

This advertisement is authorised by the Hauraki District Council

What's been happening this year?

We are pleased to report on another successful year. The Council has adopted the 2014/15 Annual Report which outlines Council's performance against financial and non-financial targets that we had set for that year.

Our 2014/15 Annual Report has been checked by Audit New Zealand to ensure everything's in order, and they have provided their findings in an Audit Opinion.

Here's a summary of what we have reported in our Annual Report, in case you don't feel like reading the full document. If you are inclined to read the full document, it and the summary version are both available at the Council's services centres in Ngatea, Paeroa and Waihi or can be viewed on our website – www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz.

Overview of non-financial service targets in 2014/15

Our non-financial service targets show our commitment to the community in providing quality delivery of services, facilities, infrastructure and projects. The targets can be found in the full Annual Report document, or in our Hauraki Long Term Plan.

The Council had a total of 114 service targets to report against for the 2014/15 year. These targets included things like customer satisfaction with certain services; ensuring potholes are repaired within reasonable timeframes, playground equipment is safe, and our district toilets are safe and clean.

The Council is working on how to improve on those 'not achieved' results.

How well did Council perform?

- ✓ Achieved: 93 of 114 **81%**
- ✗ Did not achieve: 19 of 114 **17%**
- ⊖ Not able to measure: 2 of 114 **2%**

PUBLIC NOTICE

ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15

Pursuant to section 98 of the Local Government Act 2002, notice is given that the Hauraki District Council 2014/15 Annual Report has received an unmodified Audit Opinion from Audit New Zealand, and was adopted by the Hauraki District Council on 28 October 2015. The Summary 2014/15 Annual Report has received an unmodified Audit Opinion from Audit New Zealand and was adopted by the Hauraki District Council on 25 November 2015.

Copies of the 2014/15 Annual Report or Summary 2014/15 Annual Report can be obtained from the Council offices and libraries in Ngatea, Paeroa and Waihi. The report and summary can also be viewed from the Council's website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz.

LD Cavers
Chief Executive
Hauraki District Council



Overview of achievements in 2014/15

Governance and Leadership:

- We signed a Triennial Agreement with all councils in the Waikato region containing the protocols for communication and co-ordination for the next three years.
- Treaty settlement negotiations continued, seeking settlement of some land matters within the Hauraki District on behalf of Hauraki Iwi.
- The 'Appointment and Remuneration of Directors for Council Organisations Policy' was reviewed and adopted.

Roading:

- We did a lot of pavement fixing in 2014/15. This included 1.5 km on Pukekauri Road in Waihi, 2.0 km on Kaihere Road in Ngatea, 0.9 km on Rountree Road in Mangatarata and 1.4 km on Hauraki Road in Turua.
- Sections of drainage that have a habit of reducing the pavement life were fixed over the year. This included renewals on Hauraki Road, Deam Road, Hubbard Road and Hume Road.

Water supply:

- Paeroa and Waihi water treatment plant upgrades were largely completed over the year, with completion expected in 2015/16.
- An ultraviolet (UV) disinfection upgrade was done at Waitakaruru, including the minimum automation work to enable the UV plant. There is still more work to be done, and this will be completed in the 2015/16 year.

Wastewater:

- The design to enable pumping wastewater from Karangahake to the Paeroa treatment plant was developed with the project's expected completion in the 2015/16 year.
- Four failing wastewater pumps were replaced during the year at a cost of \$29,000.

Land Drainage:

- The flood protection component to the Taramaire drainage rate for the Taramaire Drainage District was implemented after no feedback was received on the proposal. This rate contributes to drain and flood gate maintenance in this drainage district.
- Waitakaruru stream left stopbank from the State Highway to the Indian Floodgate has been reconstructed in the 2014/15 year.

Stormwater:

- Ngatea Domain stormwater renewal was carried out at a cost of \$34,000.
- A total of 537 m of open drains were piped in Waihi, Kerepehi, Turua and Paeroa at a cost of \$159,500.

Solid Waste:

- The amount of waste collected from the Council's kerbside rubbish collection reduced by 9% from the previous year, dropping from 219.14 kg per property in 2013/14 to 197.71 kg in 2014/15.
- 23 schools and preschools participated in the Paper4trees programme in

the Hauraki District in 2014/15. By recycling 29.68 tonnes of paper and cardboard, the schools and preschools in the District earned a total of 129 native trees to plant at school or in the community. This has saved 237 cubic metres of landfill space and prevented 160 tonnes of carbon emissions.

Community Services:

- Puke Road boat ramp carpark and road area was resealed at the end of 2014.
- Delivery of library books to those who are unable to attend the libraries in Waihi, Paeroa and Ngatea began in 2015. Volunteers deliver to homes of library members, and pick up the books or resources when they are ready to be returned.
- Mini trampolines were installed in the playground at Morgan Park in Waihi.
- The Whiritoa Surf Club public toilets were converted to changing rooms in late 2014.
- New berms were installed at Pukerimu Cemetery due to an increased number of casket burials.
- Playground equipment at Kerepehi was installed in May 2015 to replace some older pieces that no longer met safety standards.
- The Railway Reserve playground in Paeroa had cushion fall installed in late 2014.
- Ongoing maintenance of the Council's pensioner housing, including the replacement of stoves and hot water cylinders was completed in 2014/15.

Community Development:

- In 2014/15 the Council continued to work with the Hauraki Rail Trail Charitable Trust and the Thames-Coromandel District Council on the planning and design phase for the construction of the Kaiaua to Kopu leg of the Hauraki Rail Trail.
- The Council supported Surf Life Saving New Zealand for the operating costs associated with providing life guards at Whiritoa Beach over the Christmas holiday season.
- Construction on the Allied Fazi New Zealand Food Company Limited ice-cream production facility began in Kerepehi in June 2015. The Council has been liaising with several potential businesses regarding possible developments at the future "Food Hub".

Regulatory Services:

- The Council began accepting online credit card payments for existing dogs (where no owner or dog details have changed) in mid 2015.
- The Council continued to work on developing Community Response Plans for the Kaiaua and Whiritoa communities. A Community Response Plan is a community-based plan that is used by members of that community in a civil defence emergency.

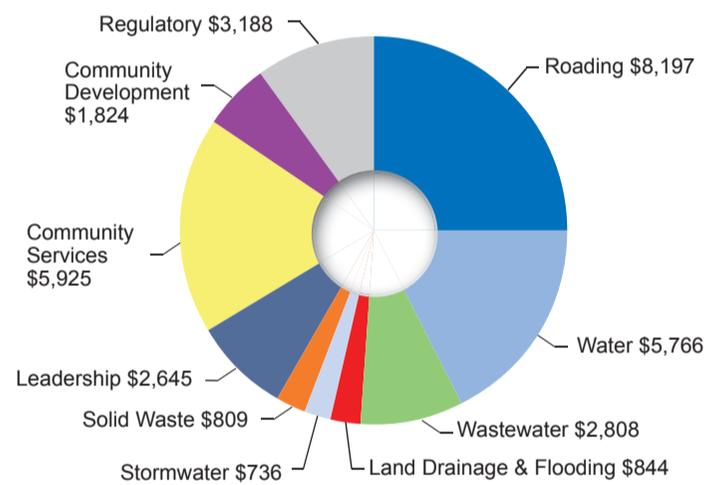
Overview of our financial position for 2014/15

Financially, the Council has ended the year in a sound financial position. In the 2014/15 Annual Plan we forecast our debt to be \$41.8 million, with the debt cap being \$59.4 million. Council's debt at the end of June 2015 was \$34 million, which was \$7.8 million lower than forecast due to the deferral of capital projects, such as:

- Waitakaruru treated water storage
- The Paeroa library construction
- Karangahake Reserve development

EXPENDITURE (\$000)

This graph shows where the money was allocated to in 2014/15



164 objections received on new valuations

This year's property revaluations across the District have sparked 164 objections, consistent with the usual total lodged with the Council. Unusually, 69 objections came from the Waikato Regional Council, so excluding these we have received only about 60% of the normal number.

The Regional Council has its own value-per-hectare figures for land used for soil and conservation and river control. It has already used these figures for auditing purposes, and the objections relate to variations between these and the new valuation figures.

Of the remaining objections, 44 were from the Waihi ward, with 35 pertaining to urban properties – mostly challenging reduced residential values – and nine to rural properties.

Paeroa residents lodged 28 objections: 16 urban and 12 rural.

Among 23 Plains ward objections, the lion's share of 16 came from rural property owners, with seven from urban residents. None of the rural objections challenged the large increases in dairy land valuations.

The three-yearly valuations, one factor in determining District and Regional Council rates, were calculated as at 1 July by our contracted valuation provider, government-owned Quotable Value. Property owners had until 22 October to object if they believed their new rating value had been wrongly assessed and didn't accurately reflect the market worth of their property.

Now, Quotable Value will review the objections, contacting each objector as part of the process. If consequently required, revised valuations will be sent to the Council. We'll pass them on to the objectors, who can either accept them or appeal to have their objections considered by the Land Valuation Tribunal.

The new valuations won't affect rating calculations until 1 July, 2016.

