

**MINUTES OF WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL PLAN AND LONG TERM PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING NO. APLTP23-2
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BARKES CORNER, 1484 CAMERON ROAD, TAURANGA
ON TUESDAY, 28 MARCH 2023 AT 2.30PM**

1 PRESENT

Deputy Mayor J Scrimgeour (Chairperson), Cr R Joyce, Cr T Coxhead, Cr R Crawford, Cr G Dally, Cr M Grainger, Cr A Henry, Cr M Murray-Benge, Cr A Sole, Cr D Thwaites and Cr A Wichers.

VIA ZOOM

Mayor J Denyer

2 IN ATTENDANCE

J Holyoake (Chief Executive Officer), G Allis (Deputy CEO/General Manager Infrastructure Group), R Davie (General Manager Strategy and Community), A Curtis (General Manager Regulatory Services), A Henderson (General Manager Corporate Services), G Golding (Governance Manager), E Watton (Strategic Policy and Planning Programme Director), A Ali (Chief Financial Officer), M Leighton (Policy and Planning Manager), L Balvert (Communications Manager), S Bedford (Financial Controller), R Gallagher (Senior Policy Analyst), C Irvin (Senior Governance Advisor) and H Wi Repa (Governance Technical Support).

3 APOLOGIES

Nil

4 CONSIDERATION OF LATE ITEMS

Nil

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

6 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS

Nil

7 PUBLIC FORUM

Nil

8 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

9 REPORTS

9.1 ANNUAL PLAN 2023/24 - ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT CONSULTATION DOCUMENT, SUPPORTING INFORMATION AND DRAFT SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION.

The Committee considered a report from the Senior Policy Analyst dated 28 March 2023. The report was taken as read..

Staff responded to questions as follows:

Fees and Charges - Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA):

- The General Manager Strategy and Community advised the Committee that majority of LGOIMA requests were processed without charging a fee. Some requests took a significant amount of staff time due to the nature of the request. The General Manager Strategy and Policy was responsible for determining if a fee should be charged.
- Council had a statutory obligation to advise the requestor the amount of time and provide an approximate cost, who then had the option of accepting this or narrowing the scope of their request.
- The standard fee was from guidance provided by the Office of the Ombudsmen on answering LGOIMA requests.

Engagement approach - Hiring Outside Facilities to do Face to Face Meetings:

- Council had made the decision to have face to face meetings in community cafes in the spirit of 'going to where the people were' as opposed to have them coming to Council. There would be a better 'hit rate' if there were people already at these places. Asking people to come to Council to talk about the Annual Plan did not yield a high number of people.

Rating:

- It was clarified that the 'General Rate in the dollar of capital value' presented on page 49 of the agenda was reflective of the rates increase of 7.41%.
- Council was awaiting sign-off from the Auditor General before releasing the 2022 rateable values. It was noted that this would not effect the rate increase (7.41%) that Council would be going out for consultation on, it would only effect how this impacted different properties and the allocation across the board.

Fees and Charges - Regulatory Services:

- There was a requirement for Council to look at fees and charges in terms of its Revenue and Financing Policy. Council's focus was to ensure it continued to deliver the best financial practice, noting that there was considerably time spent across the organisation looking at Councils activities and how the fees and charges align with the activity funding approach agreed by Council. The Regulatory Services Manager believed that this was reflected well within the Annual Plan document..

Solid Waste Targeted Rate:

- The Solid waste charges were related to the recycling centres, and did not relate to kerbside charges, which was a separate targeted rate.

Te Puna Community Centre Rate:

- The Te Puna Community Centre rate was still being collected to ensure there was enough funding to cover demolition and the potential temporary building. This may change before final adoption depending on the feedback from users.

Financial Contributions (FINCOs) – Wastewater Charges for Waihi Beach:

- The debt repayment for the original construction of the wastewater system at Waihi Beach had not been completed, as the financial modelling specified that this would be paid over time. The Committee was advised that any new lots were also paying for the original system, therefore the FINCOs would continue until the planned growth was completed. This was reflected in the overall level of the FINCO.

Fees and Charges – Notified Resource Consent Application Fees:

- The public notification and limited notification process were becoming increasingly more complex and took a significant amount of time. Costs increased if Council needed to use commissioners and specialist advisors. The fees charged were truly reflective of these processes and based on an actual cost basis.

Wastewater and Stormwater Figures in Ōmokoroa:

- The Committee was advised that the figures for the Wastewater and Stormwater within Ōmokoroa were a reflection of the updated Structure Plan. When the timing of projects or the actual costs entered differed from the original estimate, the calculation of the figures altered.

Updated Property Figures:

- The release date of the updated property values was out of Council's control and there was potential for this date to change again. There was not enough time for Council's consultation process to be delayed in order for the Annual Plan to be adopted by the statutory deadline of 30 June 2023.

The resolutions were taken in parts as follows:

RESOLUTION APLTP23-2.1**PART 1**

Moved: Cr M Murray-Benge

Seconded: Cr R Crawford

1. That the Senior Policy Analyst's report dated 28 March 2023 titled 'Annual Plan 2023/24 – Adoption of the Draft Consultation Document, supporting information and draft schedule of fees and charges for public consultation' be received.
2. That the report relates to an issue that is considered to be of medium significance in terms of Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION APLTP23-2.2**PART 2**

Moved: Cr M Grainger

Seconded: Cr D Thwaites

3. That the assessment of materiality and significance (Attachment E of the agenda report) be endorsed.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION APLTP23-2.3**PART 3**

Moved: Cr A Henry

Seconded: Cr G Dally

4. That the draft Annual Plan 2023/24 Consultation Document (Attachment A of the agenda report) and the supporting information for the Annual Plan 2023/24 (Attachment B of the agenda report) be adopted for the purpose of consultation from 30 March to 30 April 2023.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION APLTP23-2.4**PART 4**

Moved: Cr A Sole

Seconded: Cr M Grainger

5. That the draft schedule of fees and charges 2023/24 (Attachment C of the agenda report) and the statement of proposal (Attachment D of the agenda report) be adopted for the purposes of public consultation from 30 March to 30 April 2023.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION APLTP23-2.5

PART 5

Moved: Mayor J Denyer

Seconded: Cr M Grainger

6. That the Chief Executive Officer be delegated authority to make minor editorial changes to the documents if required.

CARRIED

10 INFORMATION FOR RECEIPT

Nil

The Meeting closed at 3.11pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record by Council on 13 April 2023.