

Adoption of 2018-2028 Long Term Plan

TO	Thames-Coromandel District Council
FROM	Scott Summerfield - Policy and Planning Manager
DATE	14 June 2018
SUBJECT	Adoption of 2018-2028 Long Term Plan

1 Purpose of report

The purpose of this report is to present the final 2018-28 Long Term Plan, including the finalised Revenue and Financing Policy, Financial Strategy and Infrastructure Strategy for adoption by Council.

2 Background

Staff have created a draft Long Term Plan from the content of the Consultation Document, the supporting information that was made available during consultation and other mandatory content such as information about our CCO. This draft plan was then updated with the decisions from the Council's deliberations on submissions and the accepted officers' advice and made available to our auditors.

At the time of writing this report no changes had been identified by our auditors. Staff will update the Council on the final outcomes of the audit at the Council meeting.

3 Issue

Council is required to adopt a long term plan every three years. The attached 2018-2028 Long Term Plan is based on the decisions made following consultation, a range of statutorily required strategies and policies and the outcome of two independent audits by Audit NZ.

Order of adoption

The reports within the Council agenda associated with the Long Term Plan and three yearly planning process have been ordered to ensure the resolutions are taken in a systematic manner. The associated policies need to be adopted before the Long Term Plan and the Plan needs to be adopted before the rates setting resolutions.

4 Discussion

Outside of the changes from the deliberations meeting there are some minor differences between the content of the final Long Term Plan and the supporting information made available during consultation.

Average rates increases across the life of the LTP

The average total rates increase has decreased from 5.17% in the Consultation Document to 3.28%. The major differences that attributed to the 2% decrease were:

- Saving of \$1.3 million in the Rooding activity -
 - from an increase in the NZTA subsidy - the Consultation Document was modelled on 49% subsidy and the final plan is modelled on 51% after receiving notification on 1 May 2019 that the planned transition for increasing the subsidy rates was being accelerated by the government).
 - Utilising more available depreciation.
- Utilising more reserves in line with Council's new Financial Reserves Policy.

The use of reserves was enabled from the result of the March 2018 revision which was presented to Council at the May meeting.

Performance measures

Minor amendments have been made to the performance measures for the 2018-2028 performance period. These are consistent with Council's direction on the performance measures to have targets which are measurable, within the influence of Council to improve the outcome, and have realistic targets which ensure a high level of service but also acknowledge events may occur which disrupt the usual order of Council business and therefore our ability to meet targets of 100%.

The minor amendments included:

- Correcting the last column header in the table to reflect the last 7 years and not just year 4
- Some spelling corrections
- Changing the target for Year 1 to 90% in line with the other years' targets for the Representation measure for publicly available agendas.
- Changing the target for all years to 90% for the Property measure for compliance with legislative requirements from the annual Building Warrant of Fitness.
- Including the District Plan measure for updating EPlan within 2 months of changes (omitted in error from the consultation supporting information version).
- Changing the target for all years to 80% for the Coastal and Hazard Management measure for annual capital expenditure to align better with current delivery performance.
- Including the previous measure for dog control (response time to urgent animal control issues) and removing the proposed measure on the number of dog attacks (not in the Council's control and therefore not aligned to principles set by Council).
- Changed the Civil Defence measure to staff completing a civil defence course within 6 months of their start date and removed the measure on running four introductory courses each year (number of courses is dependent on the number of new staff which varies from year to year).
- Reduced the target for the unopposed alcohol licence applications timeframe from 90% to 85% to reflect the latest performance data and align with the principle of realistic targets.

The performance measures are in line with sector best practice on performance management, tested against the following considerations provided by the Society of Local Government Managers (SOLGM).

5 Suggested resolution(s)

That the Thames-Coromandel District Council:

1. Receives the 'Adoption of the 2018-2028 Long Term Plan' report, dated 7 June 2018.
2. Adopts the Revenue and Financing Policy, Financial Strategy and Infrastructure Strategy for inclusion in the 2018-28 Long Term Plan.
3. Adopts the 2018-28 Long Term Plan having met the legislative requirements under section 93 of the Local Government Act 2002, including using the special consultative procedure to engage with the public on the Long Term Plan Consultation Document, and having considered the feedback received.

References-Tabled/Agenda Attachments

Attachment A 2018-28 Long Term Plan