


1 Minutes Whakatāne District Council Meeting – 8 May 2024 (Day 1 of LTP Deliberations)

 <p>WHAKATĀNE District Council <i>Kia Whakatāne au i ahau</i></p>	Details of Meeting:	WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING – LTP DELIBERATIONS HELD IN THE TOTARA ROOM, WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL, 14 COMMERCE STREET, WHAKATĀNE, ON WEDNESDAY, 8 MAY 2024, COMMENCING AT 9:00 AM.
	Present:	His Worship the Mayor Dr V Luca, Deputy Mayor L Immink, Councillors T Boynton, G Dennis, A Iles, J Jukes, T O’Brien, J Pullar, N Rangiaho, N Tánczos and W James
	In Attendance:	S O’Sullivan (Chief Executive), N Woodley (Acting GM Development and Environment Services), G Fletcher (General Manager Community Experience), S Perdia (General Manager Strategy and Transformation), G Connolly (CFO/General Manager Business Partnering), E Hatch (GM People and Engagement), P Warbrick (Kaihautu Strategic Māori Partnerships), B Gray (GM Infrastructure), L Woolsey (Manager Strategic Policy), H Keravel (Senior Strategic Policy Analyst), C Viljoen (Manger Governance Services) and A Dass (Governance Support Advisor)
	Visitors:	D McCarthy (media)
	Apologies:	

KARAKIA

Councillor O’Brien opened the meeting with a Karakia at 9:03 am.

1 MEETING NOTICES

Meeting attendees were advised on the following subjects:

- Health and Safety aspects attendees needed to be aware of.
- The meeting was being livestreamed.
 - [Council LTP Deliberations Wednesday, 8 May 2024](#)
 - [Council LTP Deliberations, Thursday 9 May 2024](#)
- Etiquette of a formal Council meeting.
- The purpose of the Long Term Plan 2024/34 Deliberations.

2 MEETING DURATION

Moved Councillor Pullar / Seconded Deputy Mayor Immink

RESOLVED:

THAT the Whakatāne District Council **suspend** Standing Order 4.2 for the duration of the 2024/34 Long Term Plan Deliberations meeting as due to the nature of the meeting, break times may be required earlier or later than scheduled and the meeting duration will extend more than 6 hours.

CARRIED

3 APOLOGIES

Nil.

4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / TRIBUTES

Nil.

5 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Councillor Tánczos Nándor declared a conflict of interest in the relation to the Awatapu Otamakaokao Kaitiaki Trust submission as he was a member of the Trust

During the meeting, the following additional conflicts of interest were also declared:

Councillor Boynton = as an Appointed Member on the Arts Whakatāne Committee.

Councillor O'Brien = as Chairperson of Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa.

Councillor Iles = as a Board Member of the Disability Resource Centre.

Attendance: GM Infrastructure entered the meeting at 9:24 am.

6 REPORTS

6.1 Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations

Refer to page 10 of the agenda.

The purpose of the deliberations was for Councillors to Deliberate to analyse and consider, balance against information shared with Councillors. It was proposed for Councillors to provide direction for staff to go forward and implement key changes relevant to the Long Term Plan.

The following corrections were noted within the Long Term Plan 2024/34 Deliberations report:

- The table reference (4.2.1) was appended (Appendix 5) to the report and not listed within the report.
- The incorrect application for the Māori Relationships Senior Advisor was listed in the FTE table (table 2) on pages 22-23 of the agenda and would be corrected at that point in the meeting.

It was also confirmed that Council, following section 4.3.6 of the Long Term Plan 2024/34 report, would move to the Whakatane Climate Pathway report, and recommendations, before continuing with section 4.3.7 of the Long Term Plan 2024/34 report. That was because the Climate change strategy and Long Term Plan 2024/34 was interconnected. Key Climate Change implications, relevant for consideration as part of the Long Term Plan 2024/34, was outlined in the Climate Pathway report.

Moved Councillor Tanczos / Seconded Councillor James

RESOLVED:

- **THAT** the Council receive the Council Long Term Plan 24/34 Deliberations report; and,
- **THAT** the Council receive the 974 submissions to the Long-Term Plan (LTP) available in Appendix 1 (volume 1 to 10); and,
- **THAT** the Council receive the 25 submissions to the LTP Supporting Policies and Proposals included in Appendix 2; and,
- **THAT** the Council agree to receive the 8 late submissions to the LTP and Policies and Proposals included in Appendix 3, in accordance with Council's Acceptance of Late Submissions Policy; and,
- **THAT** the Council receive the social media summary report in Appendix 4; and,
- **THAT** the Council receive the report of the Consultation Document's four key questions in Appendix 5; and,
- **THAT** the Council receive the analysis of strategic themes from the LTP submissions in Appendix 6; and,
- **THAT** the Council receive the individual management recommendations described throughout this report; and,

CARRIED

Moved Councillor Pullar / Seconded Councillor Boynton

RESOLVED:

- **THAT** the Council provide direction on rate levels and the associated work programme to inform the final LTP for audit and then adoption.

CARRIED

Councillor Dennis voted against this motion.

7 LTP Deliberations Report / Management Recommendations

Refer to pages 13-23 of the agenda.

Following the consultation process, and the hearing of submissions, Councillors deliberated on feedback and submissions from members of the public.

Council gave staff an indicative result to each of the management recommendations, to assist with the preparation of material related to the adoption of the Long-Term Plan 2024/34.

Attendance / Adjournment:

- The Chief Executive left the meeting at 9:51 am and returned to the meeting at 9:53 am.

- The meeting adjourned at 10:16 am and reconvened at 10:33 am.

Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub discussion key summary points:

Refer to page 13 of the agenda.

- Council members questioned the management recommendations and the contents of the 7.8 M figure.
- It was mentioned that the planning phase of the project would be crucial and that the War Memorial Hall required immediate attention. Considering the recommendation would enable future project planning for improvement work.
- Approving the project would see minimal rating impact on the first year of the Long-Term Plan 2024/34.
- Prior to commencement of future remedial and improvement works, a report would be presented to Council for approval.

ACTION - Staff were directed to explore other strategies to reduce food waste.

Attendance: The Chief Executive left the meeting at 11:17 am and returned to the meeting at 11:22 am.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:01 pm and reconvened at 1:00 pm.

Second Bridge 'River crossing for Whakatāne Township' discussion key summary points:

Refer to page 15 of the agenda.

- Councillors alluded to the need for remedial pairs to the Pekatahi bridge due to the significance purpose it serves. That Council should advocate for work to commence through liaising with Waka Kotahi.
- It was further noted that the recommendation was to place emphasis on Emergency Management staff to finalise and effectively communicate the District's Emergency Management Plan to its communities, so that public are clear on what the emergency routes are in case on an emergency.

ACTION - Council directed staff to continue to advocate to Waka Kotahi / NZTA around options for the Pekatahi Bridge and emphasise appropriate evacuation routes in communications.

Attendance: GM Strategy and Transformation left the meeting at 1:56 pm and returned to the meeting at 1:59 pm.

Sullivan Lake discussion key summary points:

Refer to page 16 of the agenda.

- It was confirmed that there are currently no funds allocated in the draft Long Term Plan for the Sullivan Lake project. Management included this as a suggested recommendation based on a submission received through the consultation process.

- Councillors wanted an indication as to whether this project would offer a long-term solution to which it was confirmed that investment in Awatapu lagoon and Sullivan Lake would need to be ongoing to ensure that these water bodies are maintained accordingly. The project would offer a 10-year solution.
- It was noted that this management recommendation was an additional budget expenditure and would have a rating impact if Councillors were to decide to include this project within the Long-Term Plan.

ACTION - Staff were directed to do further analysis to assess whether the Sullivan Lake project and the Awatapu Lagoon project could continue to perform beneficial work should the Council decide to approve half of the funding requested for each.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 2:47 pm and reconvened at 3:09 pm.

Attendance: Councillor Iles entered the meeting at 3:10 pm.

Attendance: The Chief Executive left the meeting at 3:11 pm and returned to the meeting at 3:11 pm.

Māori Relationships key summary points:

Refer to page 16 of the agenda.

- It was confirmed that TARGS was seeking co-funding from Regional Council, Whakatane District Council, Rotorua District Council and Kawerau District Council to support the TARGS strategy and project work.
- Council declined the Tarawera Awa Restoration Strategy Group's (TARSG) request for financial support, totalling \$70,000 for year 1 and \$50,000 for year 2, designated for the TARSG secretariat.

ACTION - Council directed staff to investigate collaboration with other Council partners to support the request up to a mutually agreed value of \$15,000 per year for two years.

Transport discussion summary points:

Refer to page 16 of the agenda.

- Staff anticipate that the bus shelter plan should be within current budgeting but if additional funding was required, staff would seek prior approval from Elected Members.
- It was clarified that the seal extension project was part of the transport programme.


ACTION - Council instructed staff instructed to provide a programme to support the development of a bus shelter plan.

Community Wellbeing discussion summary points:

Refer to page 17 of the agenda.

- As requested in the received submissions, it was said that Council would not be advocating for the installation of showers and toilets.
- Council would investigate the potential of a public toilet facility in Awakeri, as there was potential for a partnership to support this initiative.
- It was noted that the Mitchell Park work programme was not included in the Long Term Plan but the toilet for Mitchell Park was part of the wider programme and was therefore still considered.

Adjournment: Attendees were advised that the meeting would recommence on Thursday, 9 May 2024 at 9:00 am. Councillor O'Brien closed with a Karakia and the meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm.

	Details of Meeting:	WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING – LTP HEARING HELD IN THE TOTARA ROOM, WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL, 14 COMMERCE STREET, WHAKATĀNE, THURSDAY, 9 MAY 2024, COMMENCING AT 9:01 AM.
	Present:	His Worship the Mayor Dr V Luca, Deputy Mayor L Immink, Councillors T Boynton, G Dennis, A Iles, J Jukes, T O'Brien, J Pullar, N Rangiaho, N Tánczos and W James
	In Attendance:	S O'Sullivan (Chief Executive), N Woodley (Acting GM Development and Environment Services), G Fletcher (General Manager Community Experience), S Perdia (General Manager Strategy and Transformation), G Connolly (CFO/General Manager Business Partnering), E Hatch (GM People and Engagement), P Warbrick (Kaihautu Strategic Māori Partnerships), B Gray (GM Infrastructure), L Woolsey (Manager Strategic Policy), C Ball (Climate Change Strategy Project Manager), H Keravel (Senior Strategic Policy Analyst), C Viljoen (Manager Governance Services) and A Dass (Governance Support Advisor)
	Visitors:	
	Apologies:	

KARAKIA

Councillor O'Brien opened the meeting with a Karakia at 9:01 am.

8 MEETING NOTICES

Meeting attendees were reminded of the Health and Safety, the meeting was being livestreamed and the etiquette of a formal Council meeting.

9 APOLOGIES

Nil.

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / TRIBUTES

Nil.

11 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

As recorded during Day 1 of the LTP Deliberations.

12 REPORTS (Continued)

Whakatane Climate Pathway Report

Refer to pages 138 – 186 of the agenda.

General Manager Strategy and Transformation advised that the Climate Change steering group met on, Wednesday 8 May 2024 with the intent to prepare a recommendation, supporting the inclusion of Climate Change considerations, to form as part of the final LTP Deliberations.

Refer tabled item 1a-4a.

The recommendations from the Climate Change Steering Group to the Whakatane District Council's Long Term Plan Deliberations was tabled at the meeting.

Whakatāne Climate Pathway report (continued)

Recommendations on page 138 of the agenda.

Moved Councillor Jukes / Seconded Councillor Pullar

RESOLVED:

1. THAT the 'Whakatāne Climate Pathway submissions pertaining to Long Term Plan deliberations' report be received; and
2. THAT the Council consider, as part of the Long Term Plan deliberations process, the submission points raised through the Whakatāne Climate Pathway that have budget implications; and
3. THAT Council accept and consider the tabled recommendations from the Climate Change Strategy Steering Group.

CARRIED

ACTION - It was requested that the management recommendation, section 50 (page 17 of the agenda) be adjusted to read as follows:

"Council continue to collaborate with central government and regional partners to prepare a programme for participation in voluntary reform. Over and above BAU resourcing."

Attendance: The Chief Executive left the meeting at 9:53 am and returned to the meeting at 9:59 am.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:12 am and reconvened at 10:28 am.

ACTION - In accordance with recommendation 16, Council directed staff to carry out an awareness campaign to support alternative options for ways to connect to the District waste strategy (compost, worm farms etc).

ACTION - Staff were instructed to confirm whether Film Bay of Plenty are currently funded 15k per annum.

Attendance:

- Councillor Tánczos left the meeting at 11:16 am and returned to the meeting at 11:20 am.
- GM Strategy and Transformation left the meeting at 11:21 am and returned to the meeting at 11:21 am.
- Councillor Rangiaho left the meeting at 11:26 am and returned to the meeting at 11:28 am.

Adjournment: the meeting adjourned at 11:45 am and reconvened at 1:00 pm.

Refer pages 21-22 of the agenda. Guidance on proposed rates.

Mayor Luca asked staff to reintroduce this section of the report for the purpose in clarifying what guidance staff were looking for to support the adoption of the Long-Term Plan 2024/34 at a future Council meeting.

Staff reiterated that the guidance for the proposed rates was an option to help with rate reduction rather than management recommendations.

It was confirmed that by deferring FTE allocations would have an impact on the work programmes and strategic alignments as indicated in the Long-Term Plan gateway projects.

Refer to pages 22-23 of the agenda.

Table 1: Strategies to reduce rates in year one affecting items included in management recommendations to the deliberation process.

Council indicated that additional budgeting be included in the Long Term Plan to allow for the following:

- Sullivan Lake and the Awatapu Lagoon project works for year 2; and
- 15k for the Tarawera Awa Restoration Strategy Group (TARSG)

Table 2: Strategies to reduce rates in year one affecting items added into budget by Council prior to consultation on the draft LTP.

- Council indicated that they wanted the pre-consultation fees for the MACA strategy to be included into the Long-Term Plan; and
- That the solar studies were to be delayed.

CORRECTION - Māori Relationships Strategy consulting fees added in by Council pre-consultation. The impact section to reads as follows:

“Not consulting would prevent WDC from engaging in legal advice for the MACA work programme.”

Table 3: Strategies to reduce rates in year one affecting FTE requests in year one.

Council indicated that they wanted the Māori Senior Advisor role to remain within the Long Term Plan, and for 8 Full Time Employee (FTE) roles to be delayed.

1. Allow the following 3 FTE for a full year:

- Animal Control Officer
- Organisation Development Lead
- Waste Disposal

2. Delay the following 5 FTE from the consultation budget (for 6 months):


- Financial Services
- Climate Change Role
- Transport Planner
- Social Media
- Tourism and Cycleway Development Advisor

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 2:24 pm and reconvened at 3:01 pm.

As part of establishing the Long Term Plan for 2024/34, staff asked Councillors for an indication to the path they were hoping to take, related to the rates increases.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 3:41 pm and reconvened at 4:13 pm.

Councillor O’Brien closed the meeting with a Karakia at 4:19 pm.

Confirmed at the meeting dated:	27 June 2024
 CHAIRPERSON	