ongoing review of the District Plan.
- 4.10 Officers have prepared a separate report to this Council meeting on the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan submissions.

5. **UPDATED ASSUMPTIONS AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

- 5.1 There are several recommended changes to budgets outlined below and some of these have additional material in Attachments 3- 5.

Interest rate assumption

- 5.2 Because the Council has interest rate hedging in place (that reduces the average cost of funds, particularly in the first three years), below the market rates and we are nearer the start of the next financial year we are now comfortable recommending a minor change to the interest rate assumption. At present it has been assumed the rate will be 5.2% throughout the term of the LTP and our past practice has been to use a common percentage throughout. The interest rate assumption is one of the key assumptions reviewed for each annual budget and subsequent LTP. Our recommendation is that the interest rate be assumed to be 5% for the first three years of the LTP and 5.2% thereafter. This change has been built into the budget model.

Opening debt balance

- 5.3 This has been updated taking into account the anticipated cash movements in the current 2023/24 financial year. This has reduced from \$264.5M to \$256.4M.

Parking infringement revenue

- 5.4 As identified and reported through the April 2024 monthly financial dashboard, officers have revised assumptions used in the parking infringement revenue. The revenue assumption for 2024/25 has now been increased by \$500k to \$3M, with future years inflation adjusted.

Insurance costs

- 5.5 As indicated throughout the current year the insurance market is becoming even more challenging. Brokers are working with officers to negotiate with insurers to obtain an appropriate insurance regime for 2024/25. Indications at this stage are that not only will insurance cover be more difficult to obtain but terms will be more restrictive and in many of the insurances, premiums will be significantly increased. The draft budget assumed an increase 5% in overall premium costs, but this will not be enough to provide adequate cover. Although there is still a high level of uncertainty about what it will be, it is proposed the budgets be increased by an additional \$800k – there is still some risk this will be insufficient. The budget has been updated to include this increased provision from \$3.7M to \$4.5M.

Carry forwards of incomplete 2023/24 capital programmes

- 5.6 The 2023/24 capital programme is on track to deliver the highest completion rate in Council's history. Despite this, there are some works that are not going to be fully completed by 30 June. There are several programmes that will require a carry forward into the 2024-34 LTP. Most will be completed in Year 1 of the LTP as work is underway and/or under contract to be delivered in the upcoming construction season. In the case of the Social Housing/Summerhays Development carry forwards, these are being proposed to be carried into years 1-3 as a result of Council decision 66-24 of 1 May 2024 requesting additional information for this project. See section 5.7 for further details.

A schedule of the carry forwards is included in Attachment 3.

Follow-on impacts of Council Decisions

- 5.7 At its meeting on 14 February 2024 Council resolved (20-24) to purchase a section of land in the current 2023/24 financial year in advance of the community hubs development under Programme 2343 in the LTP. This decision also removed the associated budget from Year 1 of this programme, which was intended for the land purchase. Construction of a new community hub in Awapuni is currently planned for Year 2. To meet this timeframe, a

portion of this budget is required to be brought forward from Year 2 into Year 1 for detailed design work. The budget required for this work is \$1M.

At its meeting on 1 May 2024 Council requested (66-24) an additional report for information regarding potential operating models for social housing. As this report will take some time, officers acknowledge that the planned timeline for the Summerhays Development proposed in the LTP is no longer achievable. Officers suggest that construction is deferred by two years (from Year 1 to Year 3) to enable reports to be finalised, decisions to be made and designs completed. The pause associated with this request has resulted in an underspend in the current year. This underspend is requested to be carried forward from 2023/24 to the LTP. The carry forward would be spread over the first three years. Year's 1 and 2 will now contain a sum allocated to investigations, design and planning costs. \$500,000 per year (inflation adjusted in Year 2) is proposed. The balance of the carry forward will be allocated to the first year of construction in Year 3.

The updated timing of Summerhays Development (including the carry forward adjustment) is summarised in the tables below:

| Consultation \$'000s | Yr 1 24/25 | Yr 2 25/26 | Yr 3 26/27 | Yr 4 27/28 | Yr 5 28/29 | Yr 6 29/30 | Yr 7 30/31 | Yr 8 31/32 | Yr 9 32/33 | Yr 10 33/34 |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| P-1459 | 4,000 | 6,637 | 6,783 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

| Proposal \$'000s | Yr 1 24/25 | Yr 2 25/26 | Yr 3 26/27 | Yr 4 27/28 | Yr 5 28/29 | Yr 6 29/30 | Yr 7 30/31 | Yr 8 31/32 | Yr 9 32/33 | Yr 10 33/34 |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| P-1459 | 500 | 511 | 6,783 | 6,925 | - | - | - | - | - | - |

Updated financial picture incorporating changes in 5.2 to 5.7

5.8 The changes detailed above have been updated in the financial model and the outcome is summarised in the tables below.

Table 1: Breakdown of indicative rates increase, Year 1

| Operating Cost | Consultation Document - Impact on Total Rates for 2024/25 (Year 1) | Draft Final - Impact on Total Rates for 2024/25 (Year 1) | Movement |
|---|--|--|----------------|
| Interest Costs on Debt | 4.2% | 3.8% | (0.40%) |
| Debt Repayment | 2.1% | 2.1% | - |
| Rolling Average Renewal increase | 0.8% | 0.8% | - |
| Labour Costs – Market Movement | 3.6% | 3.6% | - |
| Utilities and Insurance | 0.4% | 1.1% | 0.70% |
| Software Licences | 0.6% | 0.6% | - |
| All Other (Contractors, Professional Services, Materials, etc.) | 2.3% | 2.2% | (0.10%) |
| Revenue [excluding rates] | (2.7%) | (3.1%) | (0.40%) |
| Indicative Increase in total rates for Year 1 | 11.3% | 11.1% | (0.20%) |

Table 2: Rates indicative increases, 2024-34 (based on changes in 5.2 to 5.7)

| | Year 1 24/25 | Year 2 24/25 | Year 3 24/25 | Year 4 24/25 | Year 5 24/25 | Year 6 24/25 | Year 7 24/25 | Year 8 24/25 | Year 9 24/25 | Year 10 24/25 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| With additional debt repayment | 11.1% | 10.3% | 9.7% | 9.5% | 7.6% | 6.2% | 5.5% | 5.8% | 4.1% | 4.1% |
| Without additional debt repayment | 11.1% | 10.3% | 9.7% | 6.5% | 5.0% | 5.5% | 1.8% | 1.4% | 3.2% | 2.3% |

Table 3: 10 Year Capital Total Breakdown (based on changes in 5.2 to 5.7)

| | AB 23/24 | Year 1 24/25 | Year 2 24/25 | Year 3 24/25 | Year 4 24/25 | Year 5 24/25 | Year 6 24/25 | Year 7 24/25 | Year 8 24/25 | Year 9 24/25 | Year 10 24/25 |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Renewals | 28,141 | 33,101 | 35,660 | 36,427 | 40,745 | 40,500 | 45,427 | 49,871 | 53,829 | 54,136 | 54,224 |
| New Capex | 52,186 | 60,643 | 113,923 | 131,793 | 185,427 | 193,935 | 190,010 | 201,631 | 208,634 | 168,165 | 115,570 |
| Growth | 13,018 | 15,372 | 13,350 | 29,866 | 25,837 | 36,056 | 52,967 | 46,587 | 46,262 | 28,594 | 29,035 |
| Total | 93,344 | 109,116 | 162,932 | 198,086 | 252,009 | 270,491 | 288,403 | 298,089 | 308,725 | 250,895 | 198,829 |

Table 4: Updated debt to revenue ratio (%), 2024-34

| Debt to Revenue Ratio % | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Year 1 24/25 | Year 2 24/25 | Year 3 24/25 | Year 4 24/25 | Year 5 24/25 | Year 6 24/25 | Year 7 24/25 | Year 8 24/25 | Year 9 24/25 | Year 10 24/25 |
| 171% | 200% | 231% | 245% | 246% | 243% | 231% | 220% | 216% | 207% |

Key financial principles to keep in mind

5.9 The proposed LTP was constructed having regard for a number of financial planning principles and strategies and these cannot be lost sight of during the LTP finalisation process.

These included:

- Making adequate revenue provision to fund forecast operating costs in order to deliver the defined levels of service (i.e. meeting the legislative balanced budget tests) as well as adequate financial provision to fund asset renewal. To moderate the rates impact in early years, some of the renewal provisions will be progressively increased over five years rather than in year 1 of the LTP.
- Increasing the Council's policy limit for the maximum debt/revenue ratio in order to fund an increased investment in new capital and also being prepared to increase revenue (including rates) in order to achieve sufficient debt headroom. This included making provision for accelerated debt repayment of \$148M from years 4 to 10. It should be noted that throughout the consideration process we will be monitoring this aspect of the budget and providing progressive updated advice about what additional debt repayments will be appropriate in the light of any other changes proposed to the capital expenditure programme.
- Making provision for investing in the Nature Calls programme but funding it through a special purpose funding vehicle with the costs of servicing and repaying the debt raised by the vehicle being charged

to ratepayers by way of an IFF levy. No assessment has been made of the affordability of this approach for ratepayers.

- Assuming that significant other capital investments would be funded through other mechanisms such as developer agreements, utilising Council's assets in a different manner or obtaining grants or contributions from other parties. There is a significant risk that these assumptions will not come to fruition and in the short term there is a greater than usual level of uncertainty around the funding assumed from NZTA Waka Kotahi. Due to the limited debt to revenue headroom, capital programmes that do not achieve the assumed level of external funding will not be able to proceed without reprioritisation of the remaining capital programme.

Additional Officer proposed budgets changes

5.10 Throughout the consultation period, officers have been reviewing the proposed budgets to reflect the latest known information. Brief information of suggested budget updates has been included as a summary below for consideration:

5.11 Local Water Done Well – during the consultation period, the Mayor received a letter (Attachment 5) from the Minister for Local Government asking for councils to consider if it was possible for redirecting any unspent and uncommitted funding from the current Better Off Funding Projects towards either Water and/or Transition expenditure. Whilst no formal direction has been given by Central Government, it is highly probable that this may come in the future. Therefore, it is seen as a prudent measure to secure the remaining Better Off Funding by moving the funding towards Water Infrastructure programmes rather than the current Better Off Funded programmes. Details of the proposal are included in Attachment 4 and have been summarised below for Elected Member consideration:

- Propose to move the funding source for four of the six Better Off Funded projects towards Water Infrastructure Programmes.
 - The funding source would be swapped between the two sets of programmes – e.g. Better Off Funding transferred to Water projects and Council loan funding from those Water projects to transfer to the Better Off Funded projects
 - Confirm that the existing 'Better Off Funded' projects will still proceed as planned (or amended for timing only) in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan.
- Rates impact of this is negligible in Year 1 and slight decreases of 0.1% in Year 2 and 0.2% in Year 3.

5.12 Manawatū Regional Freight Ring Road Business Case – Officers have discussed the timing of key transport business cases with NZTA Waka Kotahi.

The Ring Road business case was initially proposed to occur in Year 1 but was subsequently pushed back to year 2 to better distribute costs and workloads across the first 3 years of the LTP. Given the change in the GPS – Transport, recent Government announcements regarding roads of regional significance and LTP submissions seeking immediate progress on the Ring Road, it is recommended the business case starts in year 1. Following discussions with NZTA Waka Kotahi officials, it is anticipated that this will be supported by co-funding from NZTA Kotahi.

- Programme 2477 Regional Freight Ring Road Indicative Business Case brought forward, noting the funding assumption from NZTA Waka Kotahi. Rating impact is \$250,000 or 0.2%.

To help compensate for this it is proposed the timing of the business case for the Aokautere Urban Growth Business case be moved from years 1 and 2 to year 3 of the LTP as follows:

- Programme 2485 Aokautere Urban Growth Business case – move \$450k from year 1 and \$459k from year 2 to year 3.

5.13 For Urban Growth Work (Programme 2512) associated with water supply at Kikiwhenua, an engineer's estimate and detailed quantity survey work has determined that for construction of the Phase 1 water main a budget of \$1.3M is required in Year 1. The current programme budgets have \$1.05M across Years 1 & 2. An additional sum of money (\$250k) is proposed to be transferred from Year 7 of Programme 1170.

- The rating impact in Year 1 of this change is \$19,075. Year 2 and onwards rates would increase by \$131,862 or 0.1% as a result of the additional interest and debt repayment.

| Consultation | Yr 1 24/25 | Yr 2 25/26 | Yr 3 26/27 | Yr 4 27/28 | Yr 5 28/29 | Yr 6 29/30 | Yr 7 30/31 | Yr 8 31/32 | Yr 9 32/33 | Yr 10 33/34 |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| \$'000's | | | | | | | | | | |
| P-1170 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3,476 | 2,960 | 1,209 | 2,716 |
| P-2512 | 500 | 513 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

| Proposed | Yr 1 24/25 | Yr 2 25/26 | Yr 3 26/27 | Yr 4 27/28 | Yr 5 28/29 | Yr 6 29/30 | Yr 7 30/31 | Yr 8 31/32 | Yr 9 32/33 | Yr 10 33/34 |
|----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| \$'000's | | | | | | | | | | |
| P-1170 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3,186 | 2,960 | 1,209 | 2,716 |
| P-2512 | 1,300 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

5.14 Programmes 902 and 2518 are for Council to address its legislative obligations to remedy its earthquake prone buildings. With the recently announced extension of time by four years, officers have revised the profile of the spend through the LTP budgets.

- As Programme 2518 has a 90% externally funded assumption, the rating impact can be provided during the meeting. Year 7 rates will decrease, while Year 8, 9 and 10 will increase based on the timing of loan funding for this programme.

| Consultation \$'000s | Yr 1 24/25 | Yr 2 25/26 | Yr 3 26/27 | Yr 4 27/28 | Yr 5 28/29 | Yr 6 29/30 | Yr 7 30/31 | Yr 8 31/32 | Yr 9 32/33 | Yr 10 33/34 |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| P-902 | 2,000 | 6,637 | 6,783 | - | - | - | - | 8,615 | 8,770 | 5,952 |
| P-2518 | - | - | - | 31,962 | 32,601 | 33,219 | 33,849 | - | - | - |

| Proposed \$'000s | Yr 1 24/25 | Yr 2 25/26 | Yr 3 26/27 | Yr 4 27/28 | Yr 5 28/29 | Yr 6 29/30 | Yr 7 30/31 | Yr 8 31/32 | Yr 9 32/33 | Yr 10 33/34 |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| P-902 | 2,000 | 6,637 | 6,783 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 8927 |
| P-2518 | - | - | - | 1,065 | 31,514 | 33,219 | 1,128 | 33,309 | 35,079 | - |

5.15 As part of our on-going peer review officers have found a duplication of programmes between City Reserves and Local Reserves. Programme 2510 Waterloo to Roxburgh Connection and Programme 1856 Manawatū River Park Roxburgh Entrance Development are intended for the same work. A small increase is proposed in Year 2 for Programme 1856, which is offset over the life of the plan by the removal of Programme 2510.

- The rating impact of this change is in all years. The rating increase percentage would not change due to rounding.

| Consultation \$'000s | Yr 1 24/25 | Yr 2 25/26 | Yr 3 26/27 | Yr 4 27/28 | Yr 5 28/29 | Yr 6 29/30 | Yr 7 30/31 | Yr 8 31/32 | Yr 9 32/33 | Yr 10 33/34 |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| P-1856 | - | 128 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| P-2510 | - | - | - | 71 | 98 | - | - | - | - | - |

| Proposal \$'000s | Yr 1 24/25 | Yr 2 25/26 | Yr 3 26/27 | Yr 4 27/28 | Yr 5 28/29 | Yr 6 29/30 | Yr 7 30/31 | Yr 8 31/32 | Yr 9 32/33 | Yr 10 33/34 |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| P-1856 | - | 153 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| P-2510 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

5.16 An opportunity has presented itself to utilise a current year underspend for capital renewal programmes in Resource Recovery and 3 Waters, in the Information Services space. As a result, the budget proposed for Year 1 against Programme 2496 – Data Centre Refresh can be reduced by the corresponding amount.

- There is a decrease in the rating requirement of \$66,000 as a result of this change. The percentage would not change due to rounding.

| Consultation \$'000s | Yr 1 24/25 | Yr 2 25/26 | Yr 3 26/27 | Yr 4 27/28 | Yr 5 28/29 | Yr 6 29/30 | Yr 7 30/31 | Yr 8 31/32 | Yr 9 32/33 | Yr 10 33/34 |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| P-2496 | 650 | - | - | - | - | 830 | - | - | - | - |

| Proposal \$'000s | Yr 1 24/25 | Yr 2 25/26 | Yr 3 26/27 | Yr 4 27/28 | Yr 5 28/29 | Yr 6 29/30 | Yr 7 30/31 | Yr 8 31/32 | Yr 9 32/33 | Yr 10 33/34 |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| P-2496 | 460 | - | - | - | - | 830 | - | - | - | - |

5.17 As part of the prioritisation of the Capital Programme in the drafting of the LTP the Te Utanganui Transport Improvements Business Case was moved to years 4 and 5. Capital Programme 2058 – Urban Growth North East Industrial Zone New Roads remained budgeted to occur in Years 3 to 6 but is reliant on the Te Utanganui Transport Improvements Business Case to be completed first. Officers propose to correct this timing issue by moving the capital works to commence in Year 6 and complete in Year 9.

- Rates would decrease in Years 3 to 6 as a result of this change, with increases associated with the timing of interest and debt repayments for Years 7 to 9. The net position over the life of the plan is the same.

| Consultation \$'000's | Yr 1 24/25 | Yr 2 25/26 | Yr 3 26/27 | Yr 4 27/28 | Yr 5 28/29 | Yr 6 29/30 | Yr 7 30/31 | Yr 8 31/32 | Yr 9 32/33 | Yr 10 33/34 |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| P-2058 | - | - | 4,696 | 5,978 | 6,110 | 6,238 | - | - | - | - |

| Proposal \$'000's | Yr 1 24/25 | Yr 2 25/26 | Yr 3 26/27 | Yr 4 27/28 | Yr 5 28/29 | Yr 6 29/30 | Yr 7 30/31 | Yr 8 31/32 | Yr 9 32/33 | Yr 10 33/34 |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| P-2058 | - | - | - | - | - | 5,013 | 6,363 | 6,490 | 6,620 | - |

5.18 The previous Government's Transition Support Funding Package has been redirected towards Local Water Done Well. Council is expecting to receive \$400k to support this work. Officers recommend that this funding is applied to costs that we are expecting to incur to support Local Water Done Well. An expenditure and revenue budget of \$400k (cost neutral) would be added to the budget of the Chief Executive in the Governance and Active Citizenship activity.

- There is no rating impact to this change as it is neutral.

5.19 It was highlighted during the deliberations for the Future Development Strategy that many of the proposed development areas have significant infrastructure constraints which require a large volume of detailed technical information. While some of this information can be prepared by officers and can be covered by existing budgets, some additional budget will be required to compile the most technical information for a plan change to progress. The activities that require additional budget for plan change technical support are transport and stormwater. New additional operational programmes are proposed to be included as follows:

- The rating impact in Year 1 is \$150,000 or 0.1%. There is no impact to the increase in Year 2 due to the budget being added into Year 1.

| Proposal \$'000s | Yr 1 24/25 | Yr 2 25/26 | Yr 3 26/27 | Yr 4 27/28 | Yr 5 28/29 | Yr 6 29/30 | Yr 7 30/31 | Yr 8 31/32 | Yr 9 32/33 | Yr 10 33/34 |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| P-Transport | 60 | 61 | 63 | 64 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| P-Stormwater | 90 | 92 | 95 | 97 | - | - | - | - | - | - |

Decisions referred from Council and/or Committee

- 5.20 The Sustainability Committee, 13 March 2024, resolved that Council note that further officer advice on the corporate emissions reduction target will be provided alongside deliberations on the 2024-34 Long-Term Plan.

Noting the advice around practicalities provided to the Committee meeting, officers recommend the following with regards to the setting of a new organisational emissions reduction target:

1. PNCC targets net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, in line with national and international targets
2. Extrapolating backwards from the above, a new 2034 interim target of a 60% reduction compared to the 2015/16 baseline is recommended.

A pure linear extrapolation would mean a 54% target, but the final push to net-zero is likely to be difficult as most easier reduction opportunities are exhausted, meaning Council should be 'ahead' to give itself the best opportunity of success.

- 5.21 The Culture and Sport Committee, 8 November 2023, resolved *that Council note the outcomes of the investigation into the low investment opportunities described in this report will be reported back to Council in time to consider investment in the 2024-34 Long-Term Plan. These opportunities were identified in the aquatic facilities needs assessment.*

The key low investment opportunity is to develop partnerships with schools so their pools can be used for leisure swimming (as opposed to lane sport and learn-to-swim space). Research by Sport Manawatū concluded that schools face many barriers to keeping pools operational for their own community let alone for wider public use. Assistance from Council could help them overcome these barriers and enable more community access to their pools. The proposed LTP budget includes programme 2523 (\$100,000 per year in years 1-3) which could be used, following further detailed investigations, for this.

Another potential low-cost opportunity is improving Hokowhitu Lagoon's water quality for water-based recreation activities. However, investigations have shown that this would require significant resources and is unlikely to greatly improve water quality. The Manawatū Kiwi Canoe Polo Club have also raised issues about the ongoing use of the Lagoon for canoe polo, in part due to water quality issues. These underpin its desire to relocate to a purpose-built facility. No budget has been proposed for this.

Analysis of the other low investment options has been provided to Elected Members as part of the Question and Answer material leading up this deliberations meeting. Any additional opportunities would need to be agreed by Elected Members at this meeting for inclusion in the LTP budget.

- 5.22 Council has referred several other decisions to the 2024-34 Deliberations from Council and/or Committee meetings since the adoption of the material for consultation. Further recommendations for Council discussion at this meeting are set out in table 5 below.

Table 5

| | Source | Recommendation |
|----|---|--|
| a. | Community, 20 March 2024 | Increase Housing Advice Centre's Sector Lead grant funding by \$21,131 for the 2024/25 financial year and adjusted for inflation in future years. |
| b. | Culture & Sport, 27 March 2024 | Increase Creative Sounds Sector Lead Grant of an additional \$68,000 for 2024/5, and inflation adjusted for future years |
| c. | Council, 1 May | Up to \$100,000 additional resourcing to support improved youth well-being outcomes as indicated in the Progress report: Youth wellbeing forum and plan. |
| d. | Sustainability, 22 May | Allocation of dedicated resources for delivery of the draft Food Security and Resilience Policy to the 2024-34 Long-Term Plan deliberations. |
| e. | Future Development Steering Group, 10 May | That Palmerston North City Council develop a new city-wide stormwater strategy prior to the development of the 2027 Future Development Strategy. |

- 5.23 Officer response to the Future Development Strategy Steering Group request (f) is to propose an additional operational programme for Stormwater Strategy is created and added to Years 1 & 2 as per below.

- The rating impact of this in Year 1 is \$103,000 or 0.1%. The impact in Years 2 and 3 is a slight reduction.

| Proposal | Yr 1 24/25 | Yr 2 25/26 | Yr 3 26/27 | Yr 4 27/28 | Yr 5 28/29 | Yr 6 29/30 | Yr 7 30/31 | Yr 8 31/32 | Yr 9 32/33 | Yr 10 33/34 |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| \$'000s | | | | | | | | | | |
| P-S.Strategy | 103 | 45 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

6. RATING SYSTEM

- 6.1 The proposed changes to the rating system was one of the more significant matters contained in the public engagement process and through the construction of the feedback questionnaire most submitters made some comment on the proposal. The broad themes of the feedback are outlined in Attachment 2.

- 6.2 More detail about the specific matters raised is outlined in Attachment 6. In particular the attachment addresses the following:

- Restates the Council's rates proposal and the rationale for it

- Highlights a number of common misconceptions about rates and the rating system and attempts to outline the factual position
- Recognises there is a broad cross section of views (many strongly held at each end of the spectrum) about which rating base is the most appropriate
- Provides more information about the rates assessed on properties in the rural/semi-serviced (0.2 to 5 ha) differential category.

6.3 The Council needs to determine whether it wishes to proceed with its preferred option involving the implementation of a targeted rate based on the capital value to fund the transport, economic development, urban design and housing activities. The possible options available at this stage in the process include:

- Confirmation of the preferred hybrid (70/30 LV/CV) option beginning in 2024/25
- Signalling a move to a full capital value based system (i.e. ultimately a general rate based on capital value) over a three year period with the first year implemented from 2024/25 using the same structure as for the preferred option
- Retaining the status quo (with no new separate rate)

6.4 There is no clear preference expressed through the public engagement process. As such there are no specific recommendations being made here and it is a matter for Council to decide. If the Council has the desire to make a change but there is a concern about the level of change being experienced by some ratepayers it would be possible to delay the change so that it first applied from 2025/26. If this was done the final form of the system would be determined having knowledge of the outcomes of the 2024 city revaluation. However, those who would benefit from the change would have to wait longer to begin to receive this benefit and the revaluation could exacerbate the amount of the change for some ratepayers.

6.5 The Council also needs to determine its response to the significant number of submissions from rural/semi-serviced ratepayers ('lifestyle blocks'). This involves determining what level of differential (described in our engagements publicly as a discount) is appropriate (the original proposal or something greater) and whether any change should be implemented over a period (say two years). More information about these rates is contained in Attachment 6.







7. NEXT STEPS

- 7.1 Based on the direction provided at this meeting, officers will prepare a draft of the final LTP for Council approval on 10 June 2024 and subsequent adoption following audit, on 26 June 2024.
- 7.2 Audit will continue its review of the LTP and present its report to the meeting on 26 June 2024.
- 7.3 Council will adopt the LTP on 26 June 2024.
- 7.4 Council will also adopt the following on the 26 June 2024:
- Oranga Papaioea City Strategy and Plans
 - Financial and Infrastructure Strategies
 - Development Contributions Policy
 - Revenue and Financing Policy
 - the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies
 - Significance and Engagement Policy
 - the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan

8. COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

| | |
|--|------------|
| Does Council have delegated authority to decide? | Yes |
| Are the decisions significant? | No |
| If they are significant do they affect land or a body of water? | No |
| Can this decision only be made through a 10 Year Plan? | No |
| Does this decision require consultation through the Special Consultative procedure? | Yes |
| Is there funding in the current Annual Plan for these actions? | Yes |
| Are the recommendations inconsistent with any of Council's policies or plans? | No |
| <p>Contribution to Council's strategic direction and to social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being:</p> <p>The recommendations contribute to the development of the Council's 2024-34 Long-term Plan. Hence, they are about how Council could deliver its 2024 strategic direction and how it could contribute to social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing.</p> | |

ATTACHMENTS

1. Marketing and Communication report [↓](#) 
2. Summary of Submissions [↓](#) 
3. Carry Forwards [↓](#) 
4. Better Off Funding Information [↓](#) 
5. Minister of Local Government to Mayors and Chair - 5 April 2024 [↓](#) 
6. Rating systems review [↓](#) 



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LONG-TERM PLAN 2024

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Pre-engagement

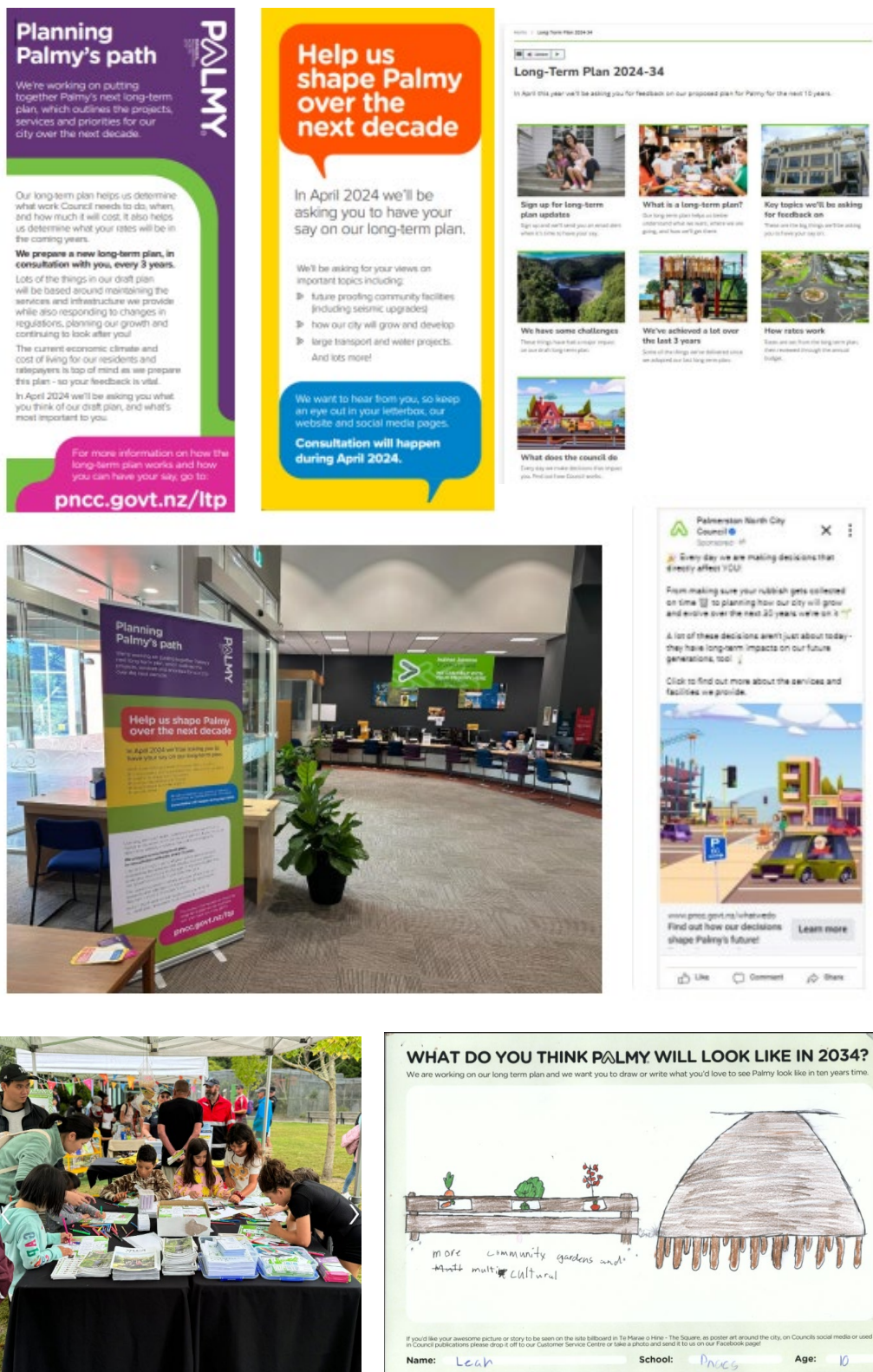
Raising awareness of the upcoming Long Term Plan

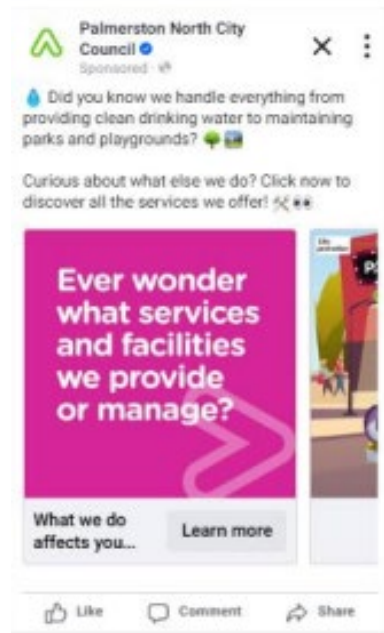
December 23 to March 24

Ahead of the Long Term Plan, we wanted to ensure our community knew it was coming up, and some of the key topics we'd be consulting on. The aim was to avoid any surprises for our community and that they had some time to think about what mattered to them. We used this time as an opportunity to remind our community what Council does – an action from recent Residents Surveys.

During this education/pre engagement period we:

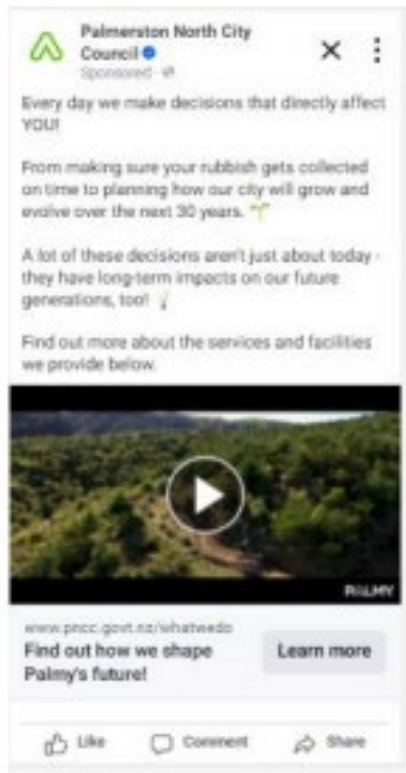
- Sent a flyer to all ratepayers in February rates bill.
- Handed out flyers at community events over summer
- Launched a website hub about the Long Term Plan including what it is, the steps to making a Long Term Plan, the big topics, council deliberations etc
- Created interactive webpages about what council does and let schools know about this. We also ran newspaper and social media advertising promoting this interactive tool. We also updated our 'What Council does' video to include more topics and with current staff.
- Created a sign-up form so people could be notified when consultation starts/ends (234 people signed up).
- Had a display at our Customer Service Centre for people to learn more
- Had stalls at Esplanade Day and Smooch your Pooch events raising awareness.
- Attended 15 Summer movie nights and spoke to attendees and handed out a flyer, as well as them watching a video reel of people talking about what they love about the city, and what they'd change. The video ended with Mayor Grant talking about the Long Term Plan and why it's so important people have their say.
- Mayor Grant's videos and community videos shared on council social media channels
- Introduced 'Palmy People' to talk about their vision for the city. We selected known locals as a way to encourage people who may not normally get involved in Council processes to have more awareness by someone that is relatable to them. We included representatives of families, older people, business, arts and the environment.
- Sent colouring submissions out to Primary and Intermediate schools to do as an activity for the final weeks, or beginning weeks of the school year.
- Media releases and interviews
- A wide range of social media content throughout this period promoting these events and that we'd be at them.
- Letting key stakeholder groups know that we were preparing for the Long Term Plan and rough timeframes for their awareness.





What Council does affects you every day – whether you are at home, school or work!

Use this interactive map to find out more about the services and facilities we provide or manage.



Consultation period

8 April to 9 May 2024

Sector sessions

During Consultation, seven sector sessions occurred. Sector Sessions are an opportunity to talk to some of Council's key stakeholders/partners/funding and do a deepdive on a particular area. Our partners typically co-host the session and invited others to come to the session. At each sector session, there was a presentation about what we're proposing for that sector, as well as a touching on key topics and info from the wider Long Term Plan.

Key themes from each session has been noted below.

Environment Sector Session – 71 total attendees

- Construction waste and whether it's increasing. Have rules on this when granting development consents
- For Awapuni Library Community Hub and Te Motu o Poutoa, will there be cafes or subleases to help offset the costs
- Are we getting soft plastic recycling/ Why the move to not recycle bottle tops
- Please do more waste education. More promotion and awareness
- Reward people for not putting food/green waste in their bins/bags
- Lets grow our city more as more homes mean more ratepayers to pay
- Will the trucks for food waste collection be diesel or electric?
- What's happening with the Eco Design advisor role
- Are we doing any fast-track consents
- Have we secured the land for Nature Calls
- Homelessness fund- why council funded project



Development Sector Session – 55 total attendees

- Will developers be able to access stormwater modelling in future
- Is there possibility to only get some queries responded, rather than need a full LIM. Eg- wanting to know just flood risk
- How we're protecting high quality soils
- Bus hub- why are we doing if not high user numbers
- Have we done sensitivity test on increase in DC's.

Sport Sector Session – 37 total attendees

- Keen to know more about Nature Calls
- Are we listening to all users for Arena Masterplan, or just those on steering group
- Another swimming pool update



Community Sector Session – 45 total attendees

- Pleased funding increases with inflation
- How does funding and EOI process work for homelessness fund
- Are user numbers driving new library/upgrade as well as breakdown of Awapuni cost
- What are we doing for very young children
- How much of what we're proposing is what we've put off over other years. If we keep delaying those things will keep costing us more
- Ensuring community facilities have accessibility factored in from get go.



Business Sector Session – 41 total attendees

- Nature Calls levy- how distributed/would it be CV based/when would it come into effect.
- Why does Awapuni cost 29M, could council get developer to do it
- What are the changes to Development Contributions
- Need to change District Plan to make it easier for development to occur – urban design, subdivision, medium density are key areas
- How are we planning to fund other things
- Are we still supporting 30km/hr speed limit in city centre/removal of parking
- Why didn't you bring the 20pc rates rise to the community to consider

Arts Sector Session – Approx 35 total attendees

- Seismic upgrades- what strength are we aiming for
- Funding and sustaining it and keeping up with inflation
- What does a vibrant city look like to Council/these groups help bring to life
- What are we doing to keep young people in our community interested in arts
- Rates review
- Encouraging Housing in the city centre



Housing Sector Session – 27 total attendees

- Consenting is still hard, especially for smaller homes/medium density
- Not enough larger houses in community, which is problematic for intergenerational living
- With rating review, are there differentials to incentivise development
- Needs to be more incentive to bowl old houses than rent them out
- Pleased to see housing in Long Term Plan and sorting the roadblock to more housing and affordability
- Supportive of Housing First model, but also poses challenges for what is good social housing and the best model for that.
- Need to be creative and open when it comes to social housing. Why should ratepayers fund. Look at Feilding/CHCH



model which works well. Work smarter with the system for this housing

Heritage Sector Session – 37 total attendees

- Update on Civic and Cultural Precinct work
- Storytelling of heritage includes need for good archives
- Why the heritage panel isn't funded or in Long Term Plan
- Heritage doesn't get much coverage. It's part of arts plan. Should be a standalone plan
- No heritage planner- when its everyones job, it's no ones job
- Cofunding and what that could be and what it looks like. PPP's don't have good success rates for buildings
- Seismic upgrades and how much council funds. Concern over plan if work with developer. Why would a business do this for a community facility? They'll just hike rent up
- Why memorial park stage 2 has stopped. Lost opportunity to have another memorial in city
- If you change seismic timeframe anymore you're just kicking can down the road and costing more
- Heritage Month funding



Reference group and community group sessions

Reference Groups

Staff and/or Elected Members presented to our advisory groups- including the Seniors Reference Group, Disability Reference Group and the Pacifica Reference Group. There was also a presentation to the the Welcoming Communities group. At these sessions, the presentation included general Long Term Plan information, anything specific to them and how to make a submission.



Youth Council

Staff ran a workshop with the Youth Council about the key issues of our Long Term Plan.

Youth Council have also facilitated some separate sessions independently.



Youth Forum

Over forum lunch break, spoke to attendees about the Long Term Plan and encouraged them to find out more/come to sessions/make a submission.

Youth Space sessions

We attended Youth Space over two busy afternoons to help answer any questions about the Long Term Plan, but also to assist them in making any video/audio submissions they wanted to do. For many this was the first time they had made a submission and were more comfortable doing it this way. They spoke about the city rather than specifics in the Long Term Plan. A submission box was also at Youth Space during consultation and over 40 submissions were received. Video/audio submissions have also been submitted as formal submissions.

Grey Power

Presented to Grey Power about the Long Term Plan, where to get more info and encouraged members to have through say on our proposed plan.



Pasifika Development Advisory Group

Attended two meetings with the group to talk to them about the upcoming Long Term Plan, and then about the Long Term Plan once consultation had opened. Primary focus was the Pasifika Centre proposed work.

Matua Ola

Presented and took questions from the Matua Ola Group at the Pasifika Community Centre



Massey University

Joined the Student Associations consultation session, where we spoke with Massey students. Staff also came and had their questions answered. Ideas were workshopped and entered as a formal submission.

**Neighbourhood Support**

Presented to the Neighbourhood Support Board about Long Term Plan and took questions.

Safety Advisory Board

Presented the draft Long Term Plan to Safety Advisory Board and encouraged them to get their organisations to make submissions

General public sessions

We hosted a range of opportunities for our community to ask questions and give feedback to us during the consultation period.

Drop-in sessions:

We hosted several drop-in over the consultation period. Drop in's are an opportunity for people to ask questions in an informal setting in locations they are more likely to feel comfortable in. These were held both during the day, evening and at weekends to provide options to our community.

Drop-in sessions were held at Awapuni Library twice, Te Patikiki Library, Rosyln Library, Ashhurst Library and the Central Library. At each session between 10-15 people attended. We also hosted a session at Bunnythorpe, including the Future Development Strategy, and had approx 70 people attend.

Key themes from drop in sessions include:

- Querying rating review
- Localised concerns that impact them – eg footpaths/lights/bins
- Featherston St feedback
- Future Development Strategy
- Querying some of the community facilities including ownership/what they involve
- Clarifying information they'd heard regarding debt/funding they'd seen on social media or at other non-council events
- To praise us for the good work we did, and rates being at 11.3% when they'd seen other councils much higher
- Wondering how they could help push govt to assist us more with so many projects coming in being required by law
- Excited about prospect seismic projects have for adding vibrancy and potentially housing to city centre. Many believe they will be good for business and more people in city centre will also mean hopefully less crime
- Nature Calls. Support it and work been done. Keen to see what water space will look like in four years. Why don't we just bring in water metering now.



Facebook Live 'ask us anything' session

During the consultation period we ran a live event on our facebook page where people can ask questions of our elected members live. Most elected members took part in the session answering questions from residents. Over the consultation period, the video was watched by almost 9500 people. We also had 550 comments on the video, with people asking questions and engaging with each other.



'Planning Palmy Expo'

For the first time, we created an expo based around our Long Term Plan and the big things within it. It gave the community an opportunity to ask questions and to learn more about what we did. Key areas included Emergency Management, Transport, Water, Rates, Planning, Housing, Seismic upgrades, Waste, and Community Facilities. We also had some big trucks and machinery to draw the kids in so their parents could chat to staff and elected members. Over the three hours, we had approx 800 people come through the door





Planning Palmy Expo – Community Facilities

At the Expo, people were able to sticker the community facilities with three different options. Those were the same options we were consulting on. A red meant not supportive, yellow meant supportive with conditions, and green meant support as proposed



Planning Palmy Expo – Rates Review

People were asked to pop a token in the box of the rates review option they preferred. The Hybrid option scored the highest with 39 coins. During the day we had 181 people used the rates review tool, most of which we expect were from the expo.

Awapuni Open Day – Waste Consultation

While the open day was primarily for the Waste Plan consultation, we also used it as an opportunity to talk Long Term Plan and encourage people to come to the Expo the following weekend.



School sessions

We're keen to see young people get involved in council decision making, so they become actively involved later in life. In the last term of 2023 we sent out colouring forms to primary and intermediate schools across the region for young children to draw what they want the city to look like in a decade. We heard from many of the schools that the children wanted to keep their pics, but we did get some sent to us.

We reached out to all social science teachers to get the opportunity to talk to students about the Long Term Plan and encouraging students to get involved. Teachers told us that strict NCEA requirements made it hard for them to have 1-2 sessions available outside of curriculum requirements, but we were able to make this happen as part of coincidence for some school classes who were discussing power and/or policy/decision making at the time.

This includes:

- 2x classes at St Peters College.
- 1x class from Palmerston North Boys High
- 3x classes at Palmerston North Girls High
- 2x classes at Longburn Adventist College.

At the sessions we talked about the Long Term Plan and big things coming up in our city. We also did exercises about what they like about their city, and what they'd change as a way of getting them to think about how that connects with things within our plan. This feedback from each class has been submitted as formal submissions.

Across the schools, we spoke to approximately 300 high school students.

***We don't have pictures of the workshops in this report, due to the age of the students.**

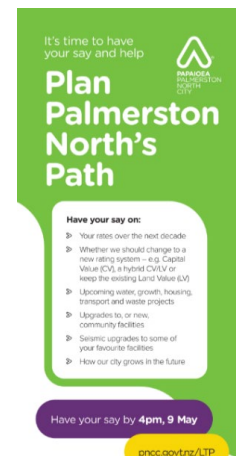
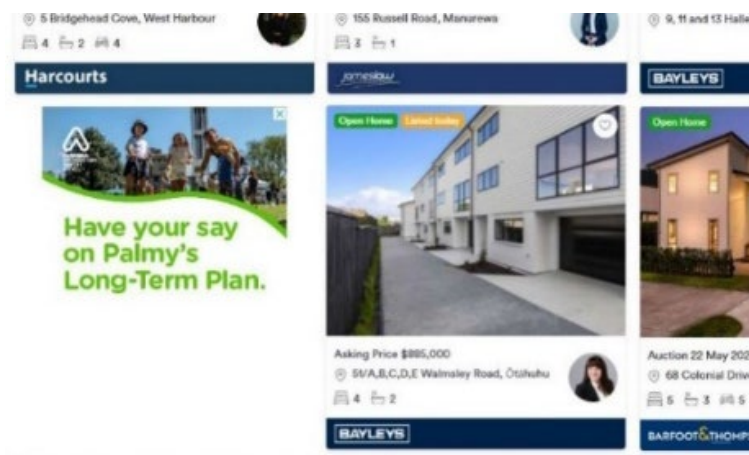
We promoted the Long Term Plan in a number of ways


We wanted to make sure everyone knew about the Long Term Plan and had an ability to have their say.

We:

- Sent a letter to every ratepayer (or emailed if that's how they get their rates invoice) about the Rates Review especially, but also the Long Term Plan
- A booklet to every home in the city
- A website hub – data below
- Posters around the city
- Displays including submission forms and consultation material at all libraries, customer service centre, and proposed community facilities and a few other locations as requested by community
- Media releases and interviews
- Wide range of social media posts and adverts, promoting key info but also promoting opportunities to speak with our Elected Members and Council officers
- Comms out to all VIP city stakeholders.
- Stakeholder comms to community – eg: real estate industry about rates reviews, people who'd used community facilities over past year, CCOs, Sector Leads, funding recipients
- Radio ads on local radio stations, including Kia Ora FM. Mayor Grant voiced some of these ads
- Digital advertising on Google, Stuff and TVNZ+ and On Demand
- Digital advertising on Homes/One Roof real estate websites about the rates review to ensure soon to be homeowners were aware
- Bus backs
- Email signatures
- Newspaper adverts.
- isite digital billboard

One major change this year to previous consultations is the desire for more hardcopy submission forms. We provided thousands to the community at their request. This comes with a large printing cost, and will need to be factored into future budgets.





Palmerston North City Council

12 April at 10:00

Do you think we should change our rating system?

As part of our Long-Term Plan consultation we want your feedback on that very question.

We've got three options to choose from:

Land Value (what we currently do)

Capital Value

A hybrid mix of land and capital value.

There are pros and cons to each option, and it's important you read them here.


We're also proposing to reduce the discount we give to properties between 0.2 and 5 ha (known as "rural" or lifestyle properties).

You can search what your property looks like, and make a submission, at [www.pnc.org.nz/ratesreview](#)

We have a video showing you how in our comments.

Any change would impact your rates for the future so it's never been more important to make a submission - whether you like what you see, or have concerns.

Have your say before 4pm on May 9.



Should we
change our
rating system?

Palmerston North City Council

Governorment Organisation

Learn more

Ramapoan City Council 11/11/2015


Notice to everyone who came to your Planning Ramapoan North Bays best Saturday.

I was great to see many of you engaging with our selected members and discussing Paving the Blue Trail for miles 11, 14 and 15. The meeting hours and the membership signs were a welcome sight.

We will still do a more chance to chat with us about the Long-Term Plan.

Drop-in sessions till Saturday, 27th
at Ramapoan Library at 10am

If you can't make it, you can still join your local at <http://www.ramapoan.gov/2015/11/06/bay-trail/> before 11th Nov.



Lots of you have been asking us what your rates pay for. Well... loads. Check out our infographic.

These figures are based on a home in the city with a land value of \$468k and a capital value of \$739k, calculated using the hybrid rating system we're proposing in our long-term plan. But while the dollar figure changes depending on your property's rating value, the percentages remain the same. Those percentages also remain similar no matter which system we use to calculate rates: LV (our current system), CV (which lots of you have been asking us to consider moving to) or a mix of both of these (council's preferred option).

Time is ticking to let us know which system you prefer. Search the rates for your property on our website to see what each option means for you, read about the pros and cons, then have your say.

<https://www.pncc.govt.nz/propertysearch>



 **Palmerston North City Council** · 23 April at 14:33 · 🌐

Mayor Grant Smith has a message for you all as we pass the halfway mark in our Long-Term Plan consultation period.

Have your say here before 9 May, <https://www.pncc.govt.nz/Par.../Have-your-say/Long-Term-Plan>



And on behalf of Council, thank you to those that have submitted so far

This week, it's important you keep an eye on your letterbox for this booklet explaining the key points of our draft Long-Term Plan! 📬

It's filled with everything you need to know about our proposed services, projects and your rates for the city over the next ten years, so please take some time to look through it. You can find more detailed information on our website and at our libraries and customer service centre.

You can read all this information now at www.pncc.govt.nz/

Some of the key topics we're asking you include:

- 👉 Should we change our rating system? (You can see what your rates would be like under CV or a hybrid CV/LV option on our website link). 🏡 Property owners will also get a letter about this topic.
- 👉 How should we prioritise and fund our biggest projects for water, transport and housing? 🏡

- New community facilities and upgrades to existing ones 🏡

Over the coming weeks, we'll be taking a deep dive into these topics here on Facebook. While your comments on social media will be supplied to our elected members, we encourage you to please make a formal submission so your feedback on a range of topics can be considered.

On Saturday 20 April, staff and elected members will be at the Conference and Function Centre from 10am to 1pm to answer all your questions. Next Wednesday, we're also doing a Facebook live event with our elected members.

We also have a range of other ways to come and chat to us face to face too which are on our website.

Read more now at www.pncc.govt.nz/ftp or at any of our libraries or customer service centre. 📖



Palmerston North City Council • 3 days ago •

Water, transport, and housing are always hot topics in our community, and our draft Long-Term Plan proposes significant investments in these areas. Some of these investments are to prepare for our city's growth, requests from our community, to meet our city's goals and vision, are legal requirements, or are driven by the need to prepare for climate change.

It's important that you understand what we're proposing and that you have your say. Click through the photos to read the... See more

Our city's growth is driving a lot of our work

Here at an already know that the Plan is the place to be. But there are plenty to catch on leading to significant growth – not just for us.

By 2040 we are expecting a population of over 100,000 people in the city. This means we will need to invest in infrastructure, such as roads, water, sewerage, and housing, to support this growth. We are also seeing an increase in the number of people working in the city, which will also drive the need for more infrastructure.

We also need to take into account the effects of climate change. We are seeing an increase in the number of people working in the city, which will also drive the need for more infrastructure.

The city's growth is driving a lot of our work. We are seeing an increase in the number of people working in the city, which will also drive the need for more infrastructure.

We want everyone to have a place they can call home.

Our vision is to create a city where everyone has a place they can call home. We want to see a mix of housing types, from small apartments to large family homes, and we want to ensure that everyone has access to affordable housing.

We are currently reviewing our housing strategy and we want to hear from you. Please let us know what you think about our vision and what you would like to see in our city.

We want to be able to move people and goods around efficiently and safely

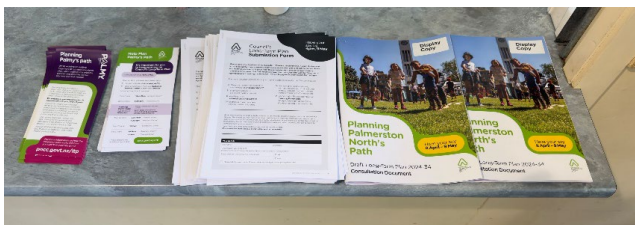
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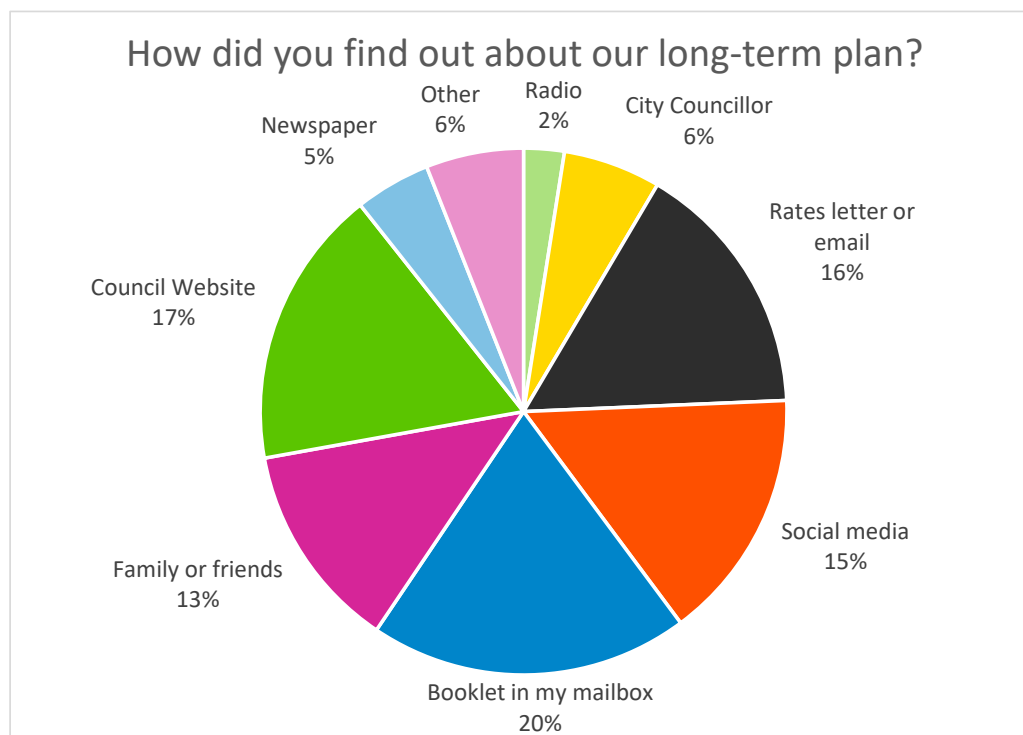
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It's important that you understand what we're proposing and that you have your say. Click through the photos to read the... See more





Our online submission form asked people how they heard about the Long Term Plan. This was an optional question.



Social media themes

All comments have been provided to Elected Members to review. Social media is a good tool for promoting information, however the comment section isn't always reflective of community views. That's because people with differing views often don't want to offer them due to how they may be treated by other responders. This has been a clear trend all councils and govt agencies have noted since COVID 19.

This was also evidenced with our Facebook Live. The comments and questions we got during that were vastly different to the comments we received on the post, and were more about seeking information and being supportive of many things. That's because there was such a large volume of comments occurring at once that to viewers there was a far more mixed range of comments than what we saw on posts.

On Long Term Plan posts the general things commented on were:

- Concern about rural rates
- Keep spending on core services and infrastructure
- Concern that the community isn't listened to
- Featherston Street
- Mixed views on the community facilities

Long Term Plan website hub: A home for all things Long Term Plan

Our website is the key way people get information about the Long Term Plan and have their say. We built a special website hub, based on data about how our customers use our site, to ensure they could get the info they need as easily as possible. We then created calls to action across the website to raise awareness and drive people to the hub.

During consultation, this is what our website hub looked like:

Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Our long-term plan is our proposed plan for Palmy for the next 10 years. Feedback is now open!

A message from the Mayor and Chief Executive



Read our consultation document

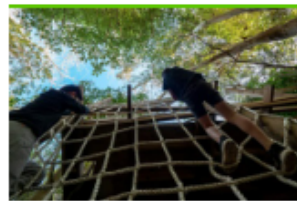


Have your say now >



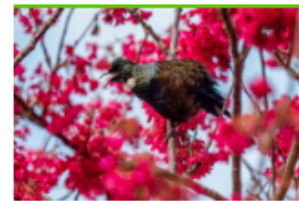
How to have your say

There are loads of ways to have your say and we hope that you do. Feedback is open until 4pm on Thursday 9 May.



Our long-term plan guides everything we do

Our long-term plan is the blueprint for making sure Palmy is a great place to live, work, visit, play and do business.



What we're asking you about

These are all the things we're asking you to have your say on.

Five facts to know about our long-term plan

Here are the 5 key things you need to know about our long-term plan.

We have some challenges

These things have had a major impact on our draft long-term plan.

We've looked at a range of options to keep rate increases down

To get rates down to 11.3% in Year 1, we've used a range of tools to help minimise costs.

Rates for 2024-25

We're proposing that rates will continue to be made up of a portion that has fixed charges and a portion based on the rateable value of the property.

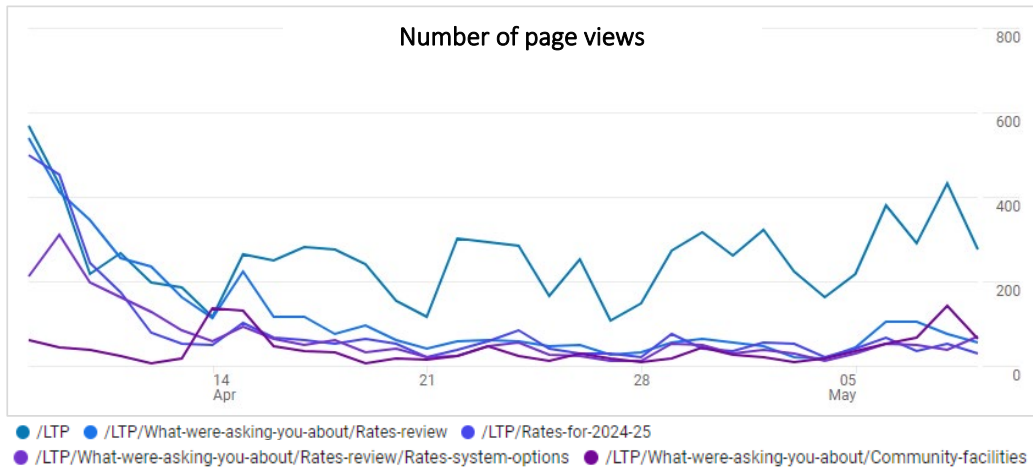
Your rates for the next 10 years

Your rates over the next decade will need to increase significantly.

Our long-term plan risks

Our proposed plan has 2 particular areas of uncertainty and risk that it's important for you to understand and share your feedback on.

During the consultation period, 9,155 people visited the Long Term Plan pages 30,607 times. The graph below shows the usage, with spikes on 8 April and 8 May which were the start and finish dates of the consultation.



The most popular pages were the Long Term Plan landing page (8,267 views), Rates review (3,758 views) and Rates for 2024-25 (2,771 views).

The most common documents that were downloaded were Draft Long Term Plan (1468 downloads), Activity text and budgets (141 downloads), and Draft Development Contributions Policy (130 downloads).

We built a special rates tool for this consultation, so people could see what their rates looked like under each option. 6,682 people visited this page and used the tool 14,647 times.

Home / Rates, Building & Property / Property & housing / Search the rates for your property

[Listen](#)

Search the rates for your property

Search our records for rating valuations and property information, including your property rates for 2023-24 and proposed rates for next year.

We've been reviewing our rating system and whether we need to change the way we calculate rates. We've got 3 options for you to choose from:

- a hybrid option with the majority of general rates being based on land value and the remainder on capital value (around a 70/30 split)
- capital value (the figures in our search tool show you 100% of CV so you can see the full impact on your rates, but if this option is chosen it will be phased in)
- maintain the present system (LV).

It's important you [read more about what we're proposing](#), including the pros and cons of each option, search below to see what each option means for your property, then have your say.

Enter Address, Assessment Number, Valuation Number, or Legal Description [Search](#)

Read more about the rates review and proposed rates for 2024-25

- [Key points about the rates review](#)
- [The options for our rating system](#)
- [Rates for 2024-25](#)

During the consultation, 1,048 people made their submission via our online form.

The form was split into sections so it's less daunting to answer. Questions linked to the corresponding information in the Long Term Plan hub. Submitters were also able to save the form and have it emailed to them to come back and finish at their leisure.

Have your say by 4pm on Thursday 9 May

You can give your feedback on our plan in a variety of ways. With this submission form you can answer as many questions as you want. You don't need to answer them all if you don't want to. There are no age restrictions to making a submission - we are happy to see submissions from all ages.

You can give feedback in any format. This can include:

- filling out our online form
- filling in a paper submission form (find these at our Customer Service Centre and libraries)
- sharing feedback on our social media channels
- emailing us at longtermplan@palmerstoncc.govt.nz

You can give feedback in any format that suits you. That could be a letter, picture, drawing, song or video (up to 3 minutes) etc.

You can also come and chat to elected members at the [Privacy Policy](#) on Saturday 20 May.

Long-Term Plan submission form

My progress: 0%

Your contact details

Privacy

All submissions may be made publicly available on our website and at our customer service centre and libraries. Your contact details (but not your name) are confidential and will not be published. Elected members receive all submissions without contact details so they can consider the views and comments expressed.

We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name (required)

Last name (required)

Organisation you represent (if applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.)

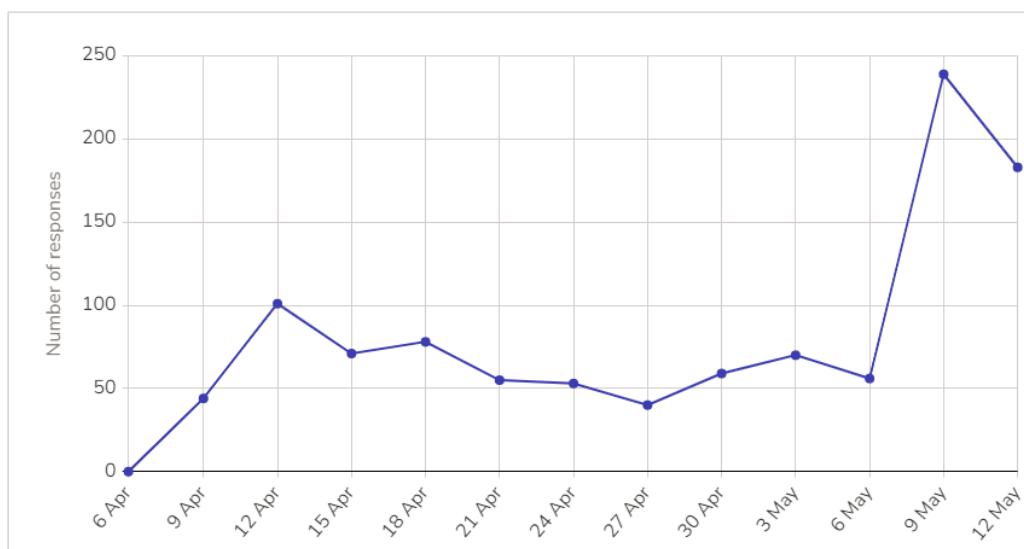
Email (required)

Phone (required)
Please provide a daytime contact number

Please tick if you are under 18 years old, as we will apply further privacy measures

☐ I am under 18

Form responses



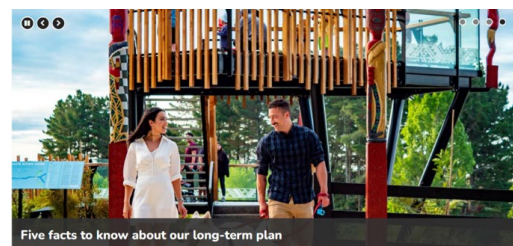
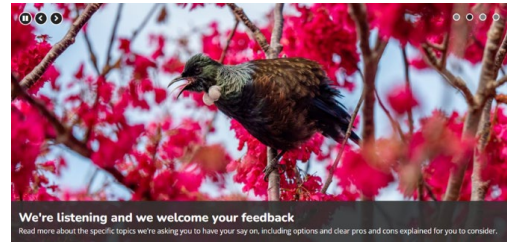
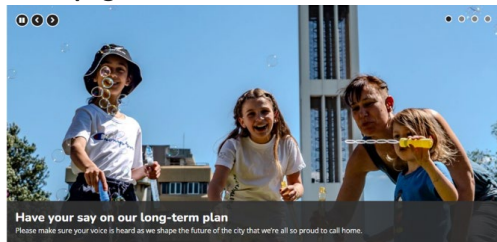
This graph shows the total online submissions during the consultation period. This peaked at 478 responses in the final week of consultation (183 on the closing day).

Most people accessed the Long Term Plan pages via Google organic search (41%), direct traffic (27%) and Google paid ads (13%).

Converting website visitors to submitters

We wanted everyone who visits our website to know about the Long Term Plan, find out more about what we're proposing to do, and have the opportunity to have their say. As well as highlighting the Long Term Plan on the homepage, we created calls to action across the website to drive people to key pages in the hub. This included our top visited pages on the website (the rates and property search tool, rubbish and recycling days finder etc) as well as service pages related to things we were asking people about (for example, the roadworks page linked to our plans for transport, and District Plan change pages linked to our plans for city growth and housing).

Homepage rotator



Sample of calls to action encouraging website visitors to find out more and have their say


Awapuni Community Centre

22 Newbury Street, Awapuni 4412

Our Awapuni community centre has a big hall and a smaller meeting room.

Suitable for: Concerts & Plays, Conferences, Events, Group Fitness & Dance, Parties & Celebration, Meetings, Weddings

Announcement : We're proposing to build a new Awapuni Community Library Hub, which includes expanded community space within a new library. Find out more on our long-term plan website, then let us know what you think.




Nature Calls


This project takes a fresh look at how we manage wastewater in Palmerston North and what we need to achieve to bring our wastewater management and infrastructure up to a future-proofed standard.

We're currently seeking feedback on our plans for water as part of consultation on Council's long-term plan.


[Find out more and have your say](#)



What is Nature Calls?
This project will determine how Palmerston North's wastewater is treated and discharged in future.



What's happening with Nature Calls
In 2021, Council selected its best practicable option for wastewater management.



January 2024 update
In February 2024, we'll be doing more water testing to determine the potential impacts of our treated wastewater in the future.

Attachment 2

2024/34 Long-Term Plan – Overview of Key Themes in the Submissions

This is an overview of the key themes raised in submissions. It also contains some of the key points raised by major organisations who made submissions.

The overview is not an exhaustive review of the feedback Council received, nor of what Elected Members heard at the Hearings. It does not attempt to capture every point raised in the submissions and hearings.

It needs to be read alongside the submissions. Elected Members have read all the submissions.

It includes some quotes (in italics) from submissions to give a general flavour of the community feedback in key areas. Quoting from these submissions does not endorse them.

Overall Summary

The most common theme running through the submissions is that Council should stick to the basics to keep costs down.

There is clear agreement that the “basics” includes water, wastewater and stormwater. This includes Nature Calls, although many submitters are unsure how to pay for it.

The “basics” also includes rubbish and recycling. However, while submissions want an extended list of items that can be recycled, there were mixed views on food scraps and green waste recycling, with many submissions saying these are for households to manage themselves.

Transport is also seen as a “basic” - although there are contrasting views on how much Council should focus on providing cycling.

Housing also has some support as a “basic” – in particular residential housing. Social housing has contrasting views, with some seeing it as something Council should provide, while others say it is a Central Government responsibility. There are also contrasting views on growth, in particular infill vs greenfield developments.

Vision and Goals

Around 55 submissions support the proposed Vision and Goals. They feel that they are progressive, bold and balanced. These include Tanenuiarangi Manawatū Incorporated Rōpu, the Manawatu Business Chamber, Massey University, Manawatu Tenants Union, PN Pacifica, Athena Women's Collective, and Manawatu District Council.

However, around 95 submissions feel that the Vision and Goals are unrealistic and unaffordable. Many of these do not like the proposed Vision because they see it as driving the high level of rates increases in the draft LTP. A common theme is that now is the time to focus on the basics, not a time to be ambitious.

A further 20 submissions like the small city benefit component, but not the big city ambition.

Rates Increase Feedback

Around 400 submissions say that the proposed rates rises are unsustainable and unaffordable, especially with the cost of living crisis. They say Council needs to focus on providing core services rather than “nice to haves” so that rates are affordable and debt is reduced.

In your booklet, your graph shows that the debt forecast doubles in 9 years. That is a lot of money for a community to repay. In 5 years we hit the max debt to revenue ratio. I believe we really need to look at the projects planned and cut the nice to have projects. There are a lot of people struggling out there and increasing rates by a large amount will only make more families struggle. There have been a lot of nice to have projects in last 5 years. [506]

Our council like any resident has to live within their means. Rates increases need to be kept to the minimum in order to limit the number of residents being forced out of their homes due to affordability of living/rates increases. [614]

We need to proceed with austerity as our country, citizens and rate payers are in financial crisis, we need to fund ONLY the essentials and NOT borrow. We must live within our means and increasing rates only be the LAST resort. If we cannot afford it in the current environment then we cannot have it, until such times as the economic environment improves. [1252]

Around 30 submissions say that a sustainable, well-maintained and growing city requires proper funding and a Council that is willing to invest in the city's future.

We need rates to increase so that PNCC can afford to provide adequate public services [866]

People are rightly worried about whether rates increases will be one extra burden too far that dispossess them of their homes. The council should consider how it can manage this fear, as well as the attitude of ratepayers who only see the services they want to pay for as important, without realising just how sad a city can get with a council focused only on business interests and the bottom line.... [883]

Rates System

There is no clear preference in the submissions for any particular rating system. Around 430 submissions favour the land value-based system. The capital value and hybrid systems both have around 300-320 submissions favouring them.

Most submissions are from residential rate payers. The second biggest group of submissions on this topic is rural residential ratepayers – these do have a clearer preference for a land value-based system.

Each system has similar reasons for being the preferred – in particular, it is seen as being the fairest or it is “the best for me”. The “fairest” means it best reflects either the household’s ability to pay or its usage of services.

Land value-based also has submissions favouring it because it is the status quo and therefore the easiest to implement and the simplest to understand.

The hybrid system has some submissions saying it is a reasonable compromise, although others say it is complicated and untried.

About 70 submissions oppose the reduction in the rural-residential rates discount, primarily because these households provide their own water and wastewater systems and don’t have the same access to or use of services as urban rate payers. These were nearly all rural-residential rate payers. Around 5 submissions support the reduction in discount.

[The current discount] reflects the significantly lower amenity and benefit we receive from Council in a rural area, and the significantly lower burden we place on Council infrastructure, including sewage, stormwater and portable water services and management.... We are responsible for providing our own septic, stormwater and potable water services at 100% of our cost. [482]

Community Facilities and Arena

Tanenuiarangi Manawatū Incorporated Rōpu supports all the community facility projects: Te Motu o Poutoa, the Multicultural Centre, the Pasifika Centre, Te Patikitiki and Awapuni Libraries, and the Central Energy Trust Arena. It supports exploring options and co-funding to enhance community facilities through any earthquake strengthening work.

Multicultural and Pasifika Centres

Around 400 submissions support the Multicultural Centre proposal. A similar number oppose.

Around 320 submissions support the Pasifika Centre proposal. 5 of these included petitions with a total of 736 signatures. Around 420 submissions oppose.

The reasons for submissions supporting each of these proposals are because they will be safe, inclusive facilities that meet important community needs.

Likewise, each has similar reasons why some submissions oppose them – they are not a priority, community needs will change, or because of their costs.

For each facility, about 40 submissions say it could be combined with other facilities (existing or new).

I am heartened to see investment that celebrates Palmerston North's multi-cultural demographic. This is a strength of our city, and infrastructural support is needed to ensure that this diversity thrives amidst an environment that is welcoming, inclusive, and safe. A Multicultural Centre signifies the value of this diversity to our city and, I imagine, will serve as a means of education for everyone. [523]

[Current venues are] clearly too small to accommodate the number of Pasifika groups that we have in our wonderful city. I support the plan to expand this community facility. [684]

Due to the difficult financial circumstances most people are facing with inflation. Interest rates, and rising commodity prices, I would like to see these projects [Multicultural Centre and Pasifika Centre] deferred for the next 10 year plan. [468]

I would expect that rather than a separate facility for a sole purpose, that other options such as multi-purpose facilities would make a lot more financial sense and should be pursued. Having the 3 separate cultural facilities proposed is ludicrous. Couldn't some of the refurbishments to libraries accommodate this need? [480]

Te Patikitiki and Awapuni Libraries

Around 400 submissions support the Te Patikitiki library proposal. A similar number oppose.

Around 320 submissions (including Awapuni Rotary, and 2 submissions with a total of 170 signatures) support the Awapuni Library proposal, while about 460 oppose.

As with the community centres, those submissions in favour see these as valuable community facilities that meet important needs. And the submissions opposing them are concerned about their cost (particularly for the Awapuni Library), and also think that the way that people access library services is changing or that people can use the Central Library.

Around 40 submissions would support each library if its cost was reduced.

Libraries are really important community facilities for learning (individuals and groups), meeting places and hubs for information about community events and activities [1198]

I see ABSOLUTELY NO NEED to build a new library hub. Libraries are used much less by the community nowadays because people are going online to find information and read books, watch documentaries and films, etc. [602]

Several submissions said that the proposal for the Awapuni Library needs to be scaled back as there is need in other parts of the City, in particular Roslyn. ACROSS Te Kotahitanga o Te Wairua say that Roslyn has very few services and well-being agencies, so it is asking Council to help purchase a building that can become a community hub.

Te Motu o Poutoa

Tanenuiarangi Manawatū Incorporated Rōpu, Rangitāne o Manawatū Investment Trust and the Rangitāne o Manawatū Settlement Trust all support developing Te Motu o Poutoa, as it is the most important historical, cultural and spiritual site for Rangitāne o Manawatū. They see it as reflecting the strong relationship between Rangitāne and the Council and say that Te Motu o Poutoa will take this relationship to the next level. They say it will be a unifying space that the whole community can use and that will bring economic opportunities.

Around 350 submissions support the Te Moto o Poutoa proposal, while about 450 oppose. A further 30 submissions would support it at a lower cost to ratepayers.

Submissions supporting this see it as a very valuable facility that will properly recognise Rāngitane's role in the city, be a civic asset and raise the profile of the City.

Those against see it as expensive and not a priority.

This is a significant achievement to proceed with this development that will benefit not only or local communities, but also be a place that attracts tourists to our city. This is also a significant ancestral site for Rangitāne. [503]

There are already maraes within the city or close by. A big expense when basic projects need to be given priority and actioned first [924]

Central Energy Trust Arena

About 420 submissions (including Sport Manawatu, Manawatu Rugby Union, and Sport NZ) support the proposed developments at the Arena. About 360 oppose. A further 60 support the proposals if the scope or cost to ratepayers is reduced.

Those in support say that the Arena is a good facility that meets community needs. Those who are opposed are concerned about the cost or don't see the proposals as a priority for Council.

This Arena brings in visitors from around the motu, and it is important that these facilities not only give a good impression, but that they are safe and comfortable for players / performers / visitors. [523]

We are in a recession. The council cannot seem to operate core services economically so my feeling is that funding should go toward keeping the city running without further rates hikes and cutting down on unnecessary spending until the economy improves. [483]

Seismic Upgrades

Around 350 submissions (including Tanenuiarangi Manawātū Incorporated Rōpu, the Regent Theatre Trust Board, Historic Place Trust, CD Branch ARANZ and Te Manawa Museums Trust) support option 1 – investigating options and co-funding to enhance the buildings alongside seismic upgrades. Their rationale is for Council to investigate the options to promote the heritage value of these buildings and increase vibrancy in the CBD.

Around 430 are concerned with the cost and relative lower priority of these projects and therefore favour option 2 – only doing the seismic upgrades (still with co-funding).

Consolidating all work into a single project will cut costs, and when combined with community grants will provide a better solution. For too long this country has run on councils doing the bare minimum. We are now reaching crisis point on a significant number of major infrastructure. Do it once, do it right. [134]

I'd prefer more emphasis on affordable housing and wastewater than heritage buildings if we have to list priorities. [80]

Water

Tanenuiarangi Manawatū Incorporated Rōpu and the Rangitāne o Manawatū Settlement Trust see water – drinking water, stormwater and wastewater – as Council’s biggest challenge. They wish to work with Council to ensure the city has pure drinking water, gets all wastewater out of the Awa, manages flooding risks, and protects and enhances waterways.

44 submissions say that water is a critical service and one of Council’s key priorities.

Wastewater: The submissions clearly acknowledge that wastewater treatment is a priority (around 200 submissions). However, many of these submissions also expressed concerns about how the City can pay for it and want the Council to investigate options that would reduce the demand on ratepayers. Ideas put forward include approaching central government, a shared regional approach, bonds, user pays, reducing standards, and reducing other spending.

This is a very difficult problem..... It is imperative that whatever scheme is accepted, it should be one that provides a long term solution, not one that is entirely based on the lowest cost. [1328]

The planned work is good. But the total cost does not make sense. [985]

14 submissions don’t want discharge to land, especially productive land. 7 submissions say that Council should charge only people who are connected to the wastewater system.

(Drinking) Water: 14 submissions suggest that the Council should meter water. 2 said not to. 7 say that Council should require houses / new builds to have rainwater tanks.

Stormwater: Wellington Fish and Game (along with two other submissions) say that Council should develop green / natural stormwater systems.

Transport

The submissions see transport is a priority – but which parts of it make up that priority is fairly polarising. And there is a consistent view that it needs to be safe and easy to move around Palmerston North – but how Council should make that happen raises quite different ideas.

This is particularly so for cycling, where there are fairly even numbers (around 100 submissions each) for and against Council providing and developing the cycling network (including shared pathways).

Public transport also led to mixed views (and also misunderstandings around Council’s role compared with Horizons): around 35 submissions like the new busses, but a similar number don’t or think smaller busses are needed. 18 don’t think a new bus terminal is needed.

There were fairly consistent views on:

- Opposition to the Featherston St roading changes (around 170 submissions). 12 submissions like the changes.
- The need to prioritise road maintenance and street cleaning, especially sweeping gutters of leaves (around 70 submissions).
- The need for the rural ringroad (including a new bridge) to keep heavy traffic out of the city (around 100 submissions, including by Tanenuiarangi Manawatū Incorporated Rōpu, Te Utanganui, and Manawatu District Council.

- The need for improved rural roads – in particular Stoney Creek 5 dips, Kelvin Grove Road and Bunnythorpe roads (around 25 submissions).
- About 20 submissions say parking should be easier and cheaper in the CBD, although 2 say it should be removed from The Square.
- The need to keep traffic flowing (10 submissions)

Resource Recovery

Submissions see this as a priority and as something that Council is currently doing well.

84 submissions (including Health NZ Te Whatu Ora) support a food scrap and / or greenwaste collections service. However, 49 say that Council should not provide this as people can do their own composting – or, if Council does provide these services, it should be on an opt-in, user pay basis.

About 100 say that waste minimisation is a priority and they support Council's Plan. Some of these say that Council should increase what can be recycled – in particular to include soft plastics.

Other themes include:

- 13 submissions would prefer to have wheelie bins for rubbish / glass rather than the bags / plastic crates.
- 12 say Council should make rubbish bags cheaper or free to prevent fly-tipping.

The themes identified in these submissions are broadly consistent with the issues raised through the draft WMMP consultation – see separate report to this meeting.

Housing

Housing covers two quite distinct topics: residential growth and social housing.

Residential growth: this topic was covered in a more in-depth way through consultation on the Future Development Strategy. Full information on the FDS consultation feedback was provided in the report to the Future Development Strategy Joint Steering Group on 20 May 2024.

The LTP submissions are consistent with this feedback. They show a fairly even split (about 80 submissions each) between favouring greenfield developments and infill. In both cases there is general recognition that the developments need to be done well: the infill needs to protect neighbourhood amenities and the greenfields should only go ahead when good physical and social infrastructure, particularly roading, is in place. A further 30 submissions say not to put new houses on flood-prone land or high-class soils.

Around 70 submissions say that social housing is a central government responsibility and that Council should not get involved. Around 40 support Council providing social housing. These include Tanenuiarangi Manawatū Incorporated Rōpu, Health NZ Te Whatu Ora, the Pasifika Reference Group, the Seniors Reference Group, Homes for People, Te Pū Harakeke – Community Collective Manawatū, and the Manawatu Tenants Union.

Other comments include:

- 29 submissions say that the city should not aim to grow – instead they would prefer Palmerston North be the best little city. Growth is also costly.

- 15 submissions (including the Housing Advice Centre and Health NZ Te Whatu Ora) support the proposed homelessness proposal. 6 do not.
- 12 submissions say that developers should pay more of the cost of developing the infrastructure needed for housing.
- 6 submissions (including PN Pacifica and Ora Kōnnect) say that bigger homes are needed for multi-generational families.

About 40 submissions said they agreed with the Housing Plan – this was for a mix of support for residential growth and / or social housing.

Other Activities and Plans

Relatively few submissions commented on the rest of Council's Activities and Plans. The submissions we received are generally supportive of Council's Plans.

Urban Design

- 30 submissions oppose the proposed upgrades to The Square / CBD / City transformation / Cuba St. 4 (including CEDA and the Disability Reference Group) support these projects. Palmy Bid supports short, medium and long-term investment to attract visitors to the city centre, bringing vibrancy and prosperity.

Economic Development

- 9 support the Te Utanganui / Rail Hub project, including industrial development at Roberts Line. (These include Tanenuiarangi Manawatū Incorporated Rōpu, CEDA and Manawatu District Council). However, two are opposed.
- 9 submissions support this Plan and Council's involvement in supporting business and encouraging business development in Palmerston North. These include CEDA. The Manawatu Business Chamber is developing a Business Voice - Strategic Project to improve how business is done in the region in the medium to long term. It is seeking assistance from Council for this.
- Massey University is keen to work with Council on the Economic Development, Housing, Recreation and Play, Urban Design, and Governance Plans.

Arts and Culture

- 18 support Te Manawa (including Brightwater Home and the NZ Society of Genealogists PN). These include a request from Te Manawa and Te Manawa Museum Trust for an increase in funding for Te Manawa.
- 12 support Creative Sounds (including the Youth One Stop Shop), including a request for Council to fund a Community Outreach Coordinator.
- 12 support heritage, including Manawatu Heritage and a purpose-built heritage storage facility (submissions endorsing these include PN Heritage Trust, the Central Districts Branch of the Archives and Records Association, and Historic Places Trust Manawatū-Horowhenua).

- Creative NZ encourages Council to keep investing in the creative sector and to recognise the contributions of ngā toi Māori, Asian and the Pacific arts to well-being of city residents.
- The NZ Rugby Museum requests \$20K to help develop a develop touring exhibition.
- The PN Public Sculptures Trust is seeking ongoing support from the Council.

City Library

See previous comments on community facilities.

- 7 support Make-A-Space / Blueprint.
- 6 support the library (including Public Libraries NZ)

Community Support

See previous comments on community facilities.

- 31 submissions seek more Council support and things to do for children and young people / youth. Many of these specifically mentioned the value of the Youth Space. These submitters included the Youth Council, Youth One Stop Shop, Pasifika Reference Group, Creative Sounds, Launch Nuū, school students and the Manawatu Toy Library.
- 13 submissions, including Environment Network Manawatu, and the Athena Women's Collective ask Council to provide or support natural burials.
- 9 submissions (including Te Pū Harakeke – Community Collective Manawatū, the Manawatu Toy Library, and MaLGRA) endorse Council's ongoing / increased involvement in supporting the community sector.
- The Seniors Reference Group wants Council to consider being an Age Friendly City in its decisions.
- The Disability Reference Group wants Council to endorse the Enabling Good Lives Principles and include accessibility assessments and funding in all infrastructure projects.

Community Safety and Health

- 7 submissions want reduced dog registration and adoption fees.
- 6 support more monitored cameras in the CBD (including the Manawatu Business Chamber and Palmy Bid).
- 5 (including Horizons Regional Council) say Council needs more focus on emergency preparedness for itself and for the community.
- The Cancer Society say that Council should adopt a Health in All Policies approach, as well as continuing to implement the Vapefree, Sun Protection, and Healthy Beverages Policies.
- The PN Surf Life Saving Club (and 2 others) appreciate Council's support for the Life Guard Service and seeks funding for a three year term.
- Neighbourhood Support is seeking assistance from Council to help make Palmerston North a safe and connected community.

Recreation and Play

See previous comments on proposed Central Energy Trust Arena developments

- 7, including PN Marist Football Club, the Manawatu Rugby Union, Central Football and Sport NZ, support the new artificial turfs at Arena and Massey. Central Football included a 312 signature petition. (Some of these request more detailed discussions on timing.)
- 6 support Council's ongoing investment in aquatic facilities.
- 6 submissions want Council to improve / develop a canoe polo facility. (These include the Manawatu Kiwi Canoe Polo Club. Two submissions said that the Hokowhitu Lagoon is a residential area and is therefore not a suitable location for this.
- Sport Manawatu and the NZ Recreation Association both urge Council to continue its investment in play, active recreation and sport, given the huge benefits these have for community wellbeing.
- Sport NZ suggest that Council develops and increases the use of existing facilities before developing new ones. It also asks that Council continue to work with Sport Manawatu.
- The Manawatu Mountain Bike Club thanks Council for its support and funding to help build mountain bike tracks at Arapuke Forest Park.
- Te Araroa Manawatu Trust wants Council to build more walkways.
- The CET Wildbase Recovery Trust note that the rebuild of the Esplanade Aviaries has been removed from the LTP and asks the Council to decommission and demolish them.

Climate Change and Sustainability

- Tanenuiarangi Manawatū Incorporated Rōpu and the Rangitāne o Manawatū Settlement Trust see addressing climate change as one of the major challenges facing the Council.
- 11 support the Climate Change Plan and say this is an area Council needs to focus on. (These include Environment Network Manawatu and Health NZ Te Whatu Ora).

Biodiversity and the Manawatū River

- 14 support Council's role in protecting biodiversity and green spaces, including planting more trees. (Submissions include the NZ Recreation Association, Environment Network Manawatu and Horizons Regional Council.)
- 6 submissions (including Environment Network Manawatu and the Athena Women's Collective) support Council's involvement in community gardens and food resilience

Governance and Active Citizenship

- No common themes

Feedback on LTP Policies

Revenue & Financing Policy

- No specific submissions but will need to be changed if Council's decides to adopt anything other than its preferred hybrid option for the rating system

Rates Remission & Postponement Policies

- No submissions

Financial Strategy

- No specific submissions though many submitters believed the Council was seeking to borrow unreasonably large sums and that capital programmes needed to be reduced to reduce the projected level of Council debt.
- Many submitters were concerned to learn of the possible size of IFF levy that might be assessed on their property to service and repay debt for the Nature Calls programme. Whilst many believed the Council needed to do what was required to meet the appropriate resource consent standards they urged the Council to seek a more affordable option that would reduce the sums expected to be paid by ratepayers.
- The size of the rates increases forecast, especially in the early years of the LTP, scared many submitters and they urged Council to cut it cloth to reflect the current economic climate.

Infrastructure Strategy

- No specific comments but a clear message from many submitters that Council should stick to the basics of infrastructure maintenance and development.

Significance & Engagement Policy

- No specific comments

Summary of Submissions on the Draft 2024 Development Contributions Policy

Consultation on the draft 2024 Development Contributions Policy (the DCP) has progressed alongside the Long-Term Plan (LTP).

The following table is a summary of submissions for questions asked in the consultation document relating to the DCP:

| Summary of Development Contribution Policy Submissions | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-------------------------|
| | Yes | No | Don't know / no opinion |
| Question 1 <i>We're proposing to increase development contributions for residential development and decrease the non-residential fee to more equitably distribute the cost of growth. Do you agree with this change?</i> | 357 | 270 | 383 |
| Question 2 <i>We're proposing to stop collecting development contributions for growth costs associated with the Nature Calls wastewater project. Do you agree with this change?</i> | 414 | 211 | 377 |
| Question 3 <i>Where proposing to add the cost of interest from borrowing that funds infrastructure growth into the calculation of development contribution fees. Do you agree with this change?</i> | 509 | 162 | 339 |
| Question 4 <i>Do you agree that we shouldn't charge a fee for no - residential development that has no connection to the water or wastewater network?</i> | 497 | 205 | 303 |

The highest number of responses to the questions was "Yes," followed by "Don't know / no opinion" rather than "No". Many submitters mentioned that they didn't fully understand the DCP, making it difficult for them to provide an informed response. Submitters noted the difficulty in understanding the purpose of the Policy, how it applies to development and its relationship to other funding mechanisms of Council.

The main themes coming through submissions are as follows:

- Broad support for the user pays principle that underpins the DCP and the need for development to pay for the cost of growth rather than ratepayers

- The importance of striking a balance between encouraging development and alleviating the financial strain on residents
- Requests for clearer communication and education about proposed policy changes
- Broad support for not charging development contributions for non-residential development not connected to the water and or wastewater network
- Stormwater was identified as an important issue and the need to ensure development covers the cost of supporting infrastructure to manage its effects
- The cost of providing infrastructure to support greenfield development is expensive. It is important that development covers the full cost of supporting infrastructure
- Requests equity between payment of residential and non-residential development
- Concerns that increasing residential fees may discourage investment in housing
- Support for bringing more business to the city through decreasing the non-residential fee

800 responses to question 2 were “yes” or “don’t know” and 211 responded “no.” However, a number of submitters provided comments to this question noting a concern about stopping the collection of development contributions for growth costs associated with Nature Calls.

Submitter 1119, Summerset Group Holdings Limited, requested changes to how the fee for retirement villages are calculated and the timing for payment of fees. The submitter’s proposal is based on Tauranga City’s Council’s 2023 independent review into infrastructure demand by retirement village residents. Staff are open to examining the approach and how it might be transferable to the City context. However, further work is needed to look behind the assumptions and data informing the Tauranga approach before any amendment is made to the PNCC DCP in the future.

Submitter 1119 did not acknowledge that the Draft 2024 Development Contributions Policy, like previous policies, includes a specific multiplier for retirement villages. Clause 6.6.4.3 (Retirement Villages) of the Draft 2024 Policy reads as follows:

For the purposes of establishing the number of equivalent household units that apply for retirement villages, the total number of units within a development that meet the definition of a dwelling shall be multiplied by 0.44. Any part of a retirement village that does not meet the definition of a dwelling shall be assessed as a communal residential development.

Any examination of the Tauranga data would need to be undertaken in the context of clause 6.6.4.3 of the current policy. Having considered submissions, staff are not at this staging recommending any changes to the draft 2024 DCP at this time.

Schedule of Carry Forwards

| Programme ID and Description | Programme Type | 2023/24 Budget | Year 1 2024/25 | Year 2 2025/26 | Year 3 2026/27 | Total |
|--|----------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| 2124 - Urban Growth - Ashhurst - New Roads | Growth | 4,348,474 | 1,912,890 | - | - | 1,912,890 |
| 66 - Totara Road Wastewater Treatment Plant - Resilience Programme | New | 718,956 | 306,578 | - | - | 306,578 |
| 161 - Public Toilets - New City-wide Toilets | New | 414,565 | 169,015 | - | - | 169,015 |
| 986 - Turitea Dams - Aeration Upgrade | New | 210,000 | 89,695 | - | - | 89,695 |
| 1196 - Cemeteries - Kelvin Grove - Replacement & enhancement of staff facilities | New | 144,181 | 33,761 | - | - | 33,761 |
| 1372 - City-wide Stormwater Pump Stations Improvement | New | 300,000 | 69,438 | - | - | 69,438 |
| 1389 - City-wide - Water Supply Resilience - Security of Supply | New | 500,000 | 363,172 | - | - | 363,172 |
| 1459 - Social Housing - Additional Social Housing Units | New | 1,062,948 | 500,000 | 500,000 | 423,434 | 1,423,434 |
| 1535 - City-Wide - Campervan Dump Stations | New | 213,595 | 198,149 | - | - | 198,149 |
| 1617 - Totara Road Wastewater Treatment Plant - Biogas System Improvements | New | 926,788 | 459,562 | - | - | 459,562 |
| 2345 - Property - Solar Panel Installations | New | 398,540 | 22,540 | - | - | 22,540 |
| 2526 - Amberley Avenue Bridge | New | 2,475,000 | 1,436,547 | - | - | 1,436,547 |
| 1796 - Cemeteries - Building Renewals | Renewal | 93,136 | 24,771 | - | - | 24,771 |
| 1837 - Swimming Pools - Pool Renewals | Renewal | 1,145,490 | 456,786 | - | - | 456,786 |
| Grand Total | | 12,951,673 | 6,042,904 | 500,000 | 423,434 | 6,966,338 |

Current Better Off Funding Projects:

| Project | Total BOF | Funding Utilised to date* | Remaining BOF* | LTP Better Off Funding Allocation | Proposed to Reallocate |
|---|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Construction of Summerhays site | \$4,160,000 | \$542,000 | \$3,618,000 | \$4,000,000 | Yes |
| Design of Summerhays, rezoning & design of Huia St, City Centre Housing site investigation & design | \$1,500,000 | \$125,527 | \$1,374,473 | - | - |
| Te Motu O Poutoa | \$1,000,000 | \$194,538 | \$805,462 | \$1,216,854 | Yes |
| Multicultural Community Hub – investigation & design | \$500,000 | \$150,000 | \$350,000 | \$350,000 | Yes |
| Rangitane BOF Resource | \$500,000 | \$11,904 | \$488,096 | \$437,819 | No |
| Te Hotu Manawa o Rangitane Marae wharenuī & wharepaku upgrade | \$500,000 | \$500,000 | - | - | |
| Total | \$8,160,000 | \$1,523,969 | \$6,636,031 | \$6,004,673 | |

*these values will be updated as at 30 June 2024 based on spend and funding allocated. The current totals are as at 31 December 2023.

Officer Recommendation is to reallocate the funding from the projects above, to the below Water Infrastructure Projects. This is a funding only change, not an expenditure change. Council loan funding of the Water projects is recommended to be moved to the Better Off Funded Projects.

The proposed funding reallocation of \$5,566,854 is detailed below:

| Programme Name | Year 1 2024/25 | Year 2 2025/26 | Total |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1054 - Ashhurst - Water Quality Improvements | \$1,932,935 | \$907,639 | \$2,840,575 |
| 1074 - Totara Road Wastewater Treatment Plant - Earthquake Strengthening of Civil Structures | \$773,174 | \$1,512,732 | \$2,285,906 |
| 1696 - City-wide - Drinking Water Standards Upgrades | \$77,317 | \$363,056 | \$440,373 |
| Total | \$2,783,427 | \$2,783,427 | \$5,566,854 |

The above programmes have been selected due to their close alignment with existing legislation. There is less risk associated with these kinds of programmes being cancelled in future years and further secures the funding available.

Hon Simeon Brown

Minister for Energy
Minister of Local Government
Minister of Transport
Minister for Auckland
Deputy Leader of the House



To: All Council Mayors + Greater Wellington Regional Council Chair

Dear Mayor / Chair

Local Water Done Well stage 2: Establishing the framework and transitional arrangements for the new water services system

This morning I will be making an announcement about the next stage of Local Water Done Well (LWDW).

I wanted to provide you with a heads-up in advance of my announcement, and to share key information that will be of interest.

Cabinet has agreed to the first set of policies that will establish the Local Water Done Well framework and the transitional arrangements for the new water services system.

This includes streamlined processes for setting up water services council-controlled organisations (water services CCOs), requirements for councils to develop Water Services Delivery Plans, and steps towards future economic regulation.

The policies will be introduced through legislation to be passed by mid-2024, as part of the second stage of our implementation plan.

Attached to this letter you will find information prepared for councils, covering:

- Water Services Delivery Plans
- Steps towards future economic regulation
- Streamlined processes for establishing water services CCOs
- Indicative policy, legislation and related council activity timings for LWDW
- Retaining current Better Off and Transition Support funding arrangements.

I also wanted to acknowledge the important role that you have played in getting to this point, and in the work that lies ahead of us.

Role of local government in implementing LWDW

The Coalition Government strongly believes in empowering communities and supporting local governance in managing and delivering water services.

We believe that communities are best placed to make decisions about things that directly affect them – like the future of their water assets, and ensuring sustainable, high-quality management of water services.

And underpinning all of this, we believe in setting clear expectations and bottom lines. This means stronger support and oversight from central government, to promote efficiency and accountability within the sector.

Today's announcement is another step forward in delivering on these fundamental elements of LWDW – and empowering local government to lead the way in delivering the changes required for your communities.

My expectation is that discussions and decisions are already happening at a local level, both within and between councils.

Today's announcement and next steps

The Cabinet decisions I will be announcing today will be given effect to in legislation, which is expected to be introduced and enacted around the middle of the year, subject to Parliamentary timelines.

There will be an opportunity to provide feedback as part of the select committee process.

Around the middle of this year is also when I expect to provide details on a range of options for councils to choose from to access long-term borrowing for investment in water services, in many cases by working together.

These funding and financing tools will be implemented through further legislation setting out the enduring settings for LWDW to be introduced in December 2024 and passed by mid-2025.

The Government recognises that certainty around timings, and details of the new regime, is needed quickly – for councils, for your communities and for the water sector.

I look forward to sharing further details as our policy is developed, and to seeing the progress of conversations between councils about your future service delivery arrangements.

Current Better Off and Council Transition Support funding arrangements will be retained

The Government has reviewed all funding under the previous Government's water reform programme and considered opportunities to retain existing funding arrangements to support LWDW.

The existing funding arrangements were designed to work for the previous government's model, and it makes sense to relook at these to ensure this money is being spent to support the transition to LWDW.

Cabinet has agreed to retain and redirect existing funding programmes, and has asked the Department of Internal Affairs to work with councils to align these to LWDW.

This includes retaining current Better Off funding for all councils, but for officials to work with councils to identify opportunities to redirect unspent Better Off funding to increase investment in water infrastructure or to help establish new water services delivery organisations.

Current Council Transition Support funding will also be retained to enable councils to use this funding for work relating to LWDW.

This includes supporting the establishment of new water services delivery organisations, or other planning work to support the transition to LWDW.

The Department will work with councils on any changes to current contractual arrangements to reflect decisions in relation to aligning funding to LWDW.

I have asked my officials to follow up with councils to provide further details.

Support for councils' early discussions about possible future service delivery arrangements

As previously indicated, I have instructed officials at the Department to be available to assist with early discussions that councils may be having about their possible future service delivery arrangements.

Please contact Hamiora Bowkett, Executive Director, Water Services Policy, Legislation and Stewardship, by emailing waterservices@dia.govt.nz, should your council wish to set up initial discussions with Department officials.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Simeon Brown'.

Hon Simeon Brown
Minister of Local Government

Rating system review

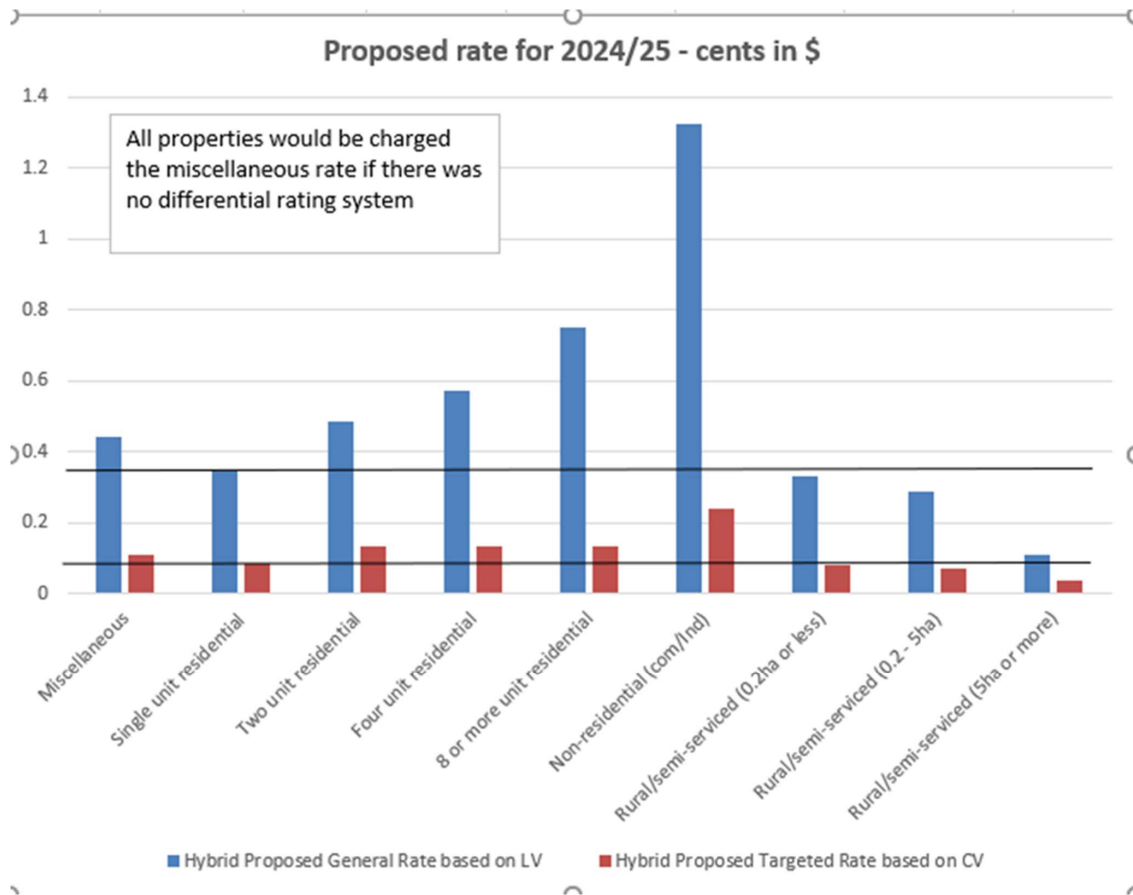
1. Recap - Council's Proposal

Council's proposed rating system for 2024/25 comprises the following components:

- 1 A uniform annual general charge of \$200 per rating unit.
- 2 Targeted rates for water, wastewater, kerbside recycling charged as a fixed amount per separately inhabited part of rating units and rubbish & public recycling charged per rating unit.
- 3 Targeted rates within the defined central city area to fund the BID programme charged to commercial/industrial properties through a combination of a fixed charge per rating unit and a charge based on the capital value.
- 4 General rates based on the land value and differentiated by use (eg residential, commercial/industrial, rural & semi-serviced) with some reduction in the level of discount applying to the rating differentials to properties in the 0.2 to 5ha rural/semi-serviced category.
- 5 A new targeted rate to fund a significant proportion of the net costs of activities principally associated with Council's innovative and growing city goal (eg transport, housing, urban design & economic development).

The decision to propose a system that included fixed charge elements as well as portions based on the land and capital values recognised that there is no perfect system and each has its pros and cons. The new element, based on the capital value, reflected a desire to have at least a portion of the rates based on the ratepayer's ability to pay and the capital value is generally recognised as a better proxy for this than the land value. The land value element was retained as it was recognised the Council has a key objective of encouraging effective use of serviced land and the land value was likely to send market signals that were more consistent with this than the capital value. It was also recognised that this hybrid of land and capital value bases would give the Council flexibility to move the proportion of the rates using each base in future, and in particular for 2025/26 once the new 2024 city rating valuations are known.

The following graph shows the rate-in-the-\$ that would be applied to each category of property (for the land value based general rate and the capital value based targeted rate) for 2024/25 based on the draft LTP. The two horizontal lines help show which properties pay more, and which less, than the urban residential rate.



2. Public Engagement

Council's public engagement process for the Long-term Plan gave significant emphasis to the proposed changes to the rating system and this helped generate a pleasing level of response.

Ratepayers were given the ability through the Council's on-line property search tool to understand what the rates would be for 2024/25 for their property (and others) using three options as follows:

- Council's preferred option (hybrid as described above)
- The valuation-based component be solely the capital value
- The valuation-based component be solely the land value (current system)

It was noted that if a full capital value based option was ultimately chosen that the rates for 2024/25 would not be those shown in the examples as it was likely the implementation of such an option would be staged over three years.

3. Misconceptions

Although by comparison with other Councils the City's rating system is relatively simple it is by its very nature more complex than most people can be expected to know.

This led to many people making assumptions that were not correct and therefore their submissions expressed concerns or proposals that were factually incorrect. Examples of these misconceptions included:

| Misconception | Actual position |
|---|---|
| 3.1 That capital value based rates will generate more revenue for the Council. | Council's LTP or Annual Budget determines the total rates requirement & the rating system is the mechanism by which this is distributed amongst individual ratepayers. |
| 3.2 Current rateable values are higher than current market values so rates on individual properties are currently higher than they should be. | <p>The three yearly City revaluation is the base for distributing the rates amongst ratepayers for each three-year period.</p> <p>The present 2021 rating values are higher than the prevailing market values but if new updated lower values were used the rate-in-the-\$ assessed on each property would need to increase to produce the same total rates revenue for the Council.</p> <p>The new 2024 rating values will be assessed over coming months and be used as the base for distributing rates for the three years from 1 July 2025.</p> |
| 3.3 That Council has determined the proposed IFF levy will be a fixed charge for all ratepayers rather than being based on the land or capital value. | <p>The Council has not considered how any levy would be assessed against individual ratepayers.</p> <p>The figure of at least \$1,000 per ratepayer pa for 30 years was based on a very crude assessment of options for the distribution of the levy using a total project cost of \$650m.</p> |

| | |
|--|---|
| 3.4 That once the IFF levy was charged the present wastewater rate would no longer be charged. | <p>Considerable further work is required to determine the actual project cost, whether all ratepayers would be charged the levy (or just those with access to (or potential access to) the wastewater system, whether it would be based on the land or capital value (with or without a differential for land use) or whether there would be a fixed charge component.</p> <p>All of this information will be provided for public consultation in due course.</p> <p>There will still be a need to charge for the other components of the wastewater activity including the provision of the wastewater reticulation network, pumping stations & the operation of the new system.</p> |
| 3.5 Rates are a charge for services & therefore Council needs to demonstrate what services are provided to each property to justify the rates being charged. | <p>Rates are a tax.</p> <p>Some aspects of the rates have a direct relationship to the provision of a service to each property (eg water supply, wastewater disposal, kerbside recycling and rubbish & public recycling) but the remainder of the funding from rates is for the provision of community services and facilities.</p> |
| 3.6 That ratepayers in the rural/semi-serviced differential category pay rates at the same rate as urban residential ratepayers | <p>Ratepayers in this category are not charged the targeted rates for water and wastewater nor are they charged for kerbside recycling (unless they are being provided with this service).</p> <p>The general rate they are charged for 2023/24 is 50% of the miscellaneous rate – this is the equivalent of 63% of the urban residential rate – or a discount of 37%.</p> <p>The hybrid proposal for 2024/25 is that they pay 65% of the miscellaneous rate which is the equivalent of 83% of the urban residential rate (for the land value based portion) and 85% (for the capital value based portion).</p> |
| 3.7 That the Council is not able to structure the rating system in the way proposed ie with a portion based on the land value and a portion on the capital value | <p>It is correct that the Council is not empowered to set the general rate on more than one basis ie it has to be either land or capital value. Council's preferred option involves the implementation of a new targeted rate (on all properties) to fund the transport, economic development, urban design & housing activities. Such an approach is legislatively compliant.</p> <p>It is also the case that the rating system needs to apply to all groups and cannot be different for different groups other than through the provisions of the differential system.</p> |

4. Submissions received

As the submission forms contained a number of questions about the rating system most submitters took the opportunity to answer, with a few giving a more detailed assessment of the position as they see it.

Most feedback was about two issues:

- Whether land or capital value was the most appropriate base for apportioning rates between ratepayers
- Whether it was appropriate to reduce the level of discount given to rural/semi-serviced properties between 0.2 and 5ha.

4.1 Land v. capital value as a rating base

Not unexpectedly, there was a wide range of views for and against each base. There were not any new issues raised that had not been considered during the development of the options for the Council's consideration.

Many believe the capital value is the fairest because they assume those with more valuable homes have a greater ability to pay than those with more modest homes. Others also supported the capital value base as they felt it was unreasonable that those with similar capital values could (under the land value based system) pay quite different levels of rates (most evident when comparing new homes on small sections with older homes on larger sections).

Many expressed the view that it could not be assumed they were more wealthy than their neighbour with the same sized section purely by reference to the size (and value) of their house. Some gave specific examples of situations where they had invested everything they had worked hard for into their home whilst others with similar incomes had chosen to spend their money in a different way (other investments, cars, holidays etc). They were strongly of the view they should not be penalised by higher rates purely through this choice.

Some expressed the view that land value was their preferred option as it encouraged land development and linked to the Council's growth strategies.

Although many recognised the balance being exercised by the Council in its preferred hybrid option it was obvious through the nature of the comments that many did not understand what was proposed, and it is suspected, may as a consequence have indicated a preference for the status quo.

The submissions have demonstrated there is no one option that will gain universal favour with ratepayers. What is appropriate is a matter driven by personal beliefs.

4.2 Rating Rural/semi-serviced properties (especially those 0.2 to 5ha)

As expected the proposal to reduce the discount provided on the general rates for this differential category of ratepayers drew a strong response. The responses showed that many in this category did not realise they were not currently being rated for any portion of the water or wastewater costs nor for kerbside recycling costs (if they were not on the recycling route). Most did not realise the general rate they are being charged in 2023/24 is 50% of the miscellaneous rate (equivalent to 63% of the urban residential rate).

Council's proposal is to increase the rate from 50% to 65% of the miscellaneous rate (being from the equivalent of 63% to 83% of the urban residential rate).

Submitters believed there rates should be considerably lower than those of urban residential ratepayers because in their view they received fewer of the services provided by the Council or that they chose not to use them, in some cases because of the distance their property is from the facilities.

Amongst the services many used as examples were water supply, wastewater, kerbside recycling, stormwater, streetlighting, footpaths and a range of other services that are not the responsibility of the Council such as urban buses, quality broadband etc.

As mentioned above the water supply, wastewater and kerbside recycling activities are all funded from separate targeted rates and so the properties in this category do not contribute in their rates to any portion of the cost of these services. This is appropriate given they have chosen to live in an area that does not have this Council provided infrastructure.

The lack of this infrastructure will be reflected in what people are prepared to pay for land in these areas and therefore their rateable land value will be lower than it would otherwise be. With this in mind it would be double counting if a further discount was given to reflect the distance the properties are from key services and facilities.

As part of the test of what level of discount might be appropriate it is interesting to consider the proportion of the general rate that funds the activities they believe they have no or limited access to. These are shown in the following table:

| Activity | Approx. %age of proposed general rate for 2024/25 |
|---|---|
| Active & Public Transport (incl. Footpaths) | 3.0% |
| Streetlighting | 1.4% |
| Stormwater | 4.8% |
| TOTAL | 9.2% |

As can be seen above the funding requirements for the three activities equate a total of 9.2% of the budgeted general rate for the 2024/25 year. From this perspective it could be argued there was some rationale for rates for these properties being discounted by up to 10%. This compares with the current discount (equivalent to 37% of the urban residential rate) and proposed (equivalent to 17% of the urban residential rate).

There are 1,744 properties in the rural/semi-serviced category with an average land value of \$543,000 and capital value of \$1.2m. This compares with the average land value of \$468,000 and capital value of \$739,000 for single unit urban residential properties.

Some submitters contend the present level of 'discount' they receive should be retained or a smaller reduction should be considered.

The following table demonstrates the impact on the position assuming various levels of discount; the proposed 35% or options of 40%, 45% or the current level of 50%.

| | Budget 2023/24 (50% discount) | 2024/25 (LTP proposal – 35% discount) | 2024/25 (projection if 50% discount) | 2024/25 (projection if 45% discount) | 2024/25 (projection if 40% discount) |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| Total budgeted rates from rural/semi-serviced group | \$3.24m | \$4.8m | \$3.83m | \$4.15m | \$4.48m |
| Average single unit residential rate for urban area | \$3,206 | \$3,455 | \$3,490 | \$3,478 | \$3,466 |
| General rate-in-\$ for 'lifestyle' as proportion of rate-in-\$ for urban residential properties | 63% | 83% | 63% | 70% | 76% |

As can be seen from the table any reduction in the level of discount for this group has a consequential impact on the rates for the urban residential group eg retention of the present 50% would increase the average single unit rate by \$35 (from the proposed level of \$3,455 to \$3,490).

[Note – all of the above examples are based on the proposed LTP for 2024/25 – any changes to components of the budgets will impact rates incidence and change the relationships between the various differential categories]

It is suggested that the issue needs to be addressed by:

- Determining what level of discount is appropriate (ie as originally proposed or a higher level of discount); and then
- Whether or not the move to the ultimate level of discount should be staged – if so then two years would be suggested.

22 May 2024