



AGENDA

Hearing on Feedback to Hauraki District Council Long Term Plan 2018-28

Wednesday, 16 May 2018, 1.00pm

Thursday, 17 May 2018 9.00am

Monday, 21 May 2018, 9.00am (if required)

at the Council Chambers, William Street Paeroa



Membership

Mayor

J P Tregidga

Councillors

Cr D A Adams (Deputy Mayor)

Cr P D Buckthought

Cr C Daley

Cr R Harris

Cr G R Leonard

Cr M McLean

Cr P A Milner

Cr A Rattray

Cr D Smeaton

Cr A M Spicer

Cr D H Swales

Cr J H Thorp

Executive Leadership

L D Cavers

D Peddie

A de Laborde

P Thom

S Fabish

Public Distribution

Paeroa Office

Plains Area Office

Waihi Area Office

Chief Executive

L D Cavers

,

Hauraki District Council, P O Box 17, William Street Paeroa, New Zealand

P: 07 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 (within the District)

E: info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz



HEARING OF FEEDBACK ON HAURAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL

LONG TERM PLAN 2018 - 28

Wednesday, 16 May 2018 – 1.00pm

Council Chamber, Council Office, William Street, Paeroa

	Pages
1. Apologies	
2. Declarations of Conflicts of Interests	
3. <u>INFORMAL HEARING OF FEEDBACK ON 'WE NEED TO TALK – ME KŌRERO NGĀTAHI TĀTOU' (2018-28 LONG TERM PLAN AND OTHER PROPOSALS)</u>	4
<i>Document: 2385483</i>	
4. <u>CONSIDERATION OF FEEDBACK ON 'WE NEED TO TALK – ME KŌRERO NGĀTAHI TĀTOU' (2018-28 LONG TERM PLAN AND OTHER PROPOSALS)</u>	8
<i>Document: 2370962</i>	
<i>Appendix A: Summary of feedback received and staff recommendations (#2360477)</i>	
<i>Appendix B: Summary of responses to key consultation questions (#2383787)</i>	
<i>Appendix C: Staff submission (#2346636)</i>	
<i>Appendix D: Written feedback (circulated under separate cover)</i>	



Decision Report

To: Mayor and Councillors
From: Senior Strategic Planner
Date: Thursday, 26 April 2018
File reference: Document: 2370522
 Appendix A: Hearing schedule – to be provided once confirmed
Portfolio holder: Mayor
Meeting date: Wednesday, 16 May 2018
Subject: Informal hearing of feedback on 'We need to talk – Me kōrero ngātahi tātou' (2018-28 Long Term Plan and other proposals)

Recommendation:

THAT the report be received, and

THAT the verbal feedback given on the 'We need to talk – Me kōrero ngātahi tātou' consultation document, Revenue and Financing Policy, Resource Management and Cemeteries Fees and Charges and the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies consultation processes at this Council hearing be received.

Purpose

The purpose of this item is to provide one of a number of forums whereby the public can present their views on a number of statement of proposals verbally to the Mayor and all Councillors.

As the 'We need to talk – Me kōrero ngātahi tātou' campaign involved concurrent consultation on a number of proposals, this is a joint hearing on following matters:

1. The 2018-28 Long Term Plan (including the consultation document and supporting information).
2. The Revenue and Financing Policy statement of proposal.
3. The Rates Remission and Postponement Policies statement of proposal.
4. The cemeteries and resource management fees and charges changes statement of proposal.

The long term planning process by its very nature is likely to involve new programmes, projects, expenditure or deliverables. The matters raised by feedback providers may involve the request of one or more of these.

Background

The Act requires the Council to use the 'special consultative procedure'¹ when consulting on its draft long term plan position and other proposals. That and the consultation principles² set in legislation provides a legal minimum for engaging.

Amongst other things, the Council is required by law to provide reasonable opportunities for people to present their views in manner that allows for spoken interaction (i.e. a conversation) with the Council (or in NZ sign language). This includes allowing people to present their views by way of audio link or audio visual link. The Council decided to provide an informal hearing as one of a number of opportunities where people could present their views verbally to the Council, elected members or staff on the 'We need to talk – Me kōrero ngātahi tātou' consultation proposals.

Staff advice is that the 2014 legislation changes imply that it is inappropriate to require people to submit written feedback before they can speak at a hearing. Therefore, this hearing will differ from previous ones in that a summary of submissions for each person speaking will not be provided. However, where a speaker has already provided written feedback this will be available in the information included in the **Consideration of Feedback** meeting item that follows.

Hearing schedule

A number of people/organisations have indicated that they would like to present their views verbally at this hearing. Presenters may also use the 'drop in' opportunity to speak on 16 and 17 May without having a time booked.

The hearings schedule will be circulated once confirmed.

It is envisaged that the Council will meet to consider and make decisions on the feedback received immediately after the hearing.

New deliverable

The Local Government Act 2002 now requires that all local government deliverables (whether it be an activity, service, project, programme, grant or involve any other form of expenditure) must align to the purpose of local government as outlined in Section 10 of the Local Government Act.

For Council's information, the decision to receive verbal feedback does not involve a new deliverable. The decisions made after considering this and other feedback may do.

Significance and Engagement Assessment

While the various consultation items are considered significant, the decision to receive verbal feedback does not trigger the Significance and Engagement Policy Assessment Tool and therefore is not considered significant under the Significance and Engagement Policy 2014.

This hearing of verbal feedback is one of a number forms of consultation on the various consultation items, and as per the Council's agreed community engagement plan.

¹ Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002

² Section 82 and 82A of the Local Government Act 2002

Budget Implications

The budget implications of the various requests will not be known until the verbal views have been presented. These should be considered when deliberating on all feedback received.

Recommendation

Staff recommend that the verbal feedback presented at the hearing on the 2018 LTP consultation document and the fees and charges, revenue and financing policy, and rates remission and postponement statement of proposals be received.

Katherine Quinn
SENIOR STRATEGIC PLANNER

Appendix A: Hearing Schedule

Pending confirmation – will be circulated under separate cover.



Decision Report

To: Mayor and Councillors

From: Senior Strategic Planner

Date: Wednesday, 9 May 2018

Document: 2370962

Appendix A: Summary of feedback received and staff recommendations (#2360477)

Appendix B: Summary of responses to key consultation questions (#2383787)

Appendix C: Staff submission (#2346636)

Appendix D: Written feedback (circulated under separate cover)

File reference:

Mayor

Meeting date: Wednesday, 16 May 2018

Subject: Consideration of feedback on 'We need to talk – Me kōrero ngātahi tātou' (2018-28 Long Term Plan and other proposals)

Recommendation:

THAT the report be received, and

THAT all verbal and written feedback on the following 'We need to talk – Me kōrero ngātahi tātou' proposals be received:

1. The 2018-28 long term plan consultation document.
2. The Revenue and Financing Policy statement of proposal.
3. The Rates Remission and Postponement Policies statement of proposal.
4. The cemeteries and resource management fees and charges changes statement of proposal, and

THAT the 5 feedback items received after the consultation closing date be received, and

THAT the Council receive the submission made by staff, and

THAT the Council consider all feedback and make decisions on changes to the proposals, and

THAT following the Council's consideration of feedback, staff prepare the draft 2018-28 Long Term Plan to reflect the decisions made, for consideration by the Council at its meeting on 27 June 2018, and

THAT following the Council's consideration of feedback, staff revise the draft Revenue and Financing Policy, Rates Remission and Postponement Policies and 2018 Schedule of Fees and Charges to reflect the decisions made, all of which will be considered for adoption by the Council at its meeting on 27 June 2018, and

THAT staff reflect the relevant decisions in the activity and asset management plans as at 1 July 2018, and

THAT the draft 2018-28 Long Term Plan reflecting the decisions made at this meeting, be submitted to Audit New Zealand for the purposes of auditing the Long Term Plan, and

THAT the decisions made by the Council be communicated after the above items are adopted in June 2018, and

THAT respondents and participants be thanked for their feedback in due course.

Purpose

The purpose of this item is to consider and make decisions on the feedback received on a number of Council proposals:

1. The 2018-28 Long Term Plan (including the consultation document and supporting information).
2. The Revenue and Financing Policy statement of proposal.
3. The Rates Remission and Postponement Policies statement of proposal.
4. The Cemeteries and Resource Management Fees and Charges changes statement of proposal.

The long term planning process by its very nature is likely to involve new programmes, projects, expenditure or deliverables. The matters raised by feedback providers may involve the request of one or more of these.

Background

The purpose of a long term plan is to:

- a) describe the activities of the local authority,
- b) describe the community outcomes of the local authority's district or region,
- c) provide integrated decision-making and co-ordination of the resources of the local authority,
- d) provide a long-term focus for the decisions and activities of the local authority, and
- e) provide a basis for accountability of the local authority to the community.

The Act requires the Council to use the 'special consultative procedure'¹ when consulting on its draft long term plan position and other proposals. That and the consultation principles² set in legislation provides a legal minimum for engaging with our communities. The Council's engagement strategy has been summarised in previous reports.

In short, the Council invited the public to provide their feedback on the 'We need to talk – Me kōrero ngātahi tātou' in a number of ways:

- providing verbal feedback to Council representatives at a number of public events, including drop in sessions, focus groups and a traditional hearing, and through customer service staff
- completing a feedback form either online or on paper
- submitting final rates calculator choices online
- sharing views in response to key issues on Facebook, and
- providing other written feedback in writing (e.g. letters).

The Council focussed its consultation on asking for feedback on a set of three key issues.

The proposals and opportunities for feedback opened on 23 March 2018. Final feedback opportunities close with the completion of the hearing on 17 May 2018.

¹ Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002

² Section 82 and 82A of the Local Government Act 2002

Issues and options

Engagement

At the time of writing our communities had engaged with the campaign as follows:

- good attendance at our consultation events to discuss the proposals
- 6,147 total page views on the we need to talk website from 817 unique users (49% coming from Facebook, 46% coming from HDC website, 5% coming from Google)
- 51,855 views of the four 'We need to talk' videos on Facebook, 129 on the YouTube site itself
- people provided approximately 233 feedback points via Facebook³
- people provided 278 feedback points via the online rates calculator
- 288 people and organisations provided feedback via a feedback form, email or letter
- some people shared their views verbally with customer service and other staff, and
- a number of people are booked in to present their views verbally to the Council on 16 May.

5 feedback items were received after the closing date (feedback numbers 284-288).

Summary of feedback

Of the approximate 2,000 feedback points⁴ received,

- 10 % were in response to the maintaining our roads key issue
- 55 % were in response to one of the 11 projects in your patch proposals
- 9 % were in response to the keeping rates affordable key issue
- 1.1 % were about other revenue and financing policy matters (excluding the keeping rates affordable issue)
- 0.2 % were about the rates remission and postponement policy proposals
- 0.1 % were about the cemeteries and resource consent fee proposals,
- 22.5 % were about the remaining 2018-28 long term plan matters, and
- 2.1 % were regarding matters not relating to the long term plan.

Each feedback item received has been summarised by staff, with the exception of the feedback provided at the final hearing on 16 and 17 May 2018 (due to time limitations). **Appendix A** provides a summary of all feedback received organised by topic. Staff have considered the feedback and made recommendations for the Council's consideration. For reference, a list of feedback respondents is included. **Appendix B** provides an overview of the results on the three key consultation questions. Individual feedback forms (including letters and email), a report from online forms and rates calculator results, summaries of the feedback received via Facebook, notes on verbal feedback provided at events are available separately in **Appendix D**.

Staff intend to provide an assessment of the financial implications of the staff recommendations (where they differ to the assessment already included in the consultation documents) at, or prior to, the Council's meeting.

In addition, a staff submission has been prepared which requests additional changes, and is attached as **Appendix C**.

³ Note that the Facebook feedback includes 'likes' on comments supporting/opposing views as well as comments.

⁴ Each respondent or participant can provide feedback on a number of matters. Each of these is called a feedback point.

Considering feedback and making decisions

The Council is reminded of its decision-making and consultation obligations relevant to this item as follows:

- The views presented to the Council should be received with an open mind, and should be given due consideration when making decisions.
- The general decision-making requirements, including considering community views and preferences apply.
- The feedback received provides an indication of the views of people that took the time to provide them. The number of responses supporting and opposing proposals provides one factor for consideration. The number of people who provided written feedback is estimated to be 1.5% of the district population. It does not represent a statistically valid sample of the district population's views.
- The reasons for people's views is an important factor to consider.
- When considering new services, programmes, projects, expenditure and deliverables, the Council should consider whether they provide for local infrastructure, local public services or the performance of regulatory functions as per the current purpose of local authorities.
- The Council will need to adopt its Revenue and Financing Policy prior to the Long Term Plan.
- The Council must provide a clear description of the decisions made and the reasons it made those decisions.

Staff suggest that the Council work through each feedback topic at its meeting. A suggested schedule will be provided.

Audit

The final Long Term Plan must include a report from the Auditor-General on:

- a) whether the Long Term Plan gives effect to its purpose, and
- b) the quality of the information and assumptions underlying the forecast information provided in the plan.

The draft Long Term Plan which reflects the decisions made in response to public feedback will be submitted to Audit New Zealand for its audit, prior to the Council considering the adoption of the Long Term Plan.

Adoption

The draft 2018-28 Long Term Plan, revised Revenue and Financing Policy, revised Rates Remission and Postponement Policies and Resource Management and Cemeteries Fees and Charges will be presented to the Council for adoption at its meeting on 27 June 2018.

After adoption, the Council has one month to make the Long Term Plan available. Staff will provide a suggested approach to communicating the adoption of the proposals including decisions made, at the June meeting.

New deliverable

As noted above, the long term planning process by its very nature is likely to involve new programmes, projects, expenditure or deliverables. The matters raised by feedback providers may involve the request of one or more of these. These are not listed in this report.

Significance and Engagement Assessment

The Council is being asked to make many decisions at this meeting. Collectively staff suggest the decisions do trigger the Significance and Engagement Policy Assessment Tool and therefore are considered significant under the Significance and Engagement Policy 2017. The Council will be making decisions on a high amount of both newly budgeted expenditure and increasing its rates cap. The proposals affect a large portion of the district's communities.

The Council is following the legislative requirements regarding decision-making and consulting on the Long Term Plan and other proposals that reflect this degree of significance. No further community engagement is needed at this point in time, however the Council will need to communicate its decisions and reasons for those decisions after adopting the final plan, policies and schedule.

Budget Implications

Staff intend to provide an assessment of the budget and rating implications at or prior to the meeting.

Recommendation

This item recommends that the Council receive the feedback provided by the public, consider it, and make decisions on the final content of the 2018-28 Long Term Plan, Revenue and Financing Policy, Rates Remission and Postponement Policy and Schedule of Fees and Charges.

The Council should make its decision on which option to choose based on that option being the most cost effective, and good quality option for the Hauraki District (s10 of the Local Government Act 2002).

Katherine Quinn
SENIOR STRATEGIC PLANNER