

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

REPORT FROM MAYOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Thank you for taking the time to read the Hauraki District Council 2008/09 Annual Report.

The Annual Report demonstrates Council's performance for the year, 1st July 2008 to 30th June 2009, and reports against the Hauraki Community Plan 2006-16. This is the third and final year of reporting against the Hauraki Community Plan 2006-16. The Hauraki Community Plan 2009-19 was consulted on during the year and has since come into effect on the 1st July 2009. Present and future projects are now most currently programmed in the 2009-19 Plan.

It has been an eventful year, and on reflection it is again pleasing to see that as a Council we have been successful with a number of challenges and initiatives that have faced us.

Key happenings during the year

Hauraki Community Plan 2009-19

A large portion of the year for Elected Members and many staff was spent involved in the preparation of the Draft Hauraki Community Plan 2009-19. Significant time was spent on policy reviews, particularly the Revenue and Financing Policy. The Revenue and Financing Policy review focused on reassessing the public/private benefit ratio for the funding of activities, and resulted in a number of rating changes. The most notable being the consistent rating of urban stormwater across the District. This has impacted mostly on the rating for Waihi and Ngatea. Given that the activity was funded across the entire Ward, in the case of Waihi and for Ngatea the activity was previously part of the Western Plains Drainage District.

Considerable effort was spent on reviewing Council's levels of service. Community bus tours and open days saw a number of residents and

ratepayers involved in helping define what the levels of service for Council's key assets should be for the coming ten years.

As part of the Hauraki Community Plan 2009-19 development, focus was placed on three areas, including Climate Change, Sustainability and Demographics. As a result of greater consultation on these topics, direction was provided as to the extent Council should try to influence the future of these three areas for Hauraki District. A working group was set up and in 2009/10, this working group will begin to progress the initial policy stance chosen.



*John Tregidga
Mayor*

*Langley Cavers
Chief Executive*

Recession

It has been a challenging year for Council, as for many local individuals and organisations. The impact of the global economic slowdown has particularly affected the growth areas of Council.

2008/09 saw a reduction of 52% of new houses being built in the District and a 32% reduction in building consents from the 2007/08 year. This has been predominantly due to the impacts of the recession, and the noticeable decline in subdivision activity.

National Cycleway – Hauraki Plains Trail

During the year, the initiative to establish a cycleway running the length of the country was raised by Central Government. The objective is to create jobs whilst creating a long-term national asset, both for New Zealanders and to enhance New Zealand's reputation as a premium tourist destination.

Late in the financial year, Council resolved to support in principle the concept of the National Cycleways project if it was to go through the District, and subsequently in July 2009 the Prime Minister announced that the Hauraki Plains Trail was one of the seven quick starts for the National Cycleways project.

Water mains

During the year a water main was constructed from Bush Road Kerepehi to Ngatea. The purpose of this main was to provide the interlink between treatment areas and is a key element in the upgrading of the Plains water supplies. Considerable work also took place on the Waitakaruru water treatment plant.

Seal extension deferral

In light of the recession, the decision was made to defer two years programmed seal extensions. For 2008/09 this included the deferral of the seal extensions for Komata Reefs Road, Dickey's Flat Road, Ngatitangata Road and Mangawhero Road.

Waihi Discovery Centre

In 2008/09 the funding commitments from Central Government and from Council were confirmed for the establishment of the Waihi Discovery Centre, beginning in 2010. Work has begun on the resource consent process and a project team has been set up to progress the initiative.

GNS Science review of hazard zones

Following the Barry Road subsidence in 2001, Council requested GNS Science investigate the hazard zones in Waihi. A 2002 report was produced and in 2008 Council sought a review of this report. The purpose of this report was to address the underground workings to the north east of the mining pit, and to investigate ground movement in Seddon Street, Waihi. The 2008 report confirmed previous 2002 findings on sinkhole formation and recommended a long term monitoring regime for Seddon Street, Waihi, of which is now in place.

Service request improvements

During 2008/09 there was a considerable focus on improving response rates to requests for service across all Council activities. Emphasis was placed on ensuring service requests were finalised and responses were made to those who made the service requests.

Other key happenings during the year

- Adopting a Development Contributions Policy.
- The Waihi Ward Reflections page was developed and as of July 2009 is being trialled monthly in the Waihi Leader newspaper. This page specifically targets Waihi residents and is in support of the HDC News page which is published weekly in the Hauraki Herald.
- Closure of Speedys Reserve public toilets, in Ngatea.
- Heating of Paeroa swimming pool.
- Significant policies such as the Regional Land Transport Programme, the Local Governance Review and Waihou Valley and Piako River Scheme funding systems review have, amongst others, had submissions made to them, some of which decisions are still pending.
- Significant progress with the Asset Management Plans for all key assets in the lead up to the Long Term Council Community Plan 2009-19.

- The economic climate and adverse weather events presented financial challenges for the Council during the 2008/09 financial year.

Council ended the year with a deficit slightly larger than it had budgeted for. The result prior to revaluation adjustments was \$488,000 deficit compared to a budgeted deficit of \$49,000.

This adverse result is a combination of many variances across Council activities.

- Network Operating expenditure was \$1.9 million more than budget. The primary reasons for this over budget result included.
- Depreciation was higher than budget by \$1.04 million as a result of increased valuations.
- Costs of emergency work arising from the July and August 2008 storm events were \$297,000 which was partially offset by increased roading subsidy income of \$80,000. Also unbudgeted remedial roading work of \$212,000 was carried out on the Plains due to the drought the previous year. This expenditure attracted subsidy.
- Water and Wastewater treatment costs were over budget by \$260,000 due to budget reductions being a little optimistic. Actual costs were 5% less than the previous financial year. Reticulation costs exceeded budget by \$123,000 largely due to budgets reductions for the year not able to be achieved. Actual costs were 15% less than the previous year.
- Leadership costs were \$94,000 higher than budget largely due to more work required to be carried out on the District Plan Review than was expected during the year.
- Community Services and Regulatory activities were in total within 0.25% of budget despite increased depreciation costs in Community Services.
- Community Development was under budget by \$98,000 which is primarily due to a proposed grant for a major upgrade to the Waihi Swimming Pool not being required during the year because the upgrade was not carried out.

- The depressed economic conditions reduced revenue in a number of areas. Key areas affected were Quarry sales income down by \$1.4 million, Building and Resource Consent activity income down by \$295,000. We also had \$300,000 less income than budgeted for refuse handled through Transfer Stations.

These adverse expenditure and income variances were offset by a recalculation of the Landfill Aftercare liability which resulted in a \$1.2 million reduction in expenditure. Council also received vested assets to a value of \$2.1 million and Development Contribution Income of \$465,000.

Thank you for taking the time to read our Annual Report. We look forward to working with you in 2009/10.

John Tregidga
Mayor

Langley Cavers
Chief Executive

COUNCIL OVERVIEW

Hauraki District Council's Mission

To ensure the successful -

- *Provision of services and facilities,*
- *Advocacy on behalf of the community,*
- *Use and management of resources,*


... for all who live in or visit the Hauraki District.

Hauraki District Council's Vision for the Future

- *A range of services and facilities meeting the community's needs and realistic expectations;*
- *A positive climate which encourages balanced and sustained growth throughout the district;*
- *An environment which encourages vibrant communities and an enhanced quality of life;*
- *The wise use and management of all resources for the continued benefit of the district;*
- *A proactive Council that provides leadership, is results orientated and communicates effectively with all sectors of the community.*

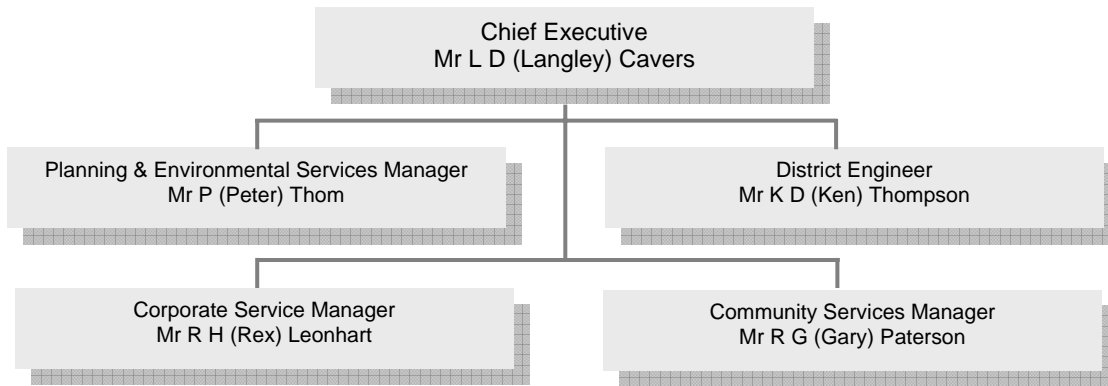
ELECTED MEMBERS GUIDE

To discuss any issues or raise any concerns considered important, Elected Members can be contacted by telephone or alternatively by email at info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz or by mail to Hauraki District Council, P O Box 17, Paeroa.

Mayor		<p>Mr John Tregidga, J.P. (07) 862 8956 <i>Iwi Liaison Portfolio</i></p>
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Waihi		<p>Mr Sel Baker, J.P. <i>Chairperson</i> (07) 863 8683 <i>Property Portfolio</i></p>		<p>Mr Mike Hayden <i>Deputy Chairperson</i> (07) 863 7292 <i>Economic Development Portfolio</i></p>		<p>Mrs Mary Carmine <i>Deputy Mayor</i> (07) 863 8740 <i>Policy Portfolio</i></p>		<p>Mr Harry Shepherd (07) 863 7589 <i>Sport and Recreation Portfolio</i></p>		<p>Mr Colin Francis (07) 863 7644 <i>Civil Defence Portfolio</i></p>
	Plains Ward		<p>Mr Bruce Gordon <i>Chairperson</i> (07) 867 7436 <i>Finance Portfolio</i></p>		<p>Mr Don Challis, J.P. <i>Deputy Chairperson</i> (07) 867 7097 <i>Water and Wastewater Portfolio</i></p>		<p>Mrs Gill Leonard, J.P. (07) 867 7535 <i>Social Development Portfolio</i></p>	<p>Mr Greg Harris (0274) 851 072 <i>Solid Waste Portfolio and Roding Portfolio</i></p>		
Paeroa Ward			<p>Mrs Julie Bubb, J.P. <i>Chairperson</i> (07) 862 7188 <i>Community Services Portfolio</i></p>		<p>Mr Paul Milner <i>Deputy Chairperson</i> (07) 862 8653 <i>Youth Portfolio</i></p>		<p>Mr Tom Meyers (07) 862 8685</p>	<p>Mr James Thorp (07) 862 7782 <i>Heritage, Arts and Culture Portfolio</i></p>		

Management Team



Business Units Board of Management

Members of the Board	Business Unit Managers
<p>Chief Executive: Mr. L D (Langley) Cavers (Chairperson)</p> <p>District Engineer: Mr. K D (Ken) Thompson</p> <p>Corporate Services Manager: Mr. R H (Rex) Leonhart</p>	<p>Construction & Maintenance Manager: Mr. M A (Mike) Voykovich</p> <p>Technical Services Manager: Mr. A (Adrian) De Laborde</p> <p>Tetley's Quarry Manager: Mr. A (Alan) Smith</p> <p>Workshop Manager: Mr. P (Peter) Smith</p>

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

As stated in the Hauraki Community Plan 2009-19 (Long Term Council Community Plan), Council undertook an extended consultation process with the Hauraki Community to identify Community Outcomes. These Community Outcomes are collective statements of community goals and aspirations – ‘the things that the community thinks are important for its well-being’.

These community outcomes were gathered from the Hauraki community by a variety of consultation processes including forums, telephone surveys, and primary school competitions. Further opportunities to provide input were available via the internet and local newspaper. The consultation process proved very successful, and Council has since refocused a number of its activities to help progress them. Council will review and possibly update these Community Outcomes in 2010/11 in conjunction with the preparation of the Hauraki Community Plan 2012-22.

The following Community Outcomes were identified -

Vibrant and sustainable businesses and business economies in our District -

- We encourage further development of our District's CBD's economic viability.
- We support entrepreneurs and leaders to proactively drive planned growth strategies and community business within our District.
- We encourage planned and developed infrastructural services and facilities to sustain our communities' growth.
- We encourage further development of tourism opportunities and facilities focusing on our heritage and eco-tourism.

Integrated provision of quality health and social services throughout our District -

- Our community seeks the improvement of mechanisms for co-ordination, delivery, communication and education by health and social service providers.
- We support the development of new initiatives that address well-being of those in need and of our community in general.

Maintain and protect the vibrancy of rural communities within our District -

- Our communities support the viability of maintaining our rural lifestyles and values.
- Protecting the viability of our land for primary production.

Cultural values of tangata whenua throughout the District be respected and supported through further development of consultation, participation and partnerships -

- We encourage the development of culturally appropriate programmes and processes.
- We encourage service providers to develop partnerships that assist with capacity building of our tangata whenua to participate in decision-making processes.





Our Hauraki youth be provided with greater opportunities to participate in the decision-making processes pertaining to the development of our communities -

- We support the wider community and organisations to encourage and engage youth to actively participate.
- We need to understand, identify and address specific issues relating to our youth.

We encourage increased opportunities to participate in recreational, sporting and cultural activities -

- Our recreational, cultural and heritage groups work together to identify issues that lead to better efficiencies, access and sustainable solutions.
- We encourage better utilisation of existing infrastructure and resources.
- We support planning for our culture and heritage where initiatives can be actively co-ordinated to ensure sustainability.

Management of our natural and physical environment in a sustainable manner -

- We encourage a balance between economic growth and environmental protection and enhancement.
- We support the development of land use planning controls that allow for economic growth in a sustainable manner.
- We support protecting our significant habitats and ecosystems.

Hauraki District residents be given the opportunity to participate in educational and training programmes -

- We encourage better communication and co-ordination between education providers.
- We support the need for improvement in the transition between educational levels to allow further training and work opportunities.

Long term planning ensures that our future infrastructure requirements meet the growth and development opportunities of our District -

- We want to have our say on our District's future.
- We value the provision of infrastructural services in our District to be well-managed .

Monitoring Community Outcomes

As detailed in the Hauraki Community Plan 2009-19, Council is required to report to its community in a three yearly monitoring report, on how each of the Hauraki Community Outcomes have been worked towards. This allows the community to see how agencies as a whole are addressing the priorities the community has identified as being important. The publication of the first complete Hauraki Community Outcomes Monitoring report will be in early 2010.

In the interim, Council is required to report annually on its own activities that have contributed to the Hauraki Community Outcomes. Within this Annual Report, each of Council's activities demonstrates how particular projects have contributed to the Hauraki Community Outcomes. Furthermore a number of indicators have been reported on to demonstrate Council's own progress toward the Community Outcomes.