

Introduction and Overview

A VISION FOR HAURAKI

Whakatauki

**Kotahi ano te kohao te ngira
E kuhuna ai te miro ma, te miro whero
Me te miro pango.
A muri I a au kia mau ki te ture,
Ki te whakapono, ki te aroha.
Hei aha te aha! Hei aha te aha!**

*There is but one eye of the needle
Through which the white, red and black threads must pass.
After me obey the commandments, keep faith,
And hold fast to love and charity
Foresake all else*

Na Potatau Te Wherowhero, 1858

He Mihi

**Na take i korerohia e tatau i mua
Tui ai te kupu korero I korerotia
Kia tu te winiwini kia tu te wanawana
I nga pu korero I wanangatia
I roto I te whai ao I te ao marama**

*We bring our combined history and past discussions
Into our plan here for the future.
Be open and stand strongly
For the issues considered and discussed,
To benefit the world, now and in the future.*



Rangatira bronze statue in Waihi

Mayor and Chief Executive's Message

On behalf of the councillors and staff of Hauraki District Council, we are very pleased to introduce to you the Hauraki Community Plan for the period 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2016.

While this is the second Hauraki Community Plan, this is the first that contains the complete Community Outcomes. These Community Outcomes detail the goals and desires of the community that have been identified and refined through an intense and robust public consultation process over the past 12 months. Council is particularly proud of this process and believes that clear and strong directions have been given to both local and regional organisations providing services in the Hauraki District, which includes that of Council.

Over the next 3 years Council will be working closely with relevant government and non government agencies to ensure that the Community Outcomes are clearly understood and ongoing work is undertaken towards their achievement. In 2009, Council will be reporting to the community on progress by these organisations and groups towards achieving these Outcomes.

Over the 10 year duration of this Plan, Council sets out priorities over the short, medium and long term with a focus on how Council intends to contribute to the community well-beings. The Hauraki Community Plan reflects the continuing commitment of the Hauraki District Council to provide opportunities to the community and stakeholders to actively participate in deciding the future well-being of the Hauraki District.

The major policy change signalled in this plan is the proposal to reduce the amount spent each year on seal extensions and to increase by the same amount to be spent on major roading, drainage and kerb and channelling works. This change arose from community feedback during the outcomes identification process.



John Tregidga
Mayor

Langley Cavers
Chief Executive

In the future directions of the plan, we have identified major new capital works by project and have also identified the community focus projects by community. This has been done to allow each community to see projected works over the next ten years.

Major capital works signalled in the plan include:

- A programme to rationalise water intakes and to upgrade treatment plants and reticulation to comply with new drinking water standards;
- Significant upgrades have been allowed for upgrade of Kerepehi wastewater treatment plant and reticulation, improvements in Waitakaruru, Kerepehi, Paeroa and Waihi;
- The development of Pouarua-Maukoro Drainage Scheme Southern Stage – this is a joint project with Environment Waikato and will involve the construction of drainage networks and pumps as part of the Piako River Scheme asset;
- A significant allowance has been made for stormwater renewals in Paeroa and Waihi;
- In 2006/07 Council will be investigating possible extensions to the Waihi library;
- The construction of new public toilets in the main street of Paeroa.

One of the significant differences in this plan from previous ones is the requirement to include inflation. While we have previously allowed for inflation in year one, we are now obliged to include inflation for every year across the 10 year planning horizon.

The inclusion of inflation in the forecast financial statements provides significantly different results and it is our concern that this may create many perceptual issues when the plan is analysed.

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For example the cumulative effect of inflation over the 10 years of the plan results in a total district general rate increase of 38%. Excluding inflation our projections are that the growth in the district general rate is a modest 11.6% or 1.1% per annum.

Another factor that has a significant affect on the operating cost of many of out infrastructural assets has been the revaluation of these as at June 2005, These new values and the subsequent Decline in Service Potential (DISP) figures must be used in this Hauraki Community Plan.

There have been some significant increases in asset valuations as a result of new assets being identified and, more importantly the cost increases that have occurred in replacing these assets since the last valuation. Material and construction costs have increased markedly since the last valuation. Recent contracts let for the replacement and upgrading of key assets have resulted in contract rates some 30% higher than previously allowed. These increased costs have had a significant affect on the cost of our key assets such as wastewater where the new asset values alone have increased the cost of the service by 8%.

As part of this plan, the Youth Policy, the Gambling Act Class 4 Venue Policy and reviewed Fees and Charges were also consulted on and are available in Volume 2. This Community Plan also incorporates the Annual Plan for the 2006/07 year.

Thank you for taking the time to read this document and please do not hesitate to contact elected members or Council staff if you have any queries.



J.P. Tregidga
Mayor



L.D. Cavers
Chief Executive



The Draft Hauraki Community Plan 2006-16 was consulted on between 31st March 2006 and 4th May 2006.

All residential and rural addresses, all businesses and all PO Boxes in the community received a copy of the Summary Statement of Proposal. 85 submissions were received on a vast range of topics and subsequently changes have been made to the Plan. These include:

- The inclusion into the document of Council considering the development of a contestable funding policy in 2006/07 as a result of an increase in requests for money from social groups to help with their organisations operations;
- Council supporting in principle a violence free Hauraki;
- Council constructing two sets of public toilets located in the Paeroa Town Centre, one set behind the post office and one set near the L and P bottle;
- Extending the RSA carpark at the Paeroa cemetery;
- Council will investigate the need to upgrade Paeroa and Waihi playground facilities and, based on this investigation, a proposal will be prepared for inclusion into the Draft Annual Plan 2007/08 on any improvements/developments recommended to these playgrounds;
- Funding of \$10,000 for the installation of field lights on the No. 2 field in the Paeroa Domain has been brought forward from the 2007/08 year to the 2006/07 year to enable the lights to be installed sooner;
- Inclusion has also been made for \$125,000 for 2006/07 for a LIDAR (Light Detecting and Ranging Aerial) survey.

Council considered each submission on the Plan at a meeting in May and each submitter was contacted informing them of the discussion and decision that took place on each submission.

**REPORT TO THE READERS OF
HAURAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL'S
LONG-TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN FOR THE TEN YEARS
COMMENCING 1 JULY 2006**

The Auditor-General is the auditor of Hauraki District Council (the District Council). The Auditor-General has appointed me, B H Halford, using the staff and resources of Audit New Zealand, to report on the Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP), on his behalf.

The purpose of an LTCCP, as set out in section 93(6) of the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act), is to:

- describe the activities of the local authority;
- describe the community outcomes of the local authority's district or region;
- provide integrated decision making and co-ordination of the resources of the local authority;
- provide a long term focus for the decisions and activities of the local authority;
- provide a basis for accountability of the local authority to the community; and
- provide an opportunity for participation by the public in decision making processes on activities to be undertaken by the local authority.

Opinion

Overall Opinion

In our opinion the LTCCP of District Council incorporating volumes one and two dated 29 June 2006 provides a reasonable basis for long term integrated decision-making by the District Council and for participation in decision-making by the public and subsequent accountability to the community about the activities of the District Council.

It is not our responsibility to express an opinion on the merits of any policy content within the LTCCP.

In forming our overall opinion, we considered our opinion on specific matters required by the Act, which is set out below.

Opinion on Specific Matters Required by the Act

The Auditor-General is required by section 94(1) of the Act to report on:

- the extent to which the LTCCP complies with the requirements of the Act;
- the quality of information and assumptions underlying the forecast information provided in the LTCCP; and
- the extent to which the forecast information and performance measures will provide an appropriate framework for the meaningful assessment of the actual levels of service provision.

In terms of our obligation to report on the matters outlined in section 94(1) of the Act, in our opinion:

- the District Council has complied with the requirements of the Act in all material respects demonstrating good practice for a Council of its size and scale within the context of its environment;
- the underlying information used to prepare the LTCCP provides a reasonable basis for the preparation of the forecast information;
- the assumptions set out within the LTCCP are based on best information currently available to the District Council and provide a reasonable and supportable basis for the preparation of the forecast information;
- the forecast information has been properly prepared on the basis of the underlying information and the assumptions adopted and the financial information is presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand;
- the extent to which the forecast information and performance measures provide an appropriate framework for the meaningful assessment of the actual levels of service provision reflects good practice for a Council of its size and scale within the context of its environment.

Actual results are likely to be different from the forecast information since anticipated events frequently do not occur as expected and the variation may be material. Accordingly, we express no opinion as to whether the forecasts will be achieved.

Our report was completed on 29 June 2006, and is the date at which our opinion is expressed.

The basis of the opinion is explained below. In addition, we outline the responsibilities of the District Council and the Auditor, and explain our independence.

Basis of Opinion

We carried out the audit in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements 3000 (revised): *Assurance Engagements Other Than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information* and the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the New Zealand Auditing Standards. We have examined the forecast financial information in accordance with the

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International Standard on Assurance Engagements 3400: *The Examination of Prospective Financial Information*.

We planned and performed our audit to obtain all the information and explanations we considered necessary to obtain reasonable assurance that the LTCCP does not contain material misstatements, and provides a reasonable basis for long term integrated decision-making by the public and the District Council about the activities of the District Council, and for subsequent accountability to the community about the activities of the District Council.

Our procedures included examining on a test basis, evidence supporting assumptions, amounts and other disclosures in the LTCCP, determining compliance with the requirements of the Act, and evaluating the overall adequacy of the presentation of information.

We obtained all the information and explanations we required to support the opinion above.

Responsibilities of the Council and the Auditor

The District Council is responsible for preparing a LTCCP under the Act, by applying the District Council's assumptions and presenting the financial information in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand. The District Council's responsibilities arise from Section 93 of the Act.

We are responsible for expressing an independent opinion on the LTCCP and reporting that opinion to you. This responsibility arises from section 15 of the Public Audit Act 2001 and section 94(1) of the Act.

Independence

When reporting on the LTCCP we followed the independence requirements of the Auditor-General, which incorporate the independence requirements of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of New Zealand.

Other than this report and in conducting the annual audit, we have no relationship with or interests in the District Council.



B H Halford
Audit New Zealand
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Tauranga, New Zealand

Matters relating to the electronic presentation of the report to the readers of the Long-Term Council Community Plan

This report relates to the Long Term Council Community Plan (the LTCCP) of Hauraki District Council for the ten years commencing 1 July 2006 included on Hauraki District Council's web site. The Hauraki District Council is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Hauraki District Council's web site. We have not been engaged to report on the integrity of the Hauraki District Council's web site. We accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the LTCCP since it was initially presented on the web site.

The report refers only to the LTCCP named above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the LTCCP. If readers of this report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from electronic data communication they should refer to the published hard copy of the LTCCP incorporating volumes one and two approved on 29 June 2006 and the related audit report dated 29 June 2006 to confirm the information included in the LTCCP presented on this web site.

The preparation and dissemination of the LTCCP is governed by New Zealand legislation.