Notice is given that a Tasman District Council Annual Plan Submission Hearing will be held on:

Date:	**Thursday 14 May 2026**
Time:	**9.30am - Annual Plan Hearings**
Meeting Room:	**Tasman Council Chamber**
Venue:	**189 Queen Street, Richmond**
YouTube:	**Tasman District Council Meetings - YouTube**

Tasman District Council

Kaunihera Katoa

AGENDA

MEMBERSHIP

Mayor	Mayor T King	
Deputy Mayor	Deputy Mayor B Maru	
Councillors	Councillor C Butler	Councillor M Kininmonth
	Councillor J Ellis	Councillor K Maling
	Councillor K Ferneyhough	Councillor D McNamara
	Councillor M Greening	Councillor P Morgan
	Councillor J Gully	Councillor T Neubauer
	Councillor M Hume	Councillor T Walker
		Councillor D Woods

(Quorum 8 members)

Contact Telephone: 03 543 8400
Email: tdc.governance@tasman.govt.nz
Website: www.tasman.govt.nz

Note: The reports contained within this agenda are for consideration and should not be construed as Council policy unless and until adopted.

AGENDA

1 OPENING, WELCOME, KARAKIA

2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Recommendation
That the apologies be accepted.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4 LATE ITEMS

5 REPORTS

5.1 Annual Plan 2026/2027 and Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/2027 - Submissions Hearing 4

6 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

Nil

7 CLOSING KARAKIA

5 REPORTS

5.1 ANNUAL PLAN 2026/2027 AND SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES 2026/2027 - SUBMISSIONS HEARING

Decision Required

Report To:	Tasman District Council
Meeting Date:	14 May 2026
Report Author:	Amy Smith, Community Policy Advisor; Emily Garland, Graduate Community Policy Advisor
Report Authorisers:	Sue McLean, Kaiwhakahaere ā Rōpū – Te Pae Rautaki Ahumoni | Group Manager - Strategy & Finance
Report Number:	RCN26-05-11

1. Purpose of the Report / Te Take mō te Pūrongo

1.1 The purpose of this report is to accept the submissions on the Annual Plan 2026/2027 and the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/2027.

1.2 This report also sets out the schedule for speakers at the Hearing. Any changes to the submitter schedule will be advised at the beginning of the meeting.

1.3 This report does not contain the staff deliberations report. This will be provided to the Council prior to the deliberations meeting, which is scheduled for 28 May 2026.

2. Summary / Te Tuhinga Whakarāpoto

2.1 This report is to enable the Council to accept and hear submissions on the Annual Plan 2026/2027 and the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/2027.

2.2 The consultation period was open from 2 April to 3 May 2026. We received 367 submissions, including 6 late submissions.

2.3 Staff recommend that the Council do not accept any late submissions received after 6 May 2026. At the time of writing, none have been received beyond this point.

2.4 There are 62 submitters who wish to be heard.

2.5 The schedule of presenters for this meeting is listed on page 2 of this report. Subsequent changes to the schedule will be advised before the hearing commences.

2.6 A copy of the submissions made by those submitters wishing to be heard has been provided in **Attachment 1** to the agenda report.

2.7 The entirety of submissions has been provided to the Mayor and Councillors on LG Hub and are also available for viewing by the public on the Council's website. Personal contact information has been redacted.

2.8 The analysis of the submission received will be presented to the Council prior to deliberations which are scheduled for 28 May 2026.

3. Recommendation/s / Ngā Tūtohunga

That the Tasman District Council

1. **receives the Annual Plan 2026/2027 and Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/2027 - Submissions Hearing Report RCN26-05-11; and**
2. **accepts and considers all submissions received on the Annual Plan 2026/2027 and Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/2027 during the submission period 2 April 2026 to 3 May 2026; and**
3. **accepts and considers the late submissions received before 6 May 2026 as follows:**

Submitter	Date received
Bruce Whitwell	4 May 2026
Terry Forrest (Alpine Buildings)	4 May 2026
Phil Ferris	4 May 2026
Jynnene Wastney	4 May 2026
Lionel Hume (Federated Farmers)	6 May 2026
Kristie Paki Paki (Te Ātiawa o Te Waka-a-Māui)	6 May 2026

and;

4. **declines to accept any late submissions on the Annual Plan 2026/2027 and Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/2027 received after 5.00pm on 6 May 2026.**

4. Background / Horopaki

4.1 On 2 April 2026, the Council adopted the Annual Plan 2026/2027 consultation document and supporting material (CN26-04-4). Consultation took place from 2 April to 3 May 2026.

4.2 The Hearing Panel will consist of the Mayor and Councillors and the Hearing Panel Chair is Mayor Tim King and the Deputy Chair is Deputy Mayor Maru.

4.3 Hearings are to be held on Thursday 14 May 2026, commencing at 9.30am in Richmond at the Council Chambers.

4.4 Deliberations are to be held in Richmond at the at the Council Chambers on Thursday 28 May 2026 commencing at 9.30 am.

4.5 All submissions received on the Annual Plan 2026/2027 and Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/2027 are available on the Council's website.

4.6 Sixty-two (62) submitters have indicated they wish to speak to their submission. Speakers were contacted on 4 May and 5 May 2026 to confirm whether they still wanted to be heard. As at 7 May 2026, not all speakers have yet confirmed attendance at the hearing. Subsequent changes to the submitter speaking order will be advised before the beginning of the hearing day.

4.7 Each submitter has been allowed a maximum of five minutes to speak to their submission. This time includes any points of clarification from the Hearing Panel.

4.8 Staff have asked submitters to be available from the start of the half-hour that they have been assigned to, and staff have allocated up to six submitters per half-hour.

5. Analysis and Advice / Tātaritanga me ngā tohutohu

5.1 The speaker schedule of this hearing is in the table below. Submitters in italics have not yet confirmed if they wish to speak. Speakers' submissions are provided in **Attachment 1** to the agenda report and referenced by submission ID and page number. If the submission has an attachment, it is provided in **Attachment 2** to the agenda report and referenced by page number.

Start Time	Speaker (Topic)	Submission ID (ref)	Attachment
9:30 AM	*Peter Verstappen - Waimea South Community Facility Charitable Trust (Waimea South Facilities)*	35328 (page 16)	Page 46
9:30 AM	Chelsea Martin - Wakefield Community Council (Waimea South Faculties)	35516 (page 34)	-
9:30 AM	*Neisha Kindley - Able TAS Kids (Waimea South Facilities)*	35378 (page 24)	-
9:30 AM	*Neisha Kindley (Waimea South facilities)*	35524 (page 34)	-
9:30 AM	*Nicholas Milne – Blue Sky Beekeeping (Waimea South facilities)*	35526 (page 35)	-
10:00 AM	*Robert Robinson (Waimea South Facilities)*	35460 (page 31)	-
10:00 AM	*Joyce Robinson (Waimea South Facilities)*	35339 (page 17)	-
10:00 AM	*Peter Verstappen*	35369 (page 23)	-
10:00 AM	Mark David Quinney	35471 (page 32)	-
10:00 AM	*Ed Shuttleworth - Sport Tasman (various matter inc. community facilities)*	35530 (page 36)	-
10:30 AM	Trish Palmer - Tapawera & Districts Community Council (Tapawera Community Hub)	35377 (page 23)	-
10:30 AM	Della Webby (Tapawera Community Hub)	35264 (page 15)	-
10:30 AM	Joanna Leyland (Tapawera Community Hub)	35490 (page 33)	-
10:30 AM	Stuart Bryant (Tapawera Community Hub)	35315 (page 15)	-
10:30 AM	Trish Palmer (various matters inc. community facilities and fees)	35382 (page 24)	-
10:30 AM	*Rachel Moffit (Tapawera Community Hub)*	35408 (page 26)	Page 91

Start Time	Speaker (Topic)	Submission ID (ref)	Attachment
11:00 AM	Ross Loveridge - Motueka Aquatic Centre Committee (Motueka Pool)	35465 (page 31)	-
11:00 AM	*Donna McLeod (Motueka Pool)*	35334 (page 17)	-
11:00 AM	*Sylvia Barrett (Motueka Pool)*	35289 (page 15)	-
11:00 AM	*Jonathan Waddy (Motueka Pool)*	35463 (page 31)	-
11:00 AM	*Richard Hayward (Motueka Pool)*	35323 (page 15)	-
11:00 AM	Mary and Jim Lafrentz (various matters inc. Motueka Pool)	35476 (page 33)	-
11:30 AM	Adam Langley - Split Apple Rock Owners Assn (Request: installation of a visitor counter and other matters)	35586 (page 40)	Page 176
11:30 AM	Chris Rutledge - Marahau Sandy Bay Residents (Request: Maintenance of carpark, revetment and footpath, installation of adjustable lighting)	35591 (page 40)	Page 177
11:30 AM	Isobel Mosley – Keep Motueka Beautiful for the Heritage Wharf Restoration Group (Request: Funding support)	35396 (page 26)	Page 77
11:30 AM	Steve Hayden (Request: Maintain Tasman View Road)	35340 (page 18)	Page 70
11:30 AM	Rachael Large - Neighbourhood Support Top of the South (Request: Partnership with TSNS)	35395 (page 25)	Page 78
12:00 PM	*Andrew Fenemor - 88 Valley Rural Water Supply Committee (Fees: Urban water club charging system)*	35505 (page 33)	Page 115
12:00 PM	*Robert Merrilees (88 Valley Water Supply Scheme)*	35468 (page 32)	-
12:00 PM	Michelle Payne – Hardyards Water Delivery (Fees: Bulk water charges)	35388 (page 25)	Page 74
12:00 PM	Jennifer Lamm and Andrew Galloway - Alcohol Healthwatch (Fees: Alcohol licensing)	35413 (page 26)	Page 99
12:00 PM	*Lionel Hume - Golden Bay and Nelson Federated Farmers (various matters inc. rates and dog fee increases)*	*35597 (page 43)*	*Page 180*
12:30 PM	**LUNCH**		
1:00 PM	Grant Knowles - Golden Bay Community Board (various matters inc. fees and recovery rate)	35359 (page 19)	-

Start Time	Speaker (Topic)	Submission ID (ref)	Attachment
1:00 PM	Claire Hutt - Motueka Community Board (various matters inc. the Board's priorities for 2026/2027)	35426 (page 28)	Page 104
1:00 PM	David Ogilvie (various inc. Motueka matters)	35571 (page 40)	Page 142
1:00 PM	*Helen Bro (various inc storm/wastewater)*	35507 (page 34)	-
1:00 PM	*Stephanie Bryant (various inc storm/wastewater)*	35381 (page 24)	-
1:30 PM	Barry Dowler (various matters)	35342 (page 18)	-
1:30 PM	Mr R N Hellyer (river works)	35367 (page 23)	-
1:30 PM	*Fred Overmars, Nelson Tasman Climate Forum (various matters inc. recovery rate and river works)*	35481 (page 33)	Page 107
1:30 PM	Paul Martin (various matters inc. climate resilience planning)	35441 (page 31)	-
1:30 PM	Bruce Gilkison (various matters inc. reducing emissions	35484 (page 33)	-
2:00 PM	*Jan Heijs (various matters, Mapua)*	35348 (page 18)	-
2:00 PM	Bruce Struthers (various matters, Mapua)	35601 (page 43)	-
2:00 PM	Adrienne Matthews (various matters)	35528 (page 35)	Page 124
2:00 PM	*Allan Sims (various, rate increase concerns)*	35364 (page 21)	-
2:00 PM	Marion Satherley (various, rate increase concerns)	35583 (page 40)	Page 166
2:00 PM	Joanne (JJ) Hockey (various, rate increase concerns)	35560 (page 38)	Page 134
2:30 PM	Richard Johns (various, rate increase concerns)	35565 (page 39)	-
2:30 PM	Joyce Grant (various, rate increase concerns)	35595 (page 40)	-
2:30 PM	Gary Polwart (various, rate increase concerns)	35429 (page 29)	-
2:30 PM	Franca Morani (various, rate increase concerns)	35430 (page 31)	-
2:30 PM	*Peter Radford - Tasman Community Group (various, rate increase concerns)*	35563 (page 38)	-
2:30 PM	*Peter Radford (various, rate increase concerns)*	35431 (page 31)	-

Start Time	Speaker (Topic)	Submission ID (ref)	Attachment
3:00 PM	*John Wendelborn (various, rate increase concerns)*	35424 (page 26)	-
3:00 PM	*David Young (various, rate increase concerns)*	35521 (page 34)	Page 118
3:00 PM	*James Wenn (various, rate increase concerns)*	35541 (page 37)	-
3:00 PM	*Charla Stratford (various, rate increase concerns)*	35544 (page 37)	-
3:00 PM	*Stephen Garnett (various, rate increase concerns)*	35547 (page 37)	-
3:00 PM	*Sarah Priest (various, rate increase concerns)*	35548 (page 37)	-
3:00 PM	*Hendrik Vermeer (various, rate increase concerns)*	35467 (page 31)	-

5.2 Each submitter has been allowed a maximum of five (5) minutes to speak to their submission. This time includes any points of clarification from the Hearing Panel.

5.3 Staff have asked submitters to be available from the start of the half hour that they have been assigned, and staff have allocated up to six submitters per half hour.

5.4 The Hearings Panel Chair will seek direction from the Hearings Panel on any additional matters raised during the Hearings, which require staff advice in the staff deliberations report.

6. Financial or Budgetary Implications / Ngā Ritenga ā-Pūtea

6.1 The decision to accept submissions has no financial implications. The deliberations on submissions on 27 May 2026 will consider the financial implications as part of deliberating on the content in the submissions.

7. Options / Kōwhiringa

7.1 The options are outlined in the following table:

Option		Advantage	Disadvantage
1.	Receives and considers all submissions received during the consultation period, 2 April to 3 May 2026, and any late submissions received up until 6 May 2025.	All submitters who wish to be heard can be heard.	Council staff have limited time to consider late submissions and prepare advice to the Council.
2.	Receives and considers all submissions received during the consultation period, 2 April to 3 May 2026.	Submissions can be fully analysed for the deliberations report on 28 May 2026.	Submitters wishing to place a late submission may not feel they have been heard by the Council.
3.	Do not receive and consider all submissions received during the consultation period, 2 April to 3 May 2026.		This would damage the Council's reputation as the consultation material has already asked for submissions and speakers have been scheduled to speak at the Hearing.

7.2 Option **one (1)** is recommended.

8. Legal / Ngā ture

8.1 At its meeting on 2 April 2026 (CN26-04-04), the Council determined to consult on the Annual Plan 2026/2027. A key factor in this decision was the materiality and significance of the changes from Year 3 of the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

8.2 In the case of a significant decision, the Council must ensure that the decision is made in accordance with the provisions of sections 77, 78, 80, 81 and 82 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA). In summary, the Council must:

8.2.1 identify and assess the reasonably practicable options;

8.2.2 consider the views of interested and affected parties; and

8.2.3 establish processes for Māori to participate in decision-making.

8.3 The Council must also ensure that the principles of consultation are met. This means that people who will or may be affected or have an interest have reasonable access to relevant information, including about the purpose and scope of the decisions, and are encouraged to present their views. The Council must ensure that:

8.3.1 submitters can present their views in a manner and format appropriate to their preferences;

8.3.2 the views presented are received with an open mind; and

8.3.3 submitters have access to a clear record and explanation of the relevant decisions made by the Council.

8.4 At its meeting on 2 April 2026 (RCN26-04-11), the Council decided to hold a submission hearing on the Annual Plan so that the public can present their views verbally.

8.5 At the same Council meeting, the Council adopted the Statement of Proposal for the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/2027 in accordance with sections 83 and 87 of the LGA (CN26-04-5).

8.6 The Council is required to consult on most fees in a manner that meets the general requirements of section 82 of the LGA, which grants the Council flexibility in choosing the most effective way to engage with the community. However, the Council must consult on some charges using the Special Consultative Procedure (SCP) as set out in section 83 of the LGA. This includes Resource Consent fees (section 36(3) of the RMA) and some Environmental Health fees (section 205 of the Food Act 2014).

8.7 Providing the opportunity for submitters to present their submissions to the Council is a requirement of the Special Consultative Procedure. Consequently, the Council chose to consult on all fees and charges using the SCP to ensure all legal obligations are met in a single process.

8.8 To ensure due process, it is important that the Hearing Panel receives and considers submissions with an open mind.

9. Iwi Engagement / Whakawhitiwhiti ā-Hapori Māori

9.1 Iwi were notified of the consultation on the Annual Plan and changes to the Schedule of Fees and Charges via email from the Council's Kaihautū.

10. Significance and Engagement / Hiranga me te Whakawhitiwhiti ā-Hapori Whānui

10.1 At the Council meeting on 2 April 2026 (RCN26-04-11), the Council determined that the decisions to be made in the Annual Plan were significant. As a result, public consultation has been carried out with the submissions period between 2 April and 3 May 2026 to meet the requirements under the Local Government Act 2002.

10.2 At the same Council meeting, the Council determined that the changes to the Schedule of Fees and Charges had a low/medium level of significance to most members of the public, while some charges may have a high level of significance to others, for example, those residents on fixed incomes and who use services that the Council charges for. The Council decided to carry out a special consultative procedure on the draft schedule of fees and charges.

10.3 The hearing is the next step in the decision-making process (for both the Annual Plan and the Schedule of Fees and Charges) and provides submitters the opportunity to present their submissions verbally to the Council.

10.4 The decisions for the Hearing Panel to make are whether to accept the submissions received so far (including the six late submissions) and any future submissions received after 7 May 2026 for the Annual Plan and Schedule of Fees and Charges.

10.5 The significance of these decisions is low.

	Issue	Level of Significance	Explanation of Assessment
1.	Is there a high level of public interest, or is decision likely to be controversial?	Low	The public will expect that the Council will accept the late submissions received within reason. There will be a medium amount of interest from any late submitters in the event the Hearing Panel decides not to accept those submissions.
2.	Are there impacts on the social, economic, environmental or cultural aspects of well-being of the community in the present or future?	Low	This decision is to accept the submissions received. No decisions are sought on the substantive issues.
3.	Is there a significant impact arising from duration of the effects from the decision?	High	If the Council decided not to receive any late submissions the views in them will not be considered in the Council's decision-making. No decisions are sought on the substantive issues in this report.
4.	Does the decision relate to a strategic asset? (refer Significance and Engagement Policy for list of strategic assets)	No	This decision does not involve a strategic asset.
5.	Does the decision create a substantial change in the level of service provided by Council?	No	This decision does not change any level of service.
6.	Does the proposal, activity or decision substantially affect debt, rates or Council finances in any one year or more of the LTP?	No	This decision is to accept submissions, which does not have any budgetary implications.
7.	Does the decision involve the sale of a substantial proportion or controlling interest in a CCO or CCTO?	No	This decision does not have any impact on a CCO or CCTO.
8.	Does the proposal or decision involve entry into a private sector partnership or contract to carry out the deliver on any Council group of activities?	No	This decision does not involve a private sector partnership or contract.
9.	Does the proposal or decision involve Council exiting from or entering into a group of activities?	No	This decision does not involve the Council exiting from or entering into a group of activities.

	Issue	Level of Significance	Explanation of Assessment
10.	Does the proposal require particular consideration of the obligations of Te Mana O Te Wai (TMOTW) relating to freshwater or particular consideration of current legislation relating to water supply, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure and services?	No	This decision does not require consideration of the obligations of Te Mana O Te Wai (TMOTW).

11. Communication / Whakawhitiwhiti Kōrero

11.1 All submitters have had the opportunity to indicate whether they would like to speak to their submission at a hearing. Those who indicated that they wished to speak have been contacted to arrange a time to present their submission during the hearing.

12. Risks / Ngā Tūraru

12.1 There is a low-level reputational risk if late submissions are not accepted as submitters may not feel that they have been heard by Council.

12.2 To ensure due process, it is important that the Hearing Panel receives and considers submissions with an open mind.

12.3 Staff will address the risks associated with the decisions on the Annual Plan or the Schedule of Fees and Charges at the deliberations meeting on 28 May 2026.

13. Climate Change Considerations / Whakaaro Whakaaweawe Āhuarangi

13.1 There are no climate change considerations associated with the decision to accept submissions.

14. Alignment with Policy and Strategic Plans / Te Hangai ki ngā aupapa Here me ngā Mahere Rautaki Tūraru

14.1 The submissions will inform deliberations on the Annual Plan 2026/2027 and Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/2027.

14.2 The Council must prepare an annual plan for each financial year that contains the proposed annual budget and funding impact statement for the year to which the annual plan relates and identifies any variation from the financial statements and funding impact statement included in the LTP in respect of the year.

14.3 The Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/2027 proposes fee changes from the 2025/2026 Schedule. The proposed fee levels are considered to be consistent with the levels of funding from fees and charges indicated for each activity in the Council's Revenue and Financing Policy.

15. Conclusion / Kupu Whakatepe

15.1 This report recommends that the Hearing Panel accepts the submissions received on the Annual Plan 2026/2027 and the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/2027 during the consultation period of 2 April to 3 May 2026 and the six late submissions received after this period but prior to 5.00 pm on 7 May 2026.

15.2 The report lists the proposed order of submitters at the hearing. Staff will provide a report to the Hearing Panel for the deliberations meeting on 28 May 2026.

16. Next Steps and Timeline / Ngā Mahi Whai Ake

16.1 The next steps for both the Annual Plan and Schedule of Fees and Charges are:

16.1.1 Deliberations meeting – 28 May 2026; and

16.1.2 Adoption of the final Annual Plan 2026/2027 and final Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/2027 at the Council meeting on 25 June 2026.

17. Attachments / Tuhinga tāpiri

1. Speaker submissions 15
2. Speaker attachments 46

Annual Plan 2026/2027 Hearing 14 May 202: Speaker submissions in numerical order

ID	Speaker	Questions		Submissions
35264	Della Webby	0	1	
		2a	N/A	I work in Tapawera as a Community Connector, and I am the hub fundraising coordinator. Through the work I did while coordinating the flood relief in the 2025 events and in my day-to-day role, I can see it's imperative that Tapawera have a fit for purpose building. This is direly needed for many of our vulnerable and isolated community members for connection. I currently have nowhere private to meet community members who need guidance to support services, and I have nowhere for those support services to meet clients. Many support organisations currently based in Nelson and Motueka have expressed that they would consider offering a reduced service in the Tapawera township, if there are suitable premises available. With rising petrol costs and the old Community Centre closed from earthquake risk, our community is struggling.
35289	Sylvia Barrett	0	3	Unable to access all of sentence information, so chose without this info.
		2a	N/A	Essential community pool Is actioned, not postponed again.
		4	N/A	Apologies for modest feedback in other areas.
35315	Stuart Bryant	0	1	
		2a	N/A	Tasman district council annual plan submission Mayor and councillors As land owners in the Tapawera area for 36 years we are asking you to support continuing the Tapawera community hub as we are very aware that the DIA (department of internal affairs) funding of $510,000.00 is at risk of being loss to the community, this funding make a great bases for leveraging funding from other funds such as Lotteries, Rata foundation pub charities, business and local residents. I can assure that a new modern purpose built is well and truly need as all the current public available buildings a cold draught and outdated I know as I've bean to many meetings and functions in all of them. Currently there are no modern warm welcoming facilities with private soundproofing for meetings with agency such as MSD Nelson Bays Primary Health dietician's Health coach. Farmer groups. Tapawera Is One of the Region's Most Deprived Communities: The 2023 New Zealand Index of Deprivation (NZDep) gives Tapawera a decile score of 9, and surrounding areas scores of 6–8, where decile 10 represents the most deprived. By comparison, Wakefield and Brightwater score decile 2, and Motueka ranges from 4 to 9. This level of deprivation is precisely why Tapawera was selected by DIA for a five-year community-led development programme — and why investing in community infrastructure here will have an outsized impact. The current community centre is currently closed as it has a current detailed building assessment rating of 20% of NBS and is important to note is not owned by the TDC Sherwood hall is currently owned by a private trustThere is so little to lose in supporting us and so much to be gained for the community with. Your support to allow us to continue fundraising, planning and construction. Stuart and Joanne Bryant Bryant family Trust
35323	Richard Hayward	0	3	
		1	N/A	No
		2a	N/A	I am writing to support the Motueka swimming pool project to go ahead as soon as possible. It has been in the pipeline since the early 1990s and now that I am 74 years old, I feel time is running out for me to use it. The people living in Motueka should have the same opportunities as those living in Richmond or Nelson to have ready access to an indoor heated swimming pool. This would provide all year round swimming. I would use it at least three times a week.

				Financial pressure is always going to be a problem, and in my view should not play a part in decision making for a basic public facility such as this. I look forward to having the chance to speak to the T D C council about the pool and its benefits to the community when this can be arranged.
		2b	N/A	No
		3	N/A	No
		2a	N/A	SEE ATTACHED BUSINESS CASE. The Waimea South Community Facility Charitable Trust strongly supports continuing the community facilities projects. Regarding our primary focus, the Wakefield Community Hub. This project: • is projected to have a minimal impact on rates (just a portion of the 0.03% rating impact of the combined Wakefield/Brightwater projects) • will fund 80% ($9.1m) of the construction cost from RFCs and community fundraising, and • under the current design proposal and business case, will have strong revenue-earning capability through gym membership fees, venue hires and commercial activities to cover future operational costs. Our business plan for the hub is attached. The impact of pausing or deferring the Wakefield Hub: To pause this project now will lose five years of investment in design, fundraising and community engagement, make the project less affordable through inflation-creep of building costs, damage the project's credibility with major sponsors and donors, and leave Wakefield still in need of a replacement for our aging and unsuitable village hall. Wakefield is one of the fastest growing population centres in Tasman District and has for decades been under-served by Council investment. The Wakefield Community Hub project is affordable, sensible and essential. Notwithstanding – it represents our strong, diverse and united community. We strongly urge the Council to work with us, to maintain momentum on this project.
35328	Waimea South Community Facility Charitable Trust	2a	N/A	SEE ATTACHED BUSINESS CASE. The Waimea South Community Facility Charitable Trust strongly supports continuing the community facilities projects. Regarding our primary focus, the Wakefield Community Hub. This project: • is projected to have a minimal impact on rates (just a portion of the 0.03% rating impact of the combined Wakefield/Brightwater projects) • will fund 80% ($9.1m) of the construction cost from RFCs and community fundraising, and • under the current design proposal and business case, will have strong revenue-earning capability through gym membership fees, venue hires and commercial activities to cover future operational costs. Our business plan for the hub is attached. The impact of pausing or deferring the Wakefield Hub: To pause this project now will lose five years of investment in design, fundraising and community engagement, make the project less affordable through inflation-creep of building costs, damage the project's credibility with major sponsors and donors, and leave Wakefield still in need of a replacement for our aging and unsuitable village hall.

				Wakefield is one of the fastest growing population centres in Tasman District and has for decades been under-served by Council investment. The Wakefield Community Hub project is affordable, sensible and essential. Notwithstanding – it represents our strong, diverse and united community. We strongly urge the Council to work with us, to maintain momentum on this project.
35334	John Hutton	0	4	First of all, let me say that I fully recognise the inherent unfairness of the rates system which offers no 'breaks' to non-income producing properties (ie, individual homeowner) vs an income producing/commercial interest (say, large dairy farm or timber producer, etc.). I also believe that the long-term aspects of climate change on weather patterns will not go away, so merely putting in a five year program to pay for past damage will do nothing for the inevitable future damage which is surely on its way. We can bury our heads in the sand if we like, but that will not change 'mother nature's' dummy spit and its affect on all of us. I would much rather have an income-based approach to paying for this (say, via GST or income tax), but as that is not available, it comes down to paying hundreds of millions via rates, unfortunately. The only way I can see some semblance of fairness in paying for the costs of past and future damage is base the levy on capital value. An income producing property has the ability to offset the financial impact of rates by claiming GST (if any) and income tax deductions, while the individual homeowner does not. The cost of the levy will need to be paid one way or another - closed roads, lost houses, etc, so we might as well recognise that and bite the bullet and start to pay for the true costs of climate change sooner rather than layer.
		1	N/A	It is distressing that so much additional burden is being applied to ratepayers, particularly because rates are not income based. Sooner or later, there will come a time when individual property owners will just not be able to pay their rates because they don't have the ability (income) to do so. Then, the frequency of forced sales will occur because of inability to pay rates. This country needs to get off its collective arse and agree on a better way forward for paying for government services or else we will all face the bankruptcy process.
		2a	N/A	We must, as a community (council/district) focus on what is truly important, not just nice to have. Priorities must be set and the rate setting process needs to get really 'sharp' so that only the critical and/or must have projects are financed. Perhaps we have too many councillors? perhaps we have too many staff? perhaps the staff remuneration system isn't 'fit for purpose? There are myriad questions that a really, hard-hitting, cost-cutting/value adding expense review process could deal with, and this must be undertaken ASAP, in full view of public review.
		2b	N/A	no
		3	N/A	Potentially dangerous but hopefully done in as careful a way as possible. Not doing maintenance typically just results in costs being absorbed by other methods (tyre replacements, wheel alignments, more accidents, etc.). Please be very careful about doing this.
		4	N/A	Without knowing the details of "user pays" as it applies across all Council charges, it is hard to say too much here. Suffice it to say that there must always be a very focused use of other peoples' money by Council, with a view to focusing on which items can be fairly charged for individual use, vs community usage, common good vs individual benefits, etc.
35339	Joyce Robinson	0	1	
		2a	N/A	Yes. DO NOT replace the current village hall with a new, fancy, expensive one out in the outskirts of the village. It is too expensive, somewhat over 11 MILLION, and you plan to raise our rates by 9.9%!! The price of everything is skyrocketing, people cannot afford higher rates for something few people use. And YOU are derelict in your duties to do the best for your community, when you put such pressure on us, (while giving yourselves hefty salary increases!) I propose to you to fix up the Hall we have. It IS sound and safe, even though it is old. I was told several years ago by the structural engineer at the consulting evenings you put on, that to get the Hall up to current requirement standards would cost about $350,000. That would probably be half a million now, with inflation, but a lot better that putting a higher burden on the rate payers, now when times are tough, anyway. (Eleven million! It's ridiculous to even consider that cost, for something that most

				people will never use.) Wouldn't that be a better option ?
35340	Steve Hayden	0	3	Given climate change, it would make sense to build a fund to respond to future events
		2a	N/A	I support the plan to continue with the pool at Motueka
		2b	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE on the capital programme - request for Council to maintain a section of Tasman View Road
		3	N/A	I agree with your proposal to slow funding of depreciation given the current economic climate
		4	N/A	I support your proposals
35342	Barry Dowler	0	3	Must collect money to recover costs of the recent storm event and to put money aside to soften future event costs. We used to do this but stopped it to keep the rate increases down. Probably the wrong move now but at the time it was possibly the correct thing to do. Tasman has had very low average rate increases over the last 10 years.
		1	N/A	Some are OK some are not, but staff should know what they are bringing to Council for sign off through the Annual Plan. Hopefully any projects to do with growth and developers are being done in a correctly staged order. Not being done just because someone further down the road wants it done. Costs are going up due to things outside the Council control, fuel, transportation, electricity costs and other things.
		2a	N/A	Can never be done any cheaper than now. As always stated by the Good Sports Motueka Swimming Pool Committee, they only want a Toyota Corolla Pool complex, not a Rolls Royce. The cost of an electric bike charging station to be included in the budget? Really? I thought it was a Pool Facility being costed. let's cut the fluffy stuff. Hopefully the Ward Councilors positions on the projects will hold some influence on whether a project should proceed or not.
		2b	N/A	Just do what is required as the need arises. The Districts infrastructure is starting to fail as it should due to its age but unfortunately some is quite modern that is failing and that is concerning. Mainly water pipes I understand.
		3	N/A	Council needs to focus on the R & M of the roading. I read somewhere recently in another District, the question was asked, how come there is plenty of asphalt to build raised crossings throughout the area and we are told there is not enough to complete pot hole repairs. Hopefully that is not happening within our District. Hopefully the Alliance contract for the roading is due for renewal soon and put out for tender. As I have seen in other areas, a lot of contractor changes happening due to far sharper pricing from the Industry Suppliers.
		4	N/A	I agree with user pays.
35348	Jan Heijs	0	2	It seems pair that those who benefit(ted most) pay a higher contribution. If this leads in some cases to extreme taxes, this could be capped at say 3 * a base rate. Also the storms affected a limited area. Don't see why the whole region should contribute.
		1	N/A	It is not acceptable that operational budgets have increased significantly compared to the Long Term Plan. I'm not sure about maintenance at 20% increase. I fully disagree with increase in 'General Operating costs (12.4%), Professional fees (14.6%) and Operations (9.8%). These all sound very discretionary. I recommend to cap these to what was included in the annual plan, and if they have to increase, offset this by operational savings in other areas. One suggestions to cut operations costs: 1. Defer plan-changes in Seaton Valley Significant time and financial resources are invested in the preparation and processing of plan changes, such as re-zoning some areas along Seaton Valley from ‘rural’ to residential. I recommend halting these plan changes because: a. With the election of the new council late last year, there has been a distinct shift in the thinking about planning and managing growth. b. The long-term costs associated with greenfield development for ratepayers have been acknowledged and discussed by many councilors. c. It is my understanding that the council has agreed to adopt a medium-growth scenario, rather than a high-growth one.

				d. There is already significant capacity in Mapua to accommodate growth in areas already developed, currently being developed and already zoned for residential development (the deferred residential areas). Ther is also significan capacity provided just outside Mapua suh as the rural-residential areas along the motorway. Only a change in rules for the deferred resildential areas is important to ensure these match the outcomes of the masterplan and better meet the needs of the Mapua community e. Growth has slowed down. Available residential properties take a long time to sell and/or selling has been deferred by the developers (land banking!) f. The long-term costs associated with greenfield development for ratepayers have been acknowledged and discussed by many councillors. As a result, the necessity and urgency of these plan changes is reduced. Placing these plan changes on hold until the new council establishes an updates region-wide growth strategy appears to be a prudent course of action and triggers significant operational cost savings—both for council staff and external consultants. 2. Stop spinning Although good communication is important, I often can't help thinking that council is spending too much time spinning sometimes not-great facts in good news. Half the budget and stick to simple facts.
		1	N/A	3/5 ADDITION TO SUBMISSION:: In addition to my online submission i also want to suggest two additional taxgroups as additional income streams 1) a recommend to introduce a piede-a-tierre tax similar to what many overseas councils are doing. This link explains the introduction in New York (https://www.facebook.com/share/r/18rLAQKBJe/) It is essential an additional tax rate for VERY EXPENSIVE residential properties with a total value of more than $5million dollar. The justification is made very clear in this video to which I refer to as part of my submission. 2) a bed tax for all overnight stays of people from outside our area. The reason is clear: they also use our infrastructure so should contribute
		2a	N/A	I strongly support community facilities. It wil build resilience
		2b	N/A	It is not clear from the table with capital projects presented in the feedback, which of these were in addtion to the Long Term Plan. I suggest to cap capital expenditure to what was agreed in the Long Term Plan and reprioritise all projects.
		3	N/A	no
		4	N/A	no
35359	Golden Bay Community Board	0	4	The Golden Bay Community Board supports Option 4, but ONLY if the targeted rate includes an annual cap. The inclusion of a cap is essential to our support. If a capped rate cannot be implemented under Option 4, then our preferred alternative is Option 3. Our support for this approach reflects the values of our community and the importance of sharing costs in a way that people feel is fair. Golden Bay is home to a diverse mix of households, including many long-term residents and older people living on fixed or modest incomes. A recovery rate needs to recognise this diversity and ensure that no group is unintentionally placed under undue financial strain. For this reason, we believe that a capped annual amount is essential to ensure the rate remains reasonable and affordable, while still sharing costs across the district. As a guide, the Board considers a cap in the range of $300–$400 per annum to be appropriate. The Board also supports the idea of building resilience for future weather events and sees value in establishing a recovery fund over time. However, we suggest that contributions for future events be set at a lower level than the initial recovery costs, unless another significant event occurs.

				In summary, the Board: Supports Option 4 only with a capped targeted rate Supports Option 3 if a cap is not available Supports sensible preparation for future recovery while keeping rates manageable for local households
		1	N/A	Without knowing more details, the Community Board cannot provide further feedback on the operating budget.
		2a	N/A	The Community Board sees all community facilities projects as “nice to haves” rather than “needs to have”. Therefore, we are in favour of pausing – not cancelling – all these projects for further discussion for the 10-year plan but proceed with essential work like weatherproofing.
		2b	N/A	We are surprised and concerned that the variance for “Public Health and Safety”, which is 48 times the budget allocation in the LTP, is not explained in the consultation document. We suggest that for the LTP discussions, give staff delegated authority delivering the programme flexibly within the 3-year plan period, rather than being restricted to one budget year.
		3	N/A	The Community Board has observed that roads in our area are deteriorating. We are therefore concerned that slowing planned funding of depreciation for roading assets may further contribute to this. Whilst this has a rates impact, this is one of council’s core functions and should not be compromised. We therefore submit to continue to move to fully funding the roading/transport depreciation at the planned increase to 24% in 2026/2027.
		4	N/A	We understand that proposed increases in all fees and charges may lead to more illegal activity, especially Project Information Memorandum (PIM) fees. We do support the user-pays approach, though, to for example not subsidising PIMs from rates. Would it be feasible to go to an hourly charging regime for LIMs and PIMs, with a minimum base charge? We are asking because for many Golden Bay properties, there is very little information on file and it seems unfair for everyone to pay the same amount, when many Golden Bay files are easy and fast to prepare. With regards to compliance fees, could we please ask that enforcement officers can record their time based on the breakdown of the various costs that are being charged? For example, with regards to dog registration costs, there are three types of charges: urban, rural, and working dogs. The reason for asking is that we feel that fees for working dogs are set too high and support the approach to cap the fees at a certain number of dogs. Without knowing how much enforcement time is spent on working dogs, it is hard to know whether the charging approach is fair, though. The aim is to apportion fees where they get incurred, rather than increasing fees by 7% across the board.

35364	Allan Sims	2a	N/A	I am a Tasman District ratepayer writing to make a formal submission on the Draft Annual Plan 2026/2027. The message from ratepayers could not be clearer: we cannot afford another rates revenue increase of 9.9% (plus 7% hikes to most fees and charges) on top of cumulative rates increases exceeding 31% over the last three years. Ratepayers do not have unlimited funds. Households and businesses are already buckling under cost-of-living pressures, and yet Council continues to treat us as an endless cash tap. Council proudly claims it has “identified savings and efficiencies” to cap the average rates revenue increase at 9.9% instead of 11.2%. These so-called savings — rephasing capital works, slowing depreciation funding for roading assets, freezing non-critical recruitment, minor organisational tweaks, and bringing a few consulting services in-house — are abysmal. In any normal business facing $320 million in forecast net debt, such cosmetic, incremental cuts would be laughed out of the boardroom. They do not represent genuine fiscal discipline. The only reason Council can get away with presenting these as meaningful relief is because ratepayers have no choice — we cannot take our business elsewhere or refuse to pay. This is not leadership; it is bureaucratic complacency dressed up as prudence. Even more misleading is Council’s repeated emphasis on the 9.9% average rates revenue increase. The fine print reveals the truth Council is hiding from ratepayers: actual increases vary dramatically by location and services received, hitting many households far harder. Examples from Council’s own consultation document show: • Murchison residential properties facing 13.28% • Motueka residential properties facing 12.99% (approximately 13%) • Richmond residential properties facing 11.09% Touting 9.9% while large parts of the district are slugged with 11–13%+ increases is deceptive and erodes trust. Ratepayers deserve the full, unvarnished picture, not a smoothed average that masks the pain for real families and businesses.Compounding the unfairness is Council’s continued reliance on capital values (CV) to set rates. This system rests on the absurd premise that because a property’s GV has ballooned due to inflation and market forces, the owner can magically “afford” higher rates. I purchased my property more than 30 years ago for $180,000. Its current CV is now around $1.6 million purely because of inflation — not because my income or ability to pay has risen in line with that paper gain. This has zero connection to rates fairness or affordability. It punishes long-term residents who bought decades ago and simply stayed put. It is an outdated, blunt instrument that has no place in a modern rating system when households are already at breaking point. Council’s net debt is forecast to hit $320 million by the end of 2026/27 — $14 million higher than originally planned in the 10-Year Plan. At this level of indebtedness, the priority must be have-to-haves only: core infrastructure maintenance, roading, water services, and essential safety. All non-essential spending must be deferred or cancelled. In particular, every dollar of proposed capital and operating expenditure on community facilities in Tapawera, Wakefield, and Motueka must be stripped from this Annual Plan and placed before all Tasman District ratepayers via a binding referendum at the next local elections. These are not “have-to-haves”: • The Motueka Community Pool (proceeding to design, 0.16% rating impact this year / $204k, with indicative ongoing operational costs of $862k pa and a total project cost widely viewed in the $20–30m range).

				• The Wakefield (Waimea South) Community Hub (0.03% rating impact / $45k this year, ongoing ~$408k pa). • The Tapawera Community Hub (currently proposed to pause but still carrying a 0.02% rating impact if revived, ongoing ~$156k pa). A luxury $30m pool in Motueka is simply not essential when debt is soaring and basic services are strained. Ratepayers across the entire district — not just the immediate communities — will foot the bill through higher rates and more debt. The only fair and democratic solution is to let every ratepayer vote on whether they support these projects and the rates burden that comes with them. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor, in particular, must show real leadership. Enough with the incremental “efficiencies” and creative accounting. It is time to confront the reality: we have reached the absolute limit of what ratepayers can bear. Council must stop these repeated double-digit increases, slash non-essential spending, and focus ruthlessly on debt reduction and core services. I therefore request that Council: 1. Reject the 9.9% rates revenue increase (and the far higher increases faced by many wards) and instruct staff to deliver a genuine low-single-digit plan focused solely on essential services. 2. Immediately remove or defer all capital and operating expenditure on the Tapawera, Wakefield, and Motueka community facility projects. 3. Commit to a district-wide binding referendum on any future discretionary community facilities at the next local body elections. 4. Abandon the capital-value rating model in favour of a fairer, more affordable system and prioritise debt reduction over non-essential projects. Ratepayers have been patient, but patience is exhausted. Affordability must come first. I urge Council to listen and act before adopting the final plan in June 2026. Thank you for the opportunity to submit. I wish to speak to my submission at the hearings.

35367	R N Hellyer	2b	N/A	I submit that the lack of attention given to the concerns of Motueka and Moutere Valleys residents by Council Riverworks staff is, I believe, is appalling. An independent investigation into this is justified with recommendations accepted and applied. I wish to be heard on this submission.
35369	Peter Verstappen	0	4	I think we should expect frequent major weather events, so it's prudent to plan for the need to pay for more than just the 2025 events. I think charging by capital value is the most equitable option.
		2a	N/A	I urge the Council to continue the community facilities projects. They add minimally to the rates increases and will bring strong social and financial returns on the investment. To be the 'thriving resilient Tasman' of the Council's vision we need thriving resilient communities, and communities thrive best when they have facilities adequate to their needs and future expectations. As a member of the Waimea South Community Facility Charitable Trust, my particular interest is the Wakefield community hub project. For decades Wakefield has been under-invested by Council, to the point where our existing village hall is both a financial and safety liability, beyond reasonable cost of upgrading, and no longer fit for the purposes of a modern community experiencing strong population growth. To pause the Wakefield hub project at this time would risk five years of investment on the part of both the community and the TDC, stifle our well-advanced community fundraising strategy and threaten to 'kick the can down the road' in the forthcoming review of the long term plan, leaving Wakefield facing a future with no viable community facility in sight. I challenge Council to explain its estimate of $408k annual operating costs for the Wakefield Hub. Our Trust's business plan for the hub calculates annual operating costs between $167k in year one, rising to $324k in year five, with the expectation that the hub will generate revenue to cover a substantial portion of the operating costs. This information has been made available to Councillors and Council staff.
		3	N/A	My preference is to not slow funding for depreciation. The proposed slowing offer short-term gain for longer term pain.
35377	Tasman & Districts Community Council	2a	N/A	Tapawera & Districts Community Council supports a pause on the proposed Tapawera Hub project at this time. Further, we do not support the proposed hub plan in it's current form. We recognize the potential loss of the DIA funding, but feel strongly that the community is not in a position to make decisions or comment on the desirability, or not, of the hub. There are: - no up-to-date projections of operating costs - no indications of staffing resources - no up-to-date list of who or what the proposed hub will cater for - no list of which activities are no longer planned to be included, etc. - It's unclear whether commercial entities will be able to operate from it. We note that the artists impression of the proposed hub currently being circulated includes the words 'Op Shop' on the building, despite TDCC, as operators of the Op Shop, writing to the steering committee making it clear that the Op Shop will not be moving from our own site. We have serious misgivings about the depth of knowledge within the community, and in the fallibility of the information being offered in justification, upon which folk are forming emotionally-based opinions, rather than being able to use sound facts. Whilst the community is divided, and drowning in misinformation, it would seem prudent to wait until properly

				informed consultation has taken place. The project remains in the LTP, which allows time and resources to re-look at the project with up-to-date information.
35378	Able TAS Kids	2a	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE Summary below: Submitter is a long-standing resident of Wakefield, and local representative for Tasman young people living with physical disabilities, and is on the Wakefield Hub Steering Committee. The establishment of a suitable community facility in Wakefield is well overdue, and fundamental to enhancing the lives of our vulnerable popula ons here in Waimea South (and beyond). Suitable facilities, places and programs for our disabled Tamariki and Rangatahi to participate in sport and recreation on are woefully inaccessible and underdeveloped in our region. Submitter wishes to speak to her submission
35381	Stephanie Bryant	0	1	Target visitors to NZ with coming to our beautiful part of NZ. Tourist visitors tax
		1	N/A	Putting aside money for increase in running cost. Increase it! Focus on sewerage.
		2a	N/A	Motueka swimming pool is wonderful. BUT what happen's when they empty the pool into our failing infrastructure! Over load plus. Priority first infrastructure!
		2b	N/A	Use what ever funds available to investigate sewerage treatment options for 50yrs into the future. Let's not pass this problem on to our children! i.e Raglan in Waikato
		3	N/A	Don't slow depreciation for road in our area! Plan saving. Make sure to keep up depreciation on sewerage. Ok let's make more permeable spaces on properties for water (rain) to soak into. Not into storm water
		4	N/A	Older people should not be paying for younger fit able working people to use facilities. More user pay? Libraries can be opened more days not less
35382	Trish Palmer	0	3	With NZ currently attracting a weather event every eight days, according to the Insurance Council, it seems reasonable to assume that Tasman will take our turn again quite soon. With TDC's cupboards currently pretty bare, and forecast to be so for the next decade, it seems prudent to specifically create this particular pot. Continuing the current fiscal claw-back cycle is unavoidable, but to dismiss creating any reserve only puts more stress on future council budgets. Govt funding for weather event recovery is under increasing pressure also, and cannot be expected to get TDC out of the mud. $10 per month is not unreasonable, and whilst it won't provide a huge reserve, it will help relieve future pressures. Any increase in rates hurts, but the hard truth is that damaged infrastructure impacts lives dramatically. TDC must be able to afford weather event recovery, for community well-being.
		1	N/A	Tapawera has a recycling facility for glass, plastics and cans. Whilst it can get a little messy, overall it's a great addition to the village, and saves landfill space. However, there is nowhere for greenwaste, and many folk have to drive the 30km's+ to dispose of green waste (assuming they have a suitable vehicle). What would it cost to provide a green waste option in Tapawera? Perhaps TDC should work with TDCC to come up with a plan to provide a low-cost solution, being careful to resolve issues around security, other dumping and vermin control. Look for a local solution to a local problem.
		2a	N/A	Motueka Pool must go ahead, the social and health benefits are important to community well-being. For folk needing the pool, getting to Richmond pool via public transport is often not a viable option. I challenge Councilors to test that out, imagine you are impaired, have a young family, or need to fit it around employment. Motueka community worked hard for decades for this pool; please don't let them down now. The Wakefield Hub is timely, with a thriving community that needs to have a multipurpose building suitable for events and activities as proposed. The existing hall is incapable of fulfilling this purpose, sadly, with no prospect of converting it to a suitable facility. However, it is not as urgent as the Motueka Pool. Please pause the proposed Tapawera Hub project for now. The community is divided. Pushing ahead can only widen the gap, leaving many feeling bullied. Proponents of the proposed hub claim that there have been many opportunities to have a say, but how can folk have a well-informed opinion with so much misinformation provided by polarised factions? Getting clear answers from the proponents has been difficult, and distrust compounded through publicly misquoting i.e. I

				discovered that a part-sentence from my submission to TDC's LTP was quoted on Tapawera Connect's website as 'proof' that I supported the proposed hub. The 'quote' was out of context, and posted without my consent. The community does need a space; indeed, over the past couple of years the Tapawera Community Centre was a thriving community hub, hosting several organizations and with high foot traffic, augmented by food carts and groups working together, in a challenging space. It's closure is temporary, with renovations seeking to resolve a range of issues. TDCC already has work in progress, with a replacement Op Shop due to open shortly, thanks to the community getting in behind the project and, in just 8 weeks, donating the funds and materials required. Local problem, local solution, with no TDC or grant funding for the Op Shop sought. In addition, clearing out the main building is already underway in preparation for renovation. This is what Tapawera is capable of when a positive transparent atmosphere is created. DIA funding shouldn't be a driver; emotional blackmail is not a healthy way forward for Tapawera. Let us all go and have a cuppa, take a deep breath, and have proper conversations; then, if a new hub is the conclusion, just watch how Tapawera can make it happen.
		3	N/A	This feels like kicking the can down the road; at some point this may bite.
		4	N/A	Dog registration: I don't understand why two families living as neighbors pay different fees for their non-working dogs, based on their property size. Dog registration replacement discs: $5 can't possibly recover the fees for admin, staff time, postage, and the actual disc. It's a small expenditure recovery stream, but why not double the fee to $10? New library books: $1.50 for borrowing a new book is irritating. I am more likely to have a $2 coin on me than the correct change. Book prices are increasing, so holding the new charge fee means it's taking TDC longer to recover the price of that book. Book charges are contentious, but we library users have to play our part.
35388	Hardyards Water Delivery	4	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE Summary below: The submitter seeks a review of the way water is charged for Bulk Potable supply to households. We ask the council consider the significant variance between the cost Tasman DC imposes as opposed to other Regional Authorities and the impact this has on our rural communities. Many of our customers have no or limited reticulated supply options and no alternative options and water is an essential for daily living. The submitter seeks that the Council considers: • Treating the Bulk Potable Delivery operators as a different class of user than ordinary bulk users. • Charging the Bulk Potable Delivery operators a lessor rate than ordinary commercial users. We would seek something more in line with other Regional Authorities at the current urban rate and a nominal premium for example 10 -20%. The submitter wishes to speak at the hearing via teleconference.
35395	Neighbourhood Support Top of the South	1	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE Summary below: There is an opportunity for Council to secure this connection through a partnership with TSNS as in other parts of the country. TSNS can provide Council with a trusted, established community network that reaches directly into neighbourhoods. A partnership with TSNS represents an efficient and cost-effective use of Council resources. TSNS already has over 3,000 addresses in Tasman, however the true reach is hard to quantify as many groups include members not signed up to TSNS but connected to their neighbours through WhatsApp or other means. If an emergency message was sent out through TSNS this would be shared by the street contact to other members. Given the emerging pattern of constant weather events impacting our region, TSNS would like to build a stronger connection with Tasman District Council. It is acknowledged that there is an overall proposed rates increase of 9.9%, however, understanding that weather events are also increasing and enabling the Tasman community to be better prepared and connected when the next event hits is crucial.

35396	KMB for the Heritage Wharf Restoration Group	2a	N/A	We have no comment on the community facilities mentioned. However, we propose that the restoration of the heritage stone wharf in Motueka be included in the 2026-27 Annual Plan. SEE ATTACHED FILE requesting a funding contribution towards the restoration of the Motueka Heritage Wharf
35408	Rachel Moffit	0	4	I understand the weather event last year isn't going to be the only '100 year flood' we're in for. Our neighbouring council has had to fund the August 2022 floods, which feels like yesterday. I think it's important to continue preparing for these events as if they are inevitable. However, putting the same increase on everyone will put more pressure on those living week by week. There's no simple answer, and there are challenges with all options, but option 4 seems the most sustainable.
		2a	N/A	I'm writing this as a Tapawera resident. I also work alongside the community through Tapawera Connect, so I see both the day to day reality of living here and the practical side of running programmes, supporting people locally, and trying to bring services into Tapawera. A simple example is something like hairdressing. We don't have a hairdresser in Tapawera. Having a space available could create an opportunity for someone to offer that service locally, even on a part time or visiting basis. For some people, especially those with limited mobility, that's not just a convenience, it's about being able to look after themselves. It's about dignity and independence. That's just one example, but it highlights a bigger issue. If we don't even have a space to support something that simple, it raises the question of what else Tapawera locals are missing out on. I understand why this project might not go ahead right now. There are bigger pressures, some confusion in the community, and limited funding. I don't think anyone expects a decision like this to be simple. What I do want to say is that the need hasn't gone anywhere. We still don't have a space in Tapawera that is accessible, safe, and able to be used flexibly by different groups at the same time. We are constantly working around that. It affects seniors groups, youth activities, whānau support, and visiting services. Things still happen, but it is harder than it should be. My concern isn't just about whether the hub happens now or later. It's about what message gets sent if it is paused. This has been talked about for a long time. If it stops without a clear next step, it will feel like the end of it, especially with the loss of the $500k funding from the Community Led Development Programme. Tapawera still needs a community space. If it's not this version right now, there still needs to be a way forward. It should feel like progress is continuing, not being put aside. I would really encourage Council to be clear that this is not the end of the project, even if the funding or timing doesn't work right now. Giving the community that confidence matters. From where I stand, this is not about pushing for a building at all costs. It's about making sure the conversation doesn't stop and that we keep working towards a solution that fits Tapawera.
35413	Alcohol Healthwatch	4	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE Yes - refer attached submission recommending an alcohol licensing fees bylaw made under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fee-setting Bylaws) Order 2013
35424	John Wendelborn	1	N/A	To the CEO, Mayor and Councillors of Tasman District Council I am making this submission in my personal capacity as a Ratepayer in the Tasman District. I own and reluctantly pay rates on our home [REDACTED] I wish to speak to my submission. 1. Firstly, I am disappointed in the format and style of the questions in the 'Consultation' documents as they are miss-leading, biased and are not genuine in seeking true feedback from the community. 2. The Annual Plan documents are misleading, true costs have been omitted and there are no indications as to how the Council's finances are tracking for 2025/2026. 3. The Council must stop treating Ratepayers as an endless source of funds, especially as the Council are not prudent

				or responsible with their spending. 4. I ask that the Councillors demand that the CEO tighten the spending in all areas before seeking more money from us Ratepayers. We have affordability issues and the Council continue to pay staff more and increase staff benefits while we must cut costs to survive. 5. Reduce staff numbers and reduce staff benefits. According to the TDC website, staff get "Great Pay and perks, awesome benefits, medical insurance, more time off, flexible work options and FREE 24/7 support". The staff are being paid with money we can't afford to pay. 6. I would like to see a reduction in rates as we don't get value for money, at the very worst, a ZERO % increase would be acceptable and achievable. Councillors, CEO and staff need to use the existing budgets in the long term plan as maximum spending for this year and look to reduce spending in every line. 7. TDC has not reduced it's spending in a cost-of-living crisis. 8. I think spending $641K on new computers on top of the $1.5 million in the last 2 years is irresponsible and wasteful. I suggest all the spending on the computers should be deferred without impacting levels of service. 9. Defer spending of $439K on new vehicles, this can be achieved without affecting levels of service. The CEO in a recent Council meeting stated that 'to reduce costs, 2 council vehicles have been sold'. There is no justification for the Council to buy new vehicles at this time.
				10. Professional Fees in the Annual Plan account for $10.4 Million and have increased 14.5%. I ask that Councillors reduce the budget for Professional Fees to 100K per month to save $7.89m from the budget in Year 3 of the LTP, this will not affect any core levels of service. 11. Employees benefits have risen by 23% from the Year 3 budget in the LTP, I suspect that the real increase is higher. Ratepayers are cutting costs, staff benefits also need to be cut. Removing the medical insurance subsidies and benefits for the employees will save $3.9m from the Annual Plan without affecting levels of service on core council business 12. Funded depreciation 'expenses' are an accounting entry, these can be removed without affecting levels of service. Once TDC gets its borrowing under control, replacement funding of roading will become easier. 13. Net interest costs will also reduce if TDC reduces spending. 14. The 9.9% proposed rise is not accurate, 50% of Ratepayers by 'value' will pay more than the 9.9% and the presentations showing 27/28 rates increases of 10.8% have not been published. I suspect that the number of Ratepayers seeing an increase of more than 10% will be more than half, given the capital value distributions in the region. 15. TDC can easily find $12.2 million of savings to keep the rates at current levels without affecting levels of service. 16. TDC already takes $2.35m from our community every week and I don't think we get value for money. The Council needs to 'make do' with this exceptional amount of money. We need to keep our money to pay for food, fuel and electricity. 17. Lifting fees and charges is predatory behaviour in the current financial climate, Council has already achieved higher revenue than budgets at the current levels. Keep the fees at current levels as this money must come from us Ratepayers also. This only impacts approximately $1.5m of revenue. 18. Reverse the proposed charges of $30 per property file for Ratepayers, it has been free and should remain so. The majority of other Councils do not charge Ratepayers for their own information.
				19. Defer or cancel Motueka Pool, this is now budgeted at $22.1m after a further 10% increase. The 10 year cost is approximately $35m excluding inflation and interest. This will run at a loss, and while the community have raised some funds, this will barely cover the first year's running costs. If the community can raise $22.1million, TDC should support it but the council should not be in the business of granting wishes to a small portion of the community and force the repayment obligations on the rest of us.

				20. Cancel the Tapawera Hub, a significant portion of the community have been very vocal in their resistance to this project. 21. Cancel the Wakefield and Brightwater Hubs. At $13.7m this cost is not justified for the small catchment area. Wakefield has an existing building which is still usable. 22. Cancel Murchison Hub, $5.5m is ridiculous, especially as Murchison already has a massive community building. 23. Cancel spending $2.4m on a 'play area' in Saxton Park as that is wasteful. Saxton Park is in Nelson City Council area and already has good facilities. I'd rather see $2.4 million reduced from the rate revenue. 24. The total budgeted for Motueka Pool, Wakefield hub, Murchison hub, Tapawera Hub, Saxton Park is $46,400,000 excluding GST, interest, inflation and running costs. Over 10 years these will total $73 million excluding inflation and interest. This all adds to debt that TDC should not have. 25. I reject completely the proposed Recovery Rate, TDC had insurance and Government funding which should pay for this. Any shortfalls can be reallocated from the Rivers or capital projects budgets. 26. Council must reduce borrowing and start making plans to repay capital. The LTP has net debt ballooning to $451m by 2034. Adding the extra borrowing planned for the next two financial years will see $0.5 Billion in net debt by 2034 for our small ratepayer base. The interest costs alone make up 20% of the rates or one new swimming pool each year. 27. To put this in context, the inflation rate increase in the year ending March 2026 is 3.1%. https://www.rbnz.govt.nz/monetary-policy/about-monetary-policy/inflation 28. UK Council tax (Rates) are controlled by Central government and capped at 4.99% unless approved, NZ should adopt this principal to control the excessive increases and uncontrollable spending
35426	Motueka Community Board	1	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE Summary below: The Motueka Community Board provides the following priorities and advocacy points for consideration in the Tasman District Council Annual Plan. These priorities reflect ongoing feedback from the Motueka community and the Board's commitment to supporting sustainable growth, resilient infrastructure, and strong community representation within the Motueka Ward. The Board seeks to ensure that local perspectives continue to be recognised in Council planning and decision making.
		2a	N/A	Motueka Aquatic Centre The Motueka Community Board continues to strongly support the development of the Motueka Aquatic Centre. This project remains a key community aspiration and the Board will continue to advocate for its progression as an important recreational, health, and community wellbeing asset for the Motueka Ward.

35429	Gary Polwart	1	N/A	To the CEO, Mayor and Councillors of Tasman District Council I am making this submission in my personal capacity as a Ratepayer in Tasman District. I reside and reluctantly pay rates on the Property at [REDACTED] I wish to speak to my submission. 1. Firstly, I am disappointed in the format and style of the questions in the 'Consultation' documents as they are leading, biased and are not genuine in seeking true feedback from the community. 2. The Annual Plan documents are misleading, true costs have been omitted and there are no indications as to how the Council's finances are tracking for 2025/2026. 3. The Council must stop treating Ratepayers as an endless source of funds, especially as the Council are not prudent or responsible with their spending. 4. I ask that the Councillors demand that the CEO tighten the spending in all areas before seeking more money from us Ratepayers. We have affordability issues and the Council continue to pay staff more and increase staff benefits while we must cut costs to survive. 5. Reduce staff numbers and reduce staff benefits. According to the TDC website, staff get "Great Pay and perks, awesome benefits, medical insurance, more time off, flexible work options and FREE 24/7 support". The staff are being paid with money we can't afford to pay. 6. I would like to see a reduction in rates as we don't get value for money, at the very worst, a ZERO % increase would be acceptable and achievable. Councillors, CEO and staff need to use the existing budgets in the long term plan as maximum spending for this year and look to reduce spending in every line. 7. TDC has not reduced it's spending in a cost-of-living crisis. 8. I think spending $641K on new computers on top of the $1.5 million in the last 2 years is irresponsible and wasteful. I suggest all the spending on the computers should be deferred without impacting levels of service. 9. Defer spending of $439K on new vehicles, this can be achieved without affecting levels of service. The CEO in a recent Council meeting stated that 'to reduce costs, 2 council vehicles have been sold'. There is no justification for the Council to buy new vehicles at this time. 10. Professional Fees in the Annual Plan account for $10.4 Million and have increased 14.5%. I ask that Councillors reduce the budget for Professional Fees to 100K per month to save $7.89m from the budget in Year 3 of the LTP, this will not affect any core levels of service. 11. Employees benefits have risen by 23% from the Year 3 budget in the LTP, I suspect that the real increase is higher. Ratepayers are cutting costs, staff benefits also need to be cut. Removing the medical insurance subsidies and benefits for the employees will save $3.9m from the Annual Plan without affecting levels of service on core council business 12. Funded depreciation 'expenses' are an accounting entry, these can be removed without affecting levels of service. Once TDC gets its borrowing under control, replacement funding of roading will become easier. 13. Net interest costs will also reduce if TDC reduces spending. 14. The 9.9% proposed rise is not accurate, 50% of Ratepayers by 'value' will pay more than the 9.9% and the presentations showing 27/28 rates increases of 10.8% have not been published. I suspect that the number of Ratepayers seeing an increase of more than 10% will be more than half, given the capital value distributions in the region. 15. TDC can easily find $12.2 million of savings to keep the rates at current levels without affecting levels of service. 16. TDC already takes $2.35m from our community every week and I don't think we get value for money. The Council needs to 'make do' with this exceptional amount of money. We need to keep our money to pay for food, fuel and electricity. 17. Lifting fees and charges is predatory behaviour in the current financial climate, Council has already achieved higher revenue than budgets at the current levels. Keep the fees at current levels as this money must come from us Ratepayers also. This only impacts approximately $1.5m of revenue.

				18. Reverse the proposed charges of $30 per property file for Ratepayers, it has been free and should remain so. The majority of other Councils do not charge Ratepayers for their own information. 19. Defer or cancel Motueka Pool, this is now budgeted at $22.1m after a further 10% increase. The 10 year cost is approximately $35m excluding inflation and interest. This will run at a loss, and while the community have raised some funds, this will barely cover the first year's running costs. If the community can raise $22.1million, TDC should support it but the council should not be in the business of granting wishes to a small portion of the community and force the repayment obligations on the rest of us. 20. Cancel the Tapawera Hub, a significant portion of the community have been very vocal in their resistance to this project 21. Cancel the Wakefield and Brightwater Hubs. At $13.7m this cost is not justified for the small catchment area. Wakefield has an existing building which is still usable. 22. Cancel Murchison Hub, $5.5m is ridiculous, especially as Murchison already has a massive community building. 23. Cancel spending $2.4m on a 'play area' in Saxton Park as that is wasteful. Saxton Park is in Nelson City Council area and already has good facilities. I'd rather see $2.4 million reduced from the rate revenue. 24. The total budgeted for Motueka Pool, Wakefield hub, Murchison hub, Tapawera Hub, Saxton Park is $46,400,000 excluding GST, interest, inflation and running costs. Over 10 years these will total $73 million excluding inflation and interest. This all adds to debt that TDC should not have. 25. I reject completely the proposed Recovery Rate, TDC had insurance and Government funding which should pay for this. Any shortfalls can be reallocated from the Rivers or capital projects budgets. 26. Council must reduce borrowing and start making plans to repay capital. The LTP has net debt ballooning to $451m by 2034. Adding the extra borrowing planned for the next two financial years will see $0.5 Billion in net debt by 2034 for our small ratepayer base. The interest costs alone make up 20% of the rates or one new swimming pool each year.

35430	Franca Morani	1	N/A	Form submission - See Submission ID 35429
35431	Peter Radford	1	N/A	Form submission - See Submission ID 35429 This amount of debt will be unaffordable for all but the richest of ratepayers, what then Council ? The options from there look very grim.
35441	Paul Martin	1	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE Summary below: The submitter argues the Council must urgently shift to long-term climate resilience planning, including retreat/relocation from infrastructure made unviable by sea-level rise and avoiding further low-lying housing development that will drive up future costs. He proposes five linked actions: (1) create a permanent local Extreme Weather Response Fund co-run by Council and a Charitable Trust (seeded via rates and supplemented by donations), and if rate-funded, use capital value rather than a flat charge; (2) adopt long-term flood waste and silt strategies (pre-negotiated contracts, reuse of silt, mulching debris), expand river/upland rewilding and "green infrastructure," and introduce volumetric water charging for high-volume users to fund treatment upgrades; (3) improve service delivery efficiency via mobile/static community hubs for resilience, review/close non-viable assets, pause growth-driven development, and implement a roading hierarchy including lower-carbon options and decisions on roads no longer maintained; (4) pursue phased amalgamation with Nelson City Council starting with shared back-office functions and a 2027 referendum, moving toward full amalgamation by 2030 with strong local boards; and (5) lobby central government for an ACC-style, permanent national climate resilience fund funded by levies and Crown contributions to support mitigation and recovery nationwide.
35460	Robert Robinson	0	1	
		2a	N/A	I am opposed to the proposal to build a new community center in Wakefield at a cost of over $10,000,000 with an operating cost of over $400,000 per year. The existing village hall is vastly underutilized and I don't believe it is realistic to assume that just because we have a new, flash venue that there will be a big increase in demand for it. I feel that it would be more prudent to put this venture on hold to see how we are managing the debt we have already incurred. R J Robinson
35463	Jonathan Waddy	0	4	
		2a	N/A	I support the continuation of the Motueka Pool project. Having lived in Motueka for the last 10 years and seen the increase of population it is obvious the Pool project is needed and well overdue. Any further deferral of the project would be a false economy and impact the fund raising achieved to date
		2b	N/A	I support continuation of the Motueka Pool
35465	Ross Loveridge	2a	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE The Motueka Aquatic Centre community facility project must progress.
35467	Hendrik Vermeer	0	2	Hi, Simply i would love to recommend no 4 but simply do not trust the staff at TDC to look after our money Wiseley.
		1	N/A	To have insurance on infrastructure, so that future weather events are covered by insurance and not the rate payer
		2a	N/A	I would prefer unessential projects to be paused, this will safe us money on contractors that are building the project but also reduce staffing wages and consultation fees
		3	N/A	Roading should be a priority for this region, our roading infrastructure has been neglected for to long, a major upgrade in the regions roading network is required, to cope with increase demand due to the increase of urban sprawl, heavier trucks, more truck movements, but also heavier passenger EV Vehicles.
		4	N/A	yes i do, A 10% increase for the 2nd year and likely again next year, is going to have a major impact on residence, there are currently over 500 houses on the market a majority of these residence are looking at relocating as the rates are now at a unaffordable rate, Our council needs to rain in its staff out of control spending, for example the TDC key staff (Leading staff whom are in charge of departments) these guys spent $52k a year on a cocked breakfast very Friday morning, a grand a week

				waisted on packed breakfast for staff, come on, these guys have a decent salary and do not require rate payers money for a breakfast. Staff numbers need to decrease, as multiple staff members take books to work to read in the afternoon, as they are bored due to lack of work to do, TDC needs to be less reliant on external consultants, a round about is a roundabout, why does every single round about or section of road works need to be consulted, our current roading consultants need a kick up the arse, how many times have we had to do something twice, not long ago for example the new busses couldn't go around certain roundabouts or got stuck on pedestrian crossings, TDC needs to share information with other councils, this would safe money, [COMMENTS REFERRING TO INDIVIDUAL STAFF MEMBERS HAVE BEEN REDACTED] maybe we should as the public vote in a CEO
35468	Robert Merrilees	2b	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE Summary below: The Submitter opposes proposed changes to the 88 Valley water supply scheme (north of Wakefield), arguing they will significantly increase costs for users who only need untreated stock water and undermine the original purpose of the scheme (set up in the early 1980s as affordable untreated supply). The submitter says property owners have already faced dissatisfaction with chlorination and price rises, and that under the proposed new bulk charges, some higher-allocation farms may become uneconomic if forced onto fully treated water. The submitter notes TDC advised it would cost about $2000 to disconnect and over $300 to change a restrictor to reduce allocation, which would push owners to source alternative water and reconfigure on-farm piping. The submission claims the changes could lower property values and asks that affected users be given a free option to leave the scheme or reduce allocation, and that TDC subsidise any on-farm infrastructure changes needed to separate stock and domestic supplies. It also calls for longer-term planning (given aging pipes on private land and a proposed new main up Higgins Road) and suggests rezoning toward rural residential may be needed if potable supply makes grazing less viable, with landowners involved early in planning.
35471	Mark David Quinny	0	3	I wish to very strongly urge TDC Rivers Department to adopt a sustained program of clearing out our choked up river beds to help mitigate the ongoing colossal damage from flooding. It is just not acceptable to do nothing and 'allow the river to find its own course'. Gravel is being repeatedly swept into our rivers from collapsing banks eroded by floodwaters and it remains there in huge banks causing diversion of floodwaters onto our properties. It is of course the adjacent landowners who receive unbelievable damage to their properties from the river being unable to remain in its own course due to gravel and debris blocking up the waterway. For Quinneys Bush, we have now had our insurance cancelled due to severe flood damage from the last two events and so we are now incredibly vulnerable both financially and due to anticipated future floods. All our rivers need urgent gravel management, such as has happened at the Wai-iti Bridge where major damage to the banks occured and so the gravel in the bed was moved to the sides to provide a much clearer waterway and protection from future overflowing. This approach is the only sensible and viable approach to river management.
		2a	N/A	I wish to strongly urge the TDC to allow funding to progress the planned community facilities. The present facility, although being an historic building, requires much upgrading due to earthquake strengthening and I feel it would be better to direct funding towards a 'from the ground-up community facility.' Tapawera, being the natural hub of our rural communities, must have a fit for purpose facility which can be available for the many different organisations that would use it. Present facilities such as the local church, school hall and Druids Hall are either older buildings that would require ongoing maintenance and possible earthquake strengthening or are just not suitable due to lack of office space, cold and unwelcoming presentation or not always available due to emergencies.

		4	N/A	It is inevitable that refuse charges will continue to increase due to fuel prices and operating costs but I would like to see careful investigation into waste to energy projects and better uses for recycled materials. There are many different approaches to waste implemented elsewhere in New Zealand and overseas and I believe the same could be pursued here in Tasman. Projects such as recycled plastic being used for building materials or roading, crushed glass being used as an aggregate, cardboard being used for wood fire pellets and aluminum being recast for furniture, etc.
35476	Mary and Jim Lafrentz	2a	N/A	Community facilities are important to communities and visitors. Libraries may be the only opportunity some children and families get the opportunity to read the news, read for pleasure or for research, with no cost. It has been a pleasure to see the wide variety of use in this building at many times. Motueka Library staff are exceptional; and very helpful.
		2b	N/A	The Motueka Pool complex HAS to be carried forward and completed. Conversations have been going on since Motueka Borough joined TDC (I believe without debt) and now that TDC have secured the land for the project; onward and upwards must be the cry. Too many children cannot swim, and the large older sector of all the close communities would benefit from the exercise that can come in a pool, that does encourage healing to our bodies from an illness or accident. Also exercise keeps all humans healthy ! The Community has put in many hours fundraising, and the TDC need to recognise this energy and keep the project moving forward. This would further encourage the Fundraising Committee to continue their voluntary work.
35481	Fred Overmars	0	4	SEE ATTACHED FILE Summary below: This submission addresses the Tasman District Council Annual Plan 2026-2027, focusing on climate resilience, emissions reduction, and equitable adaptation. Key recommendations include: • Support charging the 2025 weather recovery rate by capital value rather than uniform rate, with consideration of a hybrid approach • Support establishing an ongoing Emergency Event Financial Resilience Fund beyond the initial 5-year recovery period • Oppose slowing depreciation funding for roading assets as this passes costs to future generations • Request public scrutiny of assumptions underlying the $4.8m rock repair and flood protection programme due to maladaptation risks • Propose alternative revenue mechanisms including an airport passenger climate levy.
35484	Bruce Gilkison	0	2	While imperfect, charges by capital value would be more equitable than a uniform charge. Major weather events will become more and more frequent and severe, and it will be important to establish and build funding for use in future emergencies.
		2a	N/A	Generally community facilities projects help to build much-needed community resilience. That said, many people are struggling to meet costs, including Rates. I recommend we proceed cautiously with development of community facilities, seeking alternative funding where possible.
		3	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE. I have strong views on the need for roading assets, including related assets such as cycleways, to be developed in ways that will enable Tasman District to achieve (i) safe, affordable mobility and (ii) net zero emissions by 2050. I have uploaded a file in this regard.
		4	N/A	Where feasible, full recovery of charges should be levied on developers and on sources of pollution.
35490	Joanna Leyland	0	3	Likelihood of more frequent, severe events would suggest its better to build up a fund from now that helps address impact so am inclined towards a higher contribution from now.
		2a	N/A	Yes. Include the Tapawera Hub in this year's Annual Plan. See file and table of those in support of my submission.
35505	88 Valley Rural Water Supply Committee	4	N/A	The 88 Valley Rural Water Supply Committee proposes a tiered charging system for users supplied through restrictors when the scheme is joined to the urban water 'club'. We also propose measures to improve future resilience of the scheme.

				This is a submission to the TDC Annual Plan as well as the LTP and any related documents relevant to the new water services entity.
35507	Helen Bro	0	2	What happens to this if and when there is another major storm, as forecast for this winter. Do you just add more? I am very concerned about the potential cost. And concerned about the poor subsidizing the better off residents.
		2a	N/A	All Community projects must be put on hold and the money used for core facilities such as storm and sewage facilities. The community cannot absorb more costs, especially after the Waimea Dam overrun of multi millions. Do the essentials.
		2b	N/A	No money for the Motueka community pool. I would love the pool, but we cannot afford it. No money for Saxton Park.
35516	Wakefield Community Council	2a	N/A	The Wakefield Community Council (WCC) submits its strong and unequivocal support for the immediate progression of the Wakefield Community Hub. We call on Tasman District Council to move beyond further delay and make a clear decision to deliver this project. For more than 25 years, Wakefield has experienced sustained and significant growth. This has not been incidental—it has been enabled through ongoing residential development. That growth continues, with further subdivision consents already granted. Yet the social infrastructure required to support this expanding population and community has not kept pace. This imbalance is no longer acceptable. The current Wakefield Hall is no longer fit for purpose. It is in a deteriorating condition, with well-documented structural, functional, and accessibility limitations. It does not meet the needs of a modern community, nor does it provide a safe, inclusive, or adaptable space. Continued reliance on this facility is neither practical nor responsible. The community has done everything asked of it—and more. Over many years, Wakefield residents have engaged constructively and consistently through formal consultation processes, public meetings and direct engagement. The message has been clear, and consistent,: Wakefield needs a purpose-built community hub, located on an accessible site that serves the widest possible cross-section of residents. What is increasingly difficult to accept is the continued delay in moving from consultation to delivery. Ongoing indecision is eroding confidence and signalling that sustained, good-faith community engagement does not result in action. The Wakefield Community Hub is not a “nice to have”—it is essential social infrastructure. It will provide a flexible, multi-use space supporting community events, youth initiatives, local groups, social services, and recreational activities. It will strengthen social cohesion, support wellbeing, and reflect the identity and future of Wakefield as a growing and vibrant community. The absence of such a facility is already being felt. From a financial perspective, this is one of the most compelling and efficient projects before Council: • 4-to-1 Funding Leverage: A Council investment of $2.1M unlocks $8.9M in external funding. This level of leverage is exceptional and reflects the extensive work already undertaken by WCC and the wider community to look to secu.
35521	David Young	0	1	
		1	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE. There is no indication of active cost cutting within the TDC's administration. Refer to my submission
		2a	N/A	Tis is not the time to expand expenditure.
		3	N/A	Stop building new housing developments along roads never designed to even carry even current population. Do not defer maintenance.
		4	N/A	We personally have undertaken considerable expenditure to better storm proof our current property. We have minimised the drainage run-off from severe weather events by extensive riparian planting our land to mitigate extreme effects. We are not at all keen on paying a super tax as well.
35524	Neisha Kindley	2a	N/A	IN SUPPORT - of progressing the community facility in Wakefield I am a Tasman ratepayer and life-long resident of Wakefield, and parent of 3 children, all raised in Wakefield.

				I have witnessed how living in a rural community, is more difficult for our Waimea South kids and families to participate in a range of sports and recreation due to travel distances to the main sports facility in the region (Saxton) It is vital that we keep up the momentum after so much time and effort has been invested by our community already. Pausing the project would risk loosing momentum and dividing the community. I don't believe we would be able to get back to this current position, where we have a strong and united community, with significant volunteering energy, notwithstanding sponsorship and donor interest. We need this investment for our growing community who continue to face the challenges of rural life, yet this should not excuse the missed opportunities, and unequal access to activities, fun, friends, and facilities. Our community need and deserve this investment and the time is right - now. With the recent recapitation of Wakefield School, we now have a cohort of intermediate-aged kids who will be educated in our community school, prolonging their time in our community. Youth engagement, participation, and well–being in our community - are all limited due to a lack of local facilities. It continues to hold-back engagement, well-being, and 'potential' being realised in our local kids. If we can effect change for our youth, it really will have an influence on generations to come.
35526	Nicholas Milne	0	3	
		2a	N/A	I would like to see the Wakefield hub developed. This would be a valued resource for the community and vital for families that currently have to travel to Richmond/Saxton to access indoor sports facilities. It would also provide a focused facility for other community uses, one which is currently absent in the Wakefield area. As Wakefield continues to grow in size and population a facility of this type will become increasingly important and utilised.
35528	Adrienne Matthews	0	1	SEE ATTACHED FILE - Submitters views is NONE OF THESE OPTIONS A blended disaster and resilience rate may be fairest None of the four options proposed by the Annual Planning document are good enough. A fairer approach may be a blended model. There should still be a district-wide contribution because the whole community benefits from recovery, access, transport links and resilience. However, there should also be a targeted component for areas or activities that are more exposed to risk or contribute to risk. This targeted component could begin modestly and increase over time, so affected communities are not suddenly hit with large costs. This would recognise legacy development, while still sending clearer signals for future decisions. I support exploring a blended disaster and resilience rate, with a general district-wide component and a targeted component for higher-risk areas or activities that contribute to risk. This targeted component should be introduced gradually and clearly signalled over time, so it is fair to existing residents while discouraging future risk.
		1	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE
		2a	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE The Annual Plan should focus first on essential services and core infrastructure, including roads, bridges, stormwater, drainage, water, wastewater, river management, flood protection, resilience and renewals. In the current financial climate, discretionary projects should be reassessed. Projects such as museum upgrades, community pools, green space upgrades, hubs, high-spec playgrounds or other non-essential improvements should be deferred unless there is a clear legal, safety or essential service reason to proceed now. This includes all the proposed community facilities projects. Council should clearly prioritise core infrastructure, maintenance, renewals and resilience ahead of

				discretionary capital projects. In a year of significant rates pressure, non-essential projects should be deferred or reduced unless Council can demonstrate they are urgent, legally required, or essential to public safety.
		2b	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE. The Capital Programme 2026/27 was not readily locatable on the TDC website and does not appear to have been clearly included in the list of supporting documents. This is a serious transparency issue. The capital programme is central to understanding the Annual Plan, particularly where Council is proposing significant rates increases, borrowing and infrastructure spending. Without easy access to the full capital programme, ratepayers cannot properly assess what projects are being funded, which are essential, which are discretionary, and whether proposed spending is justified. Council should explain why the Capital Programme was not clearly listed with the supporting documents and should ensure that future consultations include all material documents in one obvious and accessible location from the start of the consultation period. These issues undermine confidence in the consultation process. At minimum, Council should acknowledge the inconsistencies, confirm which deadline applied, explain when all final documents were made available, and improve future Annual Plan consultation processes so ratepayers have clear, complete and equal access to information before making submissions.
		3	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE. Slowing depreciation funding may reduce rates in the short term, but it does not reduce the real cost of roading assets wearing out. It simply delays recognition of that cost. Council should not use underfunded depreciation to make the Annual Plan appear more affordable unless it can clearly show that renewals, safety, resilience and future ratepayers will not be adversely affected.
		4	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE I support fees and charges being reviewed so that those who receive a direct private or commercial benefit pay a fair share of the cost. However, Council should clearly explain the basis for any increases and show whether each fee reflects actual service cost, inflation, staff time, consultant input, compliance requirements or policy choice. In particular, development, consent, inspection, monitoring and enforcement costs should be recovered from those creating the demand, rather than being shifted onto general ratepayers. Where Council chooses to subsidise a fee through rates, that subsidy should be transparent and justified. At the same time, Council should be careful not to impose unreasonable increases on community groups, not-for-profit organisations, basic public services or activities that provide broad community benefit. If fees are increasing, Council should also be accountable for service quality. Higher charges should be matched by efficient processing, clear communication, timely decision-making and transparent reporting on performance. Overall, I ask Council to ensure its fees and charges are fair, transparent, linked to actual costs, and structured so that private benefit is not subsidised by ratepayers without clear justification.
35530	Sport Tasman	2a	N/A	Sport Tasman advocate for TDC to develop a Spaces and Places strategy driven by insights. An informed strategy, based on community need and voice, that strategically shapes future decisions and investments on facilities. The opportunity is even greater with the TDC having a chance to develop an inspirational strategy for physical activity that ensures no person misses out. Respecting the economic climate and challenges, Sport Tasman advocates for physical activity investment be treated as

				essential rather than optional. The data shows that physical activity drives significant positive outcomes for society, including but not limited to Social Wellness & Community Development (reduced social isolation, social inclusion, crime prevention and cultural identity), Economic Outcomes (Workforce Productivity, Employment Generation, Volunteer Value), Public Health & Healthcare Savings (NCD Prevention, Mental Health, Infectious Disease Resilience), Environmental & Urban Benefits (Reduced Emissions, Climate Resilience) and Academic Achievement (Literacy, Numeracy and Attendance). Data shows a $2.12 value returned to society for every $1 invested in community sport in Aotearoa New Zealand. Sport Tasman supports the TDC proposal for Waimea South Facilities (Wakefield Hub). Sport Tasman supports the TDC proposal for the Motueka Pool. Sport Tasman are clear that no child should miss out on water safety training in our region. Sport Tasman advocate for the maximum TDC financial and project support. This project is a priority for the region. Acknowledging the TDC proposal for the Tapawera Community Hub, Sport Tasman advocates for the required level of community led insights to be captured as a priority so the community's needs can be understood and met.
35541	James Wren	1	N/A	Form submission - See Submission ID 35429
35544	Charla Stratford	1	N/A	Form submission - See Submission ID 35429
35547	Stephen Garnett	1	N/A	Form submission - See Submission ID 35429
35548	Sarah Priest	1	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE Summary below: To the CEO, Mayor and Councillors of Tasman District Council I am making this submission in my personal capacity as a Ratepayer and Resident in Tasman District. I reside and {reluctantly} pay rates on the Property at [REDACTED] I wish to speak to my submission. The submitter criticises Tasman District Council's Annual Plan consultation process and says the plan information is unclear and omits key financial detail (especially current-year tracking, debt, interest costs, and a payback plan). They argue Council is not being run efficiently, call for an independent financial audit/business performance review, and oppose further borrowing and large rates increases—claiming the "9.9%" figure understates impacts for many ratepayers and that larger future increases have not been fully published. They contend flood-related costs should largely be met through adequate insurance/NZTA support rather than additional rates, and they question Council's reported flood-response staffing hours and past maintenance spending. Key actions they seek: reduce staff numbers and staff "perks" (e.g., benefits/birthday leave), introduce performance-based pay for managers, cut spending on vehicles/EVs and charging costs, reduce IT/computing spend, sharply reduce "professional fees/consultants," pause or stop proposed community projects, and prioritise reducing debt and rates.
		1	N/A	Good money management practice and honest projections. I ask that the Councillors demand that the CEO tighten the spending in all areas before seeking more money from us Ratepayers. We have affordability issues and the Council continue to pay staff more and increase staff benefits while we must cut costs to survive. Net interest costs will also reduce if TDC reduces spending. 1. and 2. Reduce staff numbers and stop unnecessary staff benefits. According to the TDC website, staff get "Great Pay and perks, awesome benefits, medical insurance, more time off, flexible work options and FREE 24/7 support". It is totally unnecessary to get paid birthday leave! These 'treats' are being paid with money we can't afford to pay. From what we see - overspend and debt in TDC - these are not essentials and NOT earned. The general population does not get any perk(s) like this unless they are a private company.

				It looks like employees benefits have risen by 23% from the Year 3 budget in the LTP, I surmise that the real increase is higher. Ratepayers are cutting costs, staff benefits also need to be cut. Removing the medical insurance subsidies and benefits for the employees will save $3.9m from the Annual Plan without affecting levels of service on core council business. 1. Stop the ridiculous expenditure on IT/computing. It does not make sense, $500,000/year over the last 3 years. That would mean at least a new computer per person per year! Maintenance on new products should not be necessary as under warranty. If people are loosing them where is the accountability? What is going on here? 2. Stop recruiting expensive experts professionals. Who are they and why exactly are they needed anyway? Professional Fees in the Annual Plan account for $10.4 Million and have increased 14.5%. I ask that Councillors reduce the budget for Professional Fees to 100K per month to save $7.89m from the budget in Year 3 of the LTP, this will not affect any core levels of service.
		2a	N/A	3. STOP all 3 proposed community projects OR at least PAUSE/put them on hold. Don't spend what you don't have. Explain to the community about on going running and management cost v revenue generation being mismatched and not sustainable in the current climate. E.G. If Richmond pool runs at a loss and you have another pool in Motueka taking clientele away, reduces income, then additional running costs on Motueka pool once built -probably also be over budget and mismanaged..... need I say more, sadly. Similar illustration with all proposed projects: Tapawera, Murchison, Wakefield and Brightwater, Saxton play area. We teach our kids they can buy the toy if they cant afford it, and if it needs maintenance that needs factoring in.
35560	Joanne (JJ) Hockey	0	1	I do no support any of the four proposed options and reject the premise that ratepayers must choose between flawed models that result in an inequitable transfer of risk from the Council to private property owners without adequate consultation or site-specific science. SEE ATTACHED FILE For reasons for opposition and decisions sought from the Council
		1	N/A	I formally object to the $14.1 million proposed increase in operating expenditure as presented due to a critical lack of granular transparency and fiscal accountability SEE ATTACHED FILE for decisions sought from the Council
		1	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE Summary below: The submitter wished to raise a preliminary objection regarding the systemic failure of transparancy and fiscal accountability inherent in this process. This is a challenge to proposed rates, operating budget movements, capital programmes and council fees and charges. Submitter is formally objecting to the validity of this process based on a systemic failure in community engagement.
		2a	N/A	I oppose the progression of all of these project and seek that the Council pauses all funding for new community facilities until a 10-year Operational Expenditure forecast is provided for each project and made available for public scrutiny SEE ATTACHED FILE for reasons for opposition
		2b	N/A	I object to the exclusion of the joint ventures and minor projects from the budget tables, the allocation of $17.5m towards community development projects and the increase in flood protection expenditure requires urgent justification SEE ATTACHED FILE for reasons for opposition and decisions sought from the Council
		3	N/A	I strongly oppose this proposal SEE ATTACHED FILE for reasons for opposition and decisions sought from the Council
35563	Tasman Community Group	1	N/A	Form submission - See Submission ID 35429 This amount of debt will be unaffordable for all but the richest of ratepayers, what then Council ? The options from there look very grim.

35565	Richard Johns	1	N/A	It would be nice if we could have an open honest and transparent council.The reality is something different. Basing an election on anonymous donations sets the tone. Anonymous is the direct opposite of open and transparent and this reflects on you all. Recycling when it goes straight to landfill, and e-busses that run on diesel are just examples of dishonesty along with a 9.9% rate increase that will infact be in excess of 13 % when fees and charges are added in. I guess all Councillors must have swimming pools of their own, if not why haven't you borrowed heavily to put one in. That's what you are forcing on ratepayers. The community projects should be put on hold until TDC is in a better financial position. Without a dam these would have been possible but the reality is they aren't. The small increase this year that they cause is not representative of the flow on to future year's rates. Another anonymous moment. There is no understanding that things are very tight monetary wise for a lot of ratepayers and renters who will bear the brunt of this excessive projected rate rise. While staff are saying they are busy they don't use the words efficient , accurate and productive. I spoke and sat on on a council meeting where there were 10 to 15 staff present sitting in the gallery (obviously being busy) and not actually participating. 10 staff at $150 / hr x 3 hours equals a minimum $4500 of ratepayers hard earned money. Multiply that by 150 plus meetings per year and you have an eye watering $650,000. You are a monopoly and that is the only reason you don't go broke and the debt level is able to increase. The increase in debt and the subsequent interest (ratepayers money) just goes to off shore investors like BlackRock not kept in the district. Great. Staff admitted the use of development impact levies, and allocated but unspent money in the accounting for the debt level, this is misleading and I believe not accepted accounting practice. You may find that the debt cap is actually being breached by this dodgy accounting and it may be facilitating a criminal offence.The TDC zoom film set has the Magnificent 7, looking out for ratepayers and the rest remind me of Fawlty Towers ruling by incompetence.Why aren't you listening to those 7, why haven't they meaningful positions in the decision and policy direction, why are you following Kings ideas as they have got us into the debt crisis we are in. Are the Fawlty group really that slow in learning. It would seem so. When are the Magnificent 7 going to take control of the CEO performance committee so that change and accountability can happen and savings made.When is one of the Fawlty group going to finally wake up and put ratepayers first. I have on my phone one of the Fawlty group saying they had a "brain fade" in voting for iwi representation and then days later spent a long phone call trying to justify the vote. I wonder what Ed Hilary looking down from above is thinking. A $50.000 plus brain fade.I hold my breath that the annual plan will be a needs not wants document based on good accounting procedures resulting in ratepayers being put first and foremost. I like most people are subsidizing the buses through fuel tax, road user charges and our rates as well as road repairs caused by these over weight money eaters. 3 sources of subsidy, why aren't they user pays and routes reduced until they are viable. $8.5 million could be saved. I would like to see time and motion study of staff performance along with a forensic examination by a qualified examiner to determine the need and productivity of staff and the legality of their actions and where major savings could be made. Ecan recently did a study that showed for every $10 spent one proper river maintainance resulted in $100 of savings. This needs to be considered in the plan as it is well known than preventive maintenance is cost effective. Ratepayers are being set up to pay for past bad decisions such as reactive maintenance being an adopted policy. This must change to proactive work.Giving out sandbags rather than fixing rivers issues in the rivers is just window dressing. Rivers should be sorted before those community hubs and swimming pool are built. I believe there should be a rates cap at the rate of inflation and council live within that budget.

35571	David Ogilvie	0	2	The Generate Rate; River Works Rates; & Stormwater UDA Rate are all funded by Capital Value. (Also a resident's Insurance Premium on Capital Value). * The proposed targeted, uniform rate hurts the low value properties e.g. $3,000 Annual Rate will increase by 4.1%, $5,000 Annual Rate will increase by 2.5%.
		2b	N/A	The increase in Flood Protection/River Works is welcome, but what proportion of the $13.3m is from Govt sources? Wastewater, Stormwater, Transportation & Coastal Structures require reconsideration by the Council. They are too low, given their importance for productivity and development within Tasman District.
		1	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE for other matters
35583	Marion Satherley	1	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE Summary below: The submitter strongly opposes Tasman District Council's Draft Annual Plan 2026, arguing that current and proposed rates, fees, and debt levels are unsustainable for ratepayers. The submitter claims council finances are poorly managed, with excessive debt, large rate increases well above inflation, and inadequate scrutiny of internal costs, staffing, and procurement. Key themes include a call for rates and fees to be capped at or below CPI, a freeze on non-essential and "nice-to-have" projects, and a stronger focus on core infrastructure and essential services. The submission comments on a lack of transparency in budgets, capital expenditure, CCO performance, asset sales, and the true costs of community facilities and climate-related initiatives. The submitter urges council to reduce debt, halt discretionary spending, improve internal efficiency, hold the CEO and councillors accountable for financial performance, and treat ratepayers as clients rather than a funding source. The submitter asks that these concerns be formally recorded and addressed in decision-making.
35586	Split Apple Rock Owners Assn	1	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILES Summary below: The submitter on behalf of the Split Apple Rock Owners Association responds to Tasman District Council's 2026/27 Annual Plan and Budget consultation, asks to speak to Council, and sets out three main requests: (1) endorse and adopt Item 4 from the Marahau and Sandy Bay Residents Association submission on restoration/mitigation/land management for the Otuwhero, Marahau and Kaiteriteri catchments, noting prior correspondence about degradation of the Otuwhero Estuary; (2) undertake a comprehensive review plus regular ongoing maintenance of local drains and culverts, especially where road drainage directs water onto private property; and (3) address peak-season visitor parking congestion at Split Apple Rock by installing a visitor counter (pedestrian or vehicle) to collect accurate data, ideally operating in summer 2026/27 to inform future management and infrastructure.
35591	Marahau Sandy Bay Residents Assn	0	1	SEE ATTACHED FILE Summary below: The MSBR supports Tasman District Council's Annual Plan 2026/27 but asks Council to prioritise a number of local infrastructure, safety, and environmental resilience issues. Key requests include regular maintenance of the Otuwhero carpark, foreshore revetment, and footpath to ensure safety, accessibility (including for pushchairs), and protection from increasingly severe weather. The submission also advocates for protecting Marahau's dark sky by fitting adjustable lighting to streetlights in Newhaven Crescent. The Association raises ongoing safety concerns about the lack of a pedestrian walkway on the Marahau River Bridge and asks Council to review its priority once current district-wide storm damage remediation is complete. Finally, the submission seeks stronger Council leadership on catchment restoration, mitigation, and land management in the Otuwhero, Marahau, and Kaiteriteri catchments, particularly in relation to commercial forestry on Separation Point Granite soils. It asks Council to provide for a review of the regulatory regime and oversight of forestry practices to improve long-term climate resilience, public safety, and environmental outcomes.
35595	Joyce Grant	0	1	OPTIONS FOR A NEW RECOVERY RATE These options are based on the assumption Ratepayers agree to a 2025 Weather Events Recovery Rate. I do not agree to this therefore none of your options are preferable to me. I say no to a 2025 Wheather Events Recovery Rate.

		1 1	N/A N/A	I wish to speak to my submission. 1. PUBLIC CONSULTATION DOCUMENT: I have chosen to write my own submission because I believe there is a deffinate lack of useful and accurate budget information in the consultation document being circulated by TDC. I consider that most of the questions are focused on and worded in such a way, as to favour TDC-Staff recommendations, are biased toward leading the public to mostly comment on areas of the Short Term Plan (STP) that staff and the CEO wants us to focus on and as such, are not a genuine attempt to have open and transparent consultaion with Ratepayers and the general public. 2. ERROR in addition: I note that recently there has been an acknowledgement of error from TDC regarding some of the financial information in the Consultation Documents. I believe this could have resulted in all of this document being questionable, considering the importance for accurate information being critical for meaningful consulatation to take place, particularly since many people have already sent in their Submissions. Therefore, I feel the question needs to asked - is this Consultation still viable? The $17 million missing from the consultation document figures, and the lack of real budget information is appaulling. However, I choose to plod on in the hope my small contibution to this process may still be of some use. 3. EXTREEM WEATHER EVENT: Since it appears that TDC have not included a budget for possible "extreem weather events" in previous years budgeting (due to it being too difficult to access costs until an event happens), and have not provided us with a breakdown of insurance payouts or government subsidies received for the 2025 events, before requesting to bill us for a "guesstimated shortfall" I say No! I find it despicable that Council is expecting Ratepaters to cover a "$14.6 million shortfall" by naming it a "Recovery Cost" and asking permission to add an annual $125 fixed rate, or some other amount decided on property values when we have not been given the information mentioned above. As has already been pointed out by some councillors and in the consultation document, owning a high-value property does not always reflect the income of said property owners. Many are asset rich but cash poor, is not just a saying, it is a reality for may people living in Tasman. Just living in the same home, in the same area, for a number of years can have seen their property value appreciate or depreciate, but the income can remain the same, especially for pensioners, families, and people on fixed incomes, who are already finacially stressed. I see no justification for an additional fixed rate or a property value based rate. We all know that once another "Districtwide" amount is added to our annual rates it will never be removed and will most probably be increased every year. 4. BUDGETS: Perhaps TDC Staff and the CEO could do what we ratepaters pay them to do and make a better job of looking for ways to make budget cuts that will not cause massive funding problems to be handed on to ratepayers via TDC Rates in coming years. Their previous effort earlier this year, was abysmal and would be laughable if the situation was not so serious. After attending several Full Council meetings over recent months, it has become very obvious to me that the elected councilors are not running the council as we expect them to, they are being managed by the staff and the CEO. I see this when staff attend the meetings to present reports and information, they may have worked very hard on, but then choose to limit how much information is presented to the Council. It is good to see several councillors openly questioning staff, but very frustrating to hear staff cannot, or will not, answer these questions about their reports and presentations, often because they do not have all of the information with them and/or they will need to go away and look that up. From the public gallery this looks like one of two things, either stafff inefficiency or, attempted staff manipulation of Council. When information being given to councillors is inadiquate, not fit for purpose, or not on/in time then pressure is placed on councilors to rush business through. This is not good business practice and needs to be addressed with the staff by the CEO. If she is unable to bring staff into line with the ratepaters expectations of good governance perhaps it's time for a new CEO, prefererably one that is not given sole signing writes or a $6 million discretionary fund, from ratepayers money, to use at will.

				5. Debt: All new community Facilities and other "nice to haves" must be stopped until the existing debt is masively reduced. I believe that Tasman ratepayers are not willing to carry such high Net Debt, now or into the future and we need to know what the "real" debt is, not just the Net Debt. This is what Council accountability and transparency is about. We do not want to be responsible for continuing to accumulate debt that our children and grandchildren will need to payback. I find the Mayor's explation that "this (debt) is for things the next generations will get to use", is rediculous and shows a total lack of insight. This is our time, this is our TDC debt. What is TDC doing about paying off the loans? I can find no information that clearly shows TDC loans are being repaid BUT we are being asked to agree to more loans being added to the debt. This is not accpetable budgeting. The millions earmarked for non-essential commumity projects and hubs, extending the Great Taste Trail and bridges, providing more cycleways, tampering with Richmond and small towns with cycleways, low speed zones and traffic claming projects is just "playing" in areas most Tasman residents do not want . These toys are too expensive leave them out of the budget until debt is under control. Instead, use this to money to lower rates or, for essential works only, or toward funding depreciation to help keep that on track, or pay off a loan principal. I say, no new loans. 6. Sell more "assets". If the so called TDC assests are not making profits that can help offset Rates it must be time to access the fiability of keeping them. Sell more Emission Trading Scheme carbon credits. Wake up and smell the roses folks. Sell them while you still can.

		3	N/A	BUDGET CHANGES: Slowing the funding of depreciation for roading network and increasing the fees and charges by 7% are not acceptable budget changes. The first will result in even higher rates next year, the second is just another way of increasing our Rates bills. Tasman rate payers are already paying the wages for staff and this should include staff providing information, and other services free to ratepayers. Ratepayers should always have free acces to their own property information that is being held by TDC. All ther charges are already exorbitant.
35597	Federated Farmers	0	1	SEE ATTACHED FILE, Recommendation copied below: Federated Farmers supports the Targeted District-wide Recovery Rate. We favour Option 1 – a uniform rate of $125 for 5 years to repay the costs of the 2025 weather events only.
		4	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE, Recommendations copied below: That Council strives to keep increases in fees and charges within the rate of inflation and justifies the overall 6.9 % increase projected for 2026/27. That the registration fee for working dogs should be half that for a category 2 dog and that the total fee should be capped at 5 dogs.
		1	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE Summary below: The submitter supports Tasman District Council's Draft Annual Plan 2026/27 but raises significant concerns about affordability, rates equity, and transparency for rural ratepayers. They argue that proposed rates and fee increases exceed inflation and place disproportionate pressure on farmers, whose incomes are not reflected by property capital values. The submission calls for tighter expenditure control, greater use of targeted rates and the Uniform Annual General Charge, and consideration of a general rate differential to reduce inequities for high-capital rural properties. Federated Farmers supports a targeted, district-wide recovery rate to fund June–July 2025 extreme weather recovery costs (a $125 uniform charge for five years), but emphasizes this should be a one-off measure. They also seek improvements to river management and rating systems, limits on fee increases (including reduced registration fees for working dogs), and continued priority for rural roading and infrastructure recovery. The submission concludes by outlining broader proposals for local government reform to improve efficiency, scale, and resilience.
35601	Bruce Struthers	0	1	I do not agree with any of the proposed methods to fund rates recovery. The Waimea Dam is currently funded by irrigators who directly benefit, and ratepayers within the putative Zone of Benefit. A uniform fee imposed on all rating units is inherently unfair, as not all payers will benefit. If any recovery fee is to be levied, it should be imposed on land owners within the catchments contributing to the flooding, using capital value as a proxy for the stormwater runoff from their land. I sympathise with the affected homeowners and business owners, but they chose where they live and run businesses. They are also responsible for understanding the risks they assumed, and acquire adequate insurance coverage to address any damage. I, too, received during the two storms, paid the insurance premiums beforehand, absorbed the excess, filed the claims, and received (inadequate) compensation. Tasman District and its ratepayers cannot be put in the position of being the insurer of last resort for this, or any future and inevitable natural disaster. The District is an infrastructure service provider, not an insurance company, or a lender to developers desiring a subsidy from District borrowing from LGNZ.
		1	N/A	Operating budget movements. Cut, cut, cut unnecessary spending ruthlessly. At this point in time, with none of the impacts of the oil shortage and indeterminate length of the Iran war known, the only path forward is to stop all discretionary spending. The second order effects of decreased revenue from the Port and Airport exacerbate the critical nature of the imminent economic decline. Freeze all hiring. Eliminate any unfilled position which is currently carried by another employee in an "acting" capacity, as that employee will need to shoulder the load. The inability of a hiring manager and the human resources organisation to attract qualified candidates in an unfilled position should not be rewarded by keeping the door open for the perfect match. The Digital Innovation Programme will not have multigenerational benefits. The implementation will likely be obsolete before the programme is completed, and require another refresh.

				Technology changes, continually, and adaptation to change has been a fact of ICT life since the first software and electronic hardware were created. The complexity (and current budget overruns in the Harakeke Customer Relationship Management implementation) is a fact of operational life. As was stated in 2021 in "A Blueprint for Tasman's Digital Future" by the then CIO:"Information Technology doesn't need to be difficult". Nor should it be hard to deliver. If TDC is five years into a ten year digital blueprint with little but a shift from physical hardware to cloud computing, (commercialised by Amazon.com in 2002; I was there), project management is the problem that accounting as capital expense will not solve. The Digital Innovation Programme should either be accounted for as a normal operating expense, or stopped, revisited for actual operational requirements, and rescoped
		1	N/A	SEE ATTACHED FILE Summary below: The submitter is highly critical of Tasman District Council's financial management, governance, and transparency. The submitter offers some operational efficiency suggestions, including pooled fleet management, increased use of EVs, shared procurement through LGNZ, greater competition among cloud/ICT providers, stricter controls on staffing and consulting arrangements, and careful use of AI to reduce headcount.
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		2a	N/A	Progressing or pausing the community facility projects The full Council has received considerable feedback in public forums from community members directly affected by the community facility projects. There are no surprises, and the logic remains the same. The "quick poll" results will indicate who cares, how much, enough to point a browser to a web page and make a few clicks. If the residents wanting these facilities are also willing to sign up for targeted rates to pay for these facilities, and the budgets of well-managed projects will cover the cost, go crazy. Otherwise, face the same economic reality as the rest of the country, and pause any project that is not a necessity to health, life, and safety.It would be extremely helpful if survey authors included all community facilities projects under consideration, whether they are hidden in Saxton Field or not. It does not matter if Nelson is willing to contribute a dollar to any shared community facility; Tasman cannot afford any more.
		2b	N/A	Changes to the capital programme Borrowing to finance the Digital Innovation Programme should immediately stop, and this project moved from a capital expense to an operational expense.Plan Change 81 has not been presented for consultation, and has been "tweaked" to include restrictions on buildings to accomodate the affect of noise on residents. The December 11, 2025 full council meeting considered a proposal to require sound insulation in new builds close to traffic, because: "6.1 NZTA research indicates that the health and social costs of road traffic noise exposure in New Zealand are substantial, measured in millions of dollars annually. Acoustic insulation and ventilation requirements add only 0–2% to building costs, representing a highly cost-effective measure to avoid these impacts. 6.2 No significant impact on Council budgets; costs are borne by developers/owners". The thought of preventing the hazard, such as keeping cars off the road and not allowing greenfields development, had not occurred to this Environmental Planning Policy Manager. The Māpua Masterplan was adopted over predominant opposition by residents, because it was in the 10 Year Plan and too many influential developers had made speculative land purchases. The Māpua Masterplan was stealthily snuck into Plan Change 81 with no resident consultation in the October, 2025 meeting of the full Council, while councillors were looking to be re-elected or find their next job.Plan Change 81 has not been submitted for consultation. The scope is not defined so the budget cannot be

				defined. The housing market that was supposed to justify the need for new houses and development has tanked and there are hundreds of homes for sale in Tasman. Until there is certainty in the real estate market, fuel prices, inflation and the economy, there is no choice but to immediately pause all capital projects intended to enable growth throughout the District. In particular, please immediately pause or better, cancel, all projects contained within programe 1646, the Māpua Ruby Bay Infrastructure Programme. The status of this programme in September 2025 was: "This programme is yet to be fully initiated, it includes projects that aim to improve water services in the Mapua and Ruby Bay area". [SEE ATTACHED FOR A TABLE OF PROJECTS]
		3	N/A	Slowing planned funding of depreciation for roading assets. I have no opinion, other than to echo Councillor Paul Morgan's statement: That is just kicking the can down the roadKicking the can far down the road may make it invisible, but the can remains, and is likely to grow and get heavier the farther it is kicked. This is an ostrich strategy, not a plan, and should be compared to how NZTA funds depreciation of its larger roading network
		4	N/A	Changes to Council's fees and charges Council staff has not adequately explained why they deserve more money than any other service or product supplier. Increases in charges should not exceed inflation. Any organisation that wants to exploit inflation changes to justify a money grab should be put out of business, or have a complete change of management to address foreseeable economic conditions

Business Case

Wakefield Community Hub

Prepared By: Waimea South Community Facility Charitable Trust
For: Tasman District Council | 2026

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Executive Summary

The Wakefield Community Hub represents a landmark opportunity to deliver a self-sustaining, high-performance community asset for the Tasman region. This business case presents a operational model that prioritises fiscal responsibility, community equity, and long-term asset preservation.

The Hub is anchored by a 24/7 Fitness Centre as its primary revenue engine, supported by a professionally managed Function Room, Sports Hall, and clinical-grade Meeting Space. At full capacity (Year 5), the facility projects total revenue of $456,056 against operating expenditure of $304,324, generating an annual pre-loan surplus of $151,732. The business case proposes a loan repayment structure of $105,000 per annum deferred to Year 3, under which the Hub draws on cash reserves built in Years 1 and 2 to meet obligations through to Year 5.

The total capital cost is estimated at $11,200,000, funded through a $6,600,000 TDC reserve fund contribution, $2,500,000 in community fundraising, and a $2,100,000 rates payback loan. The business case proposes interest-free loan repayment terms over 20 years with repayments deferred to Year 3, giving the Hub two full operating years to build a cash reserve before debt servicing begins. These terms are subject to Council approval.

Key Financial Indicators at a Glance

- **Total capital cost:** $11,200,000 (preliminary estimate, subject to QS confirmation)
- **Break-even capacity:** 28% of target utilisation — the facility achieves solvency at very low activity levels (pre-loan repayment)
- **Year 1 surplus:** $41,696 at 40% capacity (held as cash reserve toward loan obligations from Year 3)
- **Year 5 surplus:** $151,732 at 100% capacity (pre-loan). Post-loan: $46,732 — covered by Year 1–2 cash reserve
- **Sinking fund:** 2.5% of annual revenue quarantined each year for asset preservation

> Loan repayment strategy: The $2,100,000 rates payback loan is recommended at 0% interest / 20 years, deferred to Year 3. Repayments of $105,000/yr are comfortably covered by Year 3–5 pre-loan surpluses. Years 1–2 surpluses are held as a cash reserve providing additional buffer. See Section 2.3.

1. Project Background and Strategic Need

The Wakefield Community Hub is a proactive response to a rapidly shifting demographic and environmental landscape. As Wakefield transitions into a key residential growth node, community infrastructure must evolve to ensure social cohesion, safety, and universal accessibility across all generations.

1.1 Futureproofing for Growth and Education

- **The Youth Gap:** Expansion of Wakefield School to include intermediate-level students creates urgent demand for “Third Spaces” safe, modern environments for after-school study, coding clubs, and indoor sports.
- **Belonging through Participation:** A permanent home for youth-led initiatives ensures young people grow up with a tangible sense of ownership in their community.

1.2 Breaking Barriers: Localised Professional Services

- **Localised Specialist Access:** The Multipurpose Meeting Room can be utilised by visiting physiotherapists, occupational therapists, mental health practitioners, and other health professionals as needed. For larger group clinics and health screening days, providers can also access half the Function Room at a subsidised rate, enabling population-level health services to operate locally without the need for residents to travel to Richmond.
- **Reducing Transport Poverty:** Hosting visiting podiatrists, hearing clinics, and health nurses ensures elderly and disabled residents access vital care without the logistics and cost of long-distance travel.
- **Inclusive Design:** Sensory-friendly lighting, ramped entries, and high-spec accessible facilities ensure the Hub is genuinely inclusive not just code-compliant.

1.3 Supporting an Aging Population with Dignity

- **Health and Longevity:** A professional venue for mobility classes essential for balance and fall prevention.
- **Combatting Isolation:** A central “Village Living Room” provides warm social connection, preventing the mental health decline associated with rural isolation.

1.4 Civil Defence Resilience

The 2019 Pigeon Valley fires and subsequent flooding events exposed a critical gap in local emergency resilience. The Hub directly addresses this:

- **Modern Welfare Centre:** Built to current seismic and safety standards with commercial kitchen capacity and large-format spaces for displaced residents and emergency crews.
- **Resilient Anchor:** A centralised coordination point when roads are cut, equipped for emergency communications and welfare operations across the Waimea South area.

1.5 Creating a Sense of Belonging

By placing services, sports, arts, education, and culture under one roof, the Hub breaks down the barriers separating community groups. The design encourages accidental interaction and shared identity — from a fitness member crossing paths with a sports team to an elder joining a community class.

2. Capital Cost and Funding Structure

The estimated total capital cost to design, construct, and fully fit out the Wakefield Community Hub is $11,200,000 (NZD). This figure is based on preliminary estimates and will be refined through a formal quantity surveying process prior to final Council approval.

2.1 Project Cost Breakdown

Cost Component	Estimated Cost (NZD)	Notes
Construction & Structure	$8,500,000	Indicative estimate
Fitness Centre Equipment Fit Out	$450,000	Commercial-grade gym
Commercial Kitchen & Function Spaces	$600,000	Commercial-grade gym
Accessibility & Facility Fit Out	$750,000	Ramps, sensory lighting
Contingency (12%)	$900,000	Industry standard
TOTAL	**$11,200,000**	

All cost figures are preliminary estimates only. A formal QS report will be commissioned ahead of construction procurement.

2.2 Proposed Funding Structure

Funding Source	Amount (NZD)	% of Total
Reserve Fund Contribution (TDC)	$6,600,000	59%
Community Fundraising & Donations	$2,500,000	22%
Rates Payback Loan	$2,100,000	19%
TOTAL PROJECT COST	**$11,200,000**	**100%**

Reserve Fund Contribution — $6,600,000 (60%)

The Council's primary contribution is drawn from reserve funds, reflecting the Hub's status as essential public infrastructure. The Waimea South Community Facility Charitable Trust is prepared to work alongside TDC to help mitigate risk, acting as a conduit to the community and community groups.

Community Fundraising & Donations — $2,500,000 (22%)

A structured fundraising campaign demonstrates local commitment and strengthens grant applications. The strategy includes a named donor programme for key spaces with personalised and corporate sponsorship as central components of that strategy philanthropic outreach to the Nelson-Tasman business community, and exploration of development contributions from residential growth. Potential grant sources include Sport NZ Community Facility Fund, Lotteries Commission, Ministry of Social Development, Rata Foundation, and Nelson-Marlborough regional funds.

Rates Payback Loan — $2,100,000 (19%)

A rates payback loan of $2,100,000 completes the capital structure, to be serviced from the Hub's operational surplus. The business case proposes interest-free repayment terms over 20 years, deferred to Year 3, subject to Council approval.

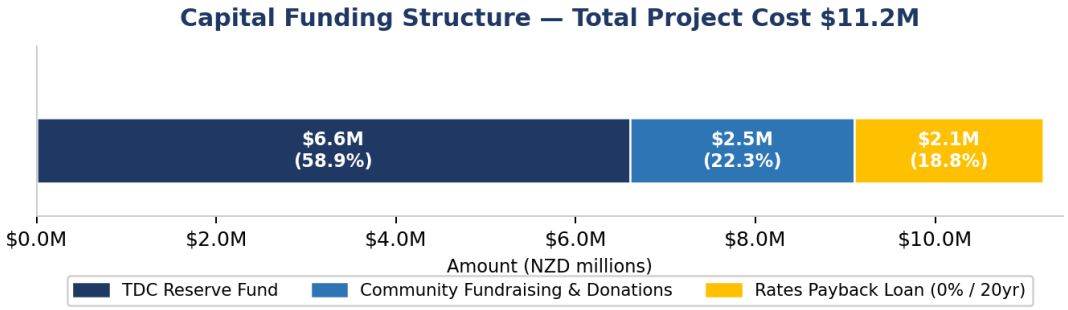


Figure 3: Capital Funding Structure

2.3 Loan Repayment Analysis

The recommended loan structure is an interest-free rates payback loan of $2,100,000 over 20 years, with principal repayments deferred until Year 3. This gives the Hub two full operating years to build a cash reserve before debt servicing begins.

Loan Terms	Annual Repayment	5yr Total Paid	Impact on Year 5 Post-Loan Surplus
0% / 25 years	$84,000	$2,100,000	Exceeds Year 1 surplus
0% / 20 years	$105,000	$2,100,000	Exceeds Year 1 surplus
0% / 15 years	$140,000	$2,100,000	Exceeds Year 1 surplus
0% / 10 years	$210,000	$2,100,000	Exceeds all year surpluses

Under the proposed interest-free / 20-year structure, the Hub will hold all Year 1 and Year 2 pre-loan surpluses in a dedicated cash reserve. Annual repayments of $105,000 from Year 3 are comfortably covered by the Year 3–5 pre-loan surpluses, with the Hub returning to a strong cash-positive post-loan position in Year 5.

3. Revenue Model

Revenue is projected using a Bottom-Up methodology with use-case specific rates applied to each space. A 15% churn/vacancy adjustment is applied to Fitness Centre membership revenue to ensure conservative projections. The TDC annual contribution of $45,000 *(to be verified by Council)* is treated as a fixed operational grant.

3.1 Five-Year Revenue and OPEX Projection

	Yr 1 (40%)	Yr 2 (60%)	Yr 3 (80%)	Yr 4 (80%)	Yr 5 (100%)
Total Revenue	$209,422	$291,634	$373,845	$373,845	$456,056
Total OPEX	$167,726	$186,336	$281,717	$294,017	$304,324
Surplus (pre-loan)	**$41,696**	**$105,298**	**$92,128**	**$79,828**	**$151,732**
Loan Repayment (0% interest / 20yr, deferred to Yr3)	—	—	**$105,000**	**$105,000**	**$105,000**
Surplus (post-loan)	$41,696	$105,298	($51,362)	($63,662)	**$46,732**
Surplus Margin (pre-loan)	19%	35%	23%	20%	32%

Note: All figures exclude loan repayment obligations. See Section 2.3 for loan impact analysis.

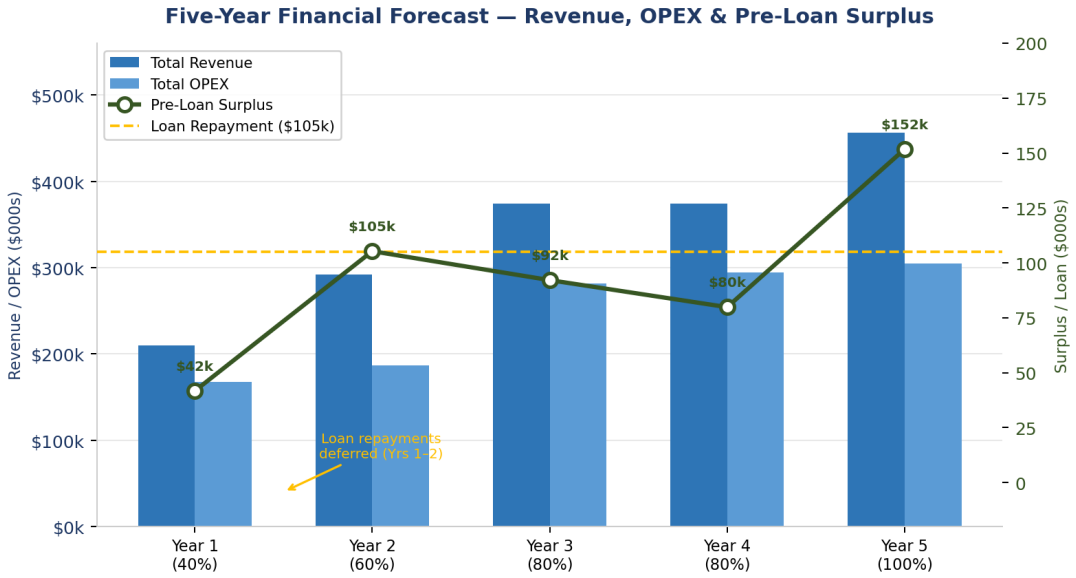


Figure 1: Five-Year Financial Forecast — Revenue, OPEX and Pre-Loan Surplus

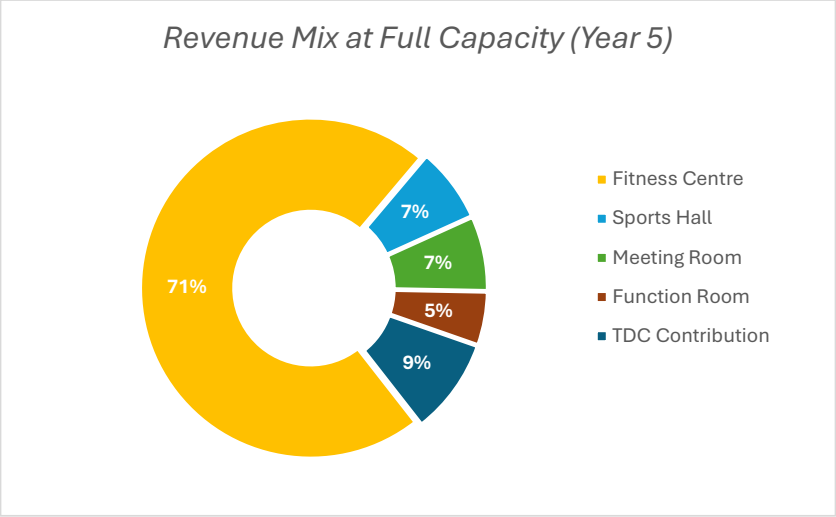


Figure 2: Revenue Mix at Full Capacity (Year 5)

3.2 Revenue Sensitivity and Break-Even Analysis

The model demonstrates the Hub achieves operational solvency at just 28% of target utilisation providing a substantial safety margin above the Year 1 target of 40%.

Scenario	Revenue	Total OPEX	Surplus	Margin
Break-Even: 28% capacity	$124,020	$123,301	$720	~1%
Year 1 Plan: 40% capacity	$209,422	$167,726	$41,696	19%
Year 3 Plan: 80% capacity	$373,845	$281,717	$92,128	24%
Yr 5 Break-Even: 65% capacity	$293,139	$292,828	$311	~0%
Year 5 Plan: 100% capacity	$456,056	$304,324	**$151,732**	**33%**

> All sensitivity figures are pre-loan repayment. Under the proposed 0% interest / 20-year terms ($105,000/yr from Year 3), break-even thresholds increase accordingly. The 40% Year 1 target provides a $41,696 buffer above break-even before proposed loan obligations commence.

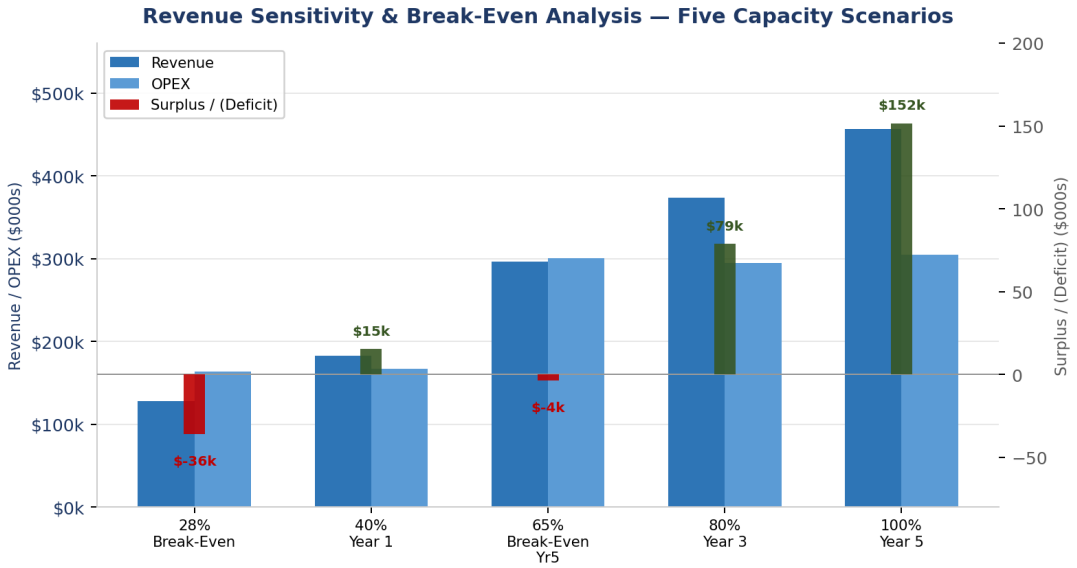


Figure 4: Revenue Sensitivity and Break-Even Analysis

3.3 Bar and Kitchen — Future Revenue Opportunity

The Wakefield Community Hub includes a commercial-grade kitchen and bar facility, built to food-safe and licensed premises standards. This infrastructure opens a meaningful additional revenue stream that has been deliberately excluded from the financial model at this stage. The reason is straightforward: the bar and kitchen can be operated under several different models, each with different cost, staffing, and licensing implications, and the right structure is best determined by the management once the facility is operational and the pattern of use is established.

The principal operating models under consideration include: a hub-employed bar manager who operates the bar during events and approved sessions; a hire-out model where hirers take full responsibility for bar service under their own licence or a temporary authority; a preferred supplier arrangement with an external catering or hospitality operator who pays a venue fee and retains bar revenue; and a BYO policy for private functions where no bar service is provided by the hub. Each model carries a different risk and revenue profile. A bar manager model maximises revenue capture but introduces a staffing cost and requires a on-licence. A hire-out or preferred supplier model removes operational complexity from the hub entirely and provides predictable income. A BYO or dry-hire approach is the simplest to administer and carries no licensing liability.

The financial model presented in this business case is intentionally conservative: it demonstrates that the Hub is self-sustaining without any bar or kitchen revenue. Any income generated through this facility is therefore upside, it strengthens the surplus position and accelerates the hub's ability to build reserves and reduce loan obligations, but the Hub does not depend on it. The hub will assess operating models during Year 1 and bring a recommendation to Council prior to committing to a licensing structure.

The kitchen also serves a non-revenue function that warrants recognition. As noted in Section 1.4, the facility is designed to serve as a Civil Defence welfare centre, and the commercial kitchen is a critical component of that capability. This function does not depend on which bar model is selected and will operate regardless of licensing decisions.

4. Operational Expenditure

The business case proposes the operating costs are modelled through a lean structure with deliberate phasing to match revenue growth. The specific operational and employment structure will need to be agreed with TDC as part of the governance decisions for the Hub. The two most significant cost movements in the model are the staffing scale-up at Year 3 (the primary driver of the profit dip in Years 3–4) and the repairs and maintenance ramp from Year 1 through Year 5 as warranties expire.

4.1 Key Cost Principles

- **Staffing honesty:** Staffing is modelled at 50% in Years 1–2 (part-time/contract manager) scaling to 100% at Year 3. This $75,000 step-up is the primary cause of the reduced surplus in Years 3–4, not warranty expiry as noted in earlier drafts.
- **Maintenance cliff:** Repairs & Maintenance is deliberately ramped from 5% of the $35,000 baseline in Year 1 to 100% by Year 5, reflecting the expiry of building and equipment warranties. This is explicitly modelled and funded through the sinking fund.
- **Sinking fund:** 2.5% of annual revenue is quarantined each year into an asset preservation fund, accumulating from $5,185 in Year 1 to $11,275 in Year 5.
- **Inflation protection:** A 2.5% CPI adjustment is applied to total OPEX each year, growing from $4,090 (Year 1) to $7,419 (Year 5).

5. Community Wellbeing and Social Equity

The Hub is designed as a “barrier-free” environment ensuring every resident — regardless of age, ability, or income — has access to essential services and a genuine sense of belonging.

5.1 Subsidised Community Uses

Several uses are deliberately offered at subsidised or below-market rates as a community policy decision:

- **Physiotherapy & clinical health:** Healthcare providers hire the Multipurpose Meeting Room for regular clinical sessions at $28/hr (Volunteer/Community rate). For larger group clinics (e.g. visiting specialists, screening days), providers may hire half the Function Room at $18/hr (Volunteer Half Function Room rate). A conservative estimate of 4 such sessions per year contributes $288 per annum in additional revenue.
- **Community organisations and high-use groups:** Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) will be negotiated with regular high-use community groups including community theatre, sports clubs, and arts/culture organisations, to agree rates appropriate to their community role. The intent is to support groups that provide ongoing public benefit at rates below the published hire schedule, while ensuring the Hub’s cost recovery is maintained. MOU terms will be reviewed annually by the management.
- **Youth programmes:** Homework clubs, youth drop-in, and holiday programmes are charged at community rates ($26–$32/hr) to remain accessible to families.
- **School curriculum use:** Indoor PE and school assemblies are accommodated at community rates, recognising the Hub’s role as an extension of Wakefield School’s infrastructure.

5.2 Disability and Elder Services

- Utilising the meeting room for visiting physiotherapists, podiatrists, occupational therapists, and mental health practitioners.
- Seniors’ mobility classes and group fitness programmes tailored for balance and fall prevention
- Private quiet spaces for counselling in a non-clinical, familiar village setting.

- High-spec accessible bathrooms, changing facilities, and sensory-friendly design throughout.

6. Risk Mitigation and Governance

The Waimea South Community Facility Charitable Trust is well-placed to support TDC in the project management of the Hub, acting as a conduit between the Council, the community and community groups. The governance structure, including the allocation of operational responsibilities and risks, should be discussed between the Waimea South Community Facility Charitable Trust and TDC before the Hub opens.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation
Loan repayment stress	High	High	Proposed terms: 0% interest / 20yr deferred to Year 3. Subject to Council approval. Final approval should not proceed until terms are formally agreed.
Gym membership below target	Medium	High	15% churn buffer built in. Facility is solvent at 28% capacity. TDC grant provides floor.
Community fundraising shortfall	Medium	Medium	Named donor programme + grant strategy. Construction not to commence until fundraising threshold is met.
Construction cost escalation	High	Medium	12% contingency included. QS review at each design gateway. Fixed-price contracts where possible.
Staffing at full operation	Low	Medium	Modelled at 50% in Yrs 1–2, scaling to 100% at Yr3 when revenue supports it.
R&M maintenance cliff (post-warranty)	Certain	Medium	Explicitly modelled: R&M ramps 5%→100% of $35,000 over 5 years. Sinking fund accumulates from Year 1.

6.1 Governance Structure

- **Asset ownership:** Tasman District Council owns the building and land.
- **Operational responsibility:** The governance and operational structure will be decided by the TDC with feedback from the Waimea South Community Facility Charitable Trust as a conduit to the community prior to opening.
- **Council liability:** Limited to capital contribution ($6,600,000) and loan guarantee ($2,100,000). Operational underwriting to be determined by the TDC through the governance agreement.
- **Performance accountability:** The Hub governance reports annually to Council against agreed KPIs covering financial performance, utilisation rates, and community outcomes.

Conclusion

The Wakefield Community Hub is a high-performance, multi-generational asset with a robust self-sustaining financial model. The business case demonstrates operational solvency from Year 1, a 28% break-even threshold that provides substantial headroom, and a Year 5 pre-loan surplus of $151,732. The proposed interest-free loan repayment structure (0% / 20 years deferred to Year 3, subject to Council approval) is fully manageable through the strong Year 3–5 pre-loan surpluses.

The model is built on fiscal honesty: conservative revenue ramp-up, explicitly modelled maintenance costs, a funded sinking fund, and a deliberate staffing scale-up timed to revenue growth. The business case proposes interest-free loan repayment terms over 20 years deferred to Year 3, and recommends Council adopt these terms when approving the project.

The Wakefield Community Hub is a commitment to every resident of Waimea South, from intermediate students to elderly residents ageing in place, ensuring they have a safe, inclusive, and financially resilient community home for generations to come.

APPENDICES

Financial Analysis Supporting Data

Appendix A1: Revenue Working Data by Space

This table details the revenue calculation for each activity, showing hours, rate applied, and annual revenue. Rates reflect the three-tier pricing structure (Corporate, NFP, Community/Volunteer). Subsidised rates for health and community uses are deliberate policy decisions. All figures are at 100% capacity (Year 5 steady state) before the 15% fitness centre churn adjustment.

Data integrity notes: (1) All room hire rates are now linked directly to the three-tier Pricing Structure. (2) Theatre productions: 4 events × $3,360 = $13,440. Rate covers 72 total hours per production (6 rehearsal days × 6hrs + 6 performance days × 6hrs). (3) The gym base of $364,000 is used in the 5-year projection; the full fitness subtotal of $367,648 includes seniors and adult classes not carried through the ramp-up model.

Space	Activity	Audience	Hrs	Weekly	Sessions p.a	Total Hrs	Rate	Days	Revenue
Fitness Centre	General Fitness	Community	24	7	-	-	$14/member/wk	365	$364,000
Fitness Centre	Senior mobility	Seniors	1	2	-	96	$18/hr	12	$1,728
Fitness Centre	Adult group training	Adults	1	2	-	96	$20/hr	12	$1,920
							SUBTOTAL	**365**	**$367,648**
Function Room	School assemblies	School	1	-	6	6	$40	0.75	$240
Function Room	School productions	School	3	-	3	9	$40	0.38	$120
Function Room	School prize-givings	School	3	-	3	9	$40	0.38	$120
Function Room	Tai Chi / Yoga / Other	Public	4	3	576	144	$18	18	$2,592
Function Room	Dance & drama	Youth	2	2	192	108	$16	12	$1,728
Function Room	Sports Prize Giving	Community	3	-	3	9	$40	1.13	$360
Function Room	Theatre productions	Community	72	-	4	288	$3,360	36	$13,440
Function Room	Arts exhibitions	Community	4	-	3	12	$28	0.5	$336
Function Room	Weddings	Private	8	-	32	4	$1,200	4	$4,800
Function Room	Private Functions	Private	8	-	24	3	$600	3	$1,800
Function Room	Conferences	Corporate	4	-	8	2	$900	1	$1,800
					854	**596**	**SUBTOTAL**	**77**	**$27,624**
Sports Hall	Indoor PE	Students	1	-	12	12	$28	1.5	$336
Sports Hall	Tournaments	Schools	8	-	2	16	$40	2	$640
Sports Hall	Science fairs	Students	16	-	2	32	$28	4	$896
Sports Hall	Youth fitness	Youth	1	1	48	48	$32	6	$1,536
Sports Hall	Youth drop-in	Youth	2.5	4	61	246	$32	32	$7,872
Sports Hall	Holiday programmes	Youth	6	5	72	360	$40	30	$14,400
Sports Hall	Sports training	Community	2	2	12	24	$28	3	$672
Sports Hall	Martial arts	Adults/Youth	2	1	12	24	$18	3	$432
Sports Hall	Community Markets	Community	4	-	3	12	$28	1.5	$336
Sports Hall	Community Sport	Community	2	4	96	384	$28	48	$10,752
					320	**1158**	**SUBTOTAL**	**131**	**$37,872**
Meeting Room	Physiotherapists	Public	4	1	48	192	$28	24	$5,376
Meeting Room	Podiatry & hearing	Seniors	8	-	1	8	$32	1	$256

Meeting Room	Counsellors	Public	2	2	96	192	$18	24	$3,456
Meeting Room	Nutritionists	Public	2	1	48	96	$18	12	$1,728
Meeting Room	Homework clubs	Youth	2	2	96	192	$26	24	$4,992
Meeting Room	Community hire	Community	2	4	96	384	$32	48	$12,288
Meeting Room	General hire	Business	2	-	144	288	$28	36	$8,064
					529	**1352**	**SUBTOTAL**	**169**	**$36,160**
TDC Contribution	Annual operational grant	Council	—	—			Fixed	—	$45,000
							TOTAL REVENUE		**$456,056**

Appendix A2: Operating Cost Assumptions

This table details each cost line, showing the low and high estimate range, Year 1 and Year 5 budgeted amounts, and the basis for each figure.

Cost Item	Low	High (Used)	Yr 1	Yr 5	Notes
Staffing (Manager)	$80,000	$150,000	$75,000	$150,000	50% Yrs 1-2, 100% Yr3+
Cleaning (Contract)	$18,000	$22,000	$22,000	$22,000	$400/wk
Insurance	$15,000	$20,000	$20,000	$20,000	Bldg/liability/assets
Rates / Fixed Levies	$6,000	$10,000	$10,000	$10,000	Utility levies
Audit & Accounting	$3,500	$3,500	$3,500	$3,500	Annual audit
Software / Subscriptions	$2,500	$5,000	$5,000	$5,000	Gym mgmt + Xero
Security	$2,500	$4,000	$4,000	$4,000	24/7 access system
Sinking Fund	2.5% rev	2.5% rev	$5,185	$11,275	Asset preservation
Electricity / Gas	$15,000	$20,000	$8,000	$20,000	40% Yr1, 100% Yr2+
Basic R&M	$10,000	$35,000	$1,750	$35,000	5%→100% over 5 yrs
Gym Equipment Maint.	$3,000	$5,000	$250	$5,000	5%→100% over 5 yrs
Marketing	$2,500	$4,000	$4,000	$4,000	100% from Yr1
Consumables	$2,000	$3,500	$3,500	$3,500	100% from Yr1
Waste Management	$2,400	$3,500	$1,400	$3,500	40% Yr1, 100% Yr2+
CPI Adjustment (2.5%)	—	~$7,400	$4,090	$7,419	Applied to total OPEX
TOTAL OPEX	**$162,400**	**$292,638**	**$167,726**	**$304,324**	

Appendix A3: Five-Year Financial Projection (Full Detail)

This table presents the complete year-by-year financial projection, showing the phased ramp-up percentage applied to each revenue and cost line, with annual totals and surplus margin.

All figures have been independently verified and reconcile to the cent against source spreadsheet data. Total OPEX and Profit/Loss figures vary by at most $1 across all years due to rounding — not calculation errors.

	%	Year 1	%	Year 2	%	Year 3	%	Year 4	%	Year 5
REVENUE										
Fitness Centre	40%	$145,600	60%	$218,400	80%	$291,200	80%	$291,200	100%	$364,000
Churn Adjustment (15%)		($21,840)		($32,760)		($43,680)		($43,680)		($54,600)
Function Room	40%	$11,050	60%	$16,574	80%	$24,336	80%	$24,336	100%	$27,624
Sports Hall	40%	$15,149	60%	$20,928	80%	$27,904	80%	$27,904	100%	$37,872
Meeting Rooms	40%	$14,464	60%	$18,770	80%	$25,027	80%	$25,027	100%	$36,160
TDC Contribution	100%	$45,000	100%	$45,000	100%	$45,000	100%	$45,000	100%	$45,000
TOTAL REVENUE		**$209,422**		**$291,634**		**$373,845**		**$373,845**		**$456,056**
FIXED COSTS										
Staffing (Manager)	50%	$75,000	50%	$75,000	100%	$150,000	100%	$150,000	100%	$150,000
Cleaning	100%	$22,000	100%	$22,000	100%	$22,000	100%	$22,000	100%	$22,000
Insurance	100%	$20,000	100%	$20,000	100%	$20,000	100%	$20,000	100%	$20,000
Rates / Levies	100%	$10,000	100%	$10,000	100%	$10,000	100%	$10,000	100%	$10,000
Audit & Accounting	100%	$3,500	100%	$3,500	100%	$3,500	100%	$3,500	100%	$3,500
Software / Subs	100%	$5,000	100%	$5,000	100%	$5,000	100%	$5,000	100%	$5,000
Security	100%	$4,000	100%	$4,000	100%	$4,000	100%	$4,000	100%	$4,000
Sinking Fund (2.5%)	2.5%	$5,185	2.5%	$7,215	2.5%	$9,245	2.5%	$9,245	2.5%	$11,275
Total Fixed		**$144,685**		**$146,715**		**$223,745**		**$223,745**		**$225,775**
VARIABLE COSTS										
Electricity / Gas	40%	$8,000	100%	$20,000	100%	$20,000	100%	$20,000	100%	$20,000
Repairs & Maintenance	5%	$1,750	10%	$3,500	50%	$17,500	80%	$28,000	100%	$35,000
Gym Equipment Maint.	5%	$250	10%	$500	50%	$2,500	80%	$4,000	100%	$5,000
Marketing	100%	$4,000	100%	$4,000	100%	$4,000	100%	$4,000	100%	$4,000
Consumables	100%	$3,500	100%	$3,500	100%	$3,500	100%	$3,500	100%	$3,500
Waste Management	40%	$1,400	100%	$3,500	100%	$3,500	100%	$3,500	100%	$3,500
Total Variable		**$18,900**		**$35,000**		**$51,000**		**$63,000**		**$71,000**
CPI Adjustment (2.5%)		$4,090		$4,543		$6,869		$7,169		$7,419
TOTAL OPEX		**$167,726**		**$186,336**		**$281,717**		**$294,017**		**$304,324**
SURPLUS (pre-loan)		**$41,696**		**$105,298**		**$92,128**		**$79,828**		**$151,732**
Surplus Margin		**19%**		**35%**		**24%**		**21%**		**33%**

Appendix A4: Sensitivity and Break-Even Analysis

This table models five capacity scenarios to illustrate the Hub's financial resilience across a range of utilisation outcomes. All figures exclude loan repayment obligations.

> Important: The TDC contribution is modelled as variable in the break-even scenarios (scaled at the same % as capacity) but as a fixed $45,000 in the 70% and 100% scenarios. If the TDC contribution is a fixed annual grant, it should be $45,000 in all scenarios. This should be clarified in the Council Operating Agreement.

	%	Break-Even Yr1	%	Break-Even Yr5	%	70% Scenario	%	80% Scenario	%	100% (Yr5)
Fitness Centre	28%	$100,100	65%	$236,600	70%	$254,800	80%	$291,200	100%	$364,000
Churn Adjustment	15%	($15,015)	15%	($35,490)	15%	($38,220)	15%	($43,680)	15%	($54,600)
Function Room	28%	$8,366	65%	$19,773	70%	$21,294	80%	$24,336	100%	$27,624
Sports Hall	28%	$9,592	65%	$22,672	70%	$24,416	80%	$27,904	100%	$37,872
Meeting Rooms	28%	$8,603	65%	$20,334	70%	$21,898	80%	$25,027	100%	$36,160
TDC Contribution	28%	$12,375	65%	$29,250	100%	$45,000	80%	$36,000	100%	$45,000
TOTAL REVENUE		**$124,020**		**$293,139**		**$329,188**		**$360,787**		**$456,056**
Total Fixed Costs		$91,301		$221,828		$222,730		$223,520		$225,775
Total Variable Costs		$32,000		$71,000		$71,000		$64,000		$71,000
CPI Adjustment		$3,083		$7,321		$7,343		$7,188		$7,419
TOTAL OPEX		**$123,301**		**$292,828**		**$293,730**		**$287,520**		**$296,775**
SURPLUS (pre-loan)		**$720**		**$311**		**$35,459**		**$73,267**		**$154,209**
Margin		**~1%**		**~0%**		**11%**		**20%**		**34%**

Appendix A5: Pricing Structure

This table presents the full three-tier pricing schedule for all spaces and booking durations. Rates are benchmarked against comparable Nelson-Tasman facilities and are positioned as accessible community infrastructure pricing.

Tier	Meeting Room	Sports Hall	Function Room	Half Function Room	Discount Applied
CORPORATE / GOVERNMENT					
Hourly	$40	$50	$50	$25	Base rate
Half day / Evening (4hrs)	$144	$180	$180	$90	10% discount
Full day (8hrs)	$288	$360	$360	$180	10% discount
NOT FOR PROFIT / SMALL BUSINESS					**20% below corporate**
Hourly	$32	$40	$40	$20	Base rate
Half day / Evening (4hrs)	$115	$144	$144	$72	10% discount
Full day (8hrs)	$224	$288	$288	$140	~12.5% discount
VOLUNTEER / COMMUNITY GROUPS					**30% below corporate rate**
Hourly	$28	$35	$35	$18	Base rate
Half day / Evening (4hrs)	$98	$123	$123	$63	~12.5% discount
Full day (8hrs)	$190	$238	$238	$122	15% discount
SPECIAL RATES					
Theatre production (community)	$3,360 per production (72hrs)		6 rehearsal days × 6hrs + 6 performance days × 6hrs = 72 total hrs		
Theatre production (professional)	$3,840 per production (72hrs)		6 rehearsal days × 6hrs + 6 performance days × 6hrs = 72 total hrs		
Wedding package	$1,200 per event		Full day hire		
Private function	$600 per event				
Business / conference function	$900 per event				
Series discount (6+ bookings)			Further 10% — at management discretion		

Benchmarking: Wakefield rates are significantly below Theatre Royal Nelson (~$115/hr for hall hire) and broadly in line with other local Community Centres. This positions the Hub competitively as a community-first facility while maintaining viable revenue. A further 10% series discount may be offered at the Hubs discretion for community and volunteer groups booking 6 or more sessions simultaneously.

Appendix A6: Model Assumptions

The following assumptions underpin all revenue and expenditure projections in this business case. They should be reviewed annually and updated as actual operating data becomes available.

Cost Item	Low Estimate	High Estimate	Year 1 Budget	Year 5 Budget	Basis / Notes
FIXED COSTS					
Staffing (Manager)	$80,000	$150,000	$75,000	$150,000	50% Yrs 1–2 (part-time/contract), 100% from Yr 3
Cleaning (Contract)	$18,000	$22,000	$22,000	$22,000	~$400/week for high-use facility
Insurance	$15,000	$20,000	$20,000	$20,000	Building, Public Liability, Assets
Rates / Fixed Levies	$6,000	$10,000	$10,000	$10,000	Utility levies — even with TDC support
Audit & Accounting	$3,500	$3,500	$3,500	$3,500	Annual financial audit
Software / Subscriptions	$2,500	$5,000	$5,000	$5,000	Gym mgmt system (Mindbody/Xplor) + Xero
Security	$2,500	$4,000	$4,000	$4,000	24/7 access system
Sinking Fund	2.5% rev	2.5% rev	2.5% rev	2.5% rev	2.5% of annual revenue — asset preservation
VARIABLE COSTS					
Electricity / Gas	$15,000	$20,000	$8,000	$20,000	40% Yr1 (partial fit-out), 100% from Yr2
Basic R&M (Repairs)	$10,000	$35,000	$1,750	$35,000	5% Yr1 → 100% Yr5. Ramps as warranties expire
Gym Equipment Maintenance	$3,000	$5,000	$250	$5,000	5% Yr1 → 100% Yr5. Servicing all gym equipment
Marketing	$2,500	$4,000	$4,000	$4,000	100% from Yr1. Ads, signage, membership retention
Consumables	$2,000	$3,500	$3,500	$3,500	100% from Yr1. Cleaning, paper, lightbulbs

Waste Management	$2,400	$3,500	$1,400	$3,500	40% Yr1, 100% from Yr2. Bin collections

KEY MODEL ASSUMPTIONS		Detail			
CPI Inflation Adjustment	2.5% applied to total OPEX annually				
Churn / Vacancy Buffer	15% applied to Fitness Centre gross membership revenue				
Staffing Scale-Up	50% (part-time) Years 1–2 → 100% (full-time) Year 3 onwards				
R&M Ramp	5% (Yr1) → 10% (Yr2) → 50% (Yr3) → 80% (Yr4) → 100% (Yr5)				
Sinking Fund	2.5% of total projected revenue, accumulated annually				
TDC Contribution	$45,000 per annum fixed operational grant				
Gym Membership Base	500 members × $14/week = $364,000 gross p.a.				
Rates Payback Loan	$2,100,000 — proposed at 0% interest / 20yr deferred to Year 3, subject to Council approval				

Appendix A7: Capital Cost & Construction – Funding Source (Loan Terms)

All figures are preliminary estimates. A formal Quantity Surveyor report is required before final Council approval.

Cost Component	Estimated Cost (NZD)	% of Total	Status	Notes
Construction & Structure	$8,500,000	76%	Preliminary	Indicative estimate — subject to QS
Fitness Centre Equipment Fit-Out	$450,000	4%	Preliminary	Commercial-grade gym equipment
Commercial Kitchen & Function Spaces	$600,000	5%	Preliminary	Civil defence capable kitchen
Accessibility & Clinical Fit-Out	$750,000	3%	Preliminary	Ramps, sensory lighting, accessible rooms
Contingency (12%)	$900,000	8%	Preliminary	Industry standard allowance at this design stage
TOTAL PROJECT COST	**$11,200,000**	**100%**		

Funding Source	Amount (NZD)	% of Total	Status	Notes
Reserve Fund Contribution (TDC)	$6,600,000	59%	Confirmed	Drawn from Council reserve funds
Community Fundraising & Donations	$2,500,000	22%	Target	Named donor programme + Rata Foundation + grants
Rates Payback Loan	$2,100,000	19%	Proposed	0% interest / 20yr deferred to Year 3 — subject to Council approval
TOTAL FUNDING	**$11,200,000**	**100%**		

Why 20 Years? — Loan Term Analysis

The table below shows why 20 years is the recommended loan term. It is the shortest term at which: (1) the Year 5 post-loan surplus is positive, and (2) the Years 1–2 cash reserve fully covers the Years 3–5 shortfall without external support.

Term	Annual Repayment	Year 5 Post-Loan	Reserve Position	Verdict
10 years	$210,000	($58,268)	Gap — not viable	✗ Not viable
15 years	$140,000	$11,732	Marginal	✗ Not viable
17 years	$123,529	$28,203	Viable	✗ Not viable
20 years — PROPOSED	**$105,000**	**$46,732**	**Surplus of $146,994**	**✓ Proposed — reserve covers gap, Yr5 positive**
25 years	$84,000	$67,732	Surplus of $146,994	✓ Viable — lower annual burden
30 years	$70,000	$81,732	Surplus of $146,994	✓ Viable — lowest annual burden

Appendix A8: Sensitivity Analysis — Financial Model

This table models six capacity scenarios from break-even through to full utilisation. All figures are pre-loan-repayment. Under the proposed 0% interest / 20-year loan structure, $105,000/yr in repayments applies from Year 3.

Item	Annual Base	Break-Even Yr1 (28%)	Year 1 Target (40%)	Break-Even Yr5 (65%)	Year 3 Plan (80%)	Year 5 Target (100%)
Capacity %	**Steady State**	**28%**	**40%**	**65%**	**80%**	**100%**
REVENUE						
Fitness Centre (net, after churn)	$309,400	$86,632	$123,760	$201,110	$247,520	$309,400
Function Room	$27,624	$8,596	$12,280	$19,955	$24,560	$27,624
Sports Hall	$37,872	$9,766	$15,149	$22,672	$27,904	$37,872
Multipurpose Meeting Room	$36,160	$8,759	$14,464	$20,334	$25,026	$36,160
TDC Contribution (fixed)	$45,000	$45,000	$45,000	$45,000	$45,000	$45,000
TOTAL REVENUE		**$158,753**	**$209,422**	**$309,071**	**$373,845**	**$456,056**
OPEX						
Staffing	$150,000	$75,000	$75,000	$75,000	$150,000	$150,000
Cleaning	$22,000	$22,000	$22,000	$22,000	$22,000	$22,000
Insurance	$20,000	$20,000	$20,000	$20,000	$20,000	$20,000
Rates / Levies	$10,000	$10,000	$10,000	$10,000	$10,000	$10,000
Audit & Accounting	$3,500	$3,500	$3,500	$3,500	$3,500	$3,500
Software / Subscriptions	$5,000	$5,000	$5,000	$5,000	$5,000	$5,000

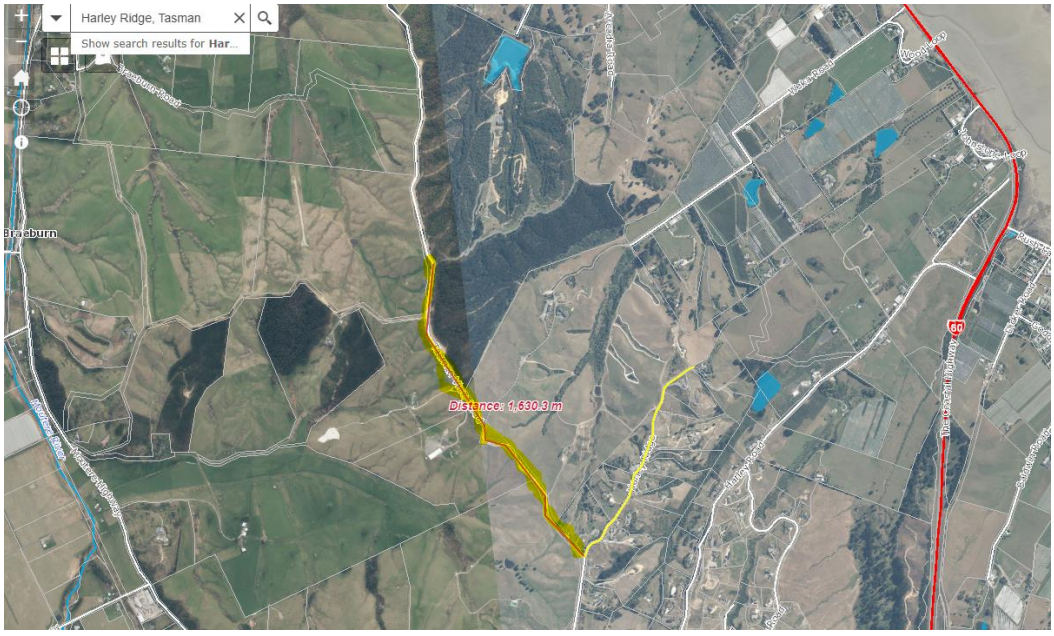
Security	$4,000	$4,000	$4,000	$4,000	$4,000	$4,000
Sinking Fund (2.5% rev)	2.5% rev	$3,969	$5,188	$7,727	$9,250	$11,282
Electricity / Gas	$20,000	$8,000	$8,000	$13,000	$20,000	$20,000
Basic R&M	$35,000	$1,750	$1,750	$17,500	$28,000	$35,000
Gym Equipment Maintenance	$5,000	$250	$250	$2,500	$4,000	$5,000
Marketing	$4,000	$4,000	$4,000	$4,000	$4,000	$4,000
Consumables	$3,500	$3,500	$3,500	$3,500	$3,500	$3,500
Waste Management	$3,500	$1,400	$1,400	$3,500	$3,500	$3,500
CPI Adjustment (2.5%)		$506	$826	$1,452	$1,663	$1,912
TOTAL OPEX		**$162,875**	**$164,414**	**$192,679**	**$288,413**	**$298,694**
SURPLUS (pre-loan)		**($4,122)**	**$43,091**	**$116,392**	**$81,597**	**$152,569**
Surplus Margin (pre-loan)		**—**	**21%**	**38%**	**22%**	**34%**

All sensitivity figures are pre-loan repayment. Under the proposed 0% interest / 20-year terms, $105,000/yr applies from Year 3. Break-even scenario (28%) produces a small deficit at Year 1 scale; the Hub requires approximately 29% capacity to cover Year 1 OPEX before loan obligations.

Annual Plan 2026 to 2027 Submission – Capital Projects – Transportation

Tasman View Road – Unmaintained section of Tasman View Road from the junction with Harley Ridge to "The Lookout" (Approx 1600 metres)

1. This submission proposes that a part of the section of Tasman View Road that is designated as an unmaintained road as per Section 11 of TDC's Transportation Policy and Procedures Manual is now maintained during this and subsequent Annual Plans.
2. I presented the same proposal at the hearings related to the LTP submissions process in both 2021 and 2024 and made a submission during the process that reviewed the content of the Transportation Policy and Procedures Manual in 2025. I would now like to present a submission on the same subject for consideration during the process leading to the adoption of the Annual plan 2026-27.
3. The section of Tasman View Road that I am particularly concerned with runs from the junction with Harley ridge to a point known as the lookout, a road distance of approximately 1600 metres (as per map below).



4. Section 11 of TDC's Transportation Policy and Procedures Manual deals with partially formed roads that are not maintained. Paragraph 11.5 states the Council's policy on applications to maintain a section of an existing legally formed road and I repeat this below as follows

"Council shall consider applications to maintain either the full length or section of an existing formed legal road on a case-by-case basis.
Council will not maintain the road unless there is demonstrable public benefit by those requesting the extension, and the Council has sufficient funding available for maintenance.

The applicant shall forward the following information:

• A letter signed by the majority of residents requesting Council to include the section of road under consideration in its maintenance network;
• The length of road or the point at which the maintenance is proposed to be extended to.

Comment

Generally Council will only take over maintenance of a road section once it has been brought up to a suitable standard approved by the Council.

Funding of upgrade to maintainable standard

The funding of a road upgrade prior to being included in Council's maintained network will depend on the estimated cost of the upgrade. This cost may defer the road being taking over by council until such time as the Council has approved funding to upgrade it. Benefitting landowners may be requested to contribute a sum towards some or all of the upgrading costs. This sum may be able to be paid off over a period of time.

Comment

Generally Council is willing to consider payment options where residents are willing to contribute to an infrastructure upgrade. However, this needs to be agreed with the Council's Finance team prior to any upgrade work starting."

5. I would like to deal with each of the points detailed above in relation to the section of Tasman View Road that we are considering:
    a. **Demonstrable Public Benefit**.
        i. This section of Tasman View Road has outstanding views across the water to Nelson and to the Wharepapa / Arthur Range of hills.
        ii. It is also a part of the Great Taste Trail network.
        iii. The use of this section of Tasman View Road for recreational purposes by 4-wheel drive vehicles, motorbikes including quad bikes, cycles including e-bikes, horse riders and walkers has increased several fold over the last few years and I suspect that use of this section of Tasman View Road will continue to increase

as the recreational enjoyment of such places becomes more popular and population continues to grow in the region.

iv. There is a concern that, if the road deteriorates over time, emergency services will not be able to access either the residents properties or stretches of Tasman View Road, particularly for medical emergencies. As a matter of fact, there was a cyclist who was enjoying the Great taste Trail who had a heart attack on this section of road some 4 to 5 years ago, so the concern is real.

v. Given the increased frequency of storm events, a properly maintained section of road enabling access to potentially affected properties and land as well as the continued recreational enjoyment of the area subsequent to these events is crucial.

b. **Letter signed by residents**. I have previously submitted a letter signed by all of the residents that border this section of road to Jamie McPherson (Transportation Manager at TDC) requesting that this section of road be included in its maintenance network.

c. Funding of upgrade to maintainable standard

i. An estimate was provided approximately 2-3 years ago by TDC that it would cost somewhere between $30,000 and $50,000 to upgrade this section of road prior to it being included in the Council's maintained network.

ii. The landowners bordering this section of road agreed to fund 50% of this upgrade on the understanding that TDC would fund the other 50%. This was included in the letter referred to at paragraph 5.b above.

iii. Cost to TDC is, therefore, approximately $25,000 based that estimate

Conclusion and Proposal

6. There is clear demonstrable public benefit to TDC funding the maintenance of the section of road described above.
7. The residents have agreed to fund 50% of the cost of bringing the section of road up to an acceptable standard
8. The transportation budget in the Annual Plan list of Capital Projects totals $15,994,413. Contained within that overall total are general items such as "routine metalling of unsealed roads" which has a budget of $1,568,929. There are other similar general capital expenditure items listed. The cost to TDC is small at approximately $25,000 in relation to its overall transportation budget and I suggest that appropriate funding could be found within existing budgets, therefore causing no increase in rates to the community.

9. The level of maintenance and funds required to maintain this section of road has now exceeded the amount the residents are willing to pay, given that the benefits mostly accrue to recreational users of the road who, by definition, do not contribute to the wear and tear that their recreational use causes and that the numbers of recreational users is increasing greatly year on year.
10. I therefore propose that Council now maintains this section of Tasman View Road from the adoption of the Annual Plan 2026-27 forwards.

Fees and charges feedback submission

Purpose of Submission

This submission on behalf of Hardyards Water Delivery Service seeks a review of the way water is charged for Bulk Potable supply to households. We ask the council consider the significant variance between the cost Tasman DC imposes as opposed to other Regional Authorities and the impact this has on our rural communities.

Many of our customers have no or limited reticulated supply options and no alternative options and water is an essential for daily living. This includes uses beyond simply drinking and cooking. Urban users can choose how they use their water when they turn the tap on.

Background

A national comparison (completed with the assistance of AI) of Tanker Filling Rates indicates Tasman is the highest in the Country at $8.18/m3, noting that Hauraki DC has a higher Extra-ordinary Water Use rate at $8.54/m3. The National average is $4.30/m3.

Tasman's bulk filling rate is double the current urban rate (only Tasman and Hauraki do this). Many other Authorities charge a premium typically 10-20% above the standard urban rate.

In addition to the above mentioned AI assisted Nationwide Tanker charge rates I utilised a 2026 report complied by the TBD Advisory Group [1] titled Water Pricing of Selected Local Councils NZ. They found Tasman had the third highest Water Charges for Standard Urban rates at $3.56 ex gst. Appendix attached at the end of this submission shows both findings. This demonstrates there is a consistency of higher charges over multiple sources.

The impacts of this is rural households have a higher cost for daily essential Potable Water. There is an equity concern that they pay double what urban users pay for the same treated water. They have the increased issue of having to order water and potentially wait for a delivery. Urban users pay half the rate and the water is delivered to their tap via Council provided Piping Network. Rural users already have increased vulnerability during weather events be it flooding or drought. Urban users have a significantly more stable supply. This leads to a reduced ability to maintain basic household resilience.

For Hardyards the impacts include increased operational costs, which with the current fuel crisis is significant. The increased cost is passed onto our customers. There is a lack of consistency between how we are invoiced by Tasman DC and Nelson CC. Tasman invoice randomly, while Nelson do so monthly. This creates pressure within our

[1] TBD Advisory Ltd is an independent consultancy specialising in corporate finance, economics and treasury risk management. TDB Advisory | Corporate Finance and Economics Expertise

business as it can mean a significant debt is incurred over a long period of time. We know the Council does not like us paying in advance into the TDC account but it is something we must do in order to avoid large, unexpected invoices. The system is automated; we receive a break down of every fill with the date and time it was taken. There should be no reason why this cannot be invoiced monthly as any other commercial entity does.

Furthermore, all three Bulk Potable Delivery companies provide support to our local communities through the provision of donations or prizes to schools for the likes of Fair days and includes Muddy Buddy where all three have jointly provided water for the wash down following the event for a number of years. The current pricing risks making these offers becoming unaffordable which in turn means the schools and communities miss out.

Councils reasoning

The council has made several points relevant to our submission in their own documentation the "overview of the draft schedule" and "why the council charge fees and charges". In addressing the points council has identified we have copied the relevant ones below and Hardyards responds:

1. It is to recover some of the costs of delivering services, while minimising the impact on rates and ensuring fairness between users and the wider community.
   - The people we service are rates payers and there is no fairness in those people paying double the amount for one of life's basic necessities

2. Those who directly benefit from a service, or whose activities create costs, contribute appropriately to those costs.
   - Rural users are not creating costs and while they directly benefit from our service they shouldn't be penalised for living rurally
   - While arguably we as a potable bulk water delivery service we benefit from the provision of the water by TDC and while accepting no council can service every property within their boundaries, someone has to service these households because the Council is not. We are not creating cost we are assisting council by providing this service and we think it is unfair that these property holders are so unfairly penalised.

3. This approach supports fairness and helps reduce the burden on ratepayers.
   - This is increasing the cost on this select group of rate payers which is not fair or equitable
   - The increased cost burden on this group of rate payers arguably reduces the burden on the vast majority. However this is not the spirit of this point. The

spirit of this point is those using more should not unfairly burden the majority as it is currently this select group are essentially subsidising the majority

4. People who use or benefit from a service contribute an appropriate share of the cost, rather than those costs being passed on to all ratepayers.
   - There is no cost to council for the rural users we supply
   - They are already contributing through their rates
   - They receive less for those rates than an urban user
   - They already pay an increased cost to have water delivered by tanker
   - They are subsidising the general rate payer by paying a significantly higher
   - cost for their water
5. Specific fees that may have a significant impact on you, other individuals, businesses, or the community as a whole
   - Cost on us as a bulk water delivery service is extremely high, we have to pass on the increased cost to our customers
   - We shouldn't be viewed as a commercial user, we are not tipping the water on the ground, or using it to make a commodity for profit, it is being used for households that have no alternative way to receive water an essential for living.
   - As a general rule, rural users are more conservative users than urban users. Rural users know they have to buy in more water if they run out or are running low. This make them more aware of usage and generally less wasteful.
   - Water charges have continually been raised over the last couple of years
   - Lack of consistent billing out is a burden on our business – NCC can bill out each month, while TDC do it randomly and cannot do it monthly. It is not easy to understand why it cannot be done monthly

Summary

In summary we seek that the Council considers:

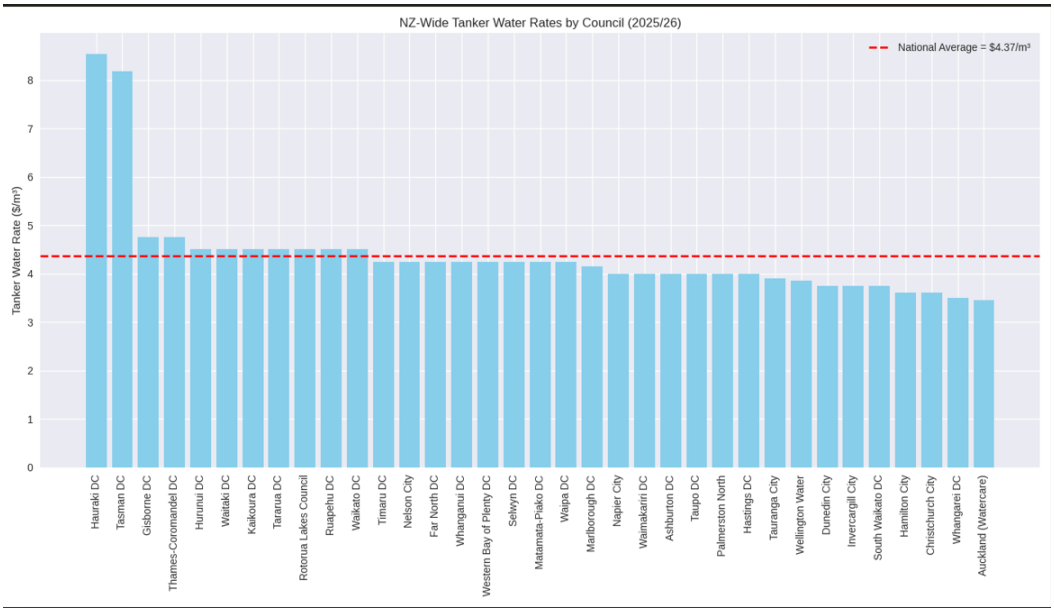
- Treating the Bulk Potable Delivery operators as a different class of user than ordinary bulk users.
- Charging the Bulk Potable Delivery operators a lessor rate than ordinary commercial users. We would seek something more in line with other Regional Authorities at the current urban rate and a nominal premium for example 10-20%.

This is to reflect that we are providing a basic service to a select group of ratepayers within Tasman District and as such would respectfully ask to be charged in parity with other Regional Authorities and our customers are charged in parity with their urban rate paying counterparts.

Hardyards Water Delivery 18 April 2026

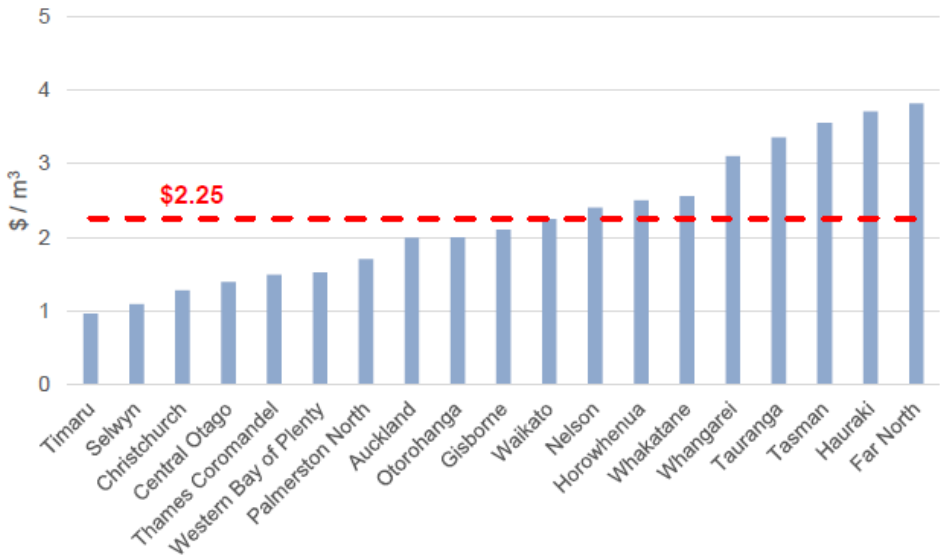
Appendix 1

AI Assisted compilation of NZ wide Tanker Water Rates 2025-26



TDB Advisory Ltd - Water Pricing of Selected Local Councils in New Zealand 2026

Figure 1. Volumetric charges for water supply across selected local councils, $ / m^3, excl GST



Dear Mayor King and Tasman District Councillors,

The severe weather events which hit Tasman in June and July of 2025 highlighted the importance of Top of the South Neighbourhood Support (TSNS).

Two days before the first **weather event** TSNS received a call from a neighbour in Motueka worried about flooding. That day TSNS assisted in connecting and growing that group, which was **flooded** 2 days later.

That neighbour became the **street contact** and after the flooding was able to succinctly let Public Health know that about 8 members in the group which needed support, many are in their 90s with frail health, so having **capable advocates is crucial**.

This group has since become tightknit and look out for each other, also attending a street Hato Hone St John 3 Steps to Life training in a neighbour's home and has connected with 3 other adjacent street groups to support each other.

Neighbourhood Support (NS) is a **trusted nationwide** community-led movement which aims to bring people and neighbourhoods together to create **safe, resilient and connected communities.**

This initiative supports individuals and neighbourhoods to establish Neighbourhood Support Groups. In the Top of the South we work alongside NZ Police, Nelson Tasman Emergency Management, Marlborough Emergency Management, FENZ and Hato Hone St John to make our community an even greater place to live.

Being part of NS means joining the network where neighbours can choose how their group runs and operates to suit them. NS encourages connection, collaboration and inclusion aiming to improve capability, capacity and self-reliance between neighbours.

Through the monthly newsletter TSNS provides **reassurance** by sharing tips and resources that improve household and neighbourhood **safety**, **emergency preparedness** and **information** to stay up-to-date with important community news, alerts and events.

TSNS employs a 30 hour a week Community Advisor covering Tasman, Nelson and Marlborough. This role provides **ongoing support, resources and a sustainable database** to reach existing street groups and assists the formation of new groups, along with community resilience planning. Given the size and geographical spread of the regions that are covered 30 hours is not enough.

In May 2024, the Neighbourhood Support Top of the South Charitable Trust resolved wind up operations. Neighbourhood Support NZ Inc (National Body) stepped in to ensure continuity of service, and TSNS now operates utilising residual funds from the wound-up local charity whilst seeking ongoing funding to support ongoing operations. In the past year there has been a grant from Lotteries, NSNZ Member Funding, along with NZ Police support via desk space and administrative support.

There is a clear desire for the region to become locally led again once viable, however, there is a real risk if secured and sustained funding isn't in place NS could be lost from the Top of the South.

An August 2024 survey of 446 TSNS respondents identified the top community concerns as lack of cohesion and connectivity, insufficient emergency preparedness, and high crime rates.

Respondents also identified their top three priorities for TSNS: **emergency preparedness planning, local crime information, and a community newsletter.**

TSNS has directly responded to this feedback. Monthly newsletters now include local crime updates from NZ Police and preparedness messaging from partners including FENZ, Nelson Tasman and Marlborough Civil Defences, and Hato Hone St John.

Our region has indicated a desire to plan for emergencies; they just need support – TSNS is the community connector who brings all parties together to ensure planning and preparedness is supported in a sustainable and ongoing way.

In the past nine months, several smaller rural communities, including three in Tasman, have approached TSNS because they recognise the importance of **knowing their neighbours and being emergency prepared**.

The NS portal allows individuals and thus communities to securely store members' skills (e.g. first aider), needs (e.g. impaired mobility, hearing or sight difficulties), and resources (e.g. AED, generator, or in the case of Marahau - a boat!) and email and connect with each other.

Many groups include members in their 80s and 90s who have no email address, cell phone, or social media presence. These are among our most **vulnerable community** members. Connecting them with neighbours means someone nearby is keeping an eye out and, in an emergency, ensures they are not overlooked.

Additional to benefits in an emergency situation, NZ Police (with whom we hold a National MOU) describe **neighbours as the best and most cost-effective security system available**. When neighbours know each other they look out for each other - crime decreases, social isolation reduces, and vulnerable people - particularly older adults living alone are looked out for.

Stronger neighbourhoods also share everyday burdens: I have heard stories of elderly neighbours splitting the cost of a rubbish bin, exchanging produce or those in rural communities reaching out to share rides as the fuel crisis bites.

One of the biggest **challenges** communities have faced when wanting to set up their own community **connection** is keeping the information that is collected up to date and **secure**. TSNS sends a monthly newsletter to members; if a member’s email bounces this is then followed up to ensure that the email address is amended. This in turn supports street contacts who email their group through the portal the confidence of knowing their neighbours are receiving their messages, and that messages will be sent to current addresses in an emergency.

TSNS has a strong relationship with Nelson Tasman Emergency Management, as well as Marlborough Emergency Management. While all organisations focus on community resilience and planning, TSNS operates at a **grassroot** level; building street-level

connections, which is beyond the capacity of either Emergency Management. TSNS complements the work which NTEM does.

There is an **opportunity** for Council to secure this connection through a **partnership** with TSNS as in other parts of the country.

Councils which administer Neighbourhood Support

Hastings District Council - 30 hours a week Neighbourhood Support combined within a Community Development role. Population approx. 88,000

Napier City Council – Originally taken on as Neighbourhood Support role, is now Community Resilience Advisor 35 hours a week on Neighbourhood Support. Population approx. 66,000

Carterton District Council - 10 hours a week Neighbourhood Support combined with a Community Development role. Population approx. 10,000

Selwyn combined within all aspects of 40 hours a week Emergency Management Advisor-Community Resilience Lead role (holistic approach). Population approx. 78,000

Upper Hutt - 15-20 hours a week, although not currently that active. Population 47,000

Some Councils provide funding for Neighbourhood Support through Long term or Annual plans examples are Cambridge $40,000 and Lower Hutt $60,000. Many Neighbourhood Support groups also receive funding via the contestable grants round, although this is generally project related.

TSNS can provide Council with a **trusted**, **established** community network that reaches directly into neighbourhoods.

A partnership with TSNS represents an **efficient and cost-effective** use of Council resources. TSNS already has over 3,000 addresses in Tasman, however the true reach is hard to quantify as many groups include members not signed up to TSNS but connected to their neighbours through WhatsApp or other means. If an emergency message was sent out through TSNS this would be shared by the street contact to other members.

Given the emerging pattern of constant weather events impacting our region, TSNS would like to build a **stronger connection** with Tasman District Council. It is acknowledged that there is an overall proposed rates increase of 9.9%, however, understanding that weather events are also increasing and enabling the Tasman community to be **better prepared and connected** when the next event hits is crucial.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Rachael Large

Neighbourhood Support Community Advisor – Top of the South

SUBMISSION TO THE TDC ANNUAL PLAN 2026-27

FROM KEEP MOTUEKA BEAUTIFUL ON BEHALF OF THE HERITAGE WHARF RESTORATION GROUP

PROPOSAL FOR A TDC FUNDING CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE RESTORATION OF THE MOTUEKA HERITAGE WHARF

1. Executive Summary

The Heritage Wharf Restoration Group seeks Tasman District Council support to stabilise and restore the 1887 Motueka stone wharf that is collapsing due to wave action. The 1887 stone wharf on Motueka Quay, owned by Tasman District Council, is a registered Category 2 Historical Place and is nationally significant as the only granite wharf in the country. The preferred approach is a full-length restoration using artificial stone (concrete blocks incorporating ground-up Separation Point granite) with concrete retaining walls and anchoring, plus tree removal, an accessible footpath and upgraded interpretive signage to include Māori history.

Most preparatory work is complete: engineering design, an Archaeological Authority, iwi engagement, a quantity survey and $296,000 raised to date through grants, donations and fundraising (including a $150,000 Lotteries grant). The total imitation-stone estimate is $378,600, leaving an $82,000 shortfall for which the Group requests a one-off TDC capital contribution of $60,000 to enable re-construction to proceed mid-2026. The Group will raise the balance of $22,000.

Therefore it is recommended that Council:

a) contribute capital funding of $60,000 to enable the project to proceed;

b) approve the restoration to proceed using the full-length option with artificial stone.

2. Background and Context

The 1887 stone wharf on Motueka Quay, owned by Tasman District Council, is a registered Category 2 Historical Place and is nationally significant as the only granite wharf in the country. Locally its role in the economic and social development of the Motueka district, particularly in enabling the development of the fruit growing industry, gives it considerable historical and social significance. It was the main route in and out of Motueka for people and goods and the business heart of Motueka from 1887 to 1916, when the port was moved to George Quay. It is one of our most significant historic sites.

Nowadays the wharf is a popular local attraction, recreation area, and tourist destination, especially in conjunction with the adjacent Great Taste Cycle Trail, walkway and picnic area and the nearby shipwreck of the Janie Seddon. It is a good viewpoint and people like to fishoff the end. It is a very significant contributor to the aesthetic and recreational value of the Motueka foreshore.



Unfortunately the outer end has collapsed due to wave action undermining the stone, making it more vulnerable to stormy seas, and the pointing along much of the length has deteriorated, enabling water to enter the structure and do further damage. As we look into a future of changing climate and increasingly extreme weather conditions, we can anticipate that damaging sea conditions will become more common, presenting a growing threat to the integrity of the wharf. While the erosion to date has been a slow process, the sea is now washing out the clay fill at the end, so it is expected to collapse more quickly in future. Recent storms have certainly had an impact. In addition, the pohutakawa trees that have been planted along the wharf are starting to block access and their roots are threatening to dislodge the stonework.

There have been various efforts in the past towards repairing or restoring the wharf. In the distant past concrete slabs were used to replace missing stone blocks. These detract from the heritage value and most are collapsing and need to be removed. In 2006 the Council commissioned Ian Bowman to prepare a Conservation Plan for the wharf, which involved a full restoration and conservation of the stone wharf. In 2008 Keep Motueka Beautiful and the Motueka Historical Society put forward plans for less extensive repairs. In 2009 it was listed as a Historic Place Category 2. In 2011 TDC allocated some funding for restoring the wharf and commissioned David Sissons to prepare an action plan, but it did not proceed. At some stage a proposal was put to Heritage New Zealand involving using concrete blocks instead of granite, but Heritage New Zealand turned it down. In 2019 TDC had the Sissons action plan costed and it came to an estimated $211,000. Around this time there was confusion regarding the ownership of the wharf and this was not resolved till 2023 when Columbus consultants' investigations confirmed that TDC is indeed the owner. Due to this confusion, no maintenance has been done on the wharf for decades, other than mowing.





Concerns regarding the safety of the unstable end of the wharf prompted the Council to fence off the end in 2023. However, there were many objections from local people, which resulted in the removal of the unsightly fence. We do not want to return to this situation.

TDC then offered to work with local organisations towards the restoration of the wharf and this led to the establishment of the Heritage Wharf Restoration Group, under the umbrella of Keep Motueka Beautiful (KMB), with representatives of KMB, the Motueka & Districts Historical Association, and the Motueka Community Board along with TDC. A funding proposal was submitted to the TDC 2025/26 Annual Plan. This was not approved at the time, but Council requested that a business case be presented, including consideration of cost-saving options.

3. The case for repair/restoration

The Heritage Wharf Restoration (HWR) Group agreed on the goals to restore the wharf to a condition that will:

- withstand destructive wave action, enabling it to survive for future generations;
- improve the safety for visitors, without having to close it off, by fixing the unstable stone at the end, and putting a wheelchair friendly footpath along the wharf;
- enhance public appreciation of the history of the wharf and the surrounding area, including a Māori perspective, through enhanced interpretive signage.

If action is not taken soon, the old wharf will collapse at a greater rate and become even more of a safety concern. Fencing off most of the length, at Council's expense, will become almost inevitable. Then the wharf will be a blemish on the foreshore, rather than an asset to the town and Tasman District. The heritage and recreational values will be diminished and ultimately lost if the wharf is not repaired. The longer it is left, the more expensive it will be to repair.

The wharf has long been an iconic part of the town's identity and its restoration will not only preserve an important piece of our local heritage, but also enhance the area as a vibrant community space for locals and visitors alike. The restored site will strengthen Motueka's appeal as a coastal attraction, thus encouraging tourism, supporting local businesses, and enhancing Motueka's reputation as a desirable place to live. The wharf could serve as a hub for recreational activities like fishing and kayaking, creating new economic opportunities for the town. The interpretive signage will enhance the sense of identity for locals.

There is strong public support for the restoration, as evidenced by survey feedback and the amount of donations received. In 2024 it was the first choice in Motueka Community Board's public survey of their proposed projects shortlist. The HWR Group conducted a survey of visitors to the wharf and 470 people gave feedback on the proposed restoration. Their views were taken into account in subsequent planning. The key conclusions were:

93% thought the wharf should be restored
73% thought the Pohutukawa trees should be removed
68% thought there should be some fencing
60% thought there should be no lighting (to discourage vandalism).
79% thought there should be more seating
70% thought the interpretation panels should be upgraded

In addition there has been overwhelmingly positive feedback from facebook postings on the Love Motueka facebook page, with 28,350 views and 220 likes and loves.

The HWR Group has already done most of the groundwork for the project:

- Iwi consultation with 7 iwi in the area, through the TDC's iwi engagement process is completed and they were supportive. The HWR Group has been gathering notes on the

iwi history of the area, with input from local Māori experts and will work with iwi on design of interpretive signage covering their perspective on the history of the wharf and surrounding area. (The present signage has no Māori history.)

- An engineering design was commissioned from Eliot Sinclair, which involves installing concrete block retaining walls behind the stone walls and anchoring the stone to the concrete blocks.

- The Group, on behalf of TDC, has obtained an Archaeological Authority for the restoration from Heritage New Zealand, based on an archaeological assessment and the engineering design submitted, and after public and iwi consultation.

- Based on expert advice from consultants, TDC planners have advised a Resource Consent is not required, just a MOTCE (marginal or temporary exemption). This will save thousands of dollars.

- A Quantity Survey has been undertaken, giving estimated costs. The Quantity Surveyor also helped to cost the various alternatives being considered.

- So far over $296,000 has been raised through grants, donations and fundraising. This includes a grant of $150,000 just received from the Lotteries Environment & Heritage Fund. The application to Lotteries was actually for a grant of $210,000, so there is a shortfall of $60,000. Fundraising is ongoing.

- A relatively small capital contribution of $60,000 from TDC would enable the project to proceed. Ongoing maintenance costs are insignificant.

So, after all the years of failed attempts, now is the best opportunity to proceed with the wharf restoration, with most of the preparatory work and fundraising already done by the HWR Group. It may be the last chance for TDC to save its asset.

4. Restoration options

From its inception the HWR Group has not proposed a full restoration of the wharf. The present structure is only a part of the original Motueka wharf. The stone causeway seen today led to a piled timber wharf at which much of the shipping berthed, and on which a number of buildings were placed. Along the causeway there were timber railings on the north side, metal stanchions at intervals on the south side, and on both sides timber fenders were fixed vertically to the stone work to prevent ships being damaged by colliding with the stone. The timber wharf and buildings were removed after the wharf was replaced by the 1916 wharf constructed at the present Moutere Inlet entrance. The guard rails, timber fenders and most of the stanchions also have been removed.





The HWR Group has no intention of reconstructing the timber wharf and its buildings. It is proposed to focus on stabilization, repair and restoration of the stonework of the causeway. The wooden fenders will not be replaced. Replacement of the wooden fencing and the stanchion and rope fence is regarded as an optional later phase of the project (see below).

Stone causeway options
As regards the stone causeway the key options being considered are:

- Using imitation stone (made from concrete mixed with ground-up granite) instead of Separation Point granite.

As far as possible, restoration should utilize original or similar material, but obtaining a supply of Separation Point granite in a timely way is regarded as a high risk. The quarry has been closed for years and the usual quarrying methods (by explosion) are not designed to produce large blocks, as required for the wharf. In view of this, Ian Bowman, the conservation advisor, proposed making artificial stone by incorporating ground-up Separation Point granite into concrete blocks. Alpha Precast have produced some trial blocks which look very like the real stone and they are prepared to do further trials to make it even better. Artificial stone is both cheaper and lower risk. The Archaeological Authority already obtained is for full-length restoration using granite. However, Heritage New Zealand seem amenable to this substitution, because of the risk associated with granite supply. They indicated that a letter seeking a variation to the Authority would likely get a favourable response.

- Shortening the wharf by 5m.

Shortening the wharf by 5m would remove much of the collapsed end and stone blocks recovered from this could be re-used in the restoration, thus considerably reducing the number of new blocks required. However, it would reduce the heritage value of the wharf and the space available for recreational activities. Ian Bowman advised that there would need to be some way of indicating the original length, which has not been investigated at this stage.

Shortening would also require more fill to be removed from the site and there is a moderate risk of contamination in the fill. If contaminated fill is found and has to be removed to a dump, it will add considerably to the cost of the project.

In addition, shortening would require a Resource Consent for removing part of a heritage structure, and a new application to Heritage New Zealand and it may not get their approval. They regarded this as a last resort option and were reluctant to approve it. So, while shortening the wharf would save money, it may not prove to be a viable option.

The Quantity Surveyor’s estimates for the cost of the options outlined (excluding signage, seating and fencing) is:

Imitation stone – full length	$378,600
Imitation stone – 5m shortened	$319,173
Granite – full length	$406,777
Granite – 5m Shortened	$308,156

The Group is optimistic that local suppliers will give this community project good discounts that should bring the actual cost down.

Fencing options
The original fencing materials were totara and wrought iron but these are now prohibitively expensive. We are currently pricing alternative materials and if these are acceptable to Heritage NZ and we can raise sufficient funds, then the fencing might proceed as a later phase of the project. Fencing is not required by Council for wharves, but it is noted that the public survey indicated support for fencing.

5. Proposed Solution

The HWR Group proposes to restore the full-length of the stone wharf, but using artificial stone. This reduces the cost and risks of the project, while retaining the heritage values. The Group is seeking capital funding of $60,000 from TDC to make up the required budget.

6. Implementation Plan

The project has been planned and costed in four phases:

1. Planning, design, consents and fundraising
2. Tree removal
3. Construction and restoration
4. Post-restoration: signage, seating, footpath and optionally fencing

A draft Project Plan is attached. We are currently considering the possibility of deferring re-pointing work from Phase 3 to Phase 4, in order to spread the costs out further.

Phase 1 is almost completed. As soon as sufficient funds are raised for the proposed option ($378,600), phases 2 and 3 can proceed. If the application to TDC is successful, the project could proceed in mid-2026. Phase 3, will be managed by TDC's project management team and it is expected that a request for tenders will be issued for a prime contractor to manage the project. It is estimated that the work may take around three months, depending on the availability of key workers, but this will not be known until tenders are received. Obviously the work will have to be fitted around the low tides.

Fundraising will continue for Phase 4 work. Some organisations are reluctant to give until they know the project is proceeding and Rata Foundation may be interested in funding signage. Phase 4 work will be managed by TDC Parks & Reserves, with help from the HWR Group, alongside the planned landscaping work on the adjacent foreshore reserve.

Key risks associated with the project as proposed are:

- Availability of an experienced stonemason
- Further storm erosion of the stonework prior to or during the reconstruction.
- Toxic coal tar has been identified on the top of parts of the northern side wall. It is not believed to be extensive, but that can't be confirmed until some excavation is

done. It may not be disturbed by the work, but if it is, the aim will be to bury it within the wharf.

7. Financial Analysis

See the attached Project Budget

8. Conclusion and Recommendations

The restoration of the old wharf will:

- enable the wharf to survive for future generations, preserving an important piece of our local heritage;
- improve the safety for visitors;
- enhance public appreciation of the history of the wharf and the surrounding area, including a Māori perspective, through enhanced interpretive signage;
- enhance the area as a vibrant community space for locals and visitors alike.
- strengthen Motueka's appeal as a coastal attraction, thus encouraging tourism, supporting local businesses, and enhancing Motueka's reputation as a desirable place to live.

There is strong public support for the restoration of the heritage wharf. The work to date has shown that restoration is feasible and affordable.

Therefore it is recommended that Council:

a) contribute capital funding of $60,000 to enable the project to proceed;

b) approve the restoration to proceed using the full-length option with artificial stone.

References

Bowman, Ian, 2006. Old Motueka Wharf, Motueka: Conservation Plan.
Sissons, David, 2011. Old Motueka Wharf: Proposed Action Plan.
Geotechnical RTW Report and Design, Eliot Sinclair, Dec 2024



Heritage Wharf Project Budget 2025-26 updated 18.3.26 excl GST

EXPENDITURE	Spent $		Budget $ Imitation stone		Budget $ Granite	
			A: Full length	B: Shorten 5m	C: Full length	D: Shorten 5m
Phase 1: Planning, design, consents						
Archaeological report,	1,304		1,304	1,544	1,304	1,544
Detailed engineering design	8,318		8,318	8,318	8,318	8,318
Conservation architect input	3,709		5,000	6,000	5,000	6,000
Other consultancy (WSP, ...)	1,013		1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300
MOTCE/Resource Consent and building consent?			1,000	10,000	1,000	10,000
Printing	270		270	270	270	270
Contingency	103		500	1,000	500	1,000
Subtotal	14,715		17,692	28,432	17,692	28,432
Phase 2: Tree removal						
Tree removal, Deconstruction			7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
Phase 3: Construction & restoration						
Preliminary & general (10%)			24,825	19,903	26,802	19,131
Site preparation			23,000	25,500	23,000	23,000
Substructure Excavation & fill			42,952	29,529	42,952	29,529
Concrete & granite walls build incl drainage			123,550	87,754	143,315	82,526
Wall repointing			43,750	41,250	43,750	41,250
Landscaping			15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Margins (8%)			21,846	17,515	23,585	16,835
Scope risk/Contingency (20%)			58,985	47,290	63,681	45,454
Subtotal			353,908	283,741	382,085	272,724
TOTAL Phase 1-3			378,600	319,173	406,777	308,156
Phase 4: post restoration						
Signage, seating, path			24,599	24,284	24,599	24,284
Fencing (optional)			25,211	25,211	25,211	25,211
Subtotal			49,810	49,495	49,810	49,495
TOTAL COST Project Phases 1-4			428,410	368,668	456,587	357,651

INCOME	Requested	Confirmed funding	Budget Target
Grants			
Motueka Community Board (held by MCB)		10,000	10,000
MCB discretionary for archaeological report		700	700
TDC Community Grants		3,500	3,500
Network Tasman		4,500	4,500
The Stout Trust		25,000	25,000
Pub Charity/NZ Community Trust	50,000	4,797	4,797
Other trusts: NBS, Rata ...			15,000
Lotteries Heritage & Environment Fund		150,000	150,000
Subtotal		198,497	213,497
Donations & Fundraising			
Talleys (held by TDC)		15,000	15,000
Genia		2,500	2,500
Give-a-Little		1,975	2,500
Other local donations		42,128	42,128
Fundraising (excl GST)		1,798	1,798
Overseas	25,000	10,000	20,000
Interest		4,418	4,418
Subtotal		77,820	88,345
KMB & Historical Soc			
KMB Allocated		6,000	6,000
Motueka Historical Society		5,000	5,000
Subtotal		11,000	11,000
Tasman District Council			
Engineering design (Professional Services)		7,103	7,103
P&R (AY & WSP)		1,708	1,708
Requested TDC for 2026	60,000		60,000
Subtotal		8,811	68,811
TOTAL INCOME		296,127	381,652
			A	B	C	D
BALANCE (Budget income less cost) Phases 1-3			3,053	62,479	-25,124	73,496
BALANCE (Budget income less cost) Phases 1-4			-46,757	12,984	-74,934	24,001
Confirmed income shortfall for Phases 1-3			-82,472	-23,046	-110,649	-12,029

OLD WHARF PROJECT PLAN – DRAFT (March 2026)

Funding stream – Nov 2023 –Dec 2026

$289,000 confirmed funding by March 2026

Prepare business case (including cost-saving options) to TDC for (balance of) funding Feb-March 2026

Submit business case to TDC – March 2026

Applications to NBS and pokie charities for short term funds for tree removal and other quotable work - March 2026

Application to Rata for signage –May 2026

Other fundraising as required

Phase 1: Planning, design, consents Nov 2023 to March 2026

Largely completed:

Archaeological report - done
Detailed engineering design - done
Heritage NZ authority – done
Resource Consent – not required
Quantity survey – done
MOTCE – apply April 2026
Final decision on preferred cost saving options –May 2026
Confirm funding available to proceed

Phase 2: Tree removal & deconstruction – May 2026

Remove trees – May 2026
Grind stumps
Check for coal tar extent
Check for archaeological artefacts esp. possible railway lines
Remove barriers and table when ready to proceed

Phase 3: construction & restoration

Prepare RF tender documents for Phase 3 – April/May 2026

Issue Request for Tender May 2026

Select tender June 2026

Commence work July? 2026 Complete in 3 months?

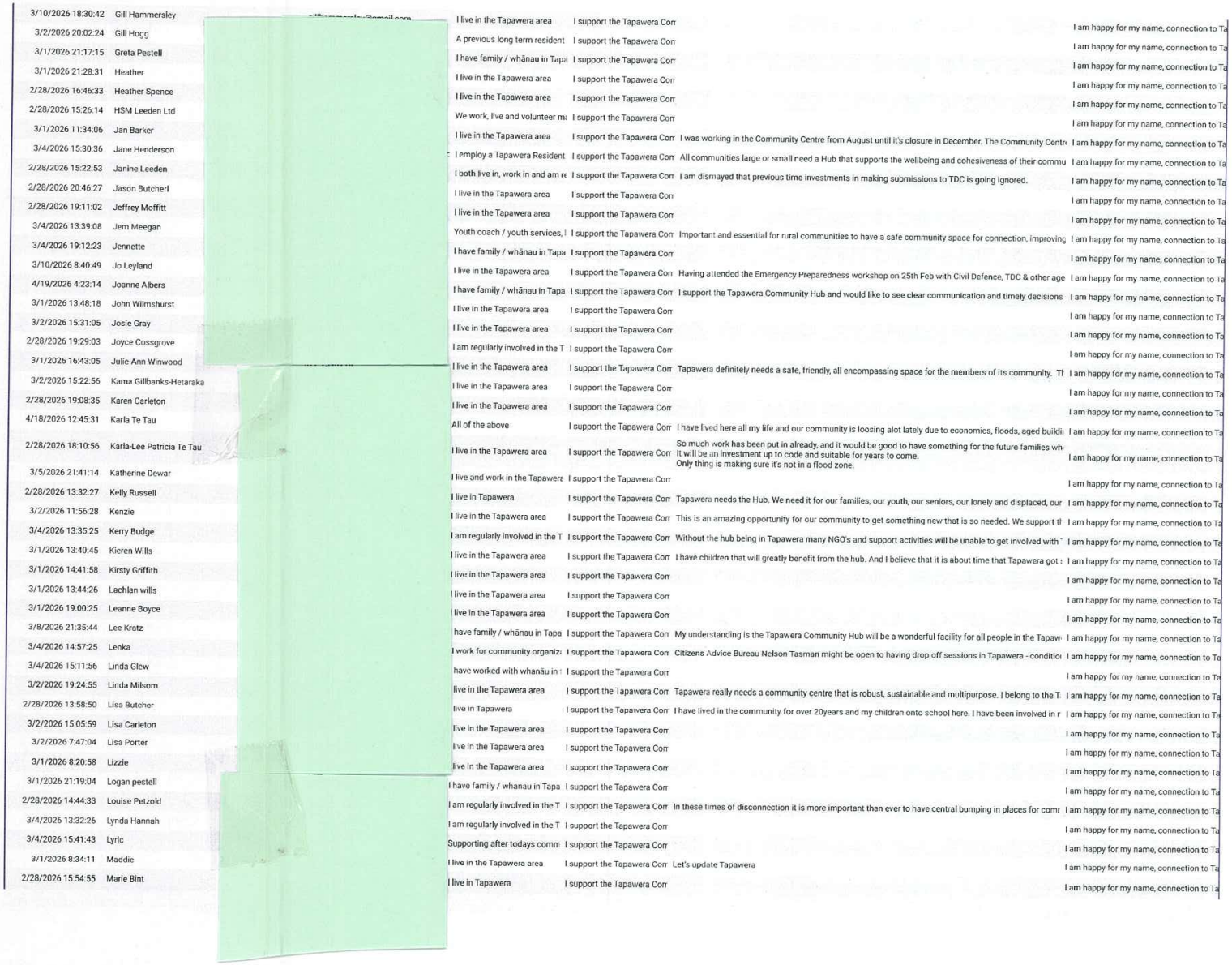
- Set up site including plans for Health & Safety, Construction Management, Environmental Management, Sediment Control and Traffic Management.
- Arrange Archaeologist and Heritage Architect review/oversight
- Recover and stockpile any detached granite blocks that are scattered around the wharf ready for re-use if suitable.
- Source and supply to site concrete blocks and materials for retaining wall
- Source and supply to site imitation stone blocks
- Topsoil strip of work area and [?traffic route of vehicles along the Wharf.- might get very slippery and muddy. Perhaps leave grass till end] Material to be stockpiled for re-use at the end of the project for reinstatement. NB Might need to be checking for coal tar
- Remove old concrete slabs from the wall and dispose
- Cut trench 1.2m wide to rear of existing wharf granite block cladding to enable installation of concrete block retaining wall.
- Place compacted AP65 in base of excavation for base of concrete block.
- Install concrete block wall behind granite wall cladding.
- Install fill in vid to rear of concrete blocks height of wall increases.
- Install geogrid tiebacks between top two concrete blocks.
- Number and survey location of each granite cladding block to be removed/replaced, so that blocks can be replaced in the correct location.
- Excavate drainage channel to rear of granite cladding blocks to enable installation of subsoil and drainage chip.
- Place new and reusable imitation granite cladding blocks. Install Anchor/dogs to tie cladding into the concrete block wall.
- Install subsoil and drainage chip as height of granite cladding wall increases.
- Repoint all existing granite block wall, including southern return wall and repair any cracking of stone.
- Treat rusted iron fittings and timber remnants
- Apply long-acting, environmentally friendly biocide to original wall surface
- Remove all construction waste from site.
- Strip/reinstate topsoil along the whole wharf to give a level surface (rather than convex as at present)
- Grass seed area.
- Install vehicle barrier upon completion.

Phase 4: post restoration

Create a gravel footpath 1.5m wide along the wharf
Signage: design and install interpretive signage – May-Sept 2026
Seating: use wooden beams from Tarakohe wharf to make benches Aug/Sept 2026
Fencing (optional) Only consider if extra funding is available

35408

Timestamp	Name - This allows us to confirm responses if nec	Email Address or Phone Number	Connection to Tapawera	Statement of Support	Optional comment (not required)	Consent to share with councillors
3/4/2026 15:25:45	A Adair		I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com	Whanau support for mental wellness in rural settings matter to whanau.	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 12:16:45	Abby		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/4/2026 13:50:05	Ali		I am regularly involved in the T	I support the Tapawera Com	SASH would be able to offer better support if there was a designated hub to serve the community	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 6:36:58	Amanda Rasmussen		I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 11:03:31	Amber		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	We need this for our families and features	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 17:57:40	Ana Aceved		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	It'll be a shame if this didn't happen, so many people have worked hard to make it a reality. Tapawera nee	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 14:03:43	Andrew Burden		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 11:18:23	Ange Palmer		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
4/18/2026 18:44:28	Angela Richardson		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/5/2026 10:03:30	Anita Araya		I am regularly involved in the T	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 22:31:03	Ann Steele		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	Want to provide for future	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/3/2026 22:00:18	Antony Stephens		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/3/2026 15:34:36	Brian Robinson		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 10:35:21	Brooke connolly		I am regularly involved in the T	I support the Tapawera Com	As long as a fair outcome is agreed to. I cant remember what the issues were but it would be good for tap	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 19:58:00	Bruce Moulder		I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 22:32:17	Cara Wylde		I have an interest in the Tapaw	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/3/2026 8:21:21	Carol McKeever		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	I feel that a central base is an important part of promoting a strong sense of community and meeting the	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 19:17:46	Chris Clark		I did live in the area between 2	I support the Tapawera Com	If the community doesn't support this...the opportunity will be lost...the $500odd k will be lost . tapawera	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
4/20/2026 14:33:49	Christine Henry		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 16:32:42	Christine Wilmshurst		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/6/2026 11:40:48	Claudia		I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 12:18:21	Cornelia Vervoorn		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	The hub sounds like a great idea. Well done to all for securing the funding!	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 8:37:00	Dale T		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/3/2026 12:44:13	Dallas Robinson		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/8/2026 11:25:18	Danny Sugar		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 9:33:37	David Moulder		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/5/2026 11:48:04	Deb		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	This is sorely needed in the community for the youth right through to the elderly residents. A place to corr This is a no brainer !!!!	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 22:32:42	Debbie Harvie		I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 18:38:18	Deborah Cumming		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	A need for a new hub -- a clean, warm, and safe place for people to gather, especially during floods or ear	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 21:30:58	Della Webby		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	There is a very high need for a hub for our many vulnerable and isolated community members. There is cu	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 9:12:04	Dianne and Garry Clarke		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	It is important that Tapawera has a fit for purpose community centre for all residents to use. This include	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/3/2026 20:30:29	Dion Maclean		021 I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 22:40:00	Emelie Gobes		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 21:11:36	Emily Evans		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	Having lived here as a child and coming back as an adult I can see what an amazing opportunity this is fo	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 21:17:46	Emma Evans		I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 14:32:22	Felicity Thomas		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 10:49:41	Fiona Burton		I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 11:29:13	Fiona Iublow		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 15:42:50	Francine Currie		I am regularly involved in the T	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 11:14:03	Gary Hillerby		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	I support the hub but I would prefer a different location.	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 19:06:19	Gavin Scoble		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	The new Tapawera Hub is a great opportunity that must be seized because I doubt it will come again. It v	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 19:51:25	Gemma Walsh		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	I absolutely support development in our town and believe it is important that we continue to move forwar While I do support the Hub, I also have some concerns. I would love to see a space that can truly be used My hope is that we can work collaboratively to create a development that reflects and serves the whole c	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 0:58:33	Georgia Miller		I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com	This would be a great thing for the community	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta



3/10/2026 18:30:42	Gill Hammersley		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 20:02:24	Gill Hogg		A previous long term resident	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 21:17:15	Greta Pestell		I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 21:28:31	Heather		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 16:46:33	Heather Spence		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 15:26:14	HSM Leeden Ltd		We work, live and volunteer ma	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 11:34:06	Jan Barker		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	I was working in the Community Centre from August until it's closure in December. The Community Centr	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/4/2026 15:30:36	Jane Henderson		I employ a Tapawera Resident	I support the Tapawera Com	All communities large or small need a Hub that supports the wellbeing and cohesiveness of their commu	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 15:22:53	Janine Leeden		I both live in, work in and am re	I support the Tapawera Com	I am dismayed that previous time investments in making submissions to TDC is going ignored.	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 20:46:27	Jason Butcherl		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 19:11:02	Jeffrey Moffitt		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/4/2026 13:39:08	Jem Meegan		Youth coach / youth services, l	I support the Tapawera Com	Important and essential for rural communities to have a safe community space for connection, improving	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/4/2026 19:12:23	Jennette		I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/10/2026 8:40:49	Jo Leyland		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	Having attended the Emergency Preparedness workshop on 25th Feb with Civil Defence, TDC & other age	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
4/19/2026 4:23:14	Joanne Albers		I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com	I support the Tapawera Community Hub and would like to see clear communication and timely decisions	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 13:48:18	John Wilmshurst		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 15:31:05	Josie Gray		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 19:29:03	Joyce Cossgrove		I am regularly involved in the T	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 16:43:05	Julie-Ann Winwood		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	Tapawera definitely needs a safe, friendly, all encompassing space for the members of its community. TI	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 15:22:56	Kama Gillbanks-Hetaraka		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 19:08:35	Karen Carleton		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
4/18/2026 12:45:31	Karla Te Tau		All of the above	I support the Tapawera Com	I have lived here all my life and our community is loosing alot lately due to economics, floods, aged buildi	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 18:10:56	Karla-Lee Patricia Te Tau		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	So much work has been put in already, and it would be good to have something for the future families wh It will be an investment up to code and suitable for years to come. Only thing is making sure it's not in a flood zone.	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/5/2026 21:41:14	Katherine Dewar		I live and work in the Tapawera	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 13:32:27	Kelly Russell		I live in Tapawera	I support the Tapawera Com	Tapawera needs the Hub. We need it for our families, our youth, our seniors, our lonely and displaced, our	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 11:56:28	Kenzie		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	This is an amazing opportunity for our community to get something new that is so needed. We support th	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/4/2026 13:35:25	Kerry Budge		I am regularly involved in the T	I support the Tapawera Com	Without the hub being in Tapawera many NGO's and support activities will be unable to get involved with '	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 13:40:45	Kieren Wills		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	I have children that will greatly benefit from the hub. And I believe that it is about time that Tapawera got s	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 14:41:58	Kirsty Griffith		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 13:44:26	Lachlan wills		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 19:00:25	Leanne Boyce		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/8/2026 21:35:44	Lee Kratz		I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com	My understanding is the Tapawera Community Hub will be a wonderful facility for all people in the Tapaw	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/4/2026 14:57:25	Lenka		I work for community organiz	I support the Tapawera Com	Citizens Advice Bureau Nelson Tasman might be open to having drop off sessions in Tapawera - conditio	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/4/2026 15:11:56	Linda Glew		I have worked with whanāu in t	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 19:24:55	Linda Milsom		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	Tapawera really needs a community centre that is robust, sustainable and multipurpose. I belong to the T	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 13:58:50	Lisa Butcher		I live in Tapawera	I support the Tapawera Com	I have lived in the community for over 20years and my children onto school here. I have been involved in r	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 15:05:59	Lisa Carleton		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 7:47:04	Lisa Porter		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 8:20:58	Lizzie		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 21:19:04	Logan pestell		I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 14:44:33	Louise Petzold		I am regularly involved in the T	I support the Tapawera Com	In these times of disconnection it is more important than ever to have central bumping in places for comr	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/4/2026 13:32:26	Lynda Hannah		I am regularly involved in the T	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/4/2026 15:41:43	Lyric		Supporting after todays comm	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 8:34:11	Maddie		I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	Let's update Tapawera	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 15:54:55	Marie Bint		I live in Tapawera	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta

3/4/2026 13:43:50	Marina Kurban	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 8:05:02	Mark Carruthers	I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 17:55:38	Mary Moffitt	I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/4/2026 13:48:02	Maureen Urwin	I work in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	I would really like to use the new hub for our cancer support meeting	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/3/2026 7:38:09	Megan jordan	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	This is a wonderful opportunity to invest in the Tapawera community. It will be great to have a place to me	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 17:07:39	Michelle Vincent	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 16:41:40	Mike Drake	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	Provide a safe, functional and warm facility for volunteers and the community.	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 6:51:17	Naralee Jelinek	All of the above	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 6:20:47	nelsonlakescontract	I am regularly involved in the T	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 6:53:02	Nic Jelinek	All of the above	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 16:27:40	Nicola Allan	All of the above	I support the Tapawera Com	It is my belief that sometimes community leaders with the support of community organisations, clubs, inc	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/3/2026 22:01:53	Patricia Stephens	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/3/2026 12:47:54	Paula Donaldson	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	I'm impressed with the work of Tapawera Connect and what they are doing in the community. We cannot wait to have a much needed Hub in Tapawera!	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 8:14:54	Peter Phillips	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	Strongly support the New hub Golden opportunity	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 11:11:42	Phil Cain	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	New building would be good, but a better location would be good. In front of the rugby club rooms maybe	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 17:54:37	Phoebe Quinlivan	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	5 formal Community Surveys, (2 from Tapawera Connect, 2 from TDC, and a Feasibility Study), all showed Please do not let noisey opponents, or your desire to save money, muddy the facts	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/5/2026 15:09:15	Pip Peacocke	I am regularly involved in the T	I support the Tapawera Com	A hub for the community is important as that gives them agency and access to appropriate, local support	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 12:46:19	Rachel Carson	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 12:02:09	Rachel Moffitt	I live in Tapawera	I support the Tapawera Com	I care about the Tapawera Community Hub because I want my children to have real opportunity here. They are still young, but I already worry that without investment in our community, their choices will be lim I genuinely believe the Community Hub can help change that. It represents hope for families who want to This is a tight knit, passionate community with deep roots. My family is the fifth generation in our home. T Now, there are signs of momentum again. The cycle trail, strong industries like hops, and events such as t The Community Hub is a practical investment in connection, access, and long term wellbeing. It is about	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 15:21:06	Raewyn Cruttender	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	I support the new hub,but also think the old Community Centre should be repressed.	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 23:56:04	Rhi	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 14:02:49	Sabine Reinert	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/3/2026 12:15:39	Sammy Batchelor	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 8:53:55	Sarah Naider	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 16:01:35	Scott Donaldson	I live in Tapawera	I support the Tapawera Com	We want a bright future for our children in Tapawera. The new community hub would be an excellent way	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/5/2026 8:05:45	Sez Fyfe	I am regularly involved in the T	I support the Tapawera Com	This is a vital in providing necessary support for the Tapawera community	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 8:04:40	Shanna Russell	I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 22:25:27	Shari Whyte	Grew up there	I support the Tapawera Com	We need resources like this to keep the community together.	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 5:10:37	Shaye	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
4/18/2026 16:34:58	Shaye	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 21:02:38	Sonny Grant	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 16:11:54	Steve Udy	I live in Stanley Brook, 10 km n	I support the Tapawera Com	As the outgoing Chair of TDCC I am well aware of the significant and clear majority support for the new h	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
2/28/2026 19:04:07	Stuart and Jo Bryar	I am regularly involved in the T	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 21:23:41	Sue Dash	I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 21:00:38	Sue Grant	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/3/2026 5:34:26	Sue Marsland	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	I think it is very important to have a purpose built facility to provide a focus point for the Community, a pla	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 7:51:28	Susan Fenemor	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	Your link to this is faulty as when want to read it comes up with 494page not found When doing a one question 'do I live here' it should have been that yes/ no BUT You had multiple answers	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/2/2026 6:23:33	Tamara	I am regularly involved in the T	I support the Tapawera Com	I used to live in Tapawera and still involved with some of the groups there. The community hub would ser	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/1/2026 12:32:35	Temika	I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta
3/5/2026 10:07:45	The Hub is a wonder	I am from Tapawera, have lived	I support the Tapawera Com	I hope that the Hub development will go ahead and that abuse will also be found for the old community c	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta

3/1/2026 16:42:11	Thomas Melrose				I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	This funding should be used to move the community resources forward with the installation of a new con	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta		
3/1/2026 13:17:29	Tim Leyland				I am regularly involved in the T	I support the Tapawera Com	Without this hub Tapawera will fade away. It is crucial for building avibrant and resilient community for Ta	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta		
3/10/2026 8:30:06	Tina Francis				I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com	It worries me that Tapawera hasn't received support in a number of years while many smaller, more influe	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta		
3/4/2026 15:22:36	Toby Beesley				I live in the wider region and su	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta		
3/2/2026 8:05:25	Tony				I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta		
3/5/2026 11:16:17	Trevor Irwin				I am regularly involved in the T	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta		
2/28/2026 16:10:13	Trish				I am regularly involved in the T	I support the Tapawera Com	My husband grew up in Tapawera and we regularly visit. We often comment that it's becoming a ghost to	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta		
3/8/2026 21:47:27	Trish Vincent				I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com	Tapawera is sadly lacking in a community place for locals to use for many varied uses - hiring for private	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta		
3/1/2026 13:42:46	Tyler Russell				I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta		
2/28/2026 15:24:27	Wayne Leeden				I live, work and am trying to ru	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta		
3/4/2026 15:10:58	Yes				I support families in the Tapaw	I support the Tapawera Com	I support the proposal for a Tapawera Hub, this would be used by Services that are based outside of Tapa	I am happy for my name, connection to Ta		
3/7/2026 9:05:49	Yes				I have family / whānau in Tapa	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta		
3/7/2026 8:01:11	Zach Leyland				I live in the Tapawera area	I support the Tapawera Com		I am happy for my name, connection to Ta		

Damien O'Connor
MP for West Coast - Tasman

18 May 2022

Councillor Christeen Mackenzie
Moutere / Waimea Ward
Tasman District Council
Christeen.mackenzie@tasman.govt.nz

Tēnā koe Councillor Mackenzie,

Tapawera and Districts Community Hub

I write in support of funding to establish a community hub for the Tapawera and Districts Community.

A community hub would enable the Tapawera and Districts Community to have access to a similar facility as Community House in Motueka which has seen great benefit to that community. A hub in Tapawera and Districts would provide a venue for community groups to meet on a regular basis and a home for community organisations. As well as provide a place for the youth of Tapawera and Districts to access support and to meet and socialise.

Crucially, this proposed community hub would provide a location for health and wellbeing checks to be carried out in the local area. This would help many people in the community who struggle to get to Nelson Hospital due to lack of transport options or funds.

Tapawera Connect has been a star performer of the Ministry for Primary Industries' Rural Hubs programme. This time bound funding has helped the Tapawera community develop a workplan to improve community wellbeing and resilience. What the Community now needs is a facility to operate from. A facility that is permanent and enduring and where this workplan can be implemented to the benefit of all those in the area.

I therefore support funding for this long overdue community hub for the Tapawera and Districts Community.

Yours sincerely

Hon Damien O'Connor
MP for West Coast-Tasman



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35408

08/04/2026

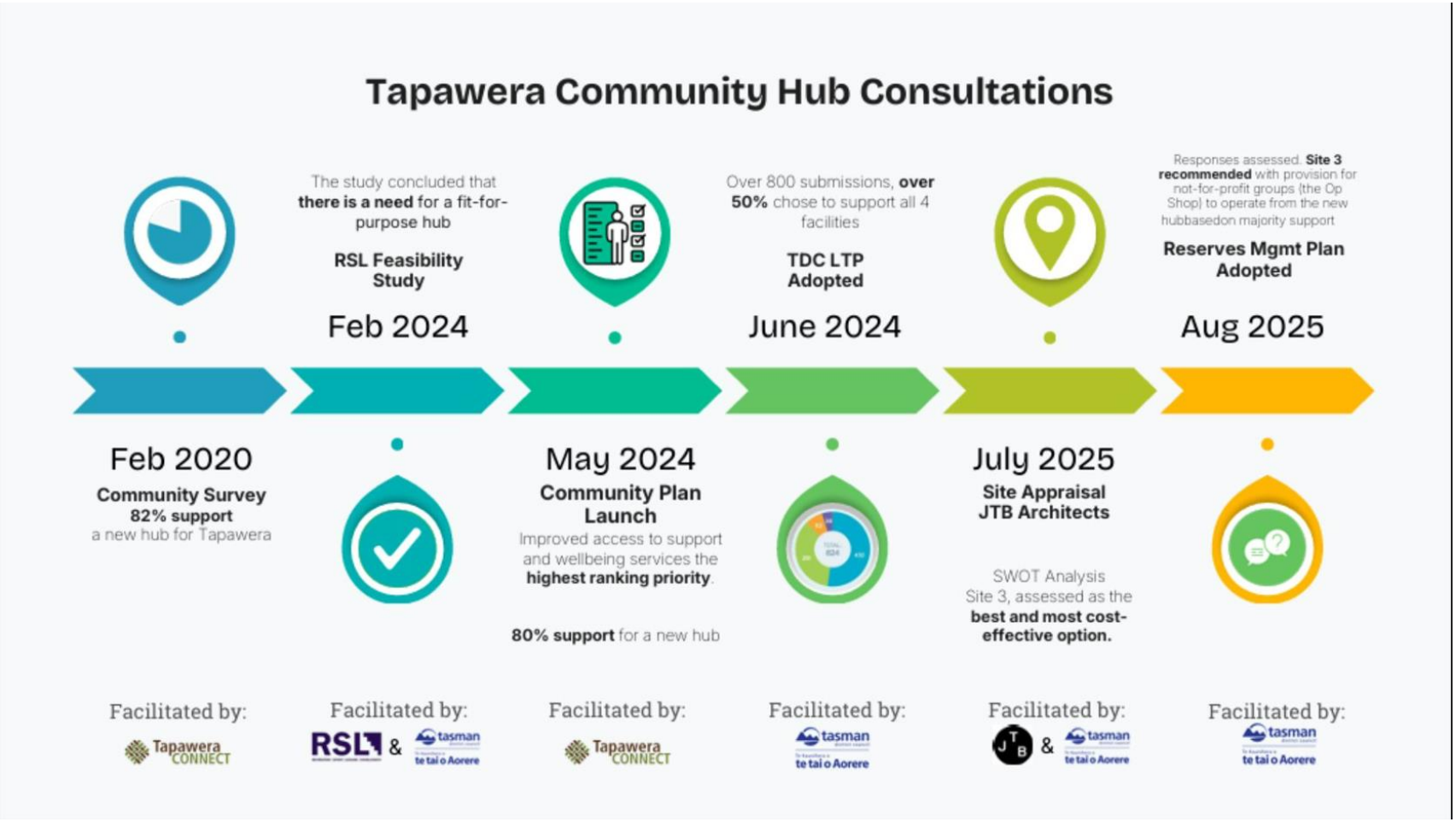
Groups and Organisations who have expressed interest in using the Hub:

Organisation:	Contact:	Message:	Date:
TDCC Op Shop		Would like to run the Op Shop out of the new hub	
Brain Injury Association Te Tau Ihu		When your Hub is up and running we at the brain Injury would be happy to offer education and support to those who suffer a BI and could come to your Hub on a regular basis.	19/11/25
Cancer Society	Marketing Coordinator | Kairuruku Whakatairanga	Cancer Society Nelson Tasman would greatly benefit from a warm, private, fit-for-purpose room at the Tapawera Community Hub. At present, our appointments and support groups are held in the Fire Station, which, while appreciated, is not a suitable long-term space for confidential or sensitive discussions. Many of the people we support are unable to travel long distances due to health, treatment side effects, or limited transport options. Having access to a dedicated space within the Hub would allow our team to provide local, confidential support, reduce travel barriers, and ensure whānau in Tapawera can access essential wellbeing services closer to home.	10 Dec '25
Seniors		Monthly Welby Talking Cafe Monthly Tea and Talk Weekly Sit and Be Fit Annual Christmas lunch	
Garden Club		AGM's Winter Gatherings (monthly)	
School/Kindy/ Whanau support coordinator		Weekly drop-in space	
Book Club		Meetings: 4th Thursday of the month	
Tapawera Connect		Interested in manning the hub so it is open to the public 5 days a week for support with information and access to support and services.	
Womens Support Motueka		I'd like to express our interest in offering our services in Tapawera. While we're not yet in a position to	24 Nov 2025

		provide all the details, we would certainly be keen to explore and trial something together.	
Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) Nelson Tasman	Lenka	Potential to offer drop-in sessions in Tapawera, dependent on capacity and community interest	March 2026
SASH (Sexual Abuse Support & Healing)	Ali	Would be able to offer improved support services if a designated hub space was available	
Motueka Community House	Jane Henderson	Strong support for a hub as a base for wellbeing services, connection, and access to support	
Drug & Alcohol Support Services (TPO / similar)	Jocie	Hub would enable delivery of health services directly to local families	
Nelson Tasman Health / Community Health Workers	Pip Peacocke (NMDHB)	Hub would improve access to appropriate local support and community agency	
Youth Services (Motueka-based providers)	Jem Meegan	Essential for youth wellbeing, connection, and safe community space	

Community Demand Evidence (Survey Summary – March 2026)

- Overwhelming support for the Community Hub across respondents (100+ submissions received)
- Strong themes identified:
  - Need for **local access to services** (health, social, support providers)
  - Importance of a **warm, safe, fit-for-purpose space**
  - Demand for a **central meeting place for community groups**
  - Role in **emergency response and resilience**
  - Focus on **youth, families, and future generations**
- Multiple organisations confirmed they would **actively deliver services from the Hub if available**


Tapawera Community Hub Consultations
Feb 2020
Community Survey
82% support
a new hub for Tapawera
Facilitated by:
Tapawera CONNECT
Feb 2024
The study concluded that there is a need for a fit-for-purpose hub
RSL Feasibility Study
Facilitated by:
RSL & tasman te tai o Aorere
May 2024
Community Plan Launch
Improved access to support and wellbeing services the highest ranking priority.
80% support for a new hub
Facilitated by:
Tapawera CONNECT
June 2024
Over 800 submissions, over 50% chose to support all 4 facilities
TDC LTP Adopted
Facilitated by:
tasman te tai o Aorere
July 2025
Site Appraisal
JTB Architects
SWOT Analysis
Site 3, assessed as the best and most cost-effective option.
Facilitated by:
JTB & tasman te tai o Aorere
Aug 2025
Responses assessed. Site 3 recommended with provision for not-for-profit groups (the Op Shop) to operate from the new hubbasedon majority support
Reserves Mgmt Plan Adopted
Facilitated by:
tasman te tai o Aorere



Submission on
Tasman District Council – Te Tai o Aorere
Draft Annual Plan 2026/2027 - Fees and Charges
Alcohol Licensing Fees

3 May 2026

Tēnā koutou

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Annual Plan and proposed fees and charges for 2026-2027. We are submitting specifically on alcohol licensing fees.

We would like the opportunity to speak (online) to our submission.

If you have any questions on the comments we have included in our submission, please contact:

Jennifer Lamm
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E: jennifer@ahw.org.nz

About Alcohol Healthwatch

Alcohol Healthwatch is an independent national charity working to reduce alcohol-related harm and inequities. We provide a range of regional and national health promotion services such as providing evidence-based information and advice on policy and planning matters, supporting community action projects and coordinating networks to address alcohol-related harm such as the Cross-council Local Alcohol Policy Network.

Specific Comments

1. The alcohol licensing fees listed on the Council's website[1] are those set by the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013[2]. However, while full cost recovery was envisaged by the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012[3], the nationally fixed fees set under the 2013 Regulations have not kept pace with the costs incurred by the Council, and it is anticipated that these fees will not adequately reflect costs till at least 2027.[4]

2. As the Council's alcohol licensing fees for 2026/27[5] remain those set by Government in 2013, the revenue shortfall associated with administering alcohol licensing will persist, meaning the Council (and ultimately ratepayers) will continue to subsidise these activities.
3. The insufficiency of the fees prescribed by the 2013 Regulations was highlighted at the 2025 Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting.[6] We also understand that the financial shortfall in administering alcohol licensing is likely to worsen should the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Improving Alcohol Regulation) Amendment Bill[7] be enacted.
4. If the Bill is passed, it is anticipated that the existing risk-cost formulas in the 2013 Regulations would change for clubs and restaurants[7], and additional administrative requirements (such as matters relating to the standing of objectors[8], certification requirements, right to respond, changes to renewals of licences[9] and related processes) will likely increase costs for councils and place additional pressure on staff resources, particularly licensing inspectors. Further costs, as yet unknown, may also arise as the Bill has left much to future Regulations made on the recommendation of the Minister.
5. As noted above, without setting realistic fees, the Council (and ratepayers) would be subsidising the costs associated with alcohol licensing. Hence an increasing number of councils[10] have utilised their bylaw-making powers under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fee-setting Bylaws) Order 2013[11] and set fees (usually 100% cost recovery) through this process as a licensing authority, and in respect of inspection and enforcement functions.
6. **We strongly encourage the Council to also make a bylaw** that reflects the costs of licensing activities and recommend that the Council consider opting for 100% cost recovery, increasing fees incrementally until the bylaw is reviewed.
7. We further recommend that the Council conduct a comprehensive review of all the costs incurred with licensing, which includes costs associated with administration, monitoring and enforcement to ensure that these are met by the sector.
8. Reviewing fees in a timely manner would, we believe, meet the policy objectives of the licensing fees regime, namely:
    (a) To recover the total reasonable costs incurred by the Council in administering the alcohol licensing system
    (b) To ensure that those who create the greatest need for regulatory effort bear the commensurate costs
    (c) To allow local circumstances to be reflected in the fees paid by operators and income received by the Council
    (d) To minimise alcohol-related harm, to the extent that this can be achieved through a cost recovery regime.[12]

Summary

9. The alcohol licensing regime and fee-setting is part of a package of measures which, when used comprehensively, can create safer environments and significantly minimise rates of hazardous drinking and subsequently alcohol-related harm. This includes Alcohol Control Bylaws[13], Local Alcohol Policies[14], and other related plans and policies.
10. An alcohol licensing bylaw that sets fees that reflects the costs incurred with alcohol licencing is not only a harm reduction strategy, but it also supports the Council's vision to foster thriving and resilient Tasman communities.[15]

REFERENCES

1 Tasman District Council Sale of Alcohol charges: fees structure. https://www.tasman.govt.nz/my-business/alcohol-licensing.

2 Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013. https://www.legislation.govt.nz/secondary-legislation/pco-drafted/2013/452/en/latest/#DLM5708106.

3 See sections 402-405 Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012. https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2012/120/en/latest/#DLM3339333

4 Ministry of Justice. Fee system for alcohol control. https://www.justice.govt.nz/justice-sector-policy/key-initiatives/key-initiatives-archive/sale-and-supply-of-alcohol/licensing/fee-system-for-alcohol-licensing/

5 Tasman District Council. Statement of Proposal – Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/2027. Pages 30-33. https://hdp-au-prod-app-tasman-shape-files.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/7017/7507/4267/20260401_SoP_Draft_Schedule_of_Fees_and_Charges_2026-27.pdf.

6 Local Government New Zealand. 2025 Annual General Meeting. Remit 3: That LGNZ advocates for *the government to update the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 18 December 2013 to account for inflation and include a mechanism for automatic annual inflation adjustments.*

7 The Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Improving Alcohol Regulation) Amendment Bill, if passed, will enable clubs to alternatively hold an on-licence (and an off-licence if held prior to 2012, pursuant to s28(4) of the SSAA), and restaurants will be permitted to also hold an off-licence. https://www.legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2026/262/en/latest/. Note that submissions on the Bill close on 14 May 2026.

8 See clauses 4 to 7 of the Bill amending sections 102, 120, 128 and 140 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

9 See clause 16 of the Bill reversing section 133 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012. *In considering whether to renew a licence, the licensing authority or licensing committee concerned* ***must not take into account*** *any inconsistency between a relevant local alcohol policy and—*

(a) the renewal of the licence; or
(b) the consequences of its renewal.

10 For example:

- Hamilton City Council Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 https://storage.googleapis.com/hccproduction-web-assets/public/Uploads/Documents/Bylaws/Hamilton-City-Alcohol-Fees-Bylaw-2025-final.pdf .
- Hastings District Council Alcohol Licensing Fees Bylaw 2024 https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/assets/Document-Library/Alcohol-Licensing-Fee-Bylaw/Alcohol-Licensing-Fee-Bylaw.pdf.
- Hutt City Council Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2024 https://hccpublicdocs.azurewebsites.net/api/download/83c4c58dfb9a4cb0a0d6a833cfa250f9/_policies/7afd8fe8245227494d4c9fe8a961a16d2063.
- Kapiti Coast District Council Alcohol Licensing Fees Bylaw 2024 https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/media/amgnzzqb/alcohol-fees-licensing-bylaw-2024.pdf
- Matamata-Piako District Council Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 https://mpdc.govt.nz/filelink/fileman-files/CouncilDocuments/Bylaws/Alcohol%20Licensing%20Fees%20Bylaw%202025.pdf
- Porirua City Council Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2024 https://storage.googleapis.com/pcc-wagtail-media/documents/Alcohol_Fees_Bylaw_2024.pdf
- Tauranga City Council Alcohol Fees Bylaw https://www.tauranga.govt.nz/Portals/0/data/council/bylaws/files/alcohol-licensing-fees-bylaw-2025.pdf
- Waipā District Council Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2024 https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/our-council/bylawsandpolicies/bylaws
- Waitomo District Council Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 https://www.waitomo.govt.nz/media/sv2lbgmn/waitomo-district-alcohol-fees-bylaw-2025.pdf

- Wellington City Council Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2024 https://wellington.govt.nz/-/media/your-council/plans-policies-and-bylaws/bylaws/files/alcohol-fees-bylaw-2024.pdf?la=en&hash=E740BA23791C8CA8F55A230467299BE4F33FF9C0.
- Whangārei District Council Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2016 https://www.wdc.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/4/documents/council/bylaws/alcohol-fees-bylaw.pdf

11 Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fee-setting Bylaws) Order 2013. https://www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2013/0453/latest/whole.html

12 Ministry of Justice. Regulatory Impact Statement for the Alcohol Licensing System. 2013. https://www.regulation.govt.nz/assets/RIS-Documents/ris-justice-frf-nov13.pdf.

13 Tasman District Council Control of Alcohol in Public Places Bylaw 2025. https://tasmandc-publicdocs.azurewebsites.net/api/doc/C8F82D29/36683.

14 Tasman District Council Local Alcohol Policy. https://tasmandc-publicdocs.azurewebsites.net/api/doc/C8F82D29/32004

15 Tasman District Council. Vision, Purpose and Community Outcomes. https://tasmandc-publicdocs.azurewebsites.net/api/doc/C8F82D29/32375

Annual Plan Submission 2026/27 Motueka Community Board
Tasman District Council Annual Plan

Introduction

The Motueka Community Board provides the following priorities and advocacy points for consideration in the Tasman District Council Annual Plan. These priorities reflect ongoing feedback from the Motueka community and the Board's commitment to supporting sustainable growth, resilient infrastructure, and strong community representation within the Motueka Ward. The Board seeks to ensure that local perspectives continue to be recognised in Council planning and decision making.

Key Priorities and Advocacy

• Motueka Aquatic Centre
The Motueka Community Board continues to strongly support the development of the Motueka Aquatic Centre. This project remains a key community aspiration and the Board will continue to advocate for its progression as an important recreational, health, and community wellbeing asset for the Motueka Ward.

• Strengthening Relationships with Golden Bay Community Board
The Motueka Community Board supports continued collaboration with the Golden Bay Community Board. Strengthening this relationship will enable both Boards to work collectively on shared regional issues and advocacy for the wider Tasman communities. This will include, but not limited to, share resources for workshops, where appropriate.

• Regional Infrastructure and the Regional Spatial Plan
The Board supports the objectives of the Regional Spatial Plan and the provision of resilient infrastructure, particularly the 3 water services in the Motueka ward. Planning must address both current needs and future development.

• Support for Seaview Heights Development
The Board supports the Seaview Heights housing development strategy and recognises the importance of planned residential growth to accommodate the increasing population within the Motueka area.

• Motueka Beautification and Public Spaces
The Board supports continued investment in the beautification and enhancement of Motueka's public spaces. This includes improvements along High Street, upgrades to parks and reserves, and investment in community playgrounds such as the North Street playground. Ongoing attention to essential services including rubbish bins and waste collection is also important to maintain the town's appearance and functionality. Request that the Motueka High Street upgrade identified in the LTP 2021-2031 be reinstated in future planning, particularly following the removal of several Golden Elm trees.

• Road Safety Review
The Motueka Community Board requests that a safety review be undertaken for the intersection of King Edward Street, College Street, and Queen Victoria Street. Community feedback indicates that this intersection presents safety concerns that warrant investigation.

• Community Emergency Preparedness
The Board continues to advocate for initiatives that strengthen community resilience and preparedness for emergency events. Supporting coordinated planning and communication will help ensure the Motueka community is better prepared to respond to emergencies. Included in this is regular communication with Civil Defence Management, along with other community resilience groups.

• Coastal Protection Investigation
The Board requests that Council investigate the coastal rock wall protection along the Motueka ward foreshore. This work is important to understand the long term resilience of the coastline and potential risks to community assets.

• Motueka Library Big Meeting Room

Mitigate the challenges of the library meeting room with IT issues and lack of sound. Investigate set up of microphones and adequate speaker system.

• Motueka Historical Wharf Restoration

The Motueka Community Board requests that Tasman District Council endorse the Motueka Historical Wharf Restoration in principle. We acknowledge current funding constraints may limit direct support. The Board has previously demonstrated its commitment through contributions of $10,000 from Special Projects funding and $700 from Discretionary funding

• Motueka Library

Advocate for retention of current service levels and staffing at the Motueka Library to protect this valued community asset for Motueka and surrounding areas.

• Stormwater

Prioritise improvements to stormwater resilience, including consideration of a modern automated gate at Thorp Drain similar to Woodlands Drain. Target known problem areas such as Woodlands Avenue, and review drainage limitations from Wratt Street through to Monahan Street, including additional soak pits where appropriate.

• Motueka Isite

Support the continued operation of the Motueka i-SITE as a key asset for the district's growing visitor economy. Request that Council maintain its annual contribution to preserve current service levels, staffing, and opening hours.

• Recycling

Advocate for increased community education on sustainable recycling practices and waste minimisation.

• Wallace Street

Advocate for pedestrianisation of Wallace Street, from the High Street end to the Decks Reserve car park entrance, creating a plaza-style public space similar to Sundial Square in Richmond and upper Trafalgar Street in Nelson.

• Rivers

Review flood protection measures for the Little Sydney stream including Factory Road, Swamp Road and Umukuri Road catchment extending from Brooklyn, also the Dehra Doon catchment and the Riuwaka River to better protect residents and productive land.

Otuwhero and Marahau Rivers Catchments. There is no River Management Plan for the Marahau/Otuwhero catchments, which needs to be addressed. Coastal, Inlet and land use (forestry) issues for the area similarly.

• Memorial Park Reserve Management Plan

Request that this Reserve Management Plan be reviewed in the coming 2026-2027 year. The previous review for Memorial Park occurred in 1997 and is a high priority. The Motueka Ward Reserves Plan was reviewed in 2019 but the Memorial Park Reserve was not included.

• Reserves Funds

Request that Motueka Community Board Special Projects funds held in Reserves, along with any unspent Discretionary funding surplus, remain accessible for future community projects.

Future Planning and Special Projects

In addition to the priorities outlined above, the Motueka Community Board will continue to identify and prioritise special projects for the Motueka Ward. These projects will be ranked according to community benefit and strategic importance, with the intention of seeking allocation of appropriate reserves funding within the 2026 to 2027 budget.

Community Representation and Local Voice
The Board will continue to advocate for the importance of the Motueka Community Board as a vital link between the Motueka community and Tasman District Council. Ensuring that local voices are heard and reflected in Council decision making remains a core function of the Board.

Improved Communication Between Council and Community
The Board advocates for strengthened two-way communication between Tasman District Council and the Motueka community. In particular, improved communication between Council and the Motueka Community Board is essential to ensure the Board is kept informed and able to represent community interests effectively. This communication is paramount for reporting back to the community,

Through this process, the Board aims to ensure that future investments deliver meaningful outcomes for the Motueka community and support the long term growth, resilience, and wellbeing of the ward.

Nelson Tasman Climate Forum

Submission on Tasman District Council Annual Plan 2026-2027

Prepared by NTCF Submissions Group

02 May 2026

SUMMARY

This submission addresses the Tasman District Council Annual Plan 2026-2027, focusing on climate resilience, emissions reduction, and equitable adaptation. Key recommendations include:

- Support charging the 2025 weather recovery rate by capital value rather than uniform rate, with consideration of a hybrid approach
- Support establishing an ongoing Emergency Event Financial Resilience Fund beyond the initial 5-year recovery period
- Oppose slowing depreciation funding for roading assets as this passes costs to future generations
- Request public scrutiny of assumptions underlying the $4.8m rock repair and flood protection programme due to maladaptation risks
- Propose alternative revenue mechanisms including an airport passenger climate levy.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Nelson Tasman Climate Forum (NTCF) thanks the Tasman District Council for the opportunity to make a submission on the Tasman District Council Annual Plan 2026-2027.

2. NTCF is a community-led climate action initiative. We aim to weave the community together around urgent, strategic action to achieve the following goals:
   - rapidly reduce the region's greenhouse gas emissions, increase carbon sequestration and undertake other climate stabilising initiatives, consistent with the urgency of the situation
   - adapt to the likely adverse environmental effects of climate change and the resulting social and cultural effects, using inclusive and responsible decision-making to support these desirable outcomes
   - respond to climate change in a way that recognises the rights of all living organisms, including people, and provides for a just, equitable, and resilient society.

3. We acknowledge the kaitiaki status of local iwi as Manawhenua, tangata whenua of this rohe.

4. *Please note* that whilst the Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council have both signed the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum Charter, this submission has been prepared completely independently of the Councils. This submission is in no way intended and nor should be construed to represent the views of either Council in any way.

SUBMISSION QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

Question 0. Which is your preferred option for a new 2025 Weather Events Recovery Rate? Please share any feedback you wish to provide.

In considering this question, we are guided by Goal 3 of the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum:

> *to 'respond to climate change in a way that recognises the rights of all living organisms, including people, and provides for a just, equitable and resilient society'*.

We support the weather event Recovery Rate and the Recovery and Emergency Event Financial Resilience Rate. Costs already incurred should not be passed on to the future, and we need a proactive approach to funding future climate damage.

We address the two issues underlying the four options separately.

1. Uniform rate ($125 per rating unit) vs charging by capital value

We acknowledge there are many potential perspectives on what is a just equitable and resilient society around this issue e.g. property value is an imperfect approximation of wealth or ability to pay/income; wealth is a well-established correlate to climate pollution - which is driving the extreme weather events; many other factors may contribute to the risk of weather damage; and people affected by the weather damage have suffered losses in many other ways.

We further acknowledge that the weather recovery rate is part of a larger overall rate increase that will impose financial burden on many residents/ratepayers.

On balance, we consider charging a uniform weather recovery rate, because it doesn't take account of individual needs (i.e. worsens inequality) and contributory responsibility, would not be the fairest way to apportion the cost. We therefore support charging by capital value, acknowledging however that this is likely to be far from perfect.

An alternative funding approach for the Council to consider could be a split between a uniform charge and charging on the basis of capital value (the same principle underlying Council's non-targeted rates).

We note the decision now will likely set a precedent for funding future severe weather events.

We acknowledge Tasman District Council has a strong partnership relationship with iwi Māori. We do ask, however, that the Council keep firmly in mind that Māori are usually disproportionately affected by extreme weather events and frequently provide

magnificent disaster responses to their local communities, and yet emergency response and disaster risk reduction efforts often fail to involve iwi/hapū.[1]

Consequently maintaining and developing stronger relationships with the eight iwi of Te Tau Ihu in relation to climate change mitigation and disaster response must be a priority.

2. Limit to 5 years vs ongoing Emergency Event Financial Resilience Fund

We acknowledge or note:

- the Council's responsibility for funding the weather recovery costs is derived from s.64 of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002
- the Council is operating in a policy and legislative vacuum from central Government on the question of funding climate change related costs and building resilience
- there is a funding vacuum for our Nationally Determined Contribution 2022-2030 – which is Aotearoa's principal leverage to drive down global emissions and in turn will help reduce the extent of future climate-related damage in Tasman District
- there is very strong evidence that storm frequency and intensity in Te Tau Ihu is increasing[2]
- Aotearoa spends overwhelmingly on responding to natural disasters and a very minor percentage on reducing risk[3]
- there is a strong economic case that investing in risk reduction can greatly reduce spending on response and recovery[4]

[1] Chair in the Economics of Disasters and Climate Change 2025. Whakahura—extreme events and the emergence of climate change. Victoria University of Wellington.

[2] For example: Bodeker, G.E., S.M. Rosier, T.K. Carey-Smith, et al. 2024. Changing rainfall extremes with climate change in New Zealand: guidance for decision-makers. "Week-long events are becoming about 3% more intense per degree Celsius of warming while hour-long events are increasing at about 18% per degree Celsius".
Stephens, J. 2025. Nelson and Tasman floods.
Sigid, M.F., H. Lewis & L.J. Harrington 2026. Bigger storms, more often: new study projects likely future rainfall impacts on NZ.

[3] Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and Ministry for the Environment 2025. Building New Zealand's long-term resilience to hazards: long-term insights briefing.

[4] For example: IAG New Zealand 2025. New Zealand's $64b spend on natural hazards heavily skewed to recovery over resilience. "International research shows that a dollar invested in risk reduction can reduce spending on response and recovery by four dollars."
Regional and Unitary Councils Aotearoa 2023. Before the deluge 2.0. Updated case for co-investment in flood management infrastructure following Cyclones Hale and Gabrielle. "Flood protection infrastructure delivers one of the highest cost-benefit values compared to other large-scale infrastructure projects, ranging between 1:5 and 1:8. This means for every $1 invested in flood protection, there are between $5-$8 in direct losses avoided."

On balance, assuming we are lucky enough not to have more damaging weather events in the next five years, we support building up a fund to support disaster readiness beyond the first five years – alongside a strong Council programme to reduce risk vulnerability and to build resilience.

The latter is an issue for deep consideration in the forthcoming Long-term Plan deliberations.

Question 1. Do you have any feedback on the proposed operating budget movements?

We support the provision for increased depreciation arising from higher asset valuations, particularly for roading and 3 Waters assets. This reduces passing on costs to the future.

In relation to both operational and capital expenditure, we support the focus Councillor Neubauer is bringing to the structural sources of Council costs e.g. through more concentrated urban design. We envisage this will also provide significant leverage in reducing transport and other sources of climate pollution. Its need is heightened by the fossil fuel crisis sparked by the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, ongoing global energy security concerns and the imperative to transition away from fossil fuel dependence.

2a. Do you have any feedback on the progressing or pausing the community facilities projects?

These will have social benefits and would support resilience, for which there is an increasing need (heightened by increased transport costs caused by the current Strait of Hormuz closure). They all have community expectations.

On the other hand, they would contribute to already stretched council debt.

We suggest a concerted effort to find alternative sources of funding and/or reducing cost while retaining functionality and/or project staging if possible.

Question 2b. Do you have any feedback on the proposed changes to the capital programme?

We reiterate our second comment at Question 1.

We have concerns over the June-July 2025 recovery - Rock repair and rebuild Reinstate flood protection $4,800,000 item (as listed in the Capital Programme – Draft Annual Plan 2026/2027).

i. Why is this not considered a weather recovery event cost? To list this as a capital cost, we suggest, obscures the harsh consequences we are

experiencing of our reliance on fossil fuels to support our economy and society.

ii. We assume this is the work described at www.tasman.govt.nz/my-council/about-us/media-centre/news-and-notices/river-recovery.

iii. This description makes no zero mention of providing for increased high rainfall frequency and intensities[5], nor for making room for rivers[6]. It doesn't refer to the potential contribution of nature-based solutions to reducing flood flows e.g. reforesting catchments and creating wetlands[7].

iv. Rather, it appears to be largely a reinstatement of the existing stopbank system. If so, we are greatly concerned it risks repeat damage when the next severe weather event occurs.

v. We understand that providing a full river resilience programme will have consequences for people who have homes and livelihoods adjacent to the rivers and that it will come with substantial upfront higher cost than simply reactive reinstatement and small improvements.

vi. The work looks to have significant maladaptation potential (actions taken to adapt to climate change that unintentionally increase vulnerability, create unintended negative consequences, or reduce future options).

vii. We request that the underlying assumptions of this work be put into the public arena for scrutiny.

Question 3. Do you have any feedback on the proposed slowing of planned funding of depreciation for roading assets?

We do not support the slowing of planned funding of deprecation for roading assets. This is yet another instance of passing on costs to the future (like climate change).

[5] Footnote 2, above.
[6] Buchanan, C. 2026. Dan Hikuroa: Let the rivers speak. E-Tangata.
Kay, Tom 2025. WEBINAR – Taking care of our rivers in the face of climate change.
[7] For example: Norton, D. 2026. The role of wetlands in mitigating extreme weather events.

Question 4. Do you have any feedback on the proposed changes to Council's fees and charges?

We ask Council to investigate opportunities from applying the Polluter Pays principle. For example, a $5 levy on the 428 755 passengers departing from Nelson Airport last year could provide $2.1 million in total, or a little over $1 million to each of the two Councils. This could be well used to fund climate resilience and emission reduction projects.

If this can't be done through this Annual Plan process, then certainly it should be included in the development of the new Long-term Plan.

SUBMISSION ON TDC ANNUAL PLAN 2026 AND LONG TERM PLAN

FROM 88 VALLEY RURAL WATER SUPPLY COMMITTEE

3 MAY 2026

SUMMARY

The 88 Valley Rural Water Supply Committee proposes a tiered charging system for users supplied through restrictors when the scheme is joined to the urban water 'club'. We also propose measures to improve future resilience of the scheme.

BACKGROUND

The 88 Valley Rural Water Supply Committee is an advisory committee comprising users of the 88 Valley Rural Water Supply, one of four rural water supplies operated by Tasman District Council.

The 88 Valley Rural Water Supply currently comprises 334 restricted rural connections (179 water accounts) servicing farms and households along the eastern Nelson hills between 88 Valley and Wairoa Gorge. The scheme currently supplies - over a distance of more than 15km and solely by gravity - 446 units of water, each unit being 1000 litres per day, to individual storages on each property. The scheme began life in 1981 as primarily a farmer-operated stock water and farm supply scheme, but is now under the control of Tasman District Council and supplies potable water to households as well as to farms. TDC's last survey of 88 Valley scheme users in 2021 showed stock and agricultural water use was 65.7% of total scheme usage, i.e. domestic (potable) use was about 35% of water used.

The current source is the native forested Parkes Stream and the supply is chlorinated. In 2024, this committee advocated for retention of the scheme as a mixed use rural water supply, with household users to provide UV treatment at potable connections only. Council's proposal was to supply most of the scheme reticulation with pumped treated urban water from Clover Road via the Wakefield reticulation. The Committee considered that option lacks the resilience of the current gravity supply from Parkes Stream – especially if the power is off for weeks after a major event such as an earthquake – and was concerned about the increased charges of the urban supply option. However, Council has decided to proceed with essentially disestablishing the rural water scheme.

The 88 Valley scheme is to be split into two, with the piped network north of the Totara View water tanks supplied with treated water pumped from Clover Road to Brightwater then Wakefield, with treated water to be supplied to the network before 1 July 2027. The upper network from Parkes Stream to Totara View would, we understand, revert to being an untreated stockwater scheme.

We understand that the 88 Valley scheme will before July 2027, become part of the urban water supply 'club' and become subject to fees and charges applicable to Rural Extensions to Urban Schemes. Our primary concern is the likely significant increases in cost, especially for users of stock water and with other non-potable water needs. These increases are already happening with a 19% increase in current charges proposed in this Annual Plan even before the new source water is supplied. By our calculations, water supply costs rose by a compounding 16% per year in the 16 years 2008-24 (16 years) and this has already forced some users, especially non-potable agricultural water users to leave the scheme. We are advised by Mike Schruer that even with the regular increases in charges, the 88 Valley scheme currently operates with $88000 of general rate support (~$200 per water unit).

OUR SUBMISSION

At a committee meeting on 28 April 2026 and attended by Mike Schruer and Vedran Hadzihalilovic, the 88 Valley rural water supply committee resolved to lodge a submission on the future of the scheme, and to circulate a newsletter to scheme users advising them of the changes to the scheme.

1 Charges

Our primary concern about future charges is that applying the current 'flat rate' approach to charges for rural extensions to urban schemes will result in astronomical increases in cost for users with large numbers of water units; these are users of water for stockwater and other non-potable needs.

We have been provided with the table below showing numbers of users vs units held:

Unit Range	Unique Water Accounts	Total Units
1 Unit	96	96
2 Units	40	80
3 Units	13	39
4-10 Units	26	157
10-20 Units	3	54
>20 Units	1	21
Total	**179**	**446**

We have applied the current 'rural extension to urban schemes' charges ($1194.87 per m^3 per day water restrictor volume) and compared that cost with current 88V scheme charges (with the general rates contribution absorbed into unit charges, raising unit charges from $614 to $814 per m^3 per day water restrictor volume).

This analysis shows that, even before the proposed increases in this year's annual plan, any user with 2 units would face an increased annual cost of 6.5% to $2390 per annum, 3 units a 17% increase to $3585, 5 units 27% increase to $5975, 10 units 36% to $11950 and 20 units 41% to $23900 p.a. This will clearly drive many rural users off the upgraded scheme.

We suggest the following tiered charging system should apply, either to the 88 Valley lower scheme or to all rural extensions to urban schemes:

Unit Range	**% of Urban metered charge/unit (1 m^3)**
First 2 units	75%
Units 3-5	60%
Units 6+	45%

These charges would recognise that

(a) Users on rural connections supplied through restrictors (unpressurised water) have additional infrastructure costs not provided by Council, including tanks, pumps, pipework etc;
(b) Holders of larger numbers of units are required to use highly treated potable water for their stockwater and other non-potable rural needs and will, in any case, likely relinquish some of their units because of cost;

(c) Existing users have already paid for the existing reticulation (some through helping to install the scheme, unpaid, back in 1981) and installed internal reticulation on their farms and properties which will need its own upgrades if their source of water is changed; and
(d) Existing users have sought to retain the rural stockwater scheme rather than become part of the urban reticulation, as described above.

2 Resilience

The Committee suggests that in order to retain some resilience in the event of prolonged loss of the pumped supply, a valved connection to the existing Parkes Stream supply be maintained, and that this factor be taken into account when deciding about the future operation of the remnant upper scheme.

We also suggest that priority be given to replacement of pipework throughout the scheme, given there is an increasing failure rate for PE pipe which is already more than 45 years old.

We wish to present this submission to the Council.

On behalf of the 88 Valley Rural Water Scheme Committee

Andrew Fenemor, chairperson

Cameron Ealam
Edwyn Ladley
Bruce Ealam
Simon Vincent
Claire Parkes
Don Everitt
Ian Parkes
Rob Merrilees
Gordon Appleton

Submission to Tasman District Council

My name is David Christopher Young. I was for many years a reporter and feature-writer, becoming deputy editor of The Listener. I am author of 14 books and numerous essays, articles and chapters with a special focus on the relationship between culture/history, especially water, and the environment. www.davidyoungwriter.com

Introduction
As a resident and ratepayer (for 26 years), and years before that a seasonal worker here and then regular family holiday visitor, I am also a willing contributor to paying fair rates and taxes. However, I have viewed with concern the prospect of 10 percent rates increases (and it seems, higher) in perpetuity, plus now (unimaginably) a likely new flood damage rate above the signaled increases, that are foreshadowed in the Tasman District Council's plan.

As a sometime submitter to the Environment Court and to its predecessor, I need to acknowledge that local government is becoming increasingly difficult and, even hazardous, given the current government's trend of rule by fiat, and, yes, that hindsight is everyone's gift.

For that reason, I have chosen examples of serious overspending where on each occasion ample forewarning has been available. This has led to my gradual conclusion that the TDC's decision-making on "big ticket "items seem inadequate in deliberation, unduly casual in execution and often far exceeding original costs in their unforeseen consequences.

Unfortunately, it seems the costlier the decision to ratepayers, the greater the council secrecy as far as we ratepayers are concerned. Such decisions often impose quite unnecessary demands on both ratepayers' pockets and mean ever-increasing rates. Advice may be sought from, or freely given even by independent agencies, but very often ignored by council.

I will now offer several examples from recent history. Playing to my strengths I shall confine my remarks largely to matters relating to freshwater.

1. **Waikoropupū Springs**

Waikoropupū is the largest freshwater springs in New Zealand and the Southern Hemisphere, a sacred *wāhi tapu* and *taonga* to Māori. This body of water is rated internationally as being of outstanding beauty both intrinsically not least for its stygofauna- enhanced clarity and in its setting, was granted a Water Conservation Order (finally gazetted 2023). But the application for the Order as heard in the Environment Court was actively opposed by the Tasman District Council.

Prior to the hearing money was committed to workshops (FLAG) from which emerged the Council on the side of, as I understand it, five farmers from seven in the upper catchment, where potential nitrate run-off was a concern. These farmers opposed their farming practices being restricted by a possible WCO.

I do not know the price we paid for these meetings, but it was a show of democratic engagement. Many TDC ratepayers from both sides of the Takaka Hill, and expert witnesses from further afield, spoke at these workshops. The council's decision meant that considerable time, research and money was spent by those submitting in support of the WCO. I was one of these.

The Water Conservation Order was originally heard in 2017. I was dismayed to see our council oppose the Order. The international rarity of such a taonga as the Springs and the delicate ecological balance that gives rise to them ought to have been a no-brainer – in any jurisdiction, in any country. Better advice and preparation for the WCO by the council, would have spared the majority of ratepayers a considerable cost of council opposing such an application.

The Environment Court made an order protecting the Springs within their catchment and was consistently critical of the TDC's attitude to its stewardship of the Springs. Waikoropupū "has been rendered at significant risk through long-standing inadequate monitoring and inadequate catchment management by the Tasman District Council", the Judge said. The decision contains a number of observations by the Judge that can only be described as a measured but sustained scolding. He found ample grounds for enhanced protection of the Springs.

Upon the announcement, the TDC's Newsline publication neglected to inform readers of its council's previously highly questionable position on this matter of protection, with, implicitly, a bias that council must have been neutral on this topic. It did inform us that the council would now work with Ngāti Tama. I suggest that one small cost-saving measure would be to abandon 'Newsline' – it lacks the credibility to be informative. Why must ratepayers pay for half-truths and propaganda? But do, please, chose to inform – one serious journalist working a part time role would be worth a lot more than Newsline's current output and help put an end to the Council's "minimal disclosure" culture.

Not only was the council's decision to oppose the WCO fundamentally wrong, but its failure to recognize and endorse the Springs' internationally significant values would have cost its ratepayers in preparation and legal fees another significant hundred-thousand-dollar figure. In summing up my evidence then I wrote:

> "5. I believe as a commitment to process, the EPA [Environmental Protection Authority] may need provisions attached to any WCO for the Springs to enable it work closely with the TDC, ensuring that any development within the catchment that might in any way impact on the purity of this body of water continues to be closely monitored, at least until such time as the WCO has followed due process and hopefully, is enacted. But ideally, no further takes, discharges or potentially polluting acts should be allowed."

One hopes that the council will have learnt its lesson and work to protect the Springs from potential ravages of the current Siren Gold Mine application now on a Fast Track.

2. **Motueka River plus key other local awa**

It may come as a surprise to some councillors to know that the original Motueka Water Conservation Order was originally heard in 1992 but finally gazetted in 2023. It is essentially a protection of the introduced trout fishery and the many "cultural landscapes" that enfold its lower reaches in hop growing, orchards, berry farms and agricultural activities. Its upper reaches are now largely protected by the creation of Kahurangi National Park.

As a member of the then original 1991 Tribunal who heard the WCO case, I would note that New Zealand culture has shifted greatly since then. The Tribunal preceded almost any institutional understanding of climate change or the full value of mana whenua input, not to mention the UN Convention on Biodiversity and of course the Whanganui's Awa Tupua, "legal personality" status. However, while the concept of whole, integrated river management is now received wisdom certainly in scientific circles and always was for Māori, it is not yet the case, it seems, for the TDC.

Indeed it is fair to say, in both a technical and poetic sense that the TDC's view of the Motueka River is antediluvial. In particular, it has, to the best of my knowledge, never employed to its staff a hydrological engineer. I will say simply that the cost of not doing this is taking its toll now on both river behaviour and, consequently, rates. This is one appointment that could save us all big money.

The Auditor-General decided last year to investigate the preparedness of two very different councils affected by recent, cyclonically-charged flood events. That is, the TDC and Waikato Regional Council.

Auditor-General Grant Taylor's report is a call for better preparation communication and action for severe storm flooding by both agencies. He found:

- Poor alignment between community and what the council knew
- "Mixed understanding" of whether, based on its designs, the expected performance of their flood protection is sufficient
- Better campaigns needed to inform community of their vulnerability

And then the really telling lines:

- "The TDC needs to improve how it collects and stores information about its infrastructure" and
- "The TDC needs to improve how it prioritises investment".
- The TDC's "**culture of secrecy**" is seen as "**no longer appropriate**".

The Auditor-General noted too that despite knowing that it must upgrade the Brooklyn and Riuwaka stop banks to meet its intended levels of service, "There is no evidence of a business case to fund these or any prioritizing of work to be carried out…"

The work to investigate risk and measures on the Brooklyn and Riuwaka was more than $12.5m of funding for a detailed consultants' 2010 report. But as far as I can tell, little action was taken. "This resulted", in the words to me of one of those engineers on the

project, “in a footbridge over the Riuwaka”. Why was the recommended work not carried out in timely fashion? That is, sometime between 2010 and the devastation of 2025?

Now the TDC is suggesting that, largely because of the flooding preventive work required on these and other waterways, **next year rates will be at 11.2 percent.** These increases are attributed to the costs of the June floods, rising interest rates, insurance costs and “the massive $50m recovery bill” – surely the latter was met largely by insurance? What are you planning for in increases in the following year?

3. **The Mapua Boat Ramp**

The only way to describe what happened in this episode is that it was entirely unnecessary and a fiasco of a council backflip on an expensive scale. This story is well-known. I shall be brief. In its 2017 Mapua Masterplan the TDC decided after extensive consultation and a number of consultants reports, that for reasons largely of safety, security of the rehabilitated toxic site and appropriateness of site, a boat ramp servicing the estuary was not acceptable.

About 10 years later, it decided to grant the Mapua Boat Club $167,000 to find an alternative site. It did this, largely because the old ramp had been shut out by the council’s major revamp of the shops and facilities along the south bank of the waterfront, close to the old wharf. And pressure from a group within the Boat Club. Eventually the Club came back with plans for a large recreation building and a ramp on the old chemical works site.

A group of locals, at considerable time and the expense of a lawyer, contested the wisdom of this move. Finally, last December an Environmental Court hearing ruled that the ramp (and therefore the ancillary buildings) the Club planned on that site not be permitted to proceed.

I have totted up the expense of this appeal. From available figures that I can find it easily exceeds $700,000 to the council, but there are other hidden costs. By any reckoning this was an exercise of poor judgement and bad management.

4. The Waimea Dam

Of course, the Waimea Dam is by far the most expensive and cavalier of all the TDC’s adventures with ratepayer money. Enticed by a $50m suspensory loan (that is, one that must be repaid) from the Key Government, until late in decision-making hidden under the council’s cloak of “commercial sensitivity” this enterprise was promised to cost a mere $105m, and the gradual cost of return of the government loan.

It was in 2018 that council decided not to proceed, and then a couple of weeks later overturned that decision on the chairman’s (Mayor Kempthorne) casting vote. The final cost of the dam was $211m, a gross cost overrun for any funder and for a population of around 58,000, crippling.

Hidden under council simple explanations of “geological issues” and Covid’s impacts is a budget blow-out in excess of 100 percent. Even a modest understanding of the Clyde

dam's problems with basin rock cracking and the detailed remedies required during construction raised its cost by around 50 percent. But the Waimea dam, at a time of far lower inflation through the build than during the last six years of the Clyde construction between 1988-1994, increased in costs in a relatively short time from a maximum of $105 to $211m.

There many more people who would like to know exactly how much this cost – that will drive most of us out of the district— is really made up. Certainly, the heavy-users, for whom the dam was primarily erected, appear to be chary of new charges.

The Waimea Dam is not, as the Mayor has described it, a "legacy project". It is a means by which living here becomes so unaffordable that only the very wealthy will remain in this region. A council culture change has been desperately overdue for far longer than the quarter century my wife and I have lived here. Please show some respect for your ratepayers by being far more open especially on big decisions, pay serious attention to advice and start making some prudent decisions about how you spend the now exorbitant rates you charge us for what is, for many of us, a service extremely limited in its actual offerings. (And ever-ready to invoke "user pays" charges on almost any contact with council supervision.) It is not before time that the TDC showed some signs of a willingness to tighten its own belt and cut its cloth with humility and an eye to consequences.

Conclusions

I speak for many when I say that the Tasman District Council is culturally consistently secretive in its decision-making, improvident in its spending and, consequently reckless in its rating. This is historical. I have demonstrated in this selection of examples an unwillingness to take advice either from its own consultants and advisors, or from independent officials of the highest status. Faced with the costs of its often-loose decision-making, its default position is to crank up rates, and this year, having done that, to now weigh in with a proposed super rate on top. Even though – would that the TDC could be open about this – it has apparently recovered large insurance pay-outs from the June flooding events.

If rates are to be lifted by 9.9 percent in the coming year, and a suggested 11.2 percent in the following, it looks as though our already huge rate demands are on track to grow in the next three years by more than one third. For many of us, this is entirely untenable, And much of it, with stronger judgement, deliberation and caution, could have been avoidable.

Good advice, costly, regrettable decisions

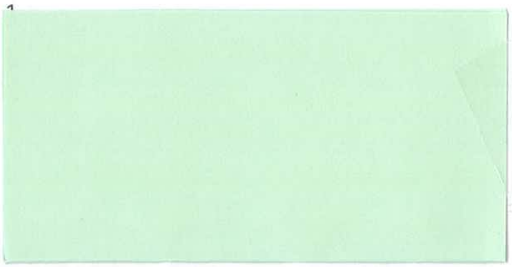
Te Waikoropupū Springs
Criticism
I was dismayed to see this council oppose the Order. The international rarity of such a taonga as the Springs and the delicate ecological balance that gives rise to them ought to have been a no-brainer – in any jurisdiction, in any country.

Better advice and preparation for the WCO, would have spared the majority of ratepayers a considerable cost of opposing a hearing in which the judge was highly critical of the council's negligent position

Perhaps the most concerning aspect of the council's recklessness was its about-face after the decision. In its coverage in its publication *On-line* circulated to all households, it simply mentioned that it would work with mana whenua Ngāti Tama to bring the WCO into compliance with current practice.

I who would like to know exactly how these new cost are really made up.

35528



Submission by Adrienne Matthews, on TDC Annual Plan 2026/7

Inadequate governance and disclosure

The Annual Plan consultation process raises serious concerns about governance, transparency and the adequacy of information provided to ratepayers.

A professional public organisation should ensure that consultation documents, supporting material and submission deadlines are clear, consistent and easily accessible from the beginning of the consultation period. In this case, that does not appear to have occurred.

1. Inconsistent submission deadline information (See Appendix 1)

There appears to be inconsistent information about when submissions closed. On the TDC website, one section states:

"Submissions will be closed on 03 May 2026 at 11:59 PM"

while the Annual Plan Consultation Document states:

"Submissions can be made from Thursday 2 April 2026 until 5.00pm Sunday 3 May 2026."

This inconsistency is unacceptable. A difference of almost seven hours may affect whether a submission is treated as valid. Council should confirm which deadline applied and whether any submissions made between 5.00pm and 11.59pm on 3 May 2026 were accepted.

2. Late appearance of the final consultation document

It is also concerning that the document titled Annual_Plan_Consultation_Document_Apr26_FINAL appears to have been made available after the consultation period had already opened on 2 April 2026, and potentially after some submissions had already been made.

If this occurred, then early submitters may not have had access to the same information as later submitters. Council should explain when the final consultation document was uploaded, whether any earlier version differed from the final version, and how Council ensured all submitters had equal access to the final material.

3. Capital Programme not clearly available as a supporting document

The Capital Programme 2026/27 was not readily locatable on the TDC website and does not appear to have been clearly included in the list of supporting documents.

This is a serious transparency issue. The capital programme is central to understanding the Annual Plan, particularly where Council is proposing significant rates increases, borrowing and infrastructure spending. Without easy access to the full capital programme, ratepayers cannot properly assess what projects are being funded, which are essential, which are discretionary, and whether proposed spending is justified.

Council should explain why the Capital Programme was not clearly listed with the supporting documents and should ensure that future consultations include all material documents in one obvious and accessible location from the start of the consultation period.

These issues undermine confidence in the consultation process. At minimum, Council should acknowledge the inconsistencies, confirm which deadline applied, explain when all final documents were made available, and improve future Annual Plan consultation processes so ratepayers have clear, complete and equal access to information before making submissions.

Affordability must be treated as a real constraint

1. Core infrastructure should come before discretionary projects

The Annual Plan should focus first on essential services and core infrastructure, including roads, bridges, stormwater, drainage, water, wastewater, river management, flood protection, resilience and renewals.

In the current financial climate, discretionary projects should be reassessed. Projects such as museum upgrades, community pools, green space upgrades, hubs, high-spec playgrounds or other non-essential improvements should be deferred unless there is a clear legal, safety or essential-service reason to proceed now. This includes all the proposed community facilities projects.

Council should clearly prioritise core infrastructure, maintenance, renewals and resilience ahead of discretionary capital projects. In a year of significant rates pressure, non-essential projects should be deferred or reduced unless Council can demonstrate they are urgent, legally required, or essential to public safety.

2. The capital programme needs a more detailed full project-by-project breakdown

A major concern is that residents cannot easily see what the capital programme actually includes. Capital spending may technically be included in the Annual Plan, but it is not always visible, searchable or understandable for ordinary ratepayers.

Council should publish a full capital programme showing every project, its cost, location, funding source, timing, priority, and whether it is essential, renewal-related, growth-related, resilience-related, legally required, already committed or discretionary.

Council should publish a clear, searchable, project-by-project capital programme. Ratepayers should be able to see each project's cost, location, funding source, start date, expected completion date, priority, and whether it is essential, growth-related, renewal-based, resilience-related, legally required, committed or discretionary. Without this information, meaningful consultation is weakened.

3. Council should explain what happens when funded work is not completed

If ratepayers are charged for a programme or project and that work is not fully delivered, Council should explain what happens to the money.

For example, if a programme is only 90% completed, ratepayers should know whether the remaining funds are ring-fenced, carried forward, redirected, used to reduce debt, or absorbed elsewhere.

4. Disaster recovery should not hide deeper infrastructure failures

Disaster recovery is a substantial driver of rising costs. However, Council should not treat weather events as the only explanation. Flooding, slips and infrastructure failures may also reflect long-term underinvestment, poor maintenance, forestry practices, weak consent conditions, drainage failures, ageing assets and development in unsuitable locations.

Council should clearly separate unavoidable recovery costs from costs caused or worsened by past underinvestment, poor maintenance, weak land-use controls, forestry impacts, drainage failures or infrastructure that was not resilient enough.

5. Independent investigation into flooding, slips and forestry impacts

Council should support an independent, evidence-based investigation into the causes of recent slips, flooding and infrastructure damage. This should include forestry practices, clear-felling, resource consent decisions, catchment management, drainage maintenance, ageing infrastructure, river works and cumulative land-use effects.

The aim should not be blame for its own sake, but learning. The findings should be used to improve future consent conditions, infrastructure design standards, land-use controls, forestry management and resilience investment. The findings should be used to reduce future risk rather than simply repairing damage after each event.

6. Disaster risk is not random and should not be priced as if it is

Flooding, coastal inundation, erosion and slips are often predictable by location, landform, catchment, land use and development pattern. A funding model that spreads all costs evenly across the district may feel simple, but it can send the wrong signal.

If all ratepayers pay equally for damage in higher-risk locations, Council may unintentionally encourage further development in places that result in further exposure where future costs are likely to be higher.

7. A blended disaster and resilience rate may be fairest

None of the four options proposed by the Annual Planning document are good enough. A fairer approach may be a blended model. There should still be a district-wide contribution because the whole community benefits from recovery, access, transport links and resilience. However, there should also be a targeted component for areas or activities that are more exposed to risk or contribute to risk.

This targeted component could begin modestly and increase over time, so affected communities are not suddenly hit with large costs. This would recognise legacy development, while still sending clearer signals for future decisions.

I support exploring a blended disaster and resilience rate, with a general district-wide component and a targeted component for higher-risk areas or activities that contribute to risk. This targeted component should be introduced gradually and clearly signalled over time, so it is fair to existing residents while discouraging future risk.

8. Council should not become an insurer of last resort without pricing risk

If private insurers increase premiums or withdraw cover in high-risk areas, Council should be cautious about effectively taking on that risk through general rates.

Council should not become an insurer of last resort for high-risk development without pricing that risk properly. If insurers are raising premiums or withdrawing cover in some locations, Council should not send the opposite signal by spreading all recovery costs across all ratepayers regardless of risk.

9. Avoid sudden penalties for people already affected

Any shift toward risk-based rating should be gradual and carefully signalled. Many people bought properties long before today's hazard information was available. Others may be unable to move. It would be unfair to suddenly impose high costs on people who have already suffered damage, particularly where risks were not clearly disclosed, where development was previously consented, or where wider land-use decisions contributed to the problem.

10. New development must not increase future liability

Council should ensure new development and infrastructure decisions are fully aligned with future hazard risk. Development in flood-prone, erosion-prone, coastal, steep or unstable areas should face stronger scrutiny and should not create future liabilities for existing ratepayers. There is clear evidence throughout the Tasman District that development is still being permitted in areas prone to coastal inundation and liquefaction. This is completely unacceptable.

11. Development contributions should recover the true cost of growth

Development contributions do not reflect the long-term cost of growth and cover zero of operational expenditure. Costs are currently covered by working capital. Growth creates not only capital costs, but also operating expenditure, maintenance, depreciation, debt servicing, renewals and pressure on working capital. If these costs are not properly recovered from development, they are shifted onto existing ratepayers.

Growth-related costs should include not only upfront capital expenditure, but also operating costs, maintenance, depreciation, debt servicing, renewals and future infrastructure pressure. Existing ratepayers should not subsidise growth that does not pay its full long-term cost.

12. Costs should be linked more clearly to neighbourhood and catchment impacts

Council should provide better localised cost information. Residents should be able to see whether particular neighbourhoods, catchments or development areas are paying their fair share, being subsidised, or subsidising others.

Without this information, debates about fairness are forced to rely on broad assumptions rather than evidence.

13. River, drainage and catchment maintenance should be reviewed

Preventative maintenance should be a priority. Council should review whether river channels, drains, culverts, water tables and stormwater systems are being adequately maintained.

Clearing debris, managing gravel, maintaining drainage and addressing catchment-level issues may reduce future damage and avoid larger repair bills.

Adequate oversight of works done has clearly been lacking with a number of projects having to be redone and some not fit for purpose as are some of the new culverts in the Motueka Vallry.

14. Natural flood protection should be valued

Council should give greater weight to natural flood protection, including wetlands, floodplains, riparian margins, native vegetation and catchment restoration.

These natural systems can reduce flood risk and should be valued, protected and, where appropriate, incentivised. To date there has clearly been insufficient resilience planning which will lead to more repair costs during future natural hazard events.

15. Greater transparency is needed around staff, contractors and consultants

Ratepayers should be able to see a more precise breakdown, not individual salaries or private employment details, but enough information to understand what is driving staff and contractor costs, where the increases are occurring, and whether they are justified.

In this document, staff and contractor-type costs appear mostly under broad headings such as "Employee expense", "Payments to staff and suppliers", or activity-level operating funding. That is too broad to properly scrutinise, especially when the overall rates increase is significant.

Ratepayers should be able to see, at a minimum:

- total staff costs by council activity or department
- changes from the previous year
- number of full-time equivalent staff, or FTEs
- new roles being added and why
- vacancy assumptions
- contractor and consultant spend by activity
- what contractor costs are for: specialist advice, legal, engineering, planning, project delivery, temporary staffing, IT, communications, etc.
- how much contractor spend is operating cost versus capital-project cost
- whether contractors are replacing staff, supplementing staff, or delivering one-off projects

The financial statements do not appear to give enough detail to answer basic accountability questions such as whether staff costs are rising because of wage inflation, more staff, new regulatory responsibilities, vacancies being filled, capital programme delivery, or organisational growth.

Are contractor costs rising because Council is continuing to use a "preferred" contractor approach which does **not** guarantee a high degree of workmanship, appropriate solutions to problems or cost effectiveness.

Council should also explain whether contractor spending is due to genuine specialist need, temporary project demand, lack of in-house capability, or routine outsourcing.

16. Central government costs should be clearly separated

Council should clearly separate costs driven by local choices from costs imposed by central government legislation, regulation or compliance. This would help ratepayers understand which parts of the rates increase are within Council's control and which are not.

17.Consultation, advisory and vested-interest costs

Ratepayers should be able to see a clear breakdown of Council spending on consultation, engagement, external advice and stakeholder input, particularly where those involved may have a direct or indirect interest in the outcome.

This should include all groups, organisations, advisers or stakeholders who may influence Council decisions, project design, consenting, funding priorities or policy direction including:

- iwi, hapū and Māori entities
- developers and development-sector representatives
- consultants and professional advisers
- engineering, planning, legal and environmental specialists
- business associations and industry groups
- community organisations receiving Council funding
- environmental groups
- landowners affected by, or benefiting from, Council decisions
- contractors or suppliers involved in Council work
- council-controlled organisations and joint-venture partners
- lobby groups or advocacy organisations
- government agencies or regional partnerships where costs are shared

The issue is not whether Council should consult these groups. In many cases, consultation may be legally required, contractually necessary, or simply good decision-making. The issue is whether ratepayers can see how much is being spent, who or what category of stakeholder is being paid, what the spending is for, and whether any potential conflict of interest or direct benefit has been identified and managed.

Questions:

1. What is the total budgeted cost for consultation, engagement, stakeholder input and external advisory work in 2026/27?
2. Can these costs be broken down by activity, project and stakeholder category?
3. Which of these costs relate to parties who may have a direct financial, commercial, cultural, land, regulatory or political interest in the outcome?
4. How much is spent on iwi, hapū and Māori entity engagement, and how does this compare with other stakeholder and advisory costs?

5. How much is spent on developers, landowners, industry groups, community organisations, environmental groups, consultants and professional advisers?
6. Which consultation or advisory costs are legally required, and which are discretionary?
7. Are any stakeholders who provide advice also eligible to receive funding, contracts, land-use benefits, development approvals or other direct benefits from Council decisions?
8. What conflict-of-interest processes apply when Council seeks advice or consultation from parties with a potential vested interest?
9. Are payments, grants, advisory fees, hui costs, cultural impact assessments, expert reports, submissions support, mediation costs and partnership agreements reported separately?
10. Are these costs currently included under broad headings such as "payments to staff and suppliers", making them difficult for ratepayers to identify?
11. What evidence does Council use to assess whether this spending represents value for money?
12. A clearer schedule of consultation, engagement, advisory and stakeholder costs in the Annual Plan.

18. Fixed charges and multi-unit rating fairness should be reviewed

There are fairness concerns where multi-unit properties, retirement villages or commercial entities on one title may pay the same fixed charge as an individual household.

Council should review whether the current rating system properly reflects the demand these properties place on services and infrastructure.

19. Visitor funding tools should be explored

Council should advocate for visitor-based funding tools, such as a bed tax, visitor levy or regional infrastructure contribution. In high-visitor areas, ratepayers should not be expected to carry the full cost of infrastructure used heavily by non-ratepayers.

20. Shared projects should have fair funding splits

Where projects benefit both Tasman and Nelson residents, funding splits should be clearly justified. The Saxton Field playground example raises a concern if Tasman is paying a much larger $1.2million share whereas Nelson is only contributing $300k. This seems even more ludicrous when Saxton Field is in Nelson council's constituency.

21. Reduce reliance on debt

Council should reduce reliance on borrowing and avoid placing further costs on debt unless there is a clear, essential and long-term justification. Continually putting costs on the "credit card" shifts today's decisions onto future ratepayers.

22. Slowing the planned funding of depreciation for roading assets

Slowing depreciation funding may reduce rates in the short term, but it does not reduce the real cost of roading assets wearing out. It simply delays recognition of that cost. Council should not use

underfunded depreciation to make the Annual Plan appear more affordable unless it can clearly show that renewals, safety, resilience and future ratepayers will not be adversely affected.

23. Feedback on proposed changes to Council's fees and charges

I support fees and charges being reviewed so that those who receive a direct private or commercial benefit pay a fair share of the cost. However, Council should clearly explain the basis for any increases and show whether each fee reflects actual service cost, inflation, staff time, consultant input, compliance requirements or policy choice.

In particular, development, consent, inspection, monitoring and enforcement costs should be recovered from those creating the demand, rather than being shifted onto general ratepayers. Where Council chooses to subsidise a fee through rates, that subsidy should be transparent and justified.

At the same time, Council should be careful not to impose unreasonable increases on community groups, not-for-profit organisations, basic public services or activities that provide broad community benefit.

If fees are increasing, Council should also be accountable for service quality. Higher charges should be matched by efficient processing, clear communication, timely decision-making and transparent reporting on performance.

Overall, I ask Council to ensure its fees and charges are fair, transparent, linked to actual costs, and structured so that private benefit is not subsidised by ratepayers without clear justification.

24. Why is capital expenditure included for projects that do not have consent?

On the 20260417_Annual_Plan_2026-27_Capital_Projects I note a number of expenses for items relating to Richmond South to support "growth development area." The inclusion of Richmond South growth-related expenditure before Plan Change 81 has been determined appears to pre-empt the outcome of a live public process and is therefore inappropriate without clear qualification.

Summary

Council needs to place far greater emphasis on affordability, accountability and core infrastructure before asking ratepayers to fund further increases. The key issue is not only who pays for resilience and disaster recovery, but why infrastructure repairs and upgrades appear to cost so much, and whether Council is obtaining proper value for money. Major works, procurement, consultant use, tendering and project delivery should be subject to stronger scrutiny and, where appropriate, independent review.

Ratepayers should not be expected to continually fund the consequences of poor planning, under-maintained infrastructure, risky development, weak land-use controls, forestry impacts or deferred renewals. There is a strong case for an independent, evidence-based investigation into the causes of recent flooding, slips and infrastructure damage, including the role of forestry practices, resource consents, catchment changes, drainage maintenance,

ageing infrastructure and cumulative land-use effects. The findings should directly inform future planning, consent conditions, infrastructure standards and investment priorities.

Council should prioritise essential infrastructure including stormwater, river management, drainage, roads, bridges, water tables and flood resilience, ahead of discretionary projects. In a year when many residents are facing significant rates increases, projects such as museum upgrades, community pools, green space upgrades, hubs and high-spec playgrounds should be reassessed, deferred or reduced unless they are clearly urgent, legally required or essential to public safety.

The Annual Plan should also provide a clear, searchable, project-by-project capital programme. Residents should be able to see each project's cost, location, funding source, priority, timing and whether it is essential, growth-related, renewal-based, resilience-related, committed or discretionary. If important capital projects are difficult to find, the consultation process is weakened.

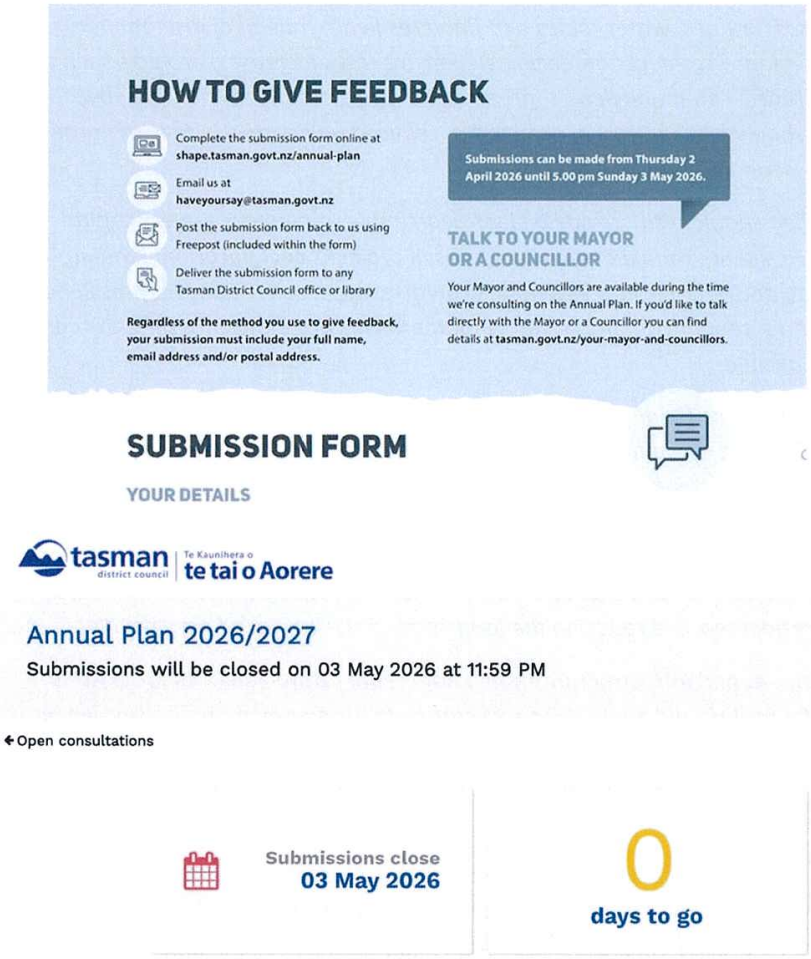
Disaster and resilience funding should be fairer and more risk-aware. Flooding, coastal inundation, slips and erosion are not always random; they are often linked to location, landform, catchment conditions, forestry, development patterns and infrastructure decisions. Council should consider a blended funding model, with a district-wide component recognising shared community benefit, and a gradually increasing targeted component for higher-risk areas or activities that contribute to risk. This would avoid sudden unfair penalties on affected residents while reducing the long-term cross-subsidy of risky development.

New development and infrastructure should not create future liabilities for existing ratepayers. Council should apply stronger scrutiny to development in flood-prone, erosion-prone, coastal, steep or unstable areas, and ensure development contributions recover the full long-term cost of growth, including operating costs, maintenance, depreciation, debt servicing and future renewals.

There should also be greater transparency around staff, contractor and consultant costs. Ratepayers should be able to see what is being spent on professional fees, legal advice, planning advice, engineering, project management, IT, communications, employee benefits and compliance-related work. Council should clearly separate costs it controls from costs imposed by central government.

Finally, Council should explore broader funding tools, including visitor levies or regional infrastructure contributions, so local ratepayers are not the only ones funding infrastructure used heavily by visitors. Overall, the Annual Plan should focus on affordability, transparency, essential infrastructure, fair cost-sharing and reducing future risk rather than simply passing more cost onto ratepayers.

10



HOW TO GIVE FEEDBACK

Complete the submission form online at **shape.tasman.govt.nz/annual-plan**

Email us at **haveyoursay@tasman.govt.nz**

Post the submission form back to us using Freepost (included within the form)

Deliver the submission form to any Tasman District Council office or library

Regardless of the method you use to give feedback, your submission must include your full name, email address and/or postal address.

Submissions can be made from Thursday 2 April 2026 until 5.00 pm Sunday 3 May 2026.

TALK TO YOUR MAYOR OR A COUNCILLOR

Your Mayor and Councillors are available during the time we're consulting on the Annual Plan. If you'd like to talk directly with the Mayor or a Councillor you can find details at **tasman.govt.nz/your-mayor-and-councillors.**

SUBMISSION FORM

YOUR DETAILS

tasman district council | Te Kaunihera o te tai o Aorere

Annual Plan 2026/2027

Submissions will be closed on 03 May 2026 at 11:59 PM

← Open consultations

Submissions close **03 May 2026**

0 days to go

TASMAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Submission on: Draft Annual Plan 2026/2027

[redacted]

I wish to be heard in support of my submission. I will verify my attendance once the Council has confirmed a date and schedule.

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS:

Please find below my formal submission regarding the Draft Annual Plan 2026/2027. I wish to raise a Preliminary Objection regarding the systemic failure of transparency and fiscal accountability inherent in this process. My objection is not limited to isolated figures; it is a challenge to the entire interlocking system of Proposed Rates, Operating Budget Movements, Capital Programs, and Council Fees and Charges.

I am formally objecting to the validity of this process based on a systemic failure in community engagement. The Council's own "How to Write a Submission" guide (Page 7) explicitly instructs residents to "use clear everyday language." I seek a decision that the Council be held to this same standard.

By using fluff words and vague terminology, technical or legal jargon, the Council has created a system that obfuscates the cumulative financial impact of:

Inequitable Rate Increases: Shifting risk and cost onto households without adequate science or site-specific data.

Unchecked Operating Movements: Hiding non-essential spending (like the $3.3M Museum Grant) inside a $14.1M budget increase while neglecting core maintenance.

Flawed Capital Programs: Prioritizing new developments over the safety and depreciation of existing infrastructure like rural roads.

Predatory Fees and Charges: Implementing a "pay-to-play" model where residents are charged for the very data they need to defend their property rights.

This system rewards complexity and punishes the ratepayer. If the Council requires "everyday language" from its residents, it is a gross administrative failure for the Council to provide its fiscal plan in a way that prevents the average resident from understanding the total, combined impact on their financial security.

1. OPTIONS FOR A NEW RECOVERY RATE

Question: Which is your preferred option for a new 2025 Weather Events Recovery Rate?

Response: NONE OF THE ABOVE.

I formally record that I do not support any of the four proposed options at this time. I reject the premise that ratepayers must choose between flawed models that result in an inequitable transfer of risk from the Council to private property owners without adequate consultation or site-specific science.

REASONS FOR OPPOSITION:

Reliance on Flawed Modelling: The Council is attempting to justify these rates using regional-scale documents (such as the Jacobs Report) which lack the granular, site-specific science required to accurately assess individual property risk.

Failure to "Ground-Truth": I object to any risk transfer that has not been verified by physical, on-site inspections. Relying on theoretical environmental hazard maps while ignoring the physical reality of the land (e.g., raised terraces vs. low-lying areas) is scientifically irresponsible.

Lack of Transparency: The proposal fundamentally places the burden of recovery on ratepayers without the Council providing a full, transparent, and itemized audit of the 2025 weather event costs.

Fiscal Irresponsibility: It is unacceptable for the Council to propose increased recovery rates while failing to implement a cap on its own discretionary spending or address the "Slowing of Roading Depreciation."

Economic Vulnerability: Residents, businesses, and primary producers are already struggling with rising insurance premiums and food inflation. Shifting these costs without a financial ceiling risk pushing households toward foreclosure and displacement.

Systemic Risk Transfer: These options represent an effort to transfer all financial and liability risks onto ratepayers without proper engagement or transparent funding models. I seek a decision that my refusal to select an option be recorded as a formal rejection of the risk-transfer model itself.

DECISIONS SOUGHT:

Mandatory Audit & Ground Truthing: I seek that Council rejects all four recovery rate options until a full, publicly available audit is provided, itemizing total damage costs vs. total insurance payouts vs. central government subsidies and a commitment is made to site-specific ground truthing to replace flawed regional models.

Spending Cap: I seek that Council implements a mandatory cap on its own discretionary spending and pauses all non-essential development projects before any additional recovery costs are levied against residents.

Support Mechanisms: I seek that Council formalizes and discloses specific hardship relief and rate deferral mechanisms to protect those at risk of displacement.

Central Government Advocacy: I seek that Council actively advocates for further central government disaster relief funding rather than relying solely on the regional ratepayer base.

2. PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET MOVEMENTS

Response: I formally object to the $14.1 million proposed increase in operating expenditure as presented due to a critical lack of granular transparency and fiscal accountability.

DECISIONS SOUGHT:

Prioritization of Preventative Maintenance ($7.1M Increase): I seek a decision to reallocate funding from "reactive" responses to proactive, preventative maintenance. The $7.1 million allocated for "reactive" slip responses and tree work is a symptom of poor infrastructure planning. Funding must be prioritized for clearing drains, grading rural roads, and maintaining highway systems before weather events occur. This is the only way to reduce the long-term financial burden on ratepayers caused by preventable weather-related damage.

Rejection of the Museum Grant ($3.3M): I seek a decision to cancel or indefinitely defer the $3.3 million grant for the museum facility. It is fiscally irresponsible to phase in a multi-million-doller non-essential grant (dating back to 2019) during a year of record rate hikes and "slowed" roading infrastructure funding.

Climate Adaptation & Hazard Modelling Audit: I seek a full disclosure of how much of this operating budget is allocated to climate "adaptation" consultants and hazard modelling. I seek a decision to halt spending on theoretical modelling until core, physical infrastructure (drains, roads, and culverts) is fully funded and functional.

Itemized Variance Reporting: I seek that Council provides a detailed, itemized variance report for all operational changes, specifically those currently categorized under "minor movements."

Breakdown of Employee Benefits ($745,000 increase): I seek a full breakdown of this increase, clarifying the proportion allocated to new staff hires, salary increases, fringe benefits, and insurance premiums. I oppose this increase pending evidence of its necessity.

Audit of Loan Repayments ($3.2M variance): I seek an audit of the "funded depreciation" and loan repayment figures to clarify if this variance is a result of re-phasing project costs or a failure in the 2024–34 LTP forecasting.

Asset Sale Disclosure ($2.5M): I seek an itemized list of the assets intended for sale. I formally oppose the sale of core operational assets to fund day-to-day operations, as this is an unsustainable fiscal practice.

Interest Rate Risk Report ($500,000 increase): I seek a formal report on the Council's hedging strategy and an explanation as to why these interest rate risks were not adequately mitigated during the adoption of the Long-Term Plan.

External Consultant Audit: I seek a line-item variance report for all external consulting and professional fees. Ratepayers require evidence that these costs are necessary and that Council lacks the internal capacity to perform these functions.

2a. Progressing or Pausing Community Facilities Projects

Response: I oppose the progression of all of these projects. The Council has disclosed "build costs" but has failed to account for the permanent, unsustainable annual operational costs (power, insurance, cleaning, security, staffing) that will lock the district into decades of higher rates. These represent a regional cost for a localized benefit that does not reflect our current financial reality.

DECISION SOUGHT: I seek that Council pauses all funding for new community facilities until a 10-year Operational Expenditure (OPEX) Forecast is provided for each project and made available for public scrutiny.

2b. Changes to the Capital Program

Response: I formally object to the exclusion of "joint venture" and "minor" projects from the budget tables, as this creates a multi-million dollar "black hole" of non-transparency. I further object to the allocation of $17.5 million toward Community Development while essential infrastructure faces reductions. This reflects Misplaced Priorities where non-core amenities are prioritized over the maintenance of public infrastructure—the sole responsibility of the Council. Furthermore, the increase in Flood Protection expenditure (from $6.1m to $13.3m) requires urgent justification to ensure the Council is not simply prioritizing its own "institutional resilience" over the protection of private residential properties.

DECISIONS SOUGHT:

Full Capital Transparency: I seek a decision that any project funded by ratepayer money, regardless of "joint venture" status or size, be fully disclosed in formal budget tables for public review.

Reprioritization of Funds: I seek that the budget be diverted from non-essential community development projects back into the maintenance and resilience of core utility foundations.

Transparent Funding Breakdown (Flood Protection): I seek a transparent breakdown of the $7.2 million variance in flood protection, specifically identifying what percentage is directed toward Council-owned assets versus private residential properties.

Focus on Community Resilience: I seek a formal clarification from Council as to why funds are being utilized for institutional security when residential communities suffer from a lack of infrastructure protection and the information required to protect themselves.

3. SLOWING PLANNED FUNDING OF DEPRECIATION FOR ROADING ASSESTS

Response: I strongly oppose this proposal. Slowing the transition to full depreciation funding is not "financial resilience"; it is the accumulation of hidden infrastructure debt. By starving our roads of essential maintenance today to make this year's budget look balanced, you are guaranteeing that roading infrastructure will fail sooner, resulting in exponentially higher repair costs for future ratepayers.

DECISIONS SOUGHT:

Project Breakdown for Capital Expenditure ($12.8m increase): I seek a detailed, project-by-project breakdown of the $12.8m increase in the Capital Programme to ensure ratepayer funds are not being diverted from essential infrastructure into speculative or non-essential development projects.

Reinstatement of Full Depreciation Funding: I seek that Council maintains the integrity of our core network by reinstating full depreciation funding for roading. I request that Council prioritizes the long-term structural integrity of the network over short-sighted, one-year budget optics.

Redirection of "Styling" and "Branding" Funds: I seek that Council eliminates spending on non-essential "Community Hubs," "Branding," and "Styling" projects. These funds should be redirected to maintain our vital roading network without accumulating further debt.

Cessation of Intergenerational Debt: I seek that Council rejects the proposal to increase debt by $650,000 for minor rate relief (0.5%). I formally object to this act of intergenerational theft, which leaves future residents with a massive infrastructure bill for roads that should be maintained today.

Rejection of the "Liability Shield" Strategy: I seek that Council abandons the strategy of deferring maintenance only to later label infrastructure failures as "natural disasters."

Mandatory Proactive Notification: I seek a decision that Council must proactively notify affected residents of fee changes via direct post.

Internal Cost-Cutting over Revenue Gathering: I seek a decision that Council prioritizes internal overhead reduction over the implementation of inflationary "tax" increases on the public.

End of Submission

Joanne Hockey

ANNUAL PLAN 2026-2027

Submission by David Ogilvie ,

This Annual Plan submission is in three sections:--

1. Detailed notes, including recommended actions for the Council to consider for the year 2026-27 on activities,services, maintenance items, and capital projects in the Motueka Ward.(8 pages)

2. Two Reports prepared for the Motueka Community Board which the Board considered on March 17th,2026 and were referred to the District Council for their information:--

---Allocation of Funding for Footpaths (3 pages)

---Urban Drainage Areas--Storm water Rates (2 pages)

3. Brief answers to the Council's Annual Plan "Community Consultation Document"submission form.

Please note the three sections constitute my Personal Submission.

I am an elected member of the Motueka Community Board. and the notes and reports have been provided to the Board.
I emphasised that these would become my private submission to the Council.
Consequently there was only minimal discussion by other members of the Board.

Should the Council have public Hearings for submitters, I would like to be allocated time to speak to this submission.

David Ogilvie (M.N.Z.M; M.A.; Dip.Tch)

David Ogilvie
1/5/2026.

30/04/2026

① Annual Plan 2026-27

RESERVES

Thorp's Bush/ Te Maatu
Liaise with K.M.B. and Iwi (Whakarewa) to increase the re-vegetation of the Bush, especially west of the water pump and south of the picnic/play areas and other areas. (NB K.M.B.)

Central High Street/Wallace St.

- Annual pruning of the central Motueka trees is necessary.
- Planter beds in Wallace St.to be planted (annuals – colour?)
- Maintenance of the "green" shrubs: mulching, pruning, replanting, weeding.

Memorial Park Reserve Management Plan

Priority

- This Plan has not been reviewed since **1997-98.** (The Motueka Ward Reserves Management Plans of **2001 & 2019** did not include Memorial Park).
- A review with public consultation is a high priority.
- The next Motueka Ward Plan is not scheduled until **2029..**

Sanctuary Gardens/Ponds

- Pathway along southern end of Goodmans Park from Sanctuary Gardens to the Woodlands Drain path (400m). Would not affect the Football Field or parking – Could be used for drainage?
- Provide funding (to K.M.B.) for additional plantings in Sanctuary Gardens. Becoming popular for walker, dogs ($5,000).
- Inspect the drainage of Sanctuary Gardens/Ponds – ponds, stream, drainage into the Thorp Drain.

Dog Park

- The large grassed area south of the Motueka Cemetery could be a site for a Dog Park.

Reserve Facilities

- Riwaka Rugby grounds. A toilet proposed to be built at a site adjacent to the Riwaka Cemetery.

David Ogilvie
13/4/26



(2) Annual Plan 2026-27

STORMWATER

Motueka U.D.A.

1. The following locations have surface water flooding during a heavy rain event:- higher than 80mm in 24 hours.

   Woodlands Ave (southern end)
   Ledger Ave (drain @ 26 No.)
   Glenaven Drive (drain @ 53 No.)
   Taylor Ave (drain @ 10 – 12 N0.)
   Goodman Drive (drain @ end of cul-de-sac)
   Pethybridge Street drain @ corner (27 No.)
   Krammer Street intersection with Wilson Cres..
   Quayle Street (area near 58 & 60 No.)
   Parkerfield
   Goodman Park (south east with Sanctuary Gardens)

Increasing the drains (especially with 'soak pits" which allows storm water to the ground) is requested.
In Woodlands Ave, for example, there is 200 metres between drains with 20 dwellings, a wide road and footpath providing the storm water, to the southern end.

Priority

2. Replace the Thorp tidal flap gate (Old Wharf Rd) with an electronic gate, similar to the existing gate at the Woodlands Drain (Old Wharf Rd). This would allow the full flow of the storm water in the Thorp Drain to access the estuary, as does the Woodlands gate.

3. Regular/scheduled maintenance of the open drains in the U.D.A., and also the various flap gates from Stapes St (Ruamanuka) to Port Motueka (10?).
   Open drains include:- Lummis (Whakarewa) to Staples St, Trewavas St. to estuary, Awamate to Motueka River.

4. Refer to the Report "Urban Drainage Areas"
   Storm water Rates in Tasman District recommended by the Motueka Community Board on March 17th 2026.

The primary concern of the Report is to provide sufficient funding for the Motueka U.D.A.
This would give the required and necessary resilience to protect the Motueka community from heavy rain events

David Ogilvie
13/4/26



(3) Annual Plan 2026-27

COASTAL STRUCTURES – MANAGEMENT

1. The Motueka Coastal & Foreshore Protection wall north of Port Motueka/Moutere River Mouth has received little Council attention in recent years.
However this Protection Wall has considerable public value as well as its strategic value. It provides protection from the Trewavas St. Foreshore Recreation Reserve , the North St. Recreation Reserve, Saltwater Baths Recreation Reserve and the Motueka Beach Recreation Reserve.

2. Adjacent to these Reserves are the residential areas of North St., Everett St., Trewavas St. and the industrial areas of Talleys and the Port Motueka facilities. The standard infrastructure of roads, paths, water, waste water and storm water apply in this vicinity.

3. The Protection Wall is a mix of concrete slabs, large rocks and a timber wall, less than 500 metres long.

4. The Sand spit, 300 metres east of the coastline, is a natural coastal structure. It provides significant protection for the Motueka coastline from the Motueka River mouth to the Moutere River mouth.
During ex- Cyclone Fehi, the Sand spit was overtopped with occasional sea surges but with limited coastline damage.

Actions Requested.

Priority

- Refurbish the existing Wall as appropriate, with the objective of sustainable long-term management.
- Investigate with D.O.C. the role of the Sand Spit in providing coastal protection for Motueka.
- Upgrade the various Boat Ramps in Riwaka & Motueka to a high standard.
- Re-institute the Port Motueka Structure Plan process with completion date of June 20th 2027, recommended.

David Ogilvie
13/4/26

(4.) Annual Plan 2026-27

TRANSPORTATION (excluding Footpaths/Cycle Lanes

1. Transport Choices – deferred projects where detailed plans have been prepared but were deferred for funding/priority reasons, (Stantec or WSP)
   (a) The Harbour Road – Thorp Street – Tudor Street intersections.

   (b) The Tudor Street – Wilkinson Street intersection with a pedestrian crossing on Wilkinson Street

   - Provide safe access for pedestrians towards High St.
   - Opportunity to have another pedestrian crossing between Taylor Ave and Hickmott Place to provide safer access to the New World shop for pedestrians.
   - Location of this crossing not identified

2. Parking lane: Thorp St (1.1 km). From the Tudor St intersection with Thorp St to Old Whard Rd – paint a 3 metre wide line each side for parking, scooter & cyclists.
   By narrowing the Street, psychologically, this would reduce speeds.. Thorp St becoming a busy thoroughfare. [note:- north of Tudor St., housing & streets have this effect. In Mapua/Ruby Bay similar lines, as proposed underline the speed restrictions in that location].

Priority

3. Refuge Crossing:- Thorp St. (146 – 147)
   There is no safe crossing spot for pedestrians from Totara Park & Glenaven subdivisions, going to Motueka central. A raised ramp with a Crossing is probably not acceptable to Thorp St residents/drivers/cyclists? A refuge crossing at this point is likely more acceptable between No's 146 – 147 This was programmed earlier but funding did not allow. (Refuge Crossings in Bateup Rd, Richmond provide similar safe points for pedestrians)

4. Parking Lines
   Individualise the existing parking lanes in Greenwood St, Tudor St & Hickmott Place,
   Install parking lanes in Wilkinson Street (West), Wallace Street with individual sites

David Ogilvie
13/4/26



(5) Annual Plan 2026-2027

Footpaths & Cycle Lanes:-

Priority

An Investment in safety

Refer to my Report to the MCB meeting of March 17th 2026 – resetting the Footpath Financing method across the District

Footpaths

- Whakarewa Street (new path)
- Queen Victoria St new path from Green Lane to Whakarewa St
- Vosper Street from Inglis St to new path (Selwyn St)
- Woodlans Ave New path from No. 10 to No.26 near Wratt St.
- Poole St., undergrounding of power may be needed initially
- Brooklyn from the West Bank Rd to the School. (upgrade & widen to a "shared" status, - part of the GTCT.
- Woodlands Ave.. Renew between Lowe St. & Wratt St. (100m)
- Wilkinson St. Renew the existing path from Greenwood St towards Wallace Street.

Cycle Lanes – Motueka

- A sign at the corner of Harbour Road & Motueka Quay directing cyclists to the town (1.3km)
- Improve the "shared" path along Harbour Rd, as Harbour Road is narrow.
- Construct a cycle lane along Tudor St. from Thorp St to High St., either by marking a specific cycle lane or by removing the existing grass verge & creating a "shared" path.

School Circuit (Parklands; Motueka High School)

- A cycle lane along Pa St & Grey St. for safe cycling by pupils/students.

Great Taste Trail

- From Riwaka Tennis Courts to Goodall Rd – gravel upgrade
- Tasman View Rd, Maintain signage & general gravel improvement regularly.
- Lower Moutere Highway. The separation to be repaired
- Wildman Rd Trail in very poor condition.. Upgrade - asphalt.

David Ogilvie
13/4/26

(6) Annual Plan 2026-27

WETLANDS

1. Moutere Inlet Margin:- Land Use Options Report.
   In March 2025, Paul McArthur (Parks, Recreation & Conservation) presented a detailed report to the TDC.
   On page 21, he highlighted four recommendations including:- "to undertake salt marsh restoration within the southern part of the site".

   Priority

   While all four recommendations are important, & being considered, the "salt marsh restoration" is urgent & could begin in 2026 – 2027..
   The Keep Motueka Beautiful Committee, if provided with additional funding ($5,000), would assist in this work.

2. Wetlands in the Motueka Ward
   Council Assistance, for Funding, advice & administration is sought for the various wetlands within the Ward:- Mariri Loops, Lower Moutere, Motueka Ruamanuka, Riwaka, Little Kaiteriteri, Otuwhero & Marahau. These vary in size but for climate change mitigation are critical.

3. Moutere Inlet
   In recent years the Council has prepared a comprehensive study of the Waimea Inlet/Estuary,
   A similar, equally wide-ranging study is requested for the Moutere Inlet/Estuary.

(7) Annual Plan 2026-27

RIVER WORKS Annual Plan 2026 – 2027.

The Motueka Ward includes four main Catchments:-

1. Lower Motueka River including tributaries from the western mountains. Approximately 15km of the 90km River flows in the Ward. The tributaries (Brooklyn, Shaggery are themselves separate catchments).

2. Moutere River includes the "Company Ditch" as well as small streams (Smith's, Powley, and Wallis) also significant Farm & roadside drains.

3. Riuwaka River included Little Shaggery stream, the Jordan & Hamilton streams from the Little Shaggery & Dehra Doon areas.

4. Otuwhero & Marahau Rivers. The fast flowing Woolf Stream feeds the Otuwhero, but is actually a separate catchment.

The River Management of these Catchments is crucial for the Ward. In protecting the urban areas but also its productive farmlands, emphasising the distinctive environmental units of the Motueka Ward.

1. The Motueka River Stopbanks (2% AEP, equivalent to a 1 in 50 year protection) has been re-constructed in recent years. Programmed for conclusion by June 2026.
   - Maintenance of the Stopbank is an on-going activity.
   - Eastward of the Stopbank the "secondary overflow channels" must be identified & protected from development.
   - Gravel extraction to be monitored.
   - Improved data for river flow & river height is required.

2. Riuwaka River has a minor stopbank (10% AEP, equivalent to a 1 in 10 year protection).
   - Work to raise this protection to a 1 in 20 year (5% AEP) is urgent..
   - Management of the Little Sydney Stream & Dehra Doon Streams requires improvement – clearing culverts, cutting back trees & grass and maintaining the tidal gates.

Priority

3. Moutere River management to be focused on maintaining the River and the streams identified.
   - assistance for landowners in maintaining drains as a continuing "Owner/Council arrangement"
   - at the River mouth, the build-up of sediment and the impact of the Sandspit to be investigated.

→ Item 4 on page 8

David Ogilvie
13/4/26

(8) Annual Plan 2026-27

(Refer to "Wetlands" and request for a study of the Moutere Inlet)

4. Otuwhero/Marahau Catchments
   - Currently, there is no provision to manage these two rivers from River Works X or Y funding.
   - There are continuing coastal, river & inlet concerns for Marahau, Otuwhero, Sandy Bay & Tokongawa to be addressed.
   - The"Marahau Stratigic Development Review" prepared by Boffa Miskell Ltd for Tasman District Council in July **1998** would be a helpful introduction.

     The NES for Plantation Forestry set standards for the Council to apply, which would ease concerns.

David Ogilvie
13/4/26

David Ogilvie

[redacted]

FOOTPATHS –An important, necessary investment in the District's infrastructure.

One of the regular requests, complaints and concerns from our residents to Councillors and Community Board Members relates to footpaths---where they exist, or don't exist, and their maintenance/renewal programme.

1. The Footpath Fund from the General Rate.

The budget for funding footpaths in Tasman comes from the General Rate (including the Uniform Annual General Rate--UAGC).

The exception is in new Residential developments where footpaths are funded from the relevant Development Impact Contribution. (D.C's)

2. Tasman District.

Tasman is a wide, disparate district with urban areas of varying sizes with similarly varied sized rural towns. (Richmond, Motueka, Brightwater, Wakefield, Mapua, Takaka, Collingwood ,Tapawera, Murchison—as main towns.

Each Ward mostly has "rural" footpaths—outside the primary town.

Within the Motueka Ward, for example, the rural areas of Riwaka, Brooklyn, Lower Moutere, Stephens Bay, Kaiteriteri, Little Kaiteriteri, and Marahau compete with Motueka for any footpath funds.

Given this considerable disparity, the method of distributing the footpath fund needs to be understandable, straightforward, and even-handed across the District

Equally, the degree of information as to which paths, and in which town or place, are most in need of new paths, timely maintenance, or renewal becomes critical in the funding allocation.

3. The Current System—flaws

Currently, the Footpath Fund is administered by Council staff on a subjective "priority and need" basis.

The District's paths are assessed by Council staff relating to personal observation, with input from Elected Members, and from complaints/concerns expressed by residents and Residents' Associations.

The assessment criteria includes the age of the path, any safety factor, proximity to a commercial area, and assessment of likely pedestrian numbers, etc.

Consequently, funding is apportioned accordingly through the Annual Plans, Long Term Plan and the Asset Management Plan.

Generally, the public and the Council accept that across the wider District all footpaths would receive attention in time ultimately.

This acceptance, despite its subjectivity, and minimal consultation, is surprising. The current system has other shortcomings:--

---how to assess the merits of maintenance and renewals for paths comparing urban with urban, and (within each Ward) urban with rural, across a District as wide and disparate as Tasman?

5/03/2026

---the level of consultation is fragmented and informal
---How District –wide are these decisions being made?
---Is there a draft recommendation presented to each Ward Councillor, prior to a final decision?

4. Proposed New System—Funding Allocation
This proposed new system retains the footpath funding being provided from the General Rate (and UAGC) ----but the funding will be allocated to each Ward on the proportion of the General Rate that is raised in each Ward.
At a suggested Tasman District Footpaths Fund annually of $750,000 this would be the annual allocation:-

		$750,000	$500,000
Richmond ----	30.0%------	$225,000	150 000
Waimea-Moutere—	27.5%-------	$206,250	137 500
Motueka----------	22.5%-------	$168,750	112, 500
Golden Bay----------	10.0%-------	$75,000	50, 000
Lakes-Murchison ---	10.0%-------	$75, 000	50, 000

5. Proposed New System---Administering the Footpath Fund in each Ward
The footpaths decisions would be assigned to each Ward.
The decisions on which areas needed new paths or needed maintenance or renewal, would be made by the Councillors plus the Community representatives for each Ward.
The Footpaths criteria would be provided by the Transportation staff and the footpath decision meetings could be attended by a staff member.

6. Conclusion –Is this a better system?
It introduces a "User-pays" arrangement by having a General Rate percentage allocated for each Ward.
There will be funding for footpaths in each year for each Ward—very important.
The decision-makers will be local people, responsible to their communities.
They will have good knowledge of the condition of the paths being discussed and decided on.
It will remove much of the subjective approach of the current system.

7. An Example ----Applying the New System to the Motueka Ward
The flaws in the current system became obvious when the Footpath Budget and the "Footpath Matrix" were presented to the Motueka Community Board last year.
There had been no funds for Motueka footpaths in 2024-2025; there was minor funding in 2025-2026 (if part-funded with the Community Board), and no more funds available until the 2030's.
The promise and the expectation there would be annual funding for footpath work for the Ward would not be happening. Little or no money for footpaths from the General Rate---for six years?
Despite the Motueka town needs and those of the rural towns, and considering its ageing population, the Ward had become a very low priority in the Footpath budgets.
Besides, the Council had made its decision from a Manager's report and it would not be changed.

With the new system---based on a District-wide Budget of $750,000 for footpaths, Motueka would be allocated $168,750 annually. (At $500,000 an allocation of $112,500)
The Community Board including the three Ward Councillors would consult its residents, inspect the streets and footpaths recommended, and decide on the work required.
This could be an annual or triennium activity ; any specific longer-term work would have funding retained.
Footpath maintenance, renewals and any new work would happen each year within the Ward, in response to need and requests.

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As a "user-pays"rating item, and with active locally-wide consultation, it will be more acceptable to the residents/ratepayers than the current uncertain, and "distant" arrangement.

David Ogilvie
Motueka Community Board Member
March, 2026

5/03/2026

David Ogilvie

[redacted]

s in Tasman District

URBAN DRAINAGE AREAS
Storm water Rates in Tasman District

1. There are 15 Urban Drainage Areas in the Tasman District, including two in the Motueka Ward—Motueka Town and Kaiteriteri/Stephens Bay (refer Maps)

2. The rateable properties in each U.D.A. are rated based on the Capital Value of each Property. It's estimated there are over 3,000 properties in the Motueka U.D.A. raising approximately $1 m annually ; over 500 properties in the Kaiteriteri/Stephens Bay U.D.A. raising approx $250,000 annually
For most properties, the Rate will exceed $300 annually)
(N.B. These numbers and funds are estimates only, as the Council has not provided the exact statistics, despite requests.)
Note also, that those areas throughout Tasman, not in a U.D.A., have their drainage costs meant principally from their River rates, X, Y, or Z.

3. I have a serious concern that the Storm water funding is not being applied within the U.D.A. where it is raised.
Based on the last five years (2021-2022 to 2025-2026) the income from the Motueka UDA has approached $1m , perhaps $1.5m, in each year.
The expenditure in each year ,however, has been less than $100,000—per the Annual Plan, Long Term Plan, Asset Management Plan, Annual Reports and various reports to the Council and its Committees ---as I have perceived.
For the 2024-2025 year, for example, it seems less than $10,000 was spent of the $100,000 budgeted for upgrades of the town's sumps.

4. This trifle amount being allocated or spent in Motueka's UDA is a major issue requiring to be addressed urgently.
It is counter to the Council's policies regarding resilience in protecting the storm water network across the District. As the Council is aware, this funding for resilience is needed in Motueka as it is elsewhere in the District.

5. In answers to my emails to Senior staff, I have been told that the UDA account is judged as "District-wide". I have questioned when the Council decided that.
Should there be a "District-wide Club", the Motueka UDA ought to have received greater expenditure over these last five years—given the need in Motueka.

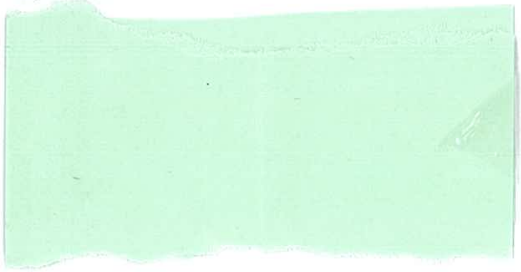
6. Specifically, there are two questions being asked:--
--how much in Rates do the two Motueka Ward U.D.A.s raise (for the years 2024-25 and the current year 2025-26)?
--how has that money been spent in each U.D.A. or allocated (in those same two years)?

7. Conclusion.

5/03/2026

For each U.D.A. in the Motueka Ward---and probably for each U.D.A. --- the Rate ought to be a local based "target" Rate with expenditure in that particular area only.
The current arrangement ought to be changed as from the July 1st 2026 Annual Plan.
Targeted rates are standard in Tasman District. Of note, the Storm water Development Contributions are raised and expended on a local area /development basis.

And to repeat, this is a major critical matter for the two Motueka Ward U.D.A.'s. Personally, I view it as very serious and I'm strongly committed to obtain answers and change to a fair impartial system.



5/03/2026

My Official Submission to Tasman District Councils 2026/2027 Annual Plan

by: Marion Satherley, Ruby Bay

I wish to speak to my submission

Introduction and Purpose of my submission:

- I wish TDC to know, understand and acknowledge how I (and many ratepayers) are feeling about the financial debt TDC has accrued, the unsustainable increases to rate and fees charges, continually placing nice to have projects/activities ahead of ratepayer affordability, TDC's inability to bring everyday internal costs down to an affordable, manageable, and financial sustainable level for ratepayers.
- Any increase above the current 3.1% national inflation rate is unsustainable and unacceptable. TDC's are paid by the ratepayers to serve them, and therefore TDC should exercise incredible due diligence when undertaking any role on behalf of ratepayers. Especially considering the privileged position and business monopoly TDC holds on behalf of ratepayers.
- As a result of the huge responsibility TDC have to its ratepayers, absolutely everything TDC does must be scrutinised to ascertain its cost/benefit ratio, its financial prudence, and b e fully aware of ratepayer affordability in the long term.
- Continually increasing rates and fees to cover unchecked spending and to enable an increase in the debt cap is a flawed economic mindset and unsustainable for ratepayers now and into the future.
- When one considers the differences between TDC's own proposed average 9.9% rate increases for 2026/27 period to the predicted increases of 5.2% in the 10 year plan (a 90.3% increase) leaves no faith future predictions have been will thought through and will lessen ratepayer affordability now and into the future.
- TDC's mismanagement and these increases must not continue. A drastic change now must occur to change the financial trajectory for TDC's and ratepayers.
- Rates and fees should never increase above the national inflation rate based on the latest CPI figures.
- TDC must change its financial thinking and culture. This change needs to come from the top.
- All elected councillors have a responsibility to ensure the CEO becomes accountable for all financial mismanagement, including how effective and efficient staff are with their productivity, time management, goods procurement, etc.
- Everyone in TDC (councillors, CEO, and staff) have a responsibility and duty to ratepayers to ensure they consider the cost to the ratepayers every time they suggest or undertake a task via producing cost/benefit ratios.
- The councillors have an added responsibility to ensure the CEO fulfils all clauses within their job description to the highest of standards and to make sure their performance review honestly and accurately reflects their performance.

Annual Plan Documents:

- I find these documents to be very misleading; directive (leading the ratepayer to support a preferred outcome); and not fully transparent due to full disclosure and missing

information to enable meaningful comparisons that show past predictions, outcomes, and trends .

- Without access to full information how can ratepayers actually assess TDC's true performance and service delivery levels.
- Rates, fees and debt is spiralling our of control with no evidence of any intentions to recify this or draw debt down. This is a very poor, unsustainable and destructive business model.
- Ratepayers are not TDC's bank. Ratepayers are TDC's clients with limited financial resources. Ratepayers deserve to be treated with more care, thought, and respect.

Rate/Fees Increases are Unacceptable:

- Rates and fees must be kept within the national inflation rate of current CPI of 3.1% not only in this Annual Plan but within every future Annual Plan, LTP. and 10 year plan.
- Without ratepayers full understanding of costs and the mechanisms that are driving these cost increases, it is very difficult to support or approve any suggestions being made by TDC.

  For example:-

  a) an increase of $745,000 to staff benefits is unacceptable in a time of financial strain. How is this increase explained – where is the full expense breakdown?; where is the staffing level breakdown (past and present)?; what are the fringe benefits/perks/insurance covers/salary increases staff receive and at what cost?; do these increases relate to new staff only or all staff?; and how much have salaries increased over the last 10 years, and is this increase just for new staff or all staff?

  b) Why is there a $500,000 cost increase to net interest costs? Why has council not adequately allowed for a margin of increase within the 2024-34 LTP? What is council done/doing to ensure future interest rate exposure is mitigated?

  c) To fully understand why professional fees and operating expenses have risen, ratepayers need evidence of why increase in these costs is necessary?, and why these tasks can not be performed more effectively in-house by TDC staff?

  d) Loan repayment variance of 3.2M and funded depreciation - where are the full loan repayment figures? What is driving this variance? Why is not paying down loans being undertaken to reduce this variance risk? Why is the 2024-34 LTP so inaccurate in its forecast? Is it the 2024-34 LTP inaccuracy that is driving this depreciation?
- The increase of some fees by 87% is unacceptable and shows a disrespecting of TDC's monopoly position and displays active price gouging when producers and residents have no other options. In my mind, this is criminal behaviour for which council should be ashamed of itself. If internal costs have increased to this level, council needs to respond immediately by undertaking an internal efficiency audit to discover why this increase has occurred.
- There appears to be a clear refusal to assess, redirect, and improve internal organisational efficiencies so a cost cutting measure to improve operational budgets. The AP document does not define, report, or transparent in relation to internal organisational cost cutting measures. Business as usual can not be allowed to continue.

Proposed Budget Movements Feedback:

- Lack the necessary data to show the public transparent accountability is missing.

- Why does council not share past actual figures and currently proposed movements on both minor as well as the major projects.
- Where is the transparency along with income/costs/profits/shortfalls/debt impacts of council operated CCO's. (Port Nelson and Nelson Airport)? Why does the details of these council investments appear to be hidden?
- Where is the rational, data, and full project breakdown behind the 12.8m total increase in the capital expenditure programme? Why is this data missing?
- Ratepayers need to be assured their funds are not being diverted from essential service delivery into speculative or non essential developments and/or projects.
- Ratepayers should never be the automatic go to financiers of council inefficiencies. Where is the evidence council are making internal changes to reduce this financial burden? What cost reductions and or savings is council going to commit to to bring relief to ratepayers?
- Ratepayers expect council to be fully competent in their roles and duties. Ratepayers should never be subsidising council budgetary incompetence.

TDC Internal Business Cost Increases:

- Like all other businesses, TDC must work within its financial means while rates and fees do not increase above the current CPI rate nor rely on increased debt to function.
- TDC, like many individuals, primary producers and small businesses are also struggling with rising insurance premiums, food bills and general operating/living costs (power, fuel, etc) and must adapt quickly in a financially responsibly manner to all unforeseen cost pressures outside of ones control. It does not aid ratepayer respect, trust, confidence in TDC's ability to diligently manage financial restraint by taking the lazy option of increasing debt or shifting the cost burden onto ratepayers.
- TDC must reassess internal and external costs; goods procurement; staff time management; subcontractor labour rates/charge times; question quote figures and step outside the current contractor echo chamber for quotes and start getting quotes from smaller, local owner/operator contractors. It is a known fact that the larger/international contracting firms are ripping TDC off, hence the ratepayers, with extremely high charges.
- Staff wages and benefits must be revisited and bought within a sustainable level for ratepayers.
- All purchase methods, procedures, and procurements must be reassessed for validity and best value and business practice.
- Evaluate carefully, widely, fully, thoroughly, and thoughtfully before acquiring any future land for future services, especially if there is a possibility they may not proceed in the future. I have personally witnessed waste in this area, not only in staff time but also in product and contract delivery.
- As a ratepayer, I demand council be fully transparent with its internal cost savings measures, justify the rational for increasing its fees, and fully demonstrate, justify, and prove its financial discipline and competence.

Budget assessments and Debt Level/Cap:

- TDC's current debt level is unsustainable now and into the future. TDC must stop increasing debt and start working within its financial means.
- It is unacceptable for council to increase rates without first analysing and providing proof of all the steps and data council has to show ratepayers internal spending efficiencies have been bought into line with an effective and efficiently run business model. This is

extremely critic for council/ratepayer transparency, trust, and relationship building, especially considering council itself has acknowledged finances are constrained.

- All non essential spending and development projects must cease until further notice and must be ratepayer approved before any items are considered.
- There needs to be a business objective/goal to reduce debt.
- Rate increases appear to be driven by poor financial management and the need to increase the debt level. Especially considering the debt is set and driven by the level of the rate take. This is as perpetual uncontrolled spending wheel and it must stop..
- Continually allowing debt to increase and rates to rise is a recipe for financial disaster and will ultimately result in huge property insecurity risks for many ratepayers.
- TDC's track record for project/maintenance budget blowouts is very visible to ratepayers – the best/worst example (which angle one looks at it) is the Waimea Dam. This project has become a financial disaster, a huge added burden on ratepayers, and has very bias cost/benefit ratio's. The Mapua, Richmond and Motueka 'Street's for People' projects are other examples of wasted monies, be it taxpayer funds, but taxpayers and ratepayers are the same payers.
- Council needs to learn from past mistakes, poor financial judgements, and prove to ratepayer it is willing to learn and quickly adapt to necessary financial changes in a timely fashion, and much much quicker than it has in the past.
- Considering to increase debt by $650,000 to achieve a 0.5% relief in rates is financial suicide, in my opinion.
- Debt should never be used to fund non essential project/community facilities. TDC needs to support communities to fund their our projects.

Planning Failures/Accountability:

- Why does council always blames budget spikes as 'unexpected' external pressures (ie govt. Growth etc)?
- These budget spikes are not new. Why does council continually under estimate them in budgets and not adapted to allow for unexpected budget costs. This is an example of poor business planning and management, indicating an unwillingness to truthful estimate possible pressure points in future costs; a willingness to increase the debt level and/or rate take without long term thought that will have financial consequences for the ratepayer; continuing to ignore improvements to internal inefficiencies; staff effectiveness; and improving general financial management protocols.
- Please provide proof the $75K+ items were unknown at the last LTP review.
- Future subdivisions and associated infrastructure have a long planning phase. Can you please explain why long term residents are continually asked to fund new development infrastructure when they have paid their fair share with so many new developments over the years. Please explain why developers are not fully responsible for the instillation of all new infrastructure that they recoup when they sell a section with all ratepayers then contributing towards the future infrastructure maintenance only?

Community Projects:

- I oppose all community facility projects including the Motueka Swimming Pool, the hubs at Wakefield, Brightwater, and Murchison, and the Saxton Field playground. These projects are luxury assets that must be cancelled and must not be reconsidered until a time when

TDC has its finances in order, rate increase are back within the national inflation rate, and its debt has been reduced significantly.

- No new community facilities should be approved at the expense of core community services.
- Community pools, hubs, libraries etc are often a bottomless money pit. Not only does council not have a good track record of projects coming in on budget but the ongoing expenses of community facilities does not end once the development of the asset has completed. All additional annual expenses (power, insurance, cleaning, security, staffing, maintenance etc) is also picked up by the ratepayer are on going year in, year out basis. Full disclosure of these costs are never clear at the time development funding is suggested and/or allocated.
- All community assets have a localised benefit and therefore all ratepayers who live within the catchment to fund such projects from initially development to ongoing running costs should be provided this information prior to any project acceptance. All affected ratepayer in the project catchment zone must be provided with a full, accurate, and honest project review and estimates, including all costs to prepare, complete development, and ongoing annual costs, to enable ratepayers to fully understand the expected costs to ratepayer to gain ratepayer approval beofre any project progresses.
- Motueka already has a swimming pool at the High School. The community should be looking to see how they can solidify an arrangement with Motueka High School for a more affordable win/win outcome for the school and the community.
- Saxton Field playground is a nice to have and is not affordable. It is not essential, the cost is not being shared equally with Nelson City, and this facility is not easily accessible for the majority of ratepayers within the Tasman District.
- Council needs to stop all nice to have spends and stick to core service items only.
- Until the time comes whenTDC has proven it can rein in it's spending; hugely reduced its debt; minimised its rate increases to within the national inflation rate; and prove to ratepayers they have shifted financial management to within their income means Council should not be considering or taking on any new nice to have community projects.
- TDC need to encourage and empower individual communities to fund and provided their own assets by offering funding pathway option outside of TDC.
- I object to the inclusion of 'joint venture' and 'minor' projects from the budget tables. All ratepayer funding must be fully disclosed formally in easy to read tables to the public. Joint ventures open the way for non transparent use of ratepayer funds into a black hole with the excuse to protect the interest of the joint venture partners. Such secrecy and hidden use of ratepayer funds should never be allowed to occur. These types of relationships also set up huge future risks if the partner decides to withdraw their financial support/investment. If community members are willing to donate to public assets with no strings attached or expectations then this, I'm sure, would be acceptable to ratepayers. Joint venture partners should never be able to use ratepayer investments to profit from, nor be in a business position where it can dictate how council goes about providing a profitable service to it ratepayers.
- The $17.5m allocated towards community development would go a long way to reduce the suggested rate increase and reduce the debt level. That is providing council seriously reduce it internal operating costs to a more manageable level.

Asset sales:

- the plan suggests $2.5m of assets sales to be made, yet there is no list provided of which assets these are?
- Selling assets for the sake of selling to lighten the current days financial dilemma could be an unsustainable decision long term.
- suggested asset sales need to be individually identified with supporting reasoning and explaining why an asset is considered surplus to current needs; consider whether there maybe a possible future use; or will there will never be any future use?
- Assets sales should never be made just to relief immediate financial strain when that asset may have a future use. This type of action is short term thinking and financial incompetence which will place council and ratepayers in an even more vulnerable financial position. Especially if council then need to lease the asset back to fulfil future infrastructure requirements ultimately adding increase financial burden from full ownership, to a future potential lease situation, and/or possibly a required repurchase at a hugely inflated cost compared to it sale price.
- One of the assets TDC need to sell off is all its carbon credits.

Weather Events, Enviromental Hazards, Flood Protection, Climate Adaptation, Managed Retreat and Maintenance

- I do not support any of the options presented in the new 2025 Weather Event Recovery rate.
- Every option you have suggested places increased burden on ratepayers without providing full transparency and disclosure of the damage costs; insurance payouts; and external Govt. assistance/subsidies TDC has received.
- Without full disclosure of all maintenance undertaken in all affected areas over a 50 year period, how do ratepayers know whether the resulting disaster damage hasn't been the result of council mismanagement of storm-water and drainage systems, river management, and forestry clearing practices and standards?
- What changes have been made to maintenance schedules in the last 50 years? Have these changes been compared the velocity of the weather event and resulting damage? If not, why not?
- Council can not continue to place disaster recovery burden onto ratepayers without fully disclosing how council intends to help mitigate damage with the aim to aid any individual ratepayer who faces hardship as a result without committing to specified assistance packages through central govt. disaster relief, rates discounts etc.
- What assurances do ratepayers have that councils decisions and actions do not force a ratepayer off their land as a result of councils unsustainable rating, financial demands, and possible storm mismanagement?
- How can true mitigation occur if causation data is not know?
- TDC continually appear to expect ratepayers to trust in their abilities to manage a disaster relief funding pool when ratepayers have not received any guarantees the disaster relief fund will be ring fenced; show proof of councils ability to be prudent in any financial management skills (the current financial bind proves mismanagement); and to ensure contractor recovery costs are reasonable. We have all heard horror stories during the Motueka Valley flood recovery of what major contractors who enlisted smaller operators told them to charge council.

- Does council possess any physical data and/or validation of individual area hazard assessments based on actual historical data of all individual weather events; causes and actual resulting damage; recovery costs; compared to the level of regular maintenance undertaken over a long term period of time (50 plus years)? If this information does not exist, why does it not? What data do you use (other than IPCC 's questionable modelling scenarios) to validate future predictions?
- Hazard mapping could be seen as a convenient outcome for local bodies to reduce due diligence and the level of service. This could then become a convenient argument to reduce maintenance, which will significantly increase on-going future disasters risks, which in turn, may see insurers pull out of areas all adding to property owner/ratepayer burden by increasing their rates and insurance burdens. Council could then use the climate change risk and label such properties/areas for 'Climate Adaptation' or 'Managed Retreat' when in fact the problems occurred as a result of mismanagement and neglect.
- Considering council/govt have been talking about global warming, climate change, and sea level rise for over 35 years, I have yet to see any physical proof around our coastlines outside of natural erosion damage. We even moved house 35 years ago to protect ourselves from this sea level inundation prediction, and to date not one thing has changed at the waters edge, other than the usual seasonal shifts and coastal erosion.
- I am not denying the climate isn't changing, as climate has always changed in association with natural and historical solar cycles shifts that can cause warming, cooling, drier, or wetting weather conditions.
- Understanding the historic climate cycles and the impacts of human weather modification techniques/interference (research DARPA) should provide councils/govt. with an opportunity to understand how best to prepare and protect its infrastructure assets and ratepayer property.
- Council need to be aware that ratepayers see contradictions in what councils states with regard climate adaptation/mitigation compared to development actions it takes/approves that directly contradict its own recommendations. For example approving development in low lying area in Richmond West covering all growth areas including residential, commercial, industrial, and its own infrastructure growth.
- I object to councils requirement that property owners must pay to receive information council has placed on their properties LIM report. Council must be fully transparent and communicate openly, honestly, clearly, and directly with all property owners about any risk changes council deems serious enough to be placed on ratepayer property LIM report free of charge. Such LIM inclusions must activate a valid reason of why this action has been taken directly to the ratepayer, and the ratepayer should have the right to contest this inclusion free of investigation costs.
- Where is the justification for the expenditure increase of $7.2m from $6.1m to $13.3m for flood and asset protection? Why is there not full transparency and itemised costs of what the $7.2m increase covers to ensure there is clear separation between council owned assets and private property?
- Does council view its own asset protection as part of the climate adaptation framework above the protection of residential community properties that may be considered at greater risk?
- Why does council not communicate clearly, openly, honestly and directly to each affected ratepayers the potential risks to their properties and offer mitigation suggestions and full

details of councils storm water/risk management maintenance solutions and programmes as a good will service?

Transport and Roading:

- Please explain the full and transparent reasoning why council has planned a funding depreciation of roading assets?
- This move appears to hide the true infrastructure debt and risk that will starve essential and much needed road maintenance in an attempt to manipulate and balance the budget. This is a dishonest and irresponsible action in the short term with possible dangerous, disastrous and costly long term repair and maintenance outcomes for future ratepayers? While, opening up future weather events being labelled a 'natural climate disaster' instead of the financial decision disaster it would actually be. Manipulation of financial figures is not what ratepayers pay rates to council to have occur. Ratepayers expect prudent and honest financial management and reporting.
- Are council aware of the flow on impacts of roading disruptions to the regions food supply chain and connectivity that could result from mismanaged roading budgets? Council must prioritise the funding of roading depreciation above that of non essential, non core projects.

Councils Financial Infrastructure:

- It is not difficult to see that council has not adequately managed its finances for many years with no recent improvements, in fact, it appears to be getting worse each year with all of the burden being placed directly on ratepayers without council undergoing any massive, truly meaningful changes to their own internal financial behaviour and management.
- A new financial management structure needs to be introduced. A management structure that prioritises essential core infrastructure as the highest priority, with all non essential, discretionary spending placed on hold. This includes non essential procurements including staff tasks, duties, and employment levels.
- All core asset purchases must be differed (ie increasing the vehicle fleet)
-

Councils responsibility to the ratepayer must come first:

- this does not and should not reflect on individual staff members work abilities.
- it does however, reflect directly on the CEO's ability to diligently undertake their expected role by providing a value for money service to ratepayers; ensure on going financial prudence and management; and poses the ability to create an effective, efficient and healthy productive, ratepayer focused working environment and culture.

The following sections include my view of where responsibilities lie and what needs to occur to bring about lasting and meaningful financial changes.

Elected Councillors responsibilities:

- is to question everything presented to them; being prepared to think outside the box for solutions and expect this also from the CEO and staff within their problem solving solutions; be willing to be open minded to all suggestions; be prepared to stand ones ground when something doesn't appear right or legitimate; not label, discredit or disrespect the opinions of caring, concerned ratepayers and colleagues who show an

interest just because they see things differently in the moment; always leave room and be willing to change your view; be willing to acknowledge you may not see what others see; and to act in a manner that does not serve your own personal interests/agenda's; and respond in the best interests of ratepayers who elected you.

- and to ensure the CEO -
- is directly accountable for all tasks and decision being made under their job description. The CEO is paid extremely well and ratepayers should see financial efficiency, effectiveness and competence as a result.
- Keeps spending under control, reduce debt levels and keep rate increase withing the national inflation rate of 3.1% CPI
- is fully accountable for every cent of spending incurred as part of the discretionary spend limit entrusted in their care wisely/diligently, honestly and fully accountably.
- creates a staff culture/environment of being one where they pride themselves for being diligent with ratepayer funds in all aspects of day to day business activities that shows and illustrates their committent to the ratepayer are taken seriously, making sure concerns are heard, listened to, fully investigate solutions and providing reasons back to the ratepayer about all options and decisons.
- is performing to a high level standard and delivery.
- operates and manages the business of TDC within its income means without relying on debt increase above the national inflation rate.
- must show a plan to start reducing debt.
- must be questioned on whether any backhander deals between big business and council are occurring.
- Achieves a high level of ratepayer service that is reflected openly and honestly within each annual performance review.
- Respects the community consultation process and honestly reassuring ratepayers consultation is not just an in-house tick box exercise.
- Explain the logistics, purpose, ratepayer benefits of all staff benefits/increased costs, including additions to staffing numbers fully explaining to the ratepayer how these costs benefit them.
- Regularly review the necessity, benefits, costs of staffing levels fully to ratepayers explaining how this benefits the level of service to them.
- Across all TDC activities are fully and financially evaluated with a cost/benefit ratio score. Outcomes of which must be fully disclosed to ratepayers along with an action plan to enable full transparency. This can easily be anonymised.

I want to thank the few councillors who see many of the major issues in the same vain I see them. However, I am extremely concerned (that still) the majority of councillors appear oblivious to the real issues driving councils current financial strain/situation and continue to believe operating with a business as usual attitude.

Final Roundup:

- Sadly, many ratepayers trust and confidence in council ability to preform its duties in a financially prudent and diligent manner is at an all time low.
- Council need to start treating ratepayers as the valued clients they are and start providing the affordable service ratepayers deserve.

- Council need to stop pandering to developers and halt adding their development costs onto ratepayers in general. Yes, council may manage the infrastructure on behalf of all ratepayers once installed and ratepayers pay for the on going maintenance. However, its should be the developers who pay for the infrastructure to be installation which is ultimately paid by property purchases for access to services they will be using.
- All comments I have made in this submission directly impact council abilities to perform their duties in a financially viable manner to achieve and provide a cost effective, efficient, sustainable, and accountable service to ratepayers. None of my comments should be viewed or considered as out of scope of an Annual Plan review.
- Not to view, consider, take my comments into account would be a failure of councils statutory duty to me as a ratepayer and therefore, I request all my comments be formally recorded, addressed meaningfully during deliberations, and included in the public record of consultation.
- Greater access to important decision making information is required before ratepayers can accurately assess and provide fully informed responses that are based on past and future spending patterns compared to predictions; frequency of spend; triggers for spending; staff costs including benefits and staffing levels; cost/benefit ratios; past, present and future maintenance schedules, maintenance failures, storm events and the real cause of resulting damage.
- The above items are by no means an inclusive list, but do give an indication to the level of detailed information that needs to be made accessible.

Thank you
Kind Regards
Marion Satherley

Rob Smith,
Group Manager – Environmental Services
Kia Ora Rob,

Split Apple Rock Owners' Association (SAROA) acknowledges receipt of your response (dated 16 February 2026) to our letter regarding the degradation of the Otuwhero estuary and environs.

Undeniably, the forestry harvesting practices in the catchment are the main factor causing the degradation of the estuary. Your response to our concerns was dismissive and suggests that the council has little interest in improving the status quo.

You state the importance of the National Environmental Standards for Commercial Forestry (NESCF). For the Otuwhero catchment, it is clear that the NESCF is either not fit for purpose or has not been complied with to mitigate the environmental damage associated with harvesting. TDC do have responsibilities in this area, particularly related to compliance monitoring.

We are interested in understanding how TDC conducted compliance monitoring of the forestry operations within the Otuwhero catchment over recent years (2021-2025). We request the following information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA), specifically.

- Details (dates, number of staff, purpose) of site visits by TDC staff to forestry operations within the Otuwhero catchment (including Kaiteriteri Forest) to monitor the NESCF and the associated reports from inspections.
- Communications with forestry management companies and harvesting contractors regarding compliance with NESCF (letters, emails, meeting minutes).
- Reviews of forestry harvesting practices by TDC for the Tasman region pertaining to erosion and sedimentation.
- Environmental monitoring of water sediment loads within the Otuwhero catchment.
- Estimated costs associated with remediation work of council infrastructure (roading, culverts, drainage, etc) in the Otuwhero catchment following June/July 2025 weather events.
- Contributions by forestry management companies and harvesting contractors towards remediation in the Otuwhero catchment following June/July 2025.

Of course, SAROA welcomes the opportunity to discuss the broader issues raised in our previous letter, with a longer term vision of improving the state of the Otuwhero Estuary and adjacent areas.

Yours sincerely,
Gill Trotter- Secretary on behalf of Split Apple Rock Owners Association

Marahau and Sandy Bay Residents Association Incorporated

3 May 2026

This is a submission in response to the Tasman District Council's invitation to provide feedback on the Council's Annual Plan and Budget for 2026/27 and the Association requests the opportunity to speak to the submission.

We have set out briefly below the matters that the Marahau and Sandy Bay community request the Council consider with a view to incorporating provision for these in the Annual Plan and Budget for 2026/27.

1. **Maintenance of the Otuwhero Carpark, the Revetment and the Footpath along the Foreshore**

The improvements TDC undertook to the layout of the Otuwhero Carpark significantly improved the functioning of the carpark and the safety of the public and the kayak operators at peak times. The metal surface of the carpark does wear and needs to be maintained regularly to keep it at a satisfactory standard.

Recommendation: The Council undertake any necessary remediation of the carpark prior to the start of the summer season each year.

With the increase in the incidence of severe weather events and severity of these events the maintenance of the Revetment along the foreshore on Sandy Bay Rd is a high priority to ensure access to the National Park via Sandy Bay Rd and protection of the properties and services along the foreshore.

Recommendation: The Council regularly inspects the Revetment and undertakes proactive maintenance to ensure the Revetment continues to provide the protection required for Sandy Bay Rd and the properties and services along the foreshore.

The footpath along the foreshore beside the Sandy Bay Rd has been repeatedly damaged by severe weather events including most recently by cyclone Vaianu in April. An initial 'rough and ready' repair was carried out very quickly and a more thorough repair was completed recently.

The footpath and the seats along the Revetment garden are used regularly by residents and visitors and the footpath beside the Revetment gardens along with the steps down to the beach are key features of the Marahau foreshore. Prior to the most recent repairs the footpath was not useable by push chairs, that has been fixed and the footpath should always be able to be used by parents with young children in pushchairs.

Recommendation: The Council maintain the footpath along the foreshore by Sandy Bay Rd to a standard suitable for pushchairs.

2. **Night Sky**

The Residents Association has long advocated for Marahau to be a designated Dark Sky area along with other areas of the upper South Island. The night sky viewed from Marahau on a clear night is remarkable, however as the group pursuing this has expanded the

proposed Dark Sky area progress has slowed down to a near stop. In the meantime, the streets lights in Newhaven Cres that had been turned off have all recently been turned on which has significantly derogated the dark sky. An adjustable light has been fitted to the streetlight at the entrance to Newhaven Cres to provide a lower level but still satisfactory level of illumination. If there are to be streetlights in Newhaven Cres, they should all be fitted with the adjustable light fittings.

Recommendation: The Council fits adjustable light fittings to all the streetlights in Newhaven Cres.

3. Pedestrian Walkway for the Marahau River Bridge

A pedestrian walkway alongside the Marahau River Bridge to separate pedestrians and vehicles has moved up and down the Council's possibles projects list for some years now. We understand and support the priority to remediate the damage to roading infrastructure in the Tasman District due to the severe weather events in June 2025 and the most recent event in April 2026. The present arrangement is not ideal and at some point, the walkway will need to be instituted and preferably before a pedestrian is injured.

Recommendation: The Council reviews the priority for a pedestrian walkway alongside the Marahau River bridge once the current remediation works on the Tasman District roading infrastructure are completed.

4. Restoration, Mitigation and Land Management for the Otuwhero, Marahau and Kaiteriteri Catchments

In 2018 Cyclone Gita caused significant harm to the Otuwhero, Marahau and Kaiteriteri catchments and these catchments have been further affected by a series of subsequent extreme weather events. These events have triggered landslides and ground liquefaction, placing residents and infrastructure at ongoing risk.

During the winter months of June and July 2025, these catchments experienced further major rainfall events. These caused further damage, particularly to Marahau Hill, which has been intermittently closed for repairs following each event including most recently cyclone Vaianu in April.

In response to the growing community concern about the role of forestry and its contribution to flood and debris flow impacts, following the extreme weather event in winter 2025 the Marahau Community Association has engaged with key stakeholders, including iwi, forestry companies, land managers, council representatives, and community members. A site visit was organised last September 2025, to observe affected areas, and participants agreed to continue working collaboratively to identify and implement solutions.

The complex and fragile nature of Separation Point Granite (SPG) geology present persistent challenges for forestry which based on the consequences of recent severe weather events are not currently appropriately controlled by the existing regulatory regime.

There is a strong expectation among the residents of Tokongawa, Otuwhero and Marahau that in light of the repeated environmental harm ensuing from commercial forestry operations affected by severe weather events the Council will take a proactive approach to fulfilling its responsibilities under the *National Environmental Standard for Commercial Forestry*, especially where public safety and long-term resilience are at stake.

The Marahau and Tokognawa residents' associations have begun work to develop a long-term climate resilience strategy for the Marahau and Otuwhero catchments, in collaboration

with key partners, stakeholders, and land users, with the aim of increasing the safety and wellbeing of residents, local businesses, and visitors.

The framework for this is:

1. Restoration

Work in partnership with local, NGOs, the Council, and businesses, school students to:

- Increase youth and wider community engagement, planting more natives, particularly in erosion-prone gullies.
- Enhance wetland health and restore key ecological areas, including īnanga spawning sites.

2. Mitigation

- Identify high-risk and sensitive areas.
- Install sediment traps and stabilisation measures such as poplar poles to reduce erosion and runoff.

3. Land Management Update to Climate Change Context

- Develop a long-term, collaborative land management strategy.
- Review and, where necessary, update current land use practices to improve resilience to climate change.
- Establish shared agreements among landowners, partners and stakeholders to support a safe and sustainable catchment management updated to the current context.
- Ensure the regulatory regime settings are appropriate and that the Council is fulfilling its statutory responsibilities for commercial forestry on SPG soils.

Recommendation: The Council make provision in the Annual Plan to re-evaluate the regulatory regime for forestry on SPG soils. This to include; the regulations and the Council's statutory oversight role and responsibilities, an assessment of the available data from recent storm events, the location and intensity of slope failures, and the performance of current harvesting methods in these landscapes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Chris Rutledge
Treasurer
On behalf of the Marahau and Sandy Bay Residents Association Incorporated

SUBMISSION

TELEPHONE 0800 327 646 I WEBSITE WWW.FEDFARM.ORG.NZ

FEDERATED FARMERS OF NEW ZEALAND

To: Tasman District Council
Private Bag 4
Richmond 7050

Submission on: **Draft Annual Plan 2026-27**

Date: 5 May 2026

Submission by: Golden Bay and Nelson Provinces of Federated Farmers

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SUBMISSION TO TASMAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2026-2027

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Golden Bay and Nelson provinces of Federated Farmers welcomes the opportunity to submit to Tasman District Council (TDC) on its *Draft Annual Plan 2026/27*.

1.2 Federated Farmers submits on Annual Plans and Long-term Plans throughout New Zealand and makes constructive proposals whenever the opportunity is provided.

1.3 Federated Farmers also submits on central government policies that affect local government revenue and spending, with the aim of ensuring that local government has the appropriate resources to carry out its functions.

1.4 Federated Farmers is concerned about the considerable cost of rates to farm businesses, in relation to the value of ratepayer-funded services and their accessibility to farmers. We are also concerned about the cost of rates on farms compared with other residents and businesses, and the failure of property value to reflect the incomes of farmers and their relative ability to pay.

1.5 Federated Farmers' feedback represents the views of 235 farming members and rate payers in the Tasman District..

1.6 We acknowledge any submissions from individual members of Federated Farmers.

1.7 Federated Farmers is focused on the transparency of rate setting, rates equity and both the overall and relative cost of local government to rural ratepayers.

1.8 Federated Farmers requests the opportunity to discuss this submission with Council during the hearing process.

2. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Federated Farmers recommends:

- That TDC considers all projects, in an ongoing way, and prioritise only those that are essential, to maintain low overall rate increases.

- That Council exercises responsible governance and constructs its budgets to constrain rate increases to no greater than the rate of inflation for the remainder of this LTP period and beyond. It should be noted that any form of rate or user charge will impact on rate payers and ultimately the regional and national economies.

- That Council explains the projected increases in revenue under “Fees and charges”, which, overall, are well above the current rate of inflation.

- That Council considers the application of a differential to the general rate, in favour of high capital value rural properties, to overcome the imbalance created by a rating system based on capital value.

- That Council makes maximum use of the UAGC to fund services primarily benefiting individuals rather than properties.

- That Council continues to make extensive use of targeted rates to ensure that the costs of services are targeted towards the beneficiaries of those services.

- That Council reviews the river management and river rating system to develop a more simple, transparent and effective system to fund and carry out crucial river work for the benefit of the whole community.

- That Council strives to keep increases in fees and charges within the rate of inflation and justifies the overall 6.9 % increase projected for 2026/27.

- That the registration fee for working dogs should be half that for a category 2 dog and that the total fee should be capped at 5 dogs.

- That Council continues to prioritise an efficient and well-maintained transport network in the Tasman District. We ask that high priority is given to rural roading, particularly completion of the restoration of roads and bridges following the extreme weather event of June/July 2025.

3. EXPENDITURE AND RATES

3.1 Total operating expenditure is projected to increase by 6.0 % in 2026/27 compared with 2025/26 (from the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense). This is less than the increase of 10.5 % projected in the Long-Term Plan (LTP).

3.2 On the revenue side, total rates are projected to increase by 11.3 % (substantially more than the 5.3 % projected in the LTP) and fees and charges are projected to increase by 6.9 % (the same as the increase projected in the LTP). Subsidies and grants are projected to increase by 0.3 % (compared with a 15.2 % decrease projected in the LTP). Development and financial contributions are projected to increase by 0.4 % (same as the LTP projection). The end-result is an increase in revenue of 8.1 % in 2026/27 compared with 2025/26 (compared with the 1.2 % increase in revenue projected in the LTP). A net surplus of $36.4m is projected for 2026/27.

3.3 It is noted that the projected increase in total rates (11.3 %) calculated from the numbers in the Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense differs from the 9.9 % stated in the consultation document.

3.4 The projected increase in total rates of 11.3 % is well above the current rate of inflation, which is now 3.1% (CPI for December 2025 quarter, Statistics NZ). It is noted that local authority rates and payments increased by 8.8% in the 12 months to the December 2025 quarter and it is estimated that this contributed 8.7 % to the rate of inflation.

3.5 Therefore, Federated Farmers asks that Council keeps rate increases at or below the rate of inflation for the remainder of this LTP period and beyond.

3.6 Federated Farmers commends council for its extensive use of targeted rates, which enable costs to be directed towards beneficiaries e.g. for services such as water supply and wastewater. It is noted that targeted rates make up 52 % of total rates.

3.7 It was noted, above, that revenue under “Fees and Charges” is projected to increase by 6.9 % in 2026/27 compared with 2025/26. Again, this is well above the current rate of inflation. Justification should be provided for such increases. We ask that Council should strive to keep increases less than the rate of inflation.

3.8 Under the heading *Rates Impact on Example Properties* (in the Funding Impact Statement 2026/2027 document), valuations, rates and rate increases are given for differing properties within the district, mostly focused on urban or semi-urban properties. Based on the information provided, the difference in rate revenue between rural (greater capital value) and urban properties appears to be stark. The greater rates (mostly general rate) levied from rural properties does not appear to be related to levels of service received. There is a strong argument to be made that a differential should be applied to the general rate, in favour of high capital value rural properties, to overcome the imbalance created by a rating system based on capital value. We note that there are currently no differentials on the general rate.

3.1 Federated Farmers does not accept the simplistic assumption that a property’s value has a direct correlation with income or ability to pay. Council should not try to second-guess peoples’ ability to pay. Central government has better information on ability to pay through the income tax system and is best placed to respond through its social support mechanisms. The Government’s Rates Rebate Scheme is targeted specifically to provide rates relief to low-income ratepayers. We would support Council to promote this scheme and actively encourage ratepayers to use it, where appropriate.

3.2 Farmers face a significant council rates burden as well as cost pressures from other quarters. The current increases in diesel and fertiliser prices will have substantial impacts on farmers. Both councils need to ensure that all possible measures are taken to reduce the rating burden on rural communities.

3.3 We remind Council of its obligation to ensure prudent stewardship and the efficient and effective use of its resources (s14(g), Local Government (Rating) Act 2002). The economic well-being of rural communities must be foremost in the mind of Council.

3.4 It should be noted that the Uniform Annual General Charge (UAGC) component of general rates is only 16.5 %. This is significantly less than the 30 % allowable (Local Government (Rating) Act 2002). Federated Farmers urges Council to make maximum use of the UAGC to fund services benefiting individuals rather than properties.

Recommendations:

3.5 **That Council considers all projects, in an ongoing way, and prioritise only those that are essential, to maintain low overall rate increases.**

3.6 **That Council exercises responsible governance and constructs its budgets to constrain expenditure and rate increases to no greater than the rate of inflation for the remainder of this LTP period and beyond. It should be noted that any form of rate or user charge (to fund that expenditure) will impact on rate payers and ultimately the regional and national economies.**

3.7 **That Council explains the magnitude of projected increases in revenue under "Fees and charges and other revenue".**

3.8 **That Council considers the application of a differential to the general rate, in favour of high capital value rural properties, to overcome the imbalance created by a rating system based on capital value.**

3.9 **That Council makes maximum use of the UAGC to fund services primarily benefiting individuals rather than properties.**

3.10 **That Council continues to make extensive use of targeted rates to ensure that the costs of services are directed towards the beneficiaries of those services.**

New 2025 Weather Events Recovery Rate

3.11 It is correctly stated that the severe weather event in June-July 2025 caused significant damage across parts of the district and that Council's extensive response and recovery programme is still underway. It is estimated that the net recovery cost will be approximately $14.6m, with costs sitting within Council's transportation, waste management, rivers, Three Waters and parks and reserves activity areas.

3.12 It is further stated that funding contributions have been, or will be, received from NZ Transport Agency/Waka Kotahi, Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment,

Ministry for the Environment, Department of Internal Affairs, National Emergency Management Agency and AON insurers. However, non-rates funding sources have now been exhausted. Therefore, Council is considering rating options for covering the current situation and possibly establishing a fund to cover the recovery from future extreme weather events.

3.13 Of the 4 options proposed, Federated Farmers favours Option 1, Council's preferred option. This is a targeted district-wide recovery rate for 5 years, to repay the costs of the 2025 weather events only, charged at a uniform annual amount of $125. It should be noted that our support is a one-off, for the current recovery situation. During the 5 year time-frame there may be other extreme weather events and we note that Council intends to review its river rating. The impact of other events and the outcome of the review may change our viewpoint.

3.14 The benefits of Option 1 are stated in the discussion document and include:

- transparency;
- whole community contributes;
- residents in the most affected areas will not pay more than others;
- affordability; and
- impact limited to 5 years.

Recommendation

3.15 **Federated Farmers supports the Targeted District-wide Recovery Rate. We favour Option 1 – a uniform rate of $125 for 5 years to repay the costs of the 2025 weather events only.**

River Rating

3.16 River works are largely funded by a Regional River Works Rate. This is a differential rating system (with those adjacent to the rivers paying a greater rate than those who benefit less directly) based on capital value (river areas x and y) or land value (river z areas).

3.17 Federated Farmers wishes to highlight some concerns of our members. We note that there is a proposed reduction in targeted rates but that this is more than compensated for by other sources of funding (Prospective Funding Impact Statement for Rivers). However, there appears to be an issue around the current status of repairs (which may be related to funding?). For example, in Golden Bay, we are aware of two properties in the River Y area that have council owned assets that have not yet been adequately repaired. In the whole Tasman District, there are possibly many more such situations.

3.18 In the river z areas there is even greater complexity to negotiate, including dealing with a mix of council (33% or 66%) and private funding.

3.19 Federated Farmers understands that Council intends to review river management and river rates. We welcome this and look forward to working with council to develop a more simple, transparent and effective system to fund and carry out crucial river work for the benefit of the whole community.

Recommendation:

3.20 **That Council reviews the river management and river rating system to develop a more simple, transparent and effective system to fund and carry out crucial river work for the benefit of the whole community.**

Changes to council's fees and charges

3.21 It was noted, above, that revenue under "Fees and Charges" is projected to increase by 6.9 % in 2026/27 compared with 2025/26. This is well above the current rate of inflation. Justification should be provided for such increases. We ask that Council should strive to keep increases less than the rate of inflation.

3.22 Federated Farmers wishes to specifically comment on dog registration charges. Consistent with previous submissions on this subject, we seek that the registration fee for working dogs should be half that for a category 2 dog (i.e. $35 per dog) and that the fee is capped at 5 dogs. Farm working dogs cause very few problems (because of their location and the control exercised over them) and impose minimal cost on Council compared with other categories of dog.

Recommendations:

3.23 **That Council strives to keep increases in fees and charges within the rate of inflation and justifies the overall 6.9 % increase projected for 2026/27.**

3.24 **That the registration fee for working dogs should be half that for a category 2 dog and that the total fee should be capped at 5 dogs.**

4. CORE SERVICES

Transport

4.1 Operating funding for roads is sourced almost entirely from general rates (68 %) and subsidies and grants (25 %). Operating expenditure and rates are projected to increase

by 1.8 % and 0.1 % respectively, while capital expenditure is projected to increase by 30 % in 2026/27 compared with 2025/26 (24 % greater than the LTP projection).

4.2 Federated Farmers appreciates and supports the emphasis placed on maintaining the roading network. An efficient and well-maintained transport network is vital to promote social cohesion and a thriving economy. This is a core function of Council.

4.3 Federated Farmers asks that high priority is given to rural roading, particularly completion of the restoration of roads and bridges following the extreme weather event of June/July 2025. Deferral of rural projects shifts costs to farmers in the form of vehicle wear, time delays and safety risks. It should be noted that well over 70 % of New Zealand's merchandise exports come from the land-based primary sector. Therefore, access to farms and transport from farms to processors, are both vital to our regional and national economic wellbeing.

4.4 Infrastructure development is stated as being a strategic priority of Council, specifically the enhancement of the transportation network.

Recommendation:

4.5 **That Council continues to prioritise and efficient and well-maintained transport network in the Tasman District. We ask that that high priority is given to rural roading, particularly completion of the restoration of roads and bridges following the extreme weather event of June/July 2025.**

5 Changes to Local Government

5.1 As Council will be aware, Central Government is proposing major changes to local government.

5.2 Federated Farmers brings extensive experience from decades of engagement in national reviews of local government funding, planning, and regulatory frameworks, informing the model proposed.

5.3 Federated Famers has developed a position on local government reform which we offer for consideration. Our proposals are outlined below:

5.4 Our discussion document proposes consolidation of district and city councils into unitary metropolitan and provincial authorities, aligned with coherent geographies and communities of interest. Under our proposal there will be a more definitive service delivery purpose related to predominant land use.

5.5 The proposal separates large metropolitan cities (~50,000+ population) from the regional/provincial areas surrounding them, recognising their different service demands, growth patterns, and infrastructure profiles.

5.6 Second tier governance structures — catchment committees and enhanced community boards are retained as an option, strengthening localism and subsidiarity while maintaining democratic legitimacy.

5.7 Compliance and enforcement, and science state-of-environment monitoring would move from councils to centralised science and regulatory agencies to ensure consistency, objectivity, and efficiency. A consolidation of councils along regional and metropolitan lines would be better positioned to emphasise local place-based decision making and simplify relationships with central government across roading, public transport, environmental management, and emergency management.

5.8 Retention and attraction of high-quality elected members to local government can be challenging under current settings. We consider that increased scale and clearer core responsibilities could go some way to address this issue. Environmental and natural hazard functions benefit from scale: unitary authorities can plan and deliver flood management, drainage, and environmental infrastructure more effectively and consistently. Exposure to climate-driven extreme weather highlights the fragility of the current system.

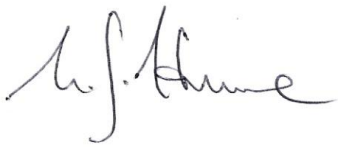
5.9 Biosecurity, pest control, and rural hazard management would be better supported through provincial unitary councils and catchment-based second tier structures that provide closer proximity and strong on-the-ground legitimacy.

5.10 Overall, the proposed model offers a simpler, more coherent system that strengthens localism, restores public confidence and resets partnership with central government. It will support economic resilience and enable delivery of core infrastructure and services in a way that is more responsive to community needs.

Conclusion

Federated Farmers thanks Tasman District Council for considering this submission on its Annual Plan 2026/27. We are committed to the effective and efficient delivery of Council services and look forward to continuing to work constructively with Council.

Federated Farmers wishes to speak in support of its submission.



pp

Sue Brown

Golden Bay Provincial President

Federated Farmers of New Zealand

Kerry Irvine

Nelson Provincial President

Federated Farmers of New Zealand

Submission on 2026/2027 Annual Plan

I am writing this submission to the draft Annual Plan as a concerned ratepayer who is retired, relies exclusively on superannuation and investments for income, and who has already been forced from my previous home after 23 years by monotonically increasing rates.

I have lived in Māpua for eight extremely happy years. I have seen visible changes in my quiet rural neighbourhood as development and plans for more, erode the quality of life and character of this village.

Qualifications appear to be important in submissions. I have an undergraduate degree in mathematics, a masters degree in business administration with a minor concentration in accounting, and forty six years continuous work experience in information technology. The last twenty nine years was spent fully employed as a consultant advising Fortune 500 companies, state and local government and NGOs in computer and database management, operational improvement, asset management and security.

I am writing my submission because I see the practices, programmes and priorities of the staff of Tasman District Council, though uniformly well-meaning, to be misdirected, ill-informed or overly influenced by special interests, and oblivious to best practices in financial management. I see Councillors, listening to the constituents who they represent, to be subverted by a closed society of unaccountable executive leadership team members motivated primarily by vested interests. Lack of transparency into Council operations afflicts both residents outside Council, and the elected members responsible for making decisions that affect all residents.

Options for a new recovery rate

I do not agree with any of the proposed methods to fund rates recovery. The Waimea Dam is currently funded by irrigators who directly benefit, and ratepayers within the putative Zone of Benefit. A uniform fee imposed on all rating units is inherently unfair, as not all payers will benefit.

If any recovery fee is to be levied, it should be imposed on land owners within the catchments contributing to the flooding, using capital value as a proxy for the stormwater runoff from their land. I sympathise with the affected homeowners and business owners, but they chose where they live and run businesses. They are also responsible for understanding the risks they assumed, and acquire adequate insurance coverage to address any damage. I, too, received damage to my home during the two storms, paid the insurance premiums beforehand, absorbed the excess, filed the claims, and received (inadequate) compensation. Tasman District and its ratepayers cannot be put in the position of being the insurer of last resort for this, or any future and inevitable natural disaster. The District is an infrastructure service provider, not an insurance company, or a lender to developers desiring a subsidy from District borrowing from LGNZ.

Proposed budget movements

1. Operating budget movements.

Cut, cut, cut unnecessary spending ruthlessly. At this point in time, with none of the impacts of the oil shortage and indeterminate length of the Iran war known, the only path forward is to stop all discretionary spending. The second order effects of decreased revenue from the Port and Airport exacerbate the critical nature of the imminent economic decline.

Freeze all hiring. Eliminate any unfilled position which is currently carried by another employee in an "acting" capacity, as that employee will need to shoulder the load. The inability of a hiring manager and the human resources organisation to attract qualified candidates in an unfilled position should not be rewarded by keeping the door open for the perfect match.

The Digital Innovation Programme will not have multigenerational benefits. The implementation will likely be obsolete before the programme is completed, and require another refresh. Technology changes, continually, and adaptation to change has been a fact of ICT life since the first software and electronic hardware were created. The complexity (and current budget overruns

in the Harakeke Customer Relationship Management implementation) is a fact of operational life. As was stated in 2021 in "A Blueprint for Tasman's Digital Future" by the then CIO:

> "Information Technology doesn't need to be difficult".

Nor should it be hard to deliver. If TDC is five years into a ten year digital blueprint with little but a shift from physical hardware to cloud computing, (commercialised by Amazon.com in 2002; I was there), project management is the problem that accounting as capital expense will not solve. The Digital Innovation Programme should either be accounted for as a normal operating expense, or stopped, revisited for actual operational requirements, and rescoped.

2a. Progressing or pausing the community facility projects

The full Council has received considerable feedback in public forums from community members directly affected by the community facility projects. There are no surprises, and the logic remains the same. The "quick poll" results will indicate who cares, how much, enough to point a browser to a web page and make a few clicks. If the residents wanting these facilities are also willing to sign up for targeted rates to pay for these facilities, and the budgets of well-managed projects will cover the cost, go crazy. Otherwise, face the same economic reality as the rest of the country, and pause any project that is not a necessity to health, life, and safety.

It would be extremely helpful if survey authors included all community facilities projects under consideration, whether they are hidden in Saxton Field or not. It does not matter if Nelson is willing to contribute a dollar to any shared community facility; Tasman cannot afford any more.

2b. Changes to the capital programme

Borrowing to finance the Digital Innovation Programme should immediately stop, and this project moved from a capital expense to an operational expense.

Plan Change 81 has not been presented for consultation, and has been "tweaked" to include restrictions on buildings to accomodate the affect of noise on residents. The December 11, 2025 full council meeting considered a proposal to require sound insulation in new builds close to traffic, because:

> "6.1 NZTA research indicates that the health and social costs of road traffic noise exposure in New Zealand are substantial, measured in millions of dollars annually. Acoustic insulation and ventilation requirements add only 0–2% to building costs, representing a highly cost-effective measure to avoid these impacts.
>
> 6.2 No significant impact on Council budgets; costs are borne by developers/owners".

The thought of **preventing** the hazard, such as keeping cars off the road and not allowing greenfields development, had not occurred to this Environmental Planning Policy Manager.

The Māpua Masterplan was adopted over predominant opposition by residents, because it was in the 10 Year Plan and too many influential developers had made speculative land purchases. The Māpua Masterplan was stealthily snuck into Plan Change 81 with no resident consultation in the October, 2025 meeting of the full Council, while councillors were looking to be re-elected or find their next job.

Plan Change 81 has not been submitted for consultation. The scope is not defined so the budget cannot be defined. The housing market that was supposed to justify the need for new houses and development has tanked and there are hundreds of homes for sale in Tasman. Until there is certainty in the real estate market, fuel prices, inflation and the economy, there is no choice but to immediately pause all capital projects intended to enable growth throughout the District. In particular, please immediately pause or better, cancel, all projects contained within programe 1646, the Māpua Ruby Bay Infrastructure Programme. The status of this programme in September 2025 was: "This programme is yet to be fully initiated, it includes projects that aim to improve water services in the Mapua and Ruby Bay area".

Submission on 2026/2027 Annual Plan

Māpua 10 Year Capital Programme

Activity	Project Name	Project Description
Wastewater	New Seaton Valley Road Pump Station & Rising Main	New pumb station and rising main to accomodate future grc along Seaton Valley Road
Wastewater	Higgs pump station connection to Aranui Road	New 200mm gravity wastewater main connecting to Aranui I trunk main
Water Supply	Māpua Reticulation Upgrades to service growth	Māpua Reticulation Upgrades to service growth
Water Supply	Korepo Road Renewal	Reticulation Upgrades to service growth
Water Supply	Brabant Drive pipe renewal	Brabant Drive pipe renewal
Water Supply	Māpua Wharf Booster Pump Station	Māpua Wharf Booster pump station upgrades
Water Supply	Māpua Ruby Bay Treatment Plan Pump Upgrades	Māpua Ruby Bay Treatment Plan Pump Upgrades
Wastewater	New Stafford Drive Pump Station	New pump station at 69 Stafford Drive with storage and odo control
Wastewater	Ruby Bay Pump Station Storage Upgrade	Installation 68m³ of emergency storage capacity
Stormwater	Seaton Valley Integrated Stormwater Solution	Seaton Valley Integrated Stormwater Solution
Stormwater	Māpua Seaton Valley Stormwater Land Purchase	Buying land for a major detention basin
Transportation	Seaton Valley Road Improvements (Stage 1)	Stage 1 of road improvements in Seaton Valley to cater for r residential zone
Enterprise	Māpua Wharf Precinct-Capital Works	Annual capital renewal programme
Enterprise	Māpua Shed 5 Golden Bear	Capital works allowance Māpua Wharf
Enterprise	Māpua Wharf Precinct	Commercial refit of tenancy at lease end
Enterprise	Commercial Property - Māpua Precinct Aranui Rd	Commercial development on vacant commercial land

To the best of my information, this includes the projects in the table above.

Submission on 2026/2027 Annual Plan

3. Slowing planned funding of depreciation for roading assets.

I have no opinion, other than to echo Councillor Paul Morgan's statement:

That is just kicking the can down the road

Kicking the can far down the road may make it invisible, but the can remains, and is likely to grow and get heavier the farther it is kicked. This is an ostrich strategy, not a plan, and should be compared to how NZTA funds depreciation of its larger roading network.

4. Changes to Council's fees and charges

Council staff has not adequately explained why they deserve more money than any other service or product supplier. Increases in charges should not exceed inflation. Any organisation that wants to exploit inflation changes to justify a money grab should be put out of business, or have a complete change of management to address foreseeable economic conditions.

How we got to this point.

A more virulent critic of council operations would suggest the cause of financial condition would be fraud, mismanagement and waste, concealed by an active programme to subvert transparency. I do not have sufficient evidence to make that claim, but distrust of Council and efficiency in delivering results has been well documented in the last Resident Satisfaction Survey. (Please see section 8 of this independent report, which is attached).

> "Rates and financial management dominated responses, with half of comments highlighting excessive rate increases described as unsustainable and beyond inflation, poor financial management including cost blowouts on major projects like the Waimea Dam, questionable spending priorities focusing on "nice to haves" rather than core services, and poor value for money with residents feeling they receive inadequate services for high rates".

This sentiment appears to not have been addressed in the current draft annual plan, resulting in cynicism and lack of participation in the consultation process. Please see Page 143 of the Annual Report 2025, Volume 1:

> "There is ongoing dissatisfaction with the Council’s consultation process.
> Many residents feel that consultations are predetermined and serve only as a formality, which undermines trust and leads to the perception that their input is not genuinely valued. In the coming year, our Community Engagement approach will shift focus and strengthen our capability to deliver more authentic and effective engagement".

I do not want to only dwell on what will likely be euphemistically categorised by senior staff as "opportunities for improvement". I want to offer suggestions for operational improvement, which must be carefully evaluated for potential cost savings before implementation can be considered.

Efficient fleet management

Some employees and contractors require access to motor vehicles to fulfil some duties during work hours. This is not a requirement for 24x7 access to a vehicle, unless the employee is "on call" to respond to a physical emergency twenty four hours a day. All TDC owned vehicles should be entered into a motor pool that is shared by all employees requiring vehicle access. Access to the pool should be scheduled to match work hours, and employee appointments with the public requiring vehicle access should be scheduled by vehicle availability within the pool. Priority of vehicle assignment should be given to ensure that all full electric vehicles are issued before any hybrid vehicles, and all hybrid vehicles are issued before any petrol or diesel vehicles. There is no justification for allocation of vehicles dedicated to any organisation within Council, other than physical distance of the service Council facility from Chambers.

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The current Council vehicle fleet is predominantly acquired from Bowater Motors, predominantly Hyundai, Toyota and Isuzu. Recent vehicles from these manufacturers contain GPS hardware and telematrics systems to monitor vehicle location, speed and energy consumption. The supporting hardware is paid for by the District, whether it is used or not. Tasman District should implement and outsource fleet management services on all vehicles in a unified fleet to ensure all acquired vehicles are used to the fullest during their serviceable life. Full electric vehicles are considerable more reliable than hybrids and petrol-fueled vehicles, so the increased service life and lower running costs of EVs should be used to determine the population and cost of a vehicle fleet.

Bowater chief financial officer David Verhagen is married to former councillor Judene Edgar, and may be able to provide expertise on efficient fleet acquisition and lifecycle management to reduce costs. As a one-sixth shareholder in Network Tasman Limited former Councillor Edgar may also be able to advise on how to minimise the cost of electricity for all vehicles and facilities the Council operates.

FTE versus employee versus bot

Accounting for full time equivalents, rather than living, breathing, humans who draw a paycheck is inherently inefficient.
Part time employees, for whatever justifiable reason, have divided loyalties. A laptop or access device is provisioned and issued to each FTE filling a position that requires connectivity to Tasman District information systems. Two humans filling one full time equivalent require twice the assets, twice the software licenses, twice the maintenance contracts, twice the payroll accounting, ...

Full time employees that are allowed to work as consultants on the same area of expertise are effectively not providing full time effort to the job the District pays for them. There are no controls , such as network firewalls, in place to guarantee that equipment and facilities issued to a full time employee is not used to perform highly compensated consulting work, and that support staff for a Council team is not providing intellectual capital that is re-sold to consulting clients.

Artificial intelligence has already been applied to offload repetitive mindless tasks from human employees with wellbeing needs to "bots", who will happily perform the same tasks without tiring or distraction. One trial is the use of artificial intelligence in the LGOIMA request pipeline. The success of this effort should be carefully measured against key metrics, such as compliance to legislative deadlines, repeat and duplicate requests, and reduction in headcount in the responsible organisation. The cost of using a "bot" should be continuously be compared with the cost of retaining any employee performing the same function, as financial control.

Under utilisation of Local Government New Zealand as a "lever"

Councils perform similar functions, in some cases using the same software, platforms and suppliers. LGNZ already provides access to capital at a lower rate than can be negotiated individually with banks. There is no reason why the collective purchasing power of all member councils cannot be used to negotiate fair and favourable terms with software publishers, cloud services providers, gentailers, equipment suppliers, ... on a nationwide basis. The benefits of volume procurement by aligned local government entities is inherent in council owned companies to provide a shared service to two or more Councils, such as the Port of Nelson and the Nelson Airport for transportation and Saxton Field for sport and recreation. The financial benefit of a larger organisation sitting down at the negotiating table with suppliers helps manage costs.

Consistent reinforcement of monopoly power in purchasing

Microsoft provides a significant portion of software and cloud services used by District. Software and platform as a service providers are Microsoft resellers, so extract added value from Microsoft when virtual machines are running Council applications. Cloud computing is a utility providing a

fungible commodity. Amazon, Google, IBM, Oracle and Salesforce.com offer competive, if not indistinguishable, cloud service offerings. The District, or LGNZ, should negotiate favourable service contracts with all major cloud service providers, and require that all local government application publishers run their software on multiple cloud service providers.

Reliance on a few suppliers to provide what are essentially commodity services reinforces monopoly powers of selected vendors, increases costs, and raises suspicions of conflicts of interest. One blatant example would be "The Team Behind Our Water", where contractor owned vehicles roam the District bearing the District logo and the contractor's. This reinforces a perception of permanence both in the contractor and the general public, leaving doubt that the District's interests are addressed when contracts are negotiated.

Elimination of self-promotion, and excuses

I have never seen any publication authorised by Tasman District Council that would contain a whiff of failure. Newsline and press releases are perfumed with the sweet smell of success for any project or program that is covered. Any setbacks, delays, or abject failures are described as:

"disappointing", a word that takes no responsibility,
"challenging", a word that excuses lack of insight and preparation,
"unanticipated", which suffers from both, or
"external", which points culpability elsewhere.

If these words are not used, a long string of corporate gobbledegook is used in Council announcements, or those of Council vendors promoting delivery of a product or service. Ratepayers should not be asked to pay for development of what essentially is propaganda.

A graphic example can be found in an announcement which predicts the success of this Annual Plan and the long term plan to follow:

> https://www.linkedin.com/posts/sheffield_congratulations-to-sue-mclean-on-the-successful-activity-7407516921161662464-E1Y7
>
> Congratulations to Sue McLean on the successful appointment to **Tasman District Council - Te Kaunihera o te tai o Aorere** as the Group Manager Strategy and Finance.
>
> Understanding the interconnectedness of business units in delivering long-term plans, Sue brings to her work an energy and engagement level which helps increase the team culture and with a solid understanding of project management, systems thinking and governance is well placed for this role.
>
> Spanning the full lifecycle of Long-Term and Annual Planning, from the legislation that shapes policy and plans, through to delivering the infrastructure programme, the team will make strong foundations. Creating transparent and robust funding mechanisms, sustainable rates and revenue, and managing enterprise assets to deliver the best outcomes for the community.

This apparently well qualified candidate immediately needed help, and provided the successful candidate a month to "ramp up" and deliver this annual plan, though the reorganisation of the executive leadership team was announced in the September 11, 2025 full council meeting.

> https://nz.linkedin.com/jobs/view/chief-financial-advisor-at-tasman-district-council-te-kaunihera-o-te-tai-o-aorere-4372811072
>
> **Chief Financial Advisor**
> Tasman District Council - Te Kaunihera o te tai o Aorere Richmond, Tasman, New Zealand
> 2 months ago
>
> Fixed Term - 2 Years

Submission on 2026/2027 Annual Plan

Lead Modern Finance at Tasman District Council

Help shape how we deliver public value for our communities. Tasman District Council is accelerating a Modern Finance programme to lift financial insight, efficiency, and accountability across the organisation. We're seeking an experienced Chief Financial Advisor to champion this transformation, to provide trusted, strategic financial guidance to decision-makers across Council.

About the role
You'll be the Group Manager's chief advisor on the finance capability transformation - driving data and digital enablement and continuous improvement across core finance processes. You will lead the business owner workstream for Modern Finance to embed modern practices that make financial information timely, accurate, and easy to use for leaders and the wider organisation. You'll translate strategy into deliverable outcomes and measurable benefits that support long-term sustainability for Tasman.

What you'll do

- **Lead the Modern Finance programme -** own the roadmap, delivery disciplines, and benefits realisation across finance processes and systems.
- **Enable people and capability -** translate the problem statements and areas of concern into opportunities and focuses for transformation.

What you'll bring

- Senior leadership experience in complex organisations (local government exposure advantageous) with a track record in finance transformation and system delivery.
- Deep knowledge of financial strategy, governance, policy frameworks, risk and performance reporting.
- Credibility as a partner to executives, able to simplify complexity, influence outcomes and balance long term stewardship with short-term delivery.
- Professional accounting qualification helpful (e.g., CA/CPA or equivalent).

Our values (what we stand for)
We support our Vision - Thriving resilient Tasman / Kia manawaroa te tai o Aorere and Purpose - Delivering Public Value / Kia whai hua mā te marea through our values:

Auahatanga (Innovation), Manaakitanga (Caring/Sharing), Kawenga (Responsibility), Whanaungatanga (Relationships). You'll model these every day, embracing new ideas, acting with integrity, and building strong, collaborative relationships across Council.

Why join us
At Tasman District Council you'll find a supportive, motivated team culture and meaningful work that positively impacts our region. We offer **a day off on your birthday and a benefits package where you choose what suits,** plus flexible working arrangements and professional development to grow your career.

How to apply
Ready to lead a step-change in how our Council manages and uses financial information? We'd love to hear from you.

Apply now with your CV and a brief cover letter outlining your experience in finance transformation and system implementation via https://careers.tasman.govt.nz/Vacancies/6864134/title/Chief-Financial-Advisor-Fixed-Term-2-years-

https://careers.tasman.govt.nz/Vacancies/6864134/title/Chief-Financial-Advisor-Fixed-Term-2-years-

Applications close 11 March 2026

Bruce Struthers Page 7 of 10

Submission on 2026/2027 Annual Plan

Even with the help of qualified professional staff, executive leadership team members apparently require dedicated executive assistents to help them

> "stay organised, across the detail, and focused on what matters".

This external job posting is looking for two executive assistants to supplement a pool, populated by others helping the mayor and CEO. A photograph of the active leisure lifestyle that awaits entices prospective applicants:

> https://www.linkedin.com/posts/sue-mclean-100_executive-assistant-to-group-manager-2-roles-activity-7442661147515736064-obJo
>
> Susan M.'s Post
>
> Susan M.
> 1mo
>
> At **Tasman District Council - Te Kaunihera o te tai o Aorere** we're on the hunt for two Executive Assistants at Tasman District Council.
>
> These are roles for people who like being right in the thick of it helping senior leaders stay organised, across the detail, and focused on what matters. It's trusted work, varied work, and you'll see the impact of it every day.
>
> **Richard Kirby** and I are looking for practical, calm, capable people with good judgement and a sense of humour. If you enjoy juggling priorities, building strong working relationships, and quietly making things run better, you'd be a great fit.
>
> Based in Richmond, with supportive people and work that genuinely matters.
>
> Have a look here if it sounds like you (or someone you know):
> 👉 https://lnkd.in/epknWsjS
> Happy for this to be shared!!
>
> 
> Executive Assistant to Group Manager (2 roles available)
> careers.tasman.govt.nz
> https://www.linkedin.com/posts/arincoau_ai-processimprovement-govtech-activity-7316243949210193920-aWOQ

Submission on 2026/2027 Annual Plan

How AI streamlined LGOIMA process for Tasman District Council

This title was summarized by AI from the post below.



Arinco
7,910 followers
1y

We've enjoyed working with Tasman District Council - Te Kaunihera o te tai o Aorere to streamline their LGOIMA process using AI. 🧠

The Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA) enables New Zealand residents to access government-held information, fostering transparency. However, the response process often places a strain on local councils' resources. 💼

In partnership with **Microsoft**, Arinco has been working with Tasman to develop an AI solution that reduces the manual burden on council staff - surfacing relevant information faster and enabling more efficient, compliant responses. It's a game-changer for how councils manage LGOIMA requests. 🚀

Check out what **Mike Pratt**, Head of Data, Development and Architecture at Tasman District Council, had to say about our work together. 👇

Submission on 2026/2027 Annual Plan

- 

Case Study

magiqsoftware

Tasman District Council



The Challenge

Tasman District Council was relying on a series of labour-intensive, manual processes to build its Long Term Plan. The existing processes were limiting the Finance team's ability to deliver the detailed business information required by Council to support its decision-making.

The Solution

Council implemented the MAGIQ Financial Planning application to deliver its 10-year Long Term Financial Plan. MAGIQ Financial Planning is designed to provide organisations with a sophisticated and highly automated tool to model and produce their Long Term and Annual Financial Plans.

The Benefits

Council has achieved significant time-savings allowing the Finance team to spend more time on the valuable tasks of creating and analysing complex 'what-if' scenarios. The overall quality of the data Council relies on has improved with business decisions based on a substantially improved qualitative position.

About Tasman District Council

Local Government industry

200+ staff members

49,000 residents

$103m annual expenditure

"Producing our Long Term and Annual Plans is now a one-person job and that's a massive time-saving for Council. MAGIQ Financial Planning delivers a balanced trial balance in just 20 minutes".

Kim Dunn, Project Accountant

"Using MAGIQ we constructed six different scenarios using a variety of funding streams. Twenty minutes later we were able to sit and review each scenario reviewing the variances right down to the account level." Kim Dunn, Project Accountant

Tasman District Council in New Zealand has achieved significant time-savings and improved business efficiencies using the MAGIQ Performance software application to deliver its 10-year Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP).

The Tasman District is located at the north-western corner of the South Island of New Zealand and is named after Abel Tasman, considered the first European to discover New Zealand. The District covers 9,786 square kilometres of diverse landscape and rich farming land. With three national parks; golden sand beaches and extensive rivers and caving networks, the district is a very popular tourist destination.

MAGIQ Performance is a suite of highly sophisticated and easy to use Budgeting, Financial Planning and Strategic Planning software. The MAGIQ Financial Planning application is designed to provide organisations with a sophisticated and highly automated tool to model and produce their Long Term and Annual Financial Plans.

Tasman District commenced the implementation of the MAGIQ Financial Planning application in early 2014, in preparation for the delivery of their 2015/2016 10-year Long Term Financial Plan.

According to Kim Dunn, Project Accountant, at Tasman District Council the initial time invested in constructing the Long Term Plan model in MAGIQ has well and truly paid off, with significant time-savings and effciencies realised in the production of their Plan.

"Building the initial model takes an investment in time and deep thinking; however once all the necessary business rules are in place, producing the Long Term Plan is relatively easy as the data is all automatically populated according to the established rules," said Kim.

"Producing our Long Term and Annual Plans is now a one-person job and that's a massive time-saving for Council," he said.

"MAGIQ Financial Planning delivers a balanced trial balance in just 20 minutes," said Kim.

This allows us to implement a change and then review its impact on Income Statements, Balance Sheets and Funding Impact Statements in just 20 minutes."

According to Kim the Finance team now has the time and flexibility to model complex 'what-if' scenarios and funding streams that they were unable to do prior to using MAGIQ.

He pointed to a recent Council engineering project to build a new dam as an example of the powerful flexibility the software delivers.

"Using MAGIQ we constructed six different scenarios using a variety of funding streams. Twenty minutes later we were able to sit and review each scenario reviewing the variances right down to the account level.

That's the sort of business process improvement that delivers a fundamental change to the way we work and significantly improves the quality of the data Council is relying on to make its business decisions; we are considering information and making decisions from a substantially improved qualitative position," said Kim.

Building Council's Long Term Plan model with MAGIQ Financial Planning ensures that there is a single place where all business rules and data are stored. According to Kim this dramatically reduces risk and improves overall certainty in the accuracy of the data.

"Previously data was stored in multiple spreadsheets and inevitably there were issues with version control and data accuracy,' he said.

"Using MAGIQ Financial Planning to produce our LTFP we have far greater confidence in the accuracy of the data. Confidence that the same set of business rules are always consistently applied; and each department enters its data directly into the plan, removing any risk of data re-entry errors."

"With certainty and confidence comes a big reduction in stress and that's a great way to work,' said Kim.

magiqcloud

About Tasman District Council

The Tasman District is located at the north-western corner of the South Island of New Zealand and is named after Abel Tasman, considered the first European to discover New Zealand. The District covers 9,786 square kilometres of diverse landscape and rich farming land and with three national parks; golden sand beaches and extensive rivers and caving networks, is a very popular tourist destination.

About MAGIQ Software

MAGIQ Software is an international software business focused on the delivery of the MAGIQ Cloud Finance and Administration Platform. MAGIQ Software has more than 500 customers throughout Australia, New Zealand, the USA, the UK, Singapore and South Africa. Key markets include Local Government, Health and Community Services, Utilities, Education and Not for Profit. A highly experienced and skilled team of more than 100 staff deliver local support and development from offices in Napier, Melbourne, Sydney, Auckland, Christchurch and Los Angeles.

www.magiqsoftware.com

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magiqsoftware

Long Term Plan 2018-2028
What is planned for Mapua and Te Mamaku/Ruby Bay?

1.0 Introduction

The following information provides an overview of significant projects Council has planned for the Mapua and Te Mamaku/Ruby Bay settlement in the Long Term Plan 2018-2028. These projects aim to address anticipated growth in demand, improve the services provided, and ensure that existing public infrastructure is maintained and fit for purpose. We've also included relevant growth information and the conclusions reached for the Mapua and Te Mamaku/Ruby Bay settlement in the development of Council's Growth Model 2017[1]. All information is current as at 1 July 2018.

Between 2018 and 2028, Mapua and Te Mamaku/Ruby Bay's population is projected to grow by 13.5%[2].



[1] Council's Growth Model is a District-wide, long term development planning tool which informs the programming of a range of services, such as network infrastructure and facilities (through the Long Term Plan), and district plan reviews.

[2] Based on Stats NZ Subnational Population Projections 2013(base)-2043 update (released 22 February 2017), using the high series for 2018-2028 and the medium series for 2028-2043 for the Mapua area unit.

2.0 Settlement outline

2.1 Urban form and function

Mapua and Te Mamaku/Ruby Bay settlement is located on the low coastal plain and hills at the northern end of the Waimea Inlet. The boundary to the north and west is the Mapua Rural Residential Zone boundary and SH 60 Te Mamaku Drive (Ruby Bay Bypass). The village character, heritage and natural features of this coastal area are highly valued by residents and visitors. State Highway 60 to the west provides the main link to Nelson, Richmond and Motueka. The former State Highway, (Mapua Drive/Stafford Drive) is being adapted to serve local and tourist traffic. This should enhance the amenity of Mapua and Te Mamaku/Ruby Bay as a place to live.

There has been rapid residential and rural residential growth in Mapua since 2001. The north-west precinct of Mapua continues to develop, with residential development in Mapua Drive and Higgs Road. Areas of deferred residential zones continue to provide a source of future residential capacity.

A substantive review of Mapua's housing and commercial needs was undertaken in 2011-2012, via Plan Change 22. That plan change sought to provide for residential and commercial development of Mapua, with a focus of lifting development off the coastal plain, and onto the surrounding hillsides.

The main constraint to further population growth and development in Mapua is the availability of water supply and wastewater network capacity.

Medium density residential, commercial and open space development opportunities are provided for close to the town centre on part of the ex Fruitgrowers Chemical site that has been remediated and is sufficiently elevated to avoid coastal hazards.

Mapua Wharf - Shed 4 complex has been recently redeveloped by Council for Commercial uses, housing 7 businesses, together with a larger project to upgrade the waterfront.

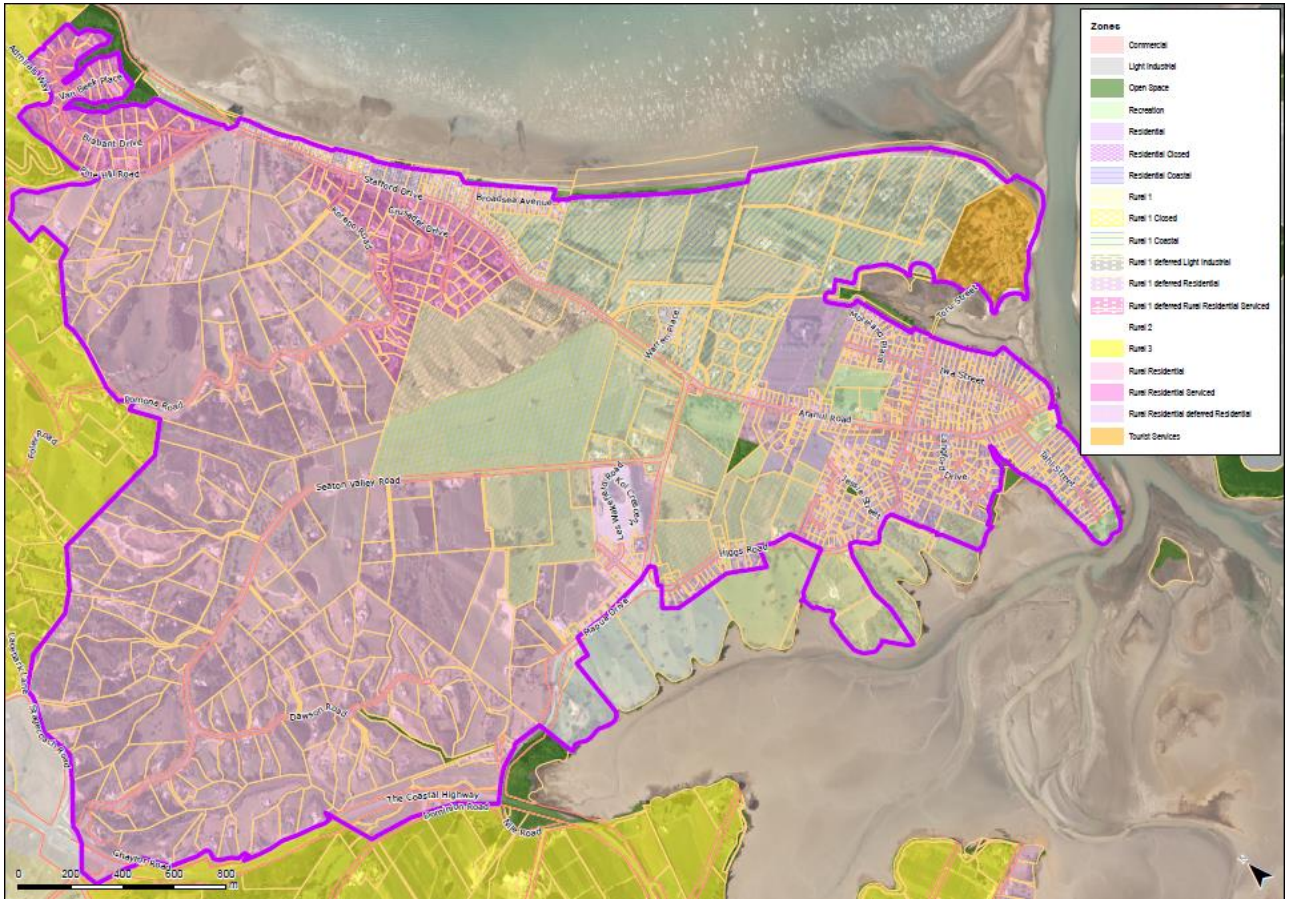
2.2 Environmental opportunities and constraints

Management of the major coastal erosion and inundation risk on the low lying coastal plain from McKee Domain, through Te Mamaku/Ruby Bay to Mapua Channel is a priority. While coastal risk is partly mitigated by a variety of coastal protection structures, both public and private e.g. rock revetments, walls, these will require ongoing maintenance and upgrading if they are to remain effective in the advent of projected sea level rise. This constraint affects the coastal fringe land of Te Mamaku/Ruby Bay and low lying parts of Mapua.

The lower portion of Seaton Valley catchment is vulnerable to flooding in large events. Work on increasing the capacity of Seaton Valley stream in this lower catchment was undertaken in 2015.

Part of the inlet coastline adjoining the south eastern edge of the settlement is protected by a QE 2 National Trust covenant.

2.3 Zoning as at 1 July 2018 (note: the settlement outline in purple is for planning purposes and doesn't indicate the extent of future development. For updates and details on planning zones under the Tasman Resource Management Plan, please refer to Top of the South Maps.)



Tasman District Council, Long Term Plan 2018-2028, Mapua/Ruby Bay Settlement Report 3

2.4 Current infrastructure provision

Infrastructure is the physical assets that Council provides and owns in order to provide water supplies, stormwater, wastewater, rivers and flood control, and transportation services.
Council provides water, wastewater and stormwater services to the Mapua and Te Mamaku/Ruby Bay settlement area.
Mapua and Te Mamaku/Ruby Bay has a well-connected road network and footpaths in most residential streets. Recently Council invested in improving intersections and adding improved footpath connections.

2.5 Parks, reserves and facilities

The Mapua community is currently serviced by a range of parks, reserves and community facilities. These include pools at Mapua School and the Richmond Aquatic Centre (at a regional level). Meeting rooms are provided at the Mapua Hall and at the Bowling Club. The Moutere Hills Community Centre and Motueka Recreation Centre provide additional facilities for the community.

Indoor sport services will continue to be provided at the Hall (owned by a Trust) and in facilities at the Moutere Hills Community Centre and facilities in Richmond, Saxton Field and Motueka.

Mapua Recreation Reserve provides four tennis courts, two junior and one senior football pitches, cricket nets, a half basketball court, artificial cricket wicket, BMX track, playground, skate park, sea scouts, bowling club, public toilets and a play centre. The community is serviced by the Richmond, Motueka, Flett Road and Gardeners Valley (Trustee) cemeteries.

There are over 6.7 kilometres of walkways within the settlement area and over 6.4 hectares of neighbourhood reserves. There are two playgrounds provided by Council and a playground at Mapua School. The development of Tasman's Great Taste Trail through the settlement is popular and has added to the existing levels of service for cycleways.

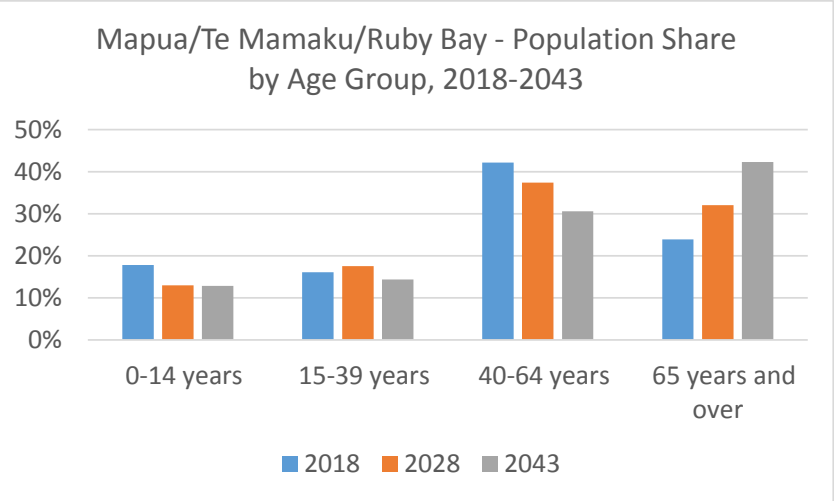
There are eight toilets within existing reserves and there is a toilet provided at Mapua Village Mall.

Many areas have convenient access to the coast which continues to assist in providing for their open space and recreational opportunities.

3.0 Future Demographics[3]

The population of Mapua and Te Mamaku/Ruby Bay is projected to increase from 2,238 in 2018 to 2,539 in 2028 and then to 2,783 by 2048. The proportion of the population aged 65 years and over is projected to increase from 24% in 2018, to 42% by 2043. The average household size is projected to decrease from 2.3 people per household in 2018 to 2.0 people per household by 2043.

[3] Based on Stats NZ Subnational Population Projections 2013(base)-2043 update (released 22 February 2017), using the high series for 2018-2028 and the medium series for 2028-2043 for the Mapua area unit.



4.0 Growth

4.1 Anticipated development

Based on the above demographic trends, Council has estimated the following numbers of residential dwellings and business lots will be required.
Council anticipates that the actual supply of residential development will generally exceed that demand. This is based on an assessment of feasible development capacity, consented subdivisions, landowner intentions and feedback from the development community but is not intended to be an exact forecast of when and where development will actually occur. Population projections will be updated following the 2018 Census to reflect any significant population changes.

	2018/19-2020/21 Short term (Years 1-3)	2021/22-2027/228 Medium term (Years 4-10)[4]	2028/29 – 2047/48 Long term (Years 11-30)[5]
Number of residential dwellings required	64	120	241
Number of residential dwellings anticipated	64	153	274
Number of business lots required	6	13	16
Number of business lots anticipated	1	17	16

4.2 Development options

During the period December 2013-June 2016, new lots created by subdivision were mainly located in western Mapua off Mapua Drive, and to a lesser extent in central Mapua. During the same period residential building consents were granted in the same locations as well as in the hills, north-west of central Mapua.

[4] Years 1-10 represent life of LTP.
[5] Years 1-30 accord with life of Infrastructure Strategy and the National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity.

The latest review of Tasman's growth model recommends the uplifting of some zones currently deferred for development in Mapua in the west, northwest and south west in order to meet residential demand. This uplifting will occur when the infrastructure servicing solution has been or can be resolved.

No new rezoning of land is currently required, although an additional commercial hub at the corner of Seaton Valley Road and Mapua Drive will be investigated.

4.3 Growth-related infrastructure

Council must upgrade the water supply trunk main in order to enable additional connections to the water supply in Mapua and Te Mamaku/Ruby Bay and enable projected growth. This is planned for completion by 2021. In addition to this Council has planned to increase storage capacity at the Pomona Road reservoirs and Stage Coach Road reservoirs to provide for a growing population.
Longer term, water security provided by the Waimea Community Dam is assumed to provide for growth. Without the Dam, supplying water to newly zoned land becomes more difficult and may constrain growth.

The wastewater network between Te Mamaku/Ruby Bay and the Mapua wharf pump station is under capacity during wet weather. Council has planned to install a new pump station in Te Mamaku/Ruby Bay and a rising main back to Mapua wharf to enable growth without increasing the risk of overflows. Once this work is complete, the adjoining pump stations will be upgraded to provide more capacity which will enable growth and improve network resilience.

Generally the stormwater network operates well but there are capacity issues at the bottom end of Seaton Valley stream. Council has already completed the first stages of upgrading the drain, and plans to complete the final stage in 2023/24.

4.4 Parks, reserves and facilities

There are future opportunities for Council to acquire additional land in the mid Seaton Valley area. Council will also continue to acquire esplanade reserves as subdivisions occur adjoining Seaton Valley Stream, Te Mamaku/Ruby Bay and the Waimea Estuary.

5.0 Improvements and Renewals

This section covers projects which are primarily to improve the services already provided (improvements) and/or ensure that existing public infrastructure is maintained and fit for purpose (renewals). Some projects will also have a growth-related element.

5.1 Infrastructure improvements, replacements and renewals

As well as providing for growth, the water supply trunk main upgrade and new wastewater infrastructure will provide improved levels of service for existing

customers through the provision of a more reliable water supply and reduced risk of wastewater overflows.

The wastewater network experiences odour and overflow issues at pump stations. This affects the service that existing customers experience, as well as limiting new connections. Council has planned to upgrade the pump stations and rising main, starting in 2018 and finishing in 2024.

Council has planned to upgrade Mapua town centre in order to improve access and amenity. Council has also recently released its Mapua Waterfront Area Masterplan (2017). A number of improvements are planned to this area, including Waterfront Park, the Mapua wharf area and Grossi Point. There is more information about the Masterplan on our website.

Project Description	Project Purpose	Timeframe	Total Cost
Stormwater Projects			
Stafford Drive Stormwater Pipe Extension	The project increases capacity of secondary flow paths and prevents local flooding issues.	2018/19	$138,000
Seaton Valley Stream Upgrade - Stage 2	The project is essential to satisfy growth demand in the area as well as existing flooding issues	2023/24	$403,000
Wastewater Projects			
Aranui Road Pump Station Upgrade	Upgrade of pumps in line with population growth, new storage chamber & odour control	2018-20	$329,300
Higgs Road Pump Station Upgrade	Upgrade of pumps in line with population growth, new storage chamber & odour control	2022-2024	$217,200
Ruby Bay Pump Station Upgrade and Storage	Upgrade of pumps in line with population growth, new storage chamber & odour control. Odour control is a priority.	2018-2019	$561,800
New Stafford Dr Pump Station and Rising Main	New Stafford Dr pump station with storage, odour control & new pumps. New rising main from Stafford Dr	2018-2019	$2,243,800

Project Description	Project Purpose	Timeframe	Total Cost
	to Mapua Wharf pump station.		
Toru Street Pump Station Upgrade and Storage	Upgrade of pumps in line with population growth, new storage chamber and odour control	2022-2024	$235,200
New Rising Main Across Mapua Channel	New replacement pipe across channel between Rabbit Island & Mapua	2026-2029	$1,850,400
Aranui-Higgs Rd Pump Station Upgrade and Storage	Upgrade of pumps in line with population growth, new storage chamber and odour control.	2020-2022	$256,800
Upgrade of Mapua Rise Pump Station & Rising Main	Upgrade in line with development, including increase pumping capacity, additional storage and upgrade of odour control	2021-2023	$604,800
Higgs 3 Pump Station Decommissioning	Decommission Higgs 3 Wastewater Pump Station once land downhill is developed	2023-2024	$25,400
Leisure Park Rising Main Replacement	Replace rising main pipe, on more direct alignment through camp	2024-2026	$392,000
Water Supply Projects			
Mapua Reticulation - Aranui Rd & Stafford Dr Main Replacement	Replace 3.5 km of pipe.	2018-19	$2,437,800
Mapua Reticulation - Pomona Road Reservoir Upgrade	Increase storage capacity: replace existing wooden reservoir with concrete & upsize to 1500m³, partly to meet population growth	2020-2022	$1,684,100

Project Description	Project Purpose	Timeframe	Total Cost
Mapua Reticulation - Stage Coach Road Reservoir Upgrade	Abandon existing three storage tanks and replace with a 6 x 30m plastic tanks	2021-2023	$612,600
Mapua Reticulation - Trunk Main Renewal	Replace 850m of pipe and re-line 875m of existing pipe between Rabbit & Best Island. Replace pipe between Rabbit Island & Mapua Wharf (5.3km).	2019-2021	$3,017,500
Transportation Projects			
Mapua Town Centre	Upgrade of Aranui Road to better provide for a shared environment	2023-2025	$703,000
Mapua Town Centre - Renewal	Renewal of Aranui Road to better provide for a shared environment	2039-2040	$200,000

Council has planned several projects over the next ten years to improve the Mariri Resource Recovery Centre, which also serves the Mapua and Te Mamaku/Ruby Bay community. In 2021/22, $207,963 has been allocated to build a roof over the waste tipping pit, which will reduce litter and dust. In 2023/24, $707,956 has been allocated to relocate the weighbridge and access to the pit. This will improve access to the site and reduce waiting times. In 2027/28, a further $212,737 has been allocated to improve the access road, addressing safety issues.

Council has also budgeted $593,943 over 2018-2028 to provide public recycling around the District, including for Mapua and Te Mamaku/Ruby Bay.

5.2 Parks, reserves and facilities

The significant increase in the average age of residents would indicate emphasis on provision of additional capacity in services appropriate to the recreation and sport needs of older adults.

In 2018, Council will spend $255,000 on the Shed 5 toilets.

Note: Although the full project costs are included in Council's budget, funding can be from a variety of sources, including targeted rates (for projects which serve a specific area), development and financial contributions, government funding, as well as general rates.

All project costs use uninflated values.

MAPUA & RUBY BAY
Coastal News
Dec 2017 Jan 2018
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www.mapua.gen.nz

Dam Discussion Dominates MDCA Meeting

The truth is there is just not enough water. If there is a no dam, then water rationing will come in earlier and more severe," asserted Mayor Richard Kempthorne at the Mapua and District Community Association's October meeting. "There is just no other way to meet the demands of our community."

"Without the dam," continued Tasman District Council Chief Executive Lindsay McKenzie, "in nine years out of ten, there will be constraints on water use by households and businesses. I started out as a cynic and as a result [of looking at the alternatives], I became an advocate."

But Mapua meeting participants would not allow the TDC representatives to pitch the $75.9 million dam proposal without some hard questioning. One resident insisted there was a cheaper option: "Make every resident responsible for their own water supply then you don't have to worry about the lady next door hosing down her car."

Another resident questioned the intelligence of positioning the dam so near an earthquake fault line potentially releasing 13 million cubic metres of water if ruptured.

But engineering services manager Richard Kirby responded: The dam will be built to significant standards with "concrete facing on the inside; designed to withstand a 1 in 10,000 earthquake." In case of a severe earthquake "the dam is likely to settle rather than anything else." It will be very unlikely to collapse and release a torrent of water. "If there was a rupture of some sort, it would leak very slowly and down the river."

Along with Kempthorne, Kirby and McKenzie, Deputy Mayor Tim King, water scientist Joseph Thomas and Cr Anne Turley turned out to answer the concerns of local residents in the Mapua Hall.

The dam is projected to cost $75.9 million with the council's share at $26.8 million, with a P95 estimate, meaning there is a 95% chance the cost will be less than projected and a 5% chance it will cost more.

A Mapua resident said he had "no confidence" in the TDC's cost estimates stating: "A quote from the engineering committee on 17 August – the budget then for the Higgs Road footpath and Aranui Road improvements was $175,000. On 7 October, they added in $70,000 for the Seaton Valley footpath. Total then had gone up to $404,000. Last week it went to tender for $612,000. More than 50% more. I've got no confidence."

Cr King said that any increase may have been due to "scope creep."

Another resident asked why the river was in poor health, then answered her own question: "Because the water has been over-allocated to the irrigators."

Tim King gave a brief history of the water allocation by saying that decades ago, there was no limit. Once they started measuring river flow, customary water allocation amounts were already in place. Kempthorne added: "Yes, we are over-allocated on the Waimea plains, but to claw back the amount of water needed to bring the river to proper flows would devastate horticulture."

Kempthorne emphasised the dam would provide "water security for 100 years and 'future-proof' the community." It will be capable of providing unrestricted water for every year except the 1 in 60 year drought. The dam will take three years to build and three months to fill.

Public consultations closed on 26 November. Hearings will be held from 11 to 15 December with a final decision likely in February.

The TDC's presentation to the MDCA can be watched on video at the MDCA's Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/MapuaCommunityAssociation/

For complete detail on the Waimea Dam proposal, go to: http://www.tasman.govt.nz/policy/public-consultation/waimea-community-dam-governance-and-funding/

Tim Hawthorne, MDCA Executive Committee



The Coastal News team would like to thank all our readers, contributors and advertisers and wish you a joyful Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.



Other MDCA News

Picnic tables are ready for assembly in Waterfront Park. The concrete pads were recently poured. Mapua Landscape is depositing the top soil and concrete pipe for the children's play area, plus log rounds have been cut to create the graduated log step path. Next in the plan will be fund-raising for a permanent barbeque.

The Mapua School art project, dedicated to the memory of the Touch the Sea aquarium, has been completed by the children and is scheduled to be installed in early December in the park. The art work involves two large wooden structures adorned with a variety of painted sea life images.

The AED subcommittee reported Wakefield's AED management system might be a model Mapua emulates. The Wakefield Health Centre Trust owns and manages all 11 AED's across their region. Volunteers are assigned an AED to monitor and the Wakefield Pharmacy is tasked to act as the hub. If AEDs are used they get returned to the pharmacy for a new battery and pads. The Health Centre Trust funds this cost. Cr Turley offered to speak to the Mapua Health Centre Trust regarding their possible involvement. It was also announced the Four Square store has installed an AED on the front of their building which they will manage, bringing the total number of outdoor AED's in Mapua to three.



Cr McNamara encouraged submissions on the Nelson Tasman Pest Management plan which can be found at: http://www.tasman.govt.nz/council/media-centre/public-notices/draft-regional-pest-management-plan-open-for-consultation/

And congratulations to Mapua native and activist volunteer Pat Perry, who was unanimously affirmed as this year's recipient of the MDCA Lifetime Member award and will be honoured at the 11 December meeting. All are welcome to enjoy our holiday celebration and Pat's honour.

Tim Hawthorne, MDCA Executive Committee



Waterfront Park

The first of the new public amenities has been installed at Mapua's Waterfront Family Park. The proposal to support the upgrade of the park from within our community came through the Tasman District Council's Strategic Review process unscathed and with council support. The new picnic tables were the result of efforts from a combined group of volunteers and supporters working together. Generous support from Rata Foundation and the TDC's Parks and Reserves Department has made this first step a reality and next up is to work alongside council and other community partners to keep this positive momentum going.

The Mapua School sculpture is also part of the new collaboration, the picnic tables referencing this with sea-life on macrocarpa wooden centres. The sculpture is in memory of the beloved Touch the Sea Aquarium that was always such a draw for the young people of Mapua.

Supporters and volunteers are keen to see an active 'Friends of Mapua Waterfront' group focus the future efforts.

One of the community leaders who was most active in lobbying for and winning the old Fruitgrower's site to become a public space for everyone, Wilma Tansley, voiced her support for our efforts:

"You are doing great work re the Waterfront Park, and I am pleased with the outcome. It was decided by all concerned, when we were lobbying for that space, that it was for the public good. In my books, that means for all, not just for one group of people. Well done."

Signatories for the above are: Lynne Batty, John Fountain, Jane Smith, Graeme Stradling, Wilma Tansley and Jude Taylor





TDC Blueprint for Mapua Wharf Area

There can be no doubt in anybody's mind that Mapua has experienced significant growth not just in population but in its popularity as a destination for locals and tourists alike. Within the waterfront area, development has been driven by various demands over time, meaning it has been piecemeal with no overall long term vision or strategic plan.

In December 2016 the Tasman District Council undertook to develop a master plan for the ongoing management and development of the waterfront. It was to guide the development and management of Mapua's Waterfront Area, including Grossi Point.

At its meeting of 16 November 2017, the Tasman District Council adopted the Mapua Waterfront Area Master Plan after extensive public consultation, including community workshops, a survey, engagement with iwi, submissions and public hearings. The council received 366 submissions on the options consultation document, 723 survey responses and held 31 individual and group 'face-to-face' meetings, as well as three public forums engaging a broad range of community groups, clubs and organisations.

The key elements of the Master Plan include:

- Preserve the area between Golden Bear Brewery and the estuary as public open space, with minor improvements such as restoration of grass, extra seating and shade and delineated cycle, path and beach access
- Retain council ownership of the Mapua Wharf area, and preserve its vibrancy as a visitor destination
- Retain the Waterfront Park as open park space and explore improvements to enhance community facilities such as picnic tables, barbecues, shelter, and a low-key playground
- Retain council ownership of remediated land on Tahi Street and Aranui Road as a strategic asset for the future
- Improve, preserve and maintain Grossi Point as a reserve
- Improve and manage parking
- Improve lighting and accessibility and safety of walking areas

The most controversial subject considered in the Master Plan was a boat ramp. The proposal by the Mapua Boat Club for a boat ramp in Waterfront Park was not included in the plan, for a combination of reasons, including conflict with the council's high-pressure wastewater pumping main, marine health and safety issues from disturbing remediated land, the estimated cost, parking and traffic issues, and that nearly half the submissions were in strong opposition. The council does, however recognise the need for a solution to the boat ramp issue and is including funding for a feasibility study in the Long Term Plan to be consulted early next year.

The Tamaha Sea Scout Group did not favour the proposed option of a storage facility at Grossi Point Reserve. The council has supported them remaining where they are on the Mapua Wharf, and noted they are open to hearing any future solutions from the group.

To implement the proposals contained in the Master Plan, the council intends to establish a working group to develop action plans for each of the areas and elements. The working group is to comprise local community members and businesses, iwi, council staff, and other interested members of the community.

There will always be a range of views and desires to balance for this sort of planning, and the strong involvement of Mapua residents in the Master Plan means that, while it certainly won't please everyone, it does reflect the wider interests of the community. The Master Plan gives us a great blueprint for Mapua's future.

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Should we hook up to fibre optic broadband?

With the roll-out of fibre optic cabling in the area, and the consequent option to connect to ultrafast broadband, it may be worth just being aware of a few considerations before taking the plunge. Below is a précis, taken with permission, from a longer article on the topic written by Katherine Smith. For the full article go to:
http://www.naturalmedicine.net.nz/news/considering-ultrafast-broadband/.
Katherine Smith does not pretend to be an expert in fibre optic broadband systems so there may be further questions you want to check.

Note that a key consideration in this article is that there is a convincing body of evidence demonstrating that wireless phones and wireless internet carry significant health risks, though most people don't want to accept this inconvenient truth!

Firstly, a summary of the installation steps if you decide (and can afford) to get hooked up.

1) Connecting a fibre optic cable from the fibre optic cabling in the street to the home.

The point where the fibre optic cabling is attached to a home is called the External Termination Point (ETP). It looks like a small box on an exterior wall

2) An Optic Network Terminal (ONT) is installed inside the home.

This must be placed close to an existing power point with access to household wiring. The ONT will not function during a power outage unless it contains a battery back-up. (This may not be a standard feature and it may increase the cost of the ONT – check with your supplier.)



3) A "Residential Gateway" is installed.

This can wirelessly control devices such as a smart TV and a cordless phone. Cable-based or wireless internet can also be linked to the ONT.

4) Fibre optic cabling may be installed in some of the walls of the home, depending on what cabling you already have installed

5) In some systems, the existing copper phone line and phone jacks may be disconnected/removed.

There are potential drawbacks and health impacts of an ultrafast broadband system of this type. If the copper phone line and phone jacks inside your home are removed or disconnected:

- This could leave you without a phone in the event of a power failure. (NB: Don't count on a mobile phone service being available if there is a major event that causes a power blackout).
- If you rely on using a cordless phone this has similar brain tumour risks to mobile phones. A corded landline phone is safer.
- You will have to keep the wireless system on at all times that you want to have a landline phone available. With many other wireless internet set-ups, you can at least turn off your wi-fi router when you are not using it – and especially at night when it is particularly undesirable to be exposed to microwave radiation – and have a corded landline phone available in case of emergencies. If the copper phone line system in your home is removed/disconnected you will not have this option.

However, there are solutions, and it should be possible to enjoy ultrafast broadband via fibre without the disadvantages and potential health risks of wireless phones and wireless internet. If you are considering an ultrafast broadband system key points to check with any potential provider (and preferably get a response in writing) include the following:

- Whether the existing copper phone line and phone jacks will be retained and be in a functional condition if you choose to have the ultrafast broadband fibre optic cabling installed. (*If you can retain copper cabling and phone jacks then you can have a safe, corded phone.*)
- What sort of line filters (if any) you may need for a corded landline phone with the system and how much they cost.
- If you use phone extension cords for your landline corded phone, whether these are compatible with the system.
- Whether the WANs (Wireless Area Networks) of the "Residential Gateway" can be disabled and how this can be done. If the WANs can be disabled, you can connect to the internet via a safe fibre optic cable rather than being constantly exposed to pulsed microwave radiation as you would be if the WANs cannot be disabled.
- How many Ethernet cable connections will be provided on the "Residential Gateway" supplied by the company?
- Whether the External Termination Point (ETP) and the Optic Network Terminal (ONT) that would be installed have any wireless capabilities, and if so whether or not this capacity can be disabled (and how this can be done).
- What the system will cost.
- What provisions there are for a refund if you are not happy with the performance of the system or if any components of the system do cause health issues.

Obviously, the availability of faster broadband is very welcome, and the aim of this article is merely to highlight a few considerations you may have not thought about before getting hooked up.

Catherine Robinson, Ruby Bay

J


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Botanist Lawrie Metcalf Leaves a Rich Legacy

Part two, conclusion

(Part 1 of this tribute to the work of former Mapua resident Lawrie Metcalf described his upbringing in Christchurch where he left school without qualification. He then gained formal training at the Christchurch Botanic Gardens, travelled overseas for further experience and returned to work as deputy director of the Christchurch Gardens. He married and greatly enjoyed his work and life, but he received a job offer he felt he could not refuse).

After a highly successful 22 years as deputy director of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens, Lawrie left in 1977 to take up an appointment as director of parks in Invercargill, after he was offered the authority, budget and a staff of more than 100 people to improve the district's reserves. In his 15 year role as director of parks and reserves, he richly repaid Invercargill and Southland.

Lawrie established an important collection of flora from subantarctic islands, greatly enhanced the city's collection of exotic plants and was responsible for the enhancement and development of a massive 2000ha recreation reserve in a giant wetland at Sandy Point, 7km west of Invercargill.

As a result of a generous bequest from a woman benefactor, Lawrie also supervised the transformation of the old 2.5ha city nursery into the Jessie Calder Rose Garden, which has become nationally important showcase of old-fashioned roses and also celebrates and demonstrates the development of newer rose families and species.

As a manager in both his Canterbury and Southland roles, Lawrie had also trained many of a new generation of horticultural students, passing on to them the enthusiasm that he had developed for New Zealand plants. He is remembered by many as a major influence, lighting a spark of enthusiasm about New Zealand natives.

Nelson journalist and writer on gardening topics Jude Petheram was one of the many students inspired by Lawrie's teaching. She felt Lawrie was ahead of his time in his work on New Zealand plants and he inspired a whole generation of others because he was able to provide so much essential information. The high quality of Lawrie's teaching came from his lifetime as a careful observer of plants, combined with a comprehensive knowledge of the plants themselves.

"He impressed because of the extremely high standards that he set and expected from students," Jude said. "He was meticulous about the correct botanical names for plants and varieties and as a student you aimed to follow those same high standards yourself."

After years of teaching, in the 1960s Lawrie felt that he needed to start to writing books because of the number of questions and requests for advice he received.

"It occurred to me that I carried a great deal of horticultural knowledge and experience in my head that I should put into writing so that others could benefit from the information," he wrote later. However, he under-estimated the scale of his self-imposed project.



At the time, there was only one other book on New Zealand trees and shrubs available. It had been written by the noted British-born horticulturist Leonard Cockayne, who had also developed an enthusiasm for New Zealand native plants while living in Christchurch. Cockayne's book on the New Zealand native plants had been published in the 1920s and was sadly out of date. It took Lawrie 10 years of disciplined study, research and work be-



fore his book, *The Cultivation of New Zealand Trees and Shrubs*, was published in 1972.

Lawrie designed his own layout for the book which, like his gardening teaching, was logical and precise. The book opened with a preface that described the strong influence English gardens had on New Zealand gardens and an essay that posed the question: "Do we now have a true New Zealand style of gardening, or do our gardens just mimic those overseas?"

At the heart of Lawrie's book was an alphabetical catalogue and description of the many native tree and species a gardener might want to consider. It was followed, by other logically-arranged sections where the reader could find information about the best sites and conditions for the particular plants and details of plant care. It was the same study sequence he had developed since he started training as a gardener and botanist. The book was comprehensive, accurate and easy to use. It was an immediate success and has since been reprinted five times and had three revisions.



Like Cockayne before him, Lawrie became a prolific writer later in his career. His book on trees and shrubs was followed by a companion publication, *The Cultivation of New Zealand Plants* and then a series of other books for gardeners, *The Propagation of New Zealand Native Plant*, *The Cultivation of New Zealand Native Grasses* and *Alpine Plants of New Zealand*.

Lawrie was a self-taught photographer and for many of his books, took his own photos. For the rest of his career, he produced high-quality colour images of plants using only a veteran Japanese Pentax reflex camera that dated back to the early 1960s.

Awards in the later part of Lawrie's remarkable career included the Ministry of Conservation's Loder Cup in 1978 for outstanding contributions to horticulture including "the protection and cultivation of the New Zealand flora". He was also presented with an award of Associate of Honour of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture in 1988.

Also in 1988, Lawrie received perhaps his greatest professional award when the UK-based Royal Horticultural Society presented him with its Gold Veitch Memorial Medal for services to horticulture, particularly noting his work on hebe species. The society subsequently asked Lawrie to become the international registrar for all the cultivar names for the hebe species, one of which had been that first flowering "veronica" shrub he had seen as a four-year-old. He wrote later. "What at first appeared to be a relatively easy task proved to be a very lengthy one".

It was not till 2001 that Lawrie's *International Register of Hebe Cultivars* was published and then in 2006 Lawrie published a related descriptive work, *Hebes, A Guide to Species, Hybrids and Allied Genera*, a book that has been published in the United States and Britain as well as in New Zealand. These works on his beloved hebe plants took Lawrie full circle from his early years in Christchurch and represent the pinnacle of his work, and of the international recognition of it.

In 2010, the New Zealand Government gave Lawrie another richly -deserved award, a Queen's Service Order for his services to horticulture.

Lawrie and Lena left their Westdale Road home in 2011 and moved back to Christchurch in 2012. Lena says that she and Lawrie "loved living in Westdale Road, and being part of the Mapua Community. They were very happy years for Lawrie."

We are lucky to have had this modest gardener and his family living for a time here in Mapua. The surprisingly large number of books and publications Lawrie produced during a busy professional career will for many serve as his enduring legacy.

In the preface of his first and most popular book, Lawrie wrote what might be an appropriate epitaph. He dedicated his work was "to all of those New Zealanders who love and value this beautiful land of ours.

"Long may they continue to cherish it."

David Mitchell

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Thursdays: 6.30pm - 7.45pm at Parklands
School, 9 Pah Street, Motueka.
$10. Details contact Jo: 0211 709 495

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Packhouse Staff Required

We are looking for reliable and hardworking people to join our team in the following roles for the 2018 apple and pear harvest season.

Packers/Graders
Shed Hands
Packhouse Cleaners
Forklift Operators
Documentation Staff

Job sharing is welcomed and experience is not necessary as full training will be given.

Work will commence mid-February and finish late May/early June. Hours of work are 7.30am to 5.00pm

We are in Nile Road, just of the Coastal Highway, approx. 3km from Mapua

For more information or to apply see **www.thawley.co.nz**

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CONCESSIONS & GIFT VOUCHERS

Mapua Health Centre

We are delighted to welcome Dr Lisa McIlwraith who is joining the practice this month. Lisa is an experienced GP who comes to us highly recommended from her recent time in Westport as well her work in the Nelson region. She has additional training and interests in a number of areas, including paediatrics, women's health, family planning, care of the chronically ill and psychiatry. Lisa will be working three days a week and we look forward to her long-term contribution to the health care of our community. We also wish to welcome Bronny Claxton who is an experienced nurse and has come to us from the Nelson Marlborough DHB. Bronny will be working regularly on Tuesday and Thursday, and we are hoping to expand her job to include operating the hyperbaric oxygen chamber.

This year has been a very busy and interesting year for Mapua Health Centre and we would like to say thank you to all our patients for your support and understanding during this time, especially when there have been delays in the waiting time for consults which have often been related to a temporary shortage of doctors, as reflected by a shortfall of doctors and locums throughout Nelson and the surrounding areas. We are also pleased that our practice has been chosen to receive two GP registrars for next year with Dr Laura Judge starting on 11 December for the first six months. In addition, we have two final year medical students working with us throughout December and January, Carol Wang in December and Peter Burrell in January, as part of their introduction to general practice.

During the year we have added some temporary buildings to the back of the centre in order to provide a larger staff room and some admin/nursing cabins. We continue to look at options of how to best to provide for an increasing range of health services and a growing patient population. Ideally, we would like to build a larger and purpose-designed health centre which would also include a pharmacy, dentist, physiotherapist and other health practitioners.

We would like to thank the community health committee, and its chairperson Derek Craze, for the dedicated support that they provide in maintaining the health centre and exploring new solutions for our future development. If you would like to help towards these goals please contact Sue Fox at 540-211.

Recently the receptionists have been asking patients to confirm and/or update their contact details, place and date of birth etc. We appreciate that this is time-consuming and possibly a little frustrating, however all general practices are required to verify this information for the Ministry of Health to ensure accuracy of records in the centralised register. We do appreciate your time and patience.

With summer approaching, the Health Promotion Agency has released their latest SunSmart prevention video. The video is specifically aimed at 16-24 year olds, and promotes the five prevention steps:

Slip into the shade
Slip on a shirt
Slop on some sunscreen
Slap on a hat, and
Wrap on some sunnies.

The SunSmart website has some valuable information and resources that may be of interest to your patients, to help encourage them to protect their skin and eyes from UV radiation, as well as warning signs of skin cancer.

Our patient portal service is growing in popularity with lots of positive feedback. Manage My Health™ - www.managemyhealth.co.nz - is a website that uploads patient information from our computer to a secure web server so that you can access your own health information and manage aspects of your health care where ever you may be. It also allows us to communicate about test results, appointments, etc. If you would like to register for Manage My Health™ please contact the receptionist on 03 540-2211 or talk to the staff when you next call in to the centre.

On behalf of the team at Mapua Health we would like to wish you all a safe, healthy and very happy Christmas, and all the best for 2018.

National and global health promotion events for the month include the following:

1	World Aids Day	www.who.org
1	DecSafe Sleep Awareness Day	changeforourchildren.co.nz
3	International Day of Disabled Persons	un.org/disabilities
5	International Volunteers Day	www.worldvolunteerweb.org
10	World Human Rights Day	www.un.org
15	Term 4 ends for secondary schools	
18	International Migrants Day	un.org/en/events/migrantsday
21	Term 4 ends for primary + intermediate schools	

On behalf of the team at Mapua Health we would like to wish you all a safe, healthy and very happy Christmas, and all the best for 2018.

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Art on a Thursday Morning

Any Thursday morning after 9am you can wander into the Bill Marris Room in the Mapua Community Hall and find yourself surrounded by easels, tables set up with old sheets and spread with all sorts of art materials.

There will be artists clad in old shirts and trousers eagerly catching up with each other. Out of bags and baskets will come oil paints, acrylics, watercolours, pastels, crayons, pens and Indian ink, pencils, charcoal, knitting, old paint brushes, material for collages, modelling clay, old books to turn into sculptures, occasionally fruit and fresh eggs to share.

The chatter eventually quiets as everyone gets into the 'zone'. Then you will hear a questioning voice saying, 'What do you think of the placement of this tree here?'

A neighbour will remark that possibly it is too dominating. So the artist paints it out.

'Do you think I've finished?', another artist asks of the group. A committee is formed round the painting to confer and discuss this important issue. Colour is discussed, composition is remarked upon:

'What are you trying to achieve?' 'What is the picture about?' will be asked. The questions come thick and fast and the artist sends them all away laughing – too hard, too many questions!

Someone gets milk for morning tea and a packet of fresh biscuits is opened. A welcome cup of tea or coffee is enjoyed and plans for workshops, visits to artists' galleries and the biggest event of the year—the Exhibition in January 2018—is discussed.

How many paintings has the group available to show? How best to display and what price to put on the work when you haven't been painting for very long? Who will be around to meet and greet the visitors and look after and replenish the artwork as it sells? Will it be as successful as last year?

At 11.30 the mood changes to pack-up mode and just as quickly as the tables and easels popped up they collapse down again and baskets, bags and all the paraphernalia of art troops out of the door and the Bill Marris Room empties until the next happy group arrives.

Barbara Glass







National Art Awards a 'Stunning Success'

Mapua's inaugural Impressions National Art Awards were a stunning success. With well over 1000 people visiting the show and a substantial sales return Event Convener Graeme Stradling says the organisers are thrilled by the response to moving the annual show to the Mapua Hall. The opening event with wine from Kaimira and the hot and cold buffet was well attended despite the bad weather.

The future looks bright for this new visual arts focus in the Tasman region. A special thank you must go to Glenys Forbes and the team from the pastels association for hanging the show and administering the event. Also thanks to the crew from Impressions Art Shop in Richmond and the many local volunteers who manned the eight-day exhibition.

"People have really enjoyed the exhibition and everyone has been very supportive of the vision to hold, nurture and grow this event in Mapua, Visitors are loving it and local artists and residents share our enthusiasm to make next year's event even better," said Graeme.

The winners were:

Impressions Supreme Award: Sally Barron *Violet II*

People's Choice Award: Vicki Jackson, *Solace*

PANZ Nelson Area Best Pastel: Vicki Jackson, *Solace*

Winsor & Newton Merit Award: Gavin Chai (Auckland), *Falling Particles Under Light and Shadow*

Daler Rowney Merit Award: Christine Wingels *Maturation*

Golden Artist Colours Merit Award: Rhonye Mcilroy (Ashburton), *Conflict, Capt.J.Cook Poverty Bay New Zealand 8 October 1769*

After the success of the show the group will curate a showcase cellar door exhibition from the artists at Kaimira Brightside vineyard in Brightwater all through January.

If you want to be involved or have some feedback on this event contact Graeme at 03 540-2050 or 021 055 2796. Email: taylorstradling@gmail.com



Vicki Jackson from Marlborough receives the Best Pastel Award from Mapua's Glenys Forbes



Police Report

Hi all. The busy summer period is fast approaching. We will have a lot of tourists and visitors in our area as usual. We need to allow a few extra minutes for journeys on the road as the traffic builds up and need to be patient with all these people who are unfamiliar with our roads.

Good to report there hasn't been much crime in the Mapua area over the last month – but don't get complacent! You never know when some dishonest person from out of town might spy your jacket or cellphone in your unlocked car, or someone might come knocking at your door and discover that you are in the garden out the back with your front door unlocked. Opportunist thieves are everywhere so try to keep yourselves safe. Take care out there.

Grant Heney, Motueka Crime Prevention

Occurrences:

20-year-old Motueka man driving in Mapua while licence suspended. Car impounded

Domestic incident Iwa Street

Theft of a Record brand sash clamp from Higgs Road

Domestic incident Seaton Valley Road

Domestic incident Aporo Road

Edited by Andrew Earlam (advertising) 540-2845, and Terry Smith (editorial) 540-3203. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the editors. We aim to have the newsletter out by the 1st of the month. The deadline for emailed items to coastalnews@mapua.gen.nz is the 20th of the month. Notices are a gold coin donation in the collection boxes. Club notices are free. Printed by the Tasman District Council.

Let's Get Our Own Ward

The Tasman District Council will hold a representation review next year. This is to find out if the current representation model is still the 'best fit' for the Tasman communities. Issues ranging from land development choices, affordable housing, footpaths, speed limits, amenities and recreational opportunities have been decided for years by a council in Richmond with only marginal representation from our Mapua/Moutere communities.

The current system disadvantages Mapua residents and needs fixing. The ward councillors are elected from geographically defined areas that really have no shared community of interest. In this Moutere-Waimea Ward the areas include the larger Wakefield, Brightwater and the Waimea Plains communities as well as Mapua and the Moutere area (including through to Ngatimoti).

The ward has three councillors we vote for. Although elected from the local ward these councillors have Tasman-wide responsibilities and are not natural advocates for their local communities.

What's wrong with the status quo?

1. Our communities to the west of Appleby are distinctly different from the Waimea Plains communities of Wakefield or Brightwater. The local government act defines wards as being an expression of 'communities of interest'. This present ward fails that definition.

2. The bigger population centres of the Waimea Plains have consistently out-voted our communities in local body elections for several decades. This means that we have three councillors all from Waimea, outside of this area and outside of our community of interest, after each election. Nice people, but not our people.

What about a distinct Moutere Ward?

The problems around representation for Mapua and Moutere that come from Waimea-Moutere Ward are solved by having separate wards for Waimea and Moutere. The population sizes now suit two councillors from each proposed ward. This is also far better with regards the Local Government Act's intentions of representation of communities of interest.

The choice is ours.

Under the review, if there are enough submissions and representations advocating changes, council must listen. We will need to be vocal to be heard so, if you don't believe Mapua is being represented well, or if you would like more democratic fairness in our local government, fill in the TDC initial survey, then make your submission at the 2018 Representation Review.

Graeme Stradling

Mapua Craft Group

During November we made felt and patchwork hearts and Scandi houses as Christmas decorations. We have shared designs for Christmas cards, ideas and recipes. Together we solve problems and have morning tea.

During the year our membership has increased, with us welcoming ladies who love craft, company and a chat.

In December we are having an outing to Grape Escape and the shops there and on 15 December we will have our Christmas party. Those attending please bring a small plate of food and a wrapped "something you have made" for a secret Santa to distribute to those present.

Next year we start again once the children return to school for the first term. Do drop in any time to the Mapua Church hall on a Friday between 10am and 12 noon; you will be made most welcome.



Finally a big thank you to all who have contributed to organising our activities and outings.

A very happy Christmas and enjoyable holidays. See you in February.

Best wishes, Barbara



Mapua Boat Club President Tim Robinson (right) presents David Scott from the Tamaha Sea Scouts with a cheque for the proceeds from the successful sale of the Topper sail craft at the Boat Club's recent Buy-Sell-Swap event. All involved would like to thank the donation of the Topper by a local resident. David said the funds would be used to paint some of the Scouts' fleet.

BAYLEYS

PROPERTY NEWS

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
to all our customers and clients!

It has been a great year for property in the region. We would like to thank all our vendors and buyers for your business in 2017, wish you a very happy holidays and look forward to helping you again in the new year.

- Leeon Cross, Bo Mansfield, Marion Cross and Mukti Kansara.

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- **Proven track record of successful sales.**
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Book Review

Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children, *by Ransom Riggs. Reviewed by Emily Polak. This book is available in the Mapua Library.*

This is a fictional young adult novel. It is the first novel in the series, similarly named, *Peculiar Children*. It is beautifully illustrated which is what initially drew me to it. However, the story is so intriguingly written that I became engrossed in the story within the first few pages. This strange novel feels as if it has been left and forgotten on a bookshelf with its peculiar, for lack of a better word, photographs, storyline and old-fashioned feel.

I thoroughly recommend this book for anyone looking to immerse themselves in a mysterious and unusual fantasy world during the upcoming summer months. While aimed at young adults, *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* can be enjoyed by all as it has aspects that would be enjoyed by a younger and older audience.

Set in the late 2000s when the protagonist, Jacob, begins to doubt the eccentric stories his grandfather had told him about his life, an unexplainable tragedy occurs. Jacob is forced to face the idea that maybe the stories were not all fabricated. Perhaps his grandfather really had escaped the Holocaust by taking refuge on a Welsh island, and visited an orphanage that catered to children with strange powers.

The plot fully gripped my attention and while I am a self-proclaimed speed reader, the mystery of the story and unusual photographs hooked me and had me read the entire novel in a single sitting. The characters in the book are intriguing and unique, together with a captivating storyline Riggs has managed to produce a book which has a tinge of thrill without being a horror, exciting and magical without being shocking and still maintaining a degree of wholesomeness suitable for older children, with a story line suitably complicated and intriguing for young adults.

On another level the parallels between the story and the psychology of children and teenagers feeling different, not fitting in, and fighting the Hollowgast repetitively every day, makes this story interesting on another level for adults. The connection between this magical existence and the events which link it to World War 2 add a twist of maturity to what is essentially a children's fantasy.

Jacob narrates the story in a style that allows the reader to believe an older Jacob is telling his story just as his grandfather had done. While the narration added an engaging aspect to the novel it also contributed to a minor weakness; while Jacob's character brought humour and relatability to the story, he seemed to overshadow some of the other exciting characters, as although they possessed fantastic and interesting abilities such as having a mouth at the back of their head or harbouring a nest of bees in the inner organs of the body, their personality lacked the strength to compete with the louder, more powerful personality of Jacob. However, a couple of the characters did stand out and prevent this weakness being the downfall of the novel.

This is a fascinating and seemingly timeless novel that has many aspects which allow it to be enjoyed by all, whether it is read alone in a single sitting or aloud to older children. I certainly recommend this novel as it is the perfect novel to allow you to be whisked away for a short time with its bizarre, perplexing and enigmatic storyline and its beautiful, unforgettable photographs.





Mapua Community Library

(Moutere Hills RSA Memorial Library)

New Year Book Sale

This will be on Saturday, 6 January at the library. See you there! Come and purchase your holiday reading and support the library. Bring your family, neighbours and visitors down to the library for a browse. Most books $1 or $2.

More books donated for the sale are welcome – in particular of the holiday reading genre.

Christmas Raffle

We will once again run our very popular Christmas raffle. This is an important component of our local fundraising and is always so well supported. Funds raised will go towards maintaining and updating our catalogue system – something grants organisations don't find to be very 'sexy' to support.

We welcome donations for the prize hamper(s) from 'anyone and everyone' in the community – there is a box in the library foyer to receive your donation.

Look out for our ticket sellers outside Mapua 4 Square in the week 11-16 December – the hampers always look magnificent!

Christmas Closures

A reminder that we are always closed on statutory holidays. This year we also won't open on the Saturday before Christmas or the Saturday before New Year.

Art Displays

Graham Bainbridge will display his acrylics until late December. Graham will be followed by a display of pastels by Glenys Forbes. You are welcome to pop in and view this local talent.

Thanks to Book Suppliers

We have a wonderful working relationship with the bookshops that supply many of our new books, and they regularly offer a meaningful discount. Our thanks to Paper Plus Motueka, Whitcoulls Richmond and Page and Blackmore Nelson.

Visitors to Mapua

If you are visiting Mapua, you are welcome to become a temporary member of our library. We are a community library staffed and run by volunteers and it is free to join. We have free magazines to take away as well as current magazines to borrow, second-hand books to buy and a great selection of up-to-date books to borrow. We look forward to welcoming you to our library.

Thanks

We continue to receive wonderful feedback about the treasure that our community library is. There are so many people and organisations that are a part of maintaining this as an up-to-date, welcoming and special place. It is truly a COMMUNITY library. Thanks to everyone who has contributed in any way.

Our best wishes to you and your loved ones for a safe and happy holiday season – may you always find time to read a good book.

Lynley Worsley

Library Hours (closed Statutory Holidays)

Monday	2pm-4.30pm
Tuesday	2pm-4.30pm
Wednesday	2pm-6.30pm
Thursday	10am-12.30pm, 2pm-4.30pm
Friday	2pm-4.30pm
Saturday	2pm-4.30pm

mapualibrary@xtra.co.nz; Facebook: Mapua Community Library; mapuacommunitylibrary.co.nz

Major Sponsors: Rata Foundation; Lion Foundation; Tasman District Council; Lottery Grants Board.

New Florist Opens in Ruby Bay

Ruby Bouquet is the new florist and garden centre at 174 Stafford Drive, Ruby Bay. Owners Nigel and Joanne are keen to offer locals something different from the other major garden centre chains. Their focus is quality plants at affordable prices. They aim to stock plants and flowers from as many local producers as possible, so welcome growers to approach them.

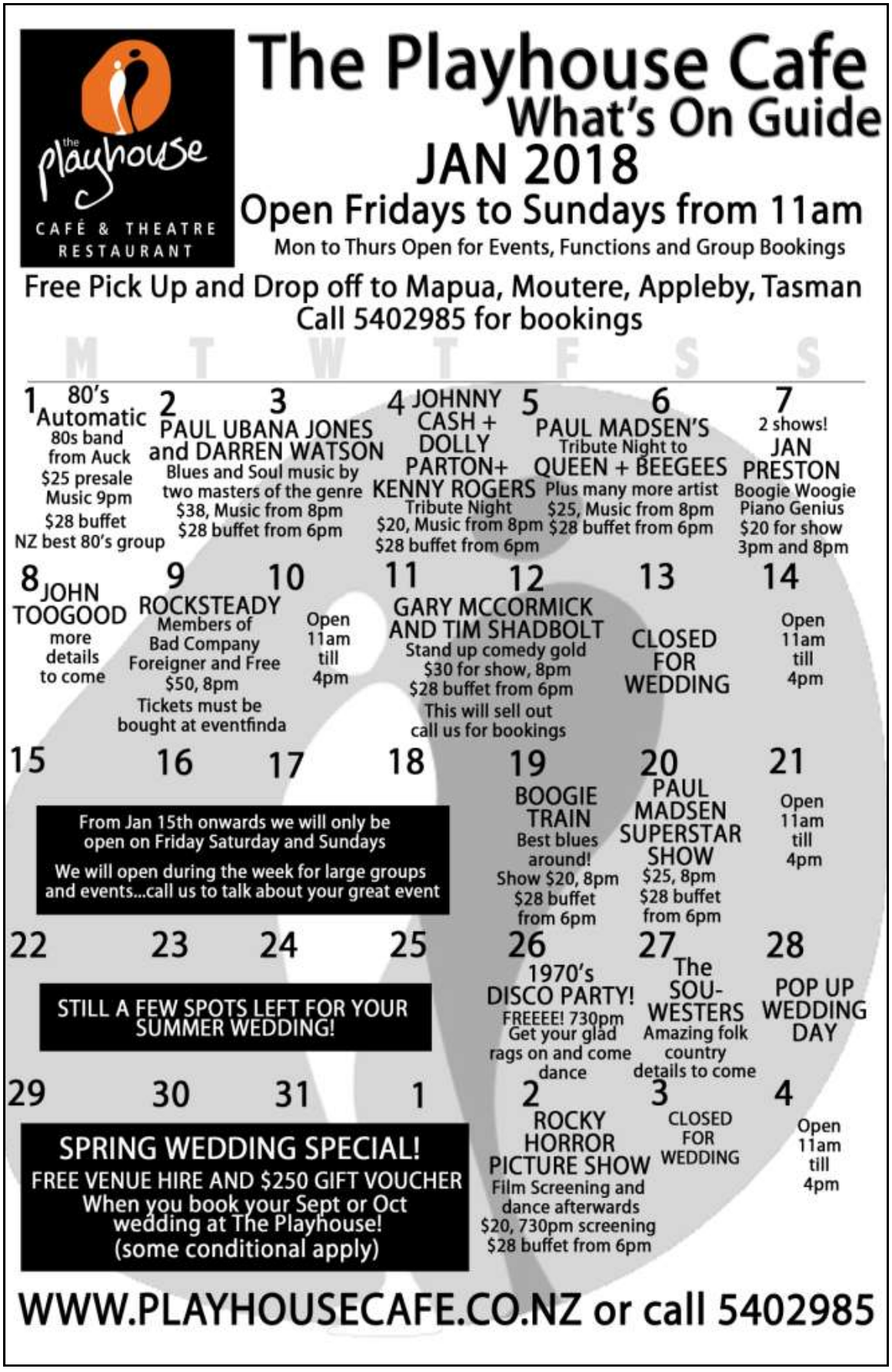
As well as plants Joanne offers full floral services for every occasion. There are also fresh flowers and supplies for people wanting to make their own arrangements.

Another feature of this business is work from local artists which tie into the garden/florist theme. They have mosaics from Nelson artist Esther Baumann, intricate bird-themed drawings from the very talented Alice Reade, ceramics from Kevin Kilsby, and Joanne plans to have a variety of her sculptural pieces for sale.



In their first week of opening both Nigel and Joanne have been overwhelmed by the friendly greetings and well-wishers. "It has been lovely meeting all the locals and their words of encouragement have been so appreciated," says Joanne. "Our neighbours Alison from the Hair Lounge and Tony from Ruby Bay Kitchen have also been very supportive. It's a great little block of shops offering great food, great service and quality products. We are proud to become new members of this community."


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Free Pick Up and Drop off to Mapua, Moutere, Appleby, Tasman
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M T W T F S S
30
Available for your private Christmas function
1
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2
MURDER MYSTERY NIGHT
Friday and Saturday night
$20, +$40 for 2 course buffet
Show starts 8pm, Dinner from 6pm
Classic night of who done it
Perfect for your Christmas Party
3
Free Venue hire Available for your private Christmas function
4
5
Private Christmas lunch
Lions Dinner Private Function
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7
Private Christmas lunch
8
9
PAUL MADSEN'S SUPER STAR SHOW
Friday and Saturday night
$25, +$40 for 2 course buffet
Queen, Eagles, BeeGees + more!
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10
KATH BEE AND MS FIZZBERRY
1030am
Tickets from Eventfinda
11
Private Christmas lunch
Private Christmas dinner Nelson Rose Society
12
13
Private Christmas lunch
14
Closed for Private Function
15
Closed for Private Function
16
Nelson's Greatest Magic Show
$20, 8pm
GREAT CHRISTMAS PARTY OPTION!!
17
Open 11am till 4pm
Mot Pole Studio Student Showcase
18
19
20
Will open for large group Christmas functions any day of the week
21
22
Closed for Special event
23
Salmonella Dub Sound System
$50 + BF
from salmonelladub.com
24
Closed for Private Function
25
CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH
$85 adults
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Huge 3 Course Buffet Luncheon
From 1230pm
Book ahead as this always sells out.
26
BACKYARD CRICKET DAY
FREE TO ALL
Great for families and/or semi pros
Warm up 1230pm
Games from 1pm
Call ahead to book your team please
27
BEST 80's NIGHT EVA!!!
FREE ENTRY
Music from 7pm till late
Dress up encouraged
ALL 80s ALL NIGHT
28
ALEXEI D'ATH and MOLLY G
Home Sweet Home
730pm
$10
29
2017 QUIZ NIGHT
All about the year that was
Quiz from 715pm
FREE TO ALL
Teams of 2 to 8
30
CLOSED FOR WEDDING
31
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$50 includes 2 course buffet Dinner from 6pm
Music all night
Dress up in ya best and party like its 1979
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2 3 PAUL UBANA JONES and DARREN WATSON
Blues and Soul music by two masters of the genre
$38, Music from 8pm
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4 JOHNNY CASH + DOLLY PARTON+ KENNY ROGERS
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5 6 PAUL MADSEN'S
Tribute Night to
QUEEN + BEEGEES
Plus many more artist
$25, Music from 8pm
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7
2 shows!
JAN PRESTON
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$20 for show
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8 JOHN TOOGOOD
more details to come
9 10 ROCKSTEADY
Members of Bad Company Foreigner and Free
$50, 8pm
Tickets must be bought at eventfinda
Open 11am till 4pm
11 12 GARY MCCORMICK AND TIM SHADBOLT
Stand up comedy gold
$30 for show, 8pm
$28 buffet from 6pm
This will sell out
call us for bookings
13 CLOSED FOR WEDDING
14 Open 11am till 4pm
15 16 17 18
From Jan 15th onwards we will only be open on Friday Saturday and Sundays
We will open during the week for large groups and events...call us to talk about your great event
19 BOOGIE TRAIN
Best blues around!
Show $20, 8pm
$28 buffet from 6pm
20 PAUL MADSEN SUPERSTAR SHOW
$25, 8pm
$28 buffet from 6pm
21 Open 11am till 4pm
22 23 24 25
STILL A FEW SPOTS LEFT FOR YOUR SUMMER WEDDING!
26 1970's DISCO PARTY!
FREEEE! 730pm
Get your glad rags on and come dance
27 The SOU-WESTERS
Amazing folk country
details to come
28 POP UP WEDDING DAY
29 30 31 1
SPRING WEDDING SPECIAL!
FREE VENUE HIRE AND $250 GIFT VOUCHER
When you book your Sept or Oct wedding at The Playhouse!
(some conditional apply)
2 ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW
Film Screening and dance afterwards
$20, 730pm screening
$28 buffet from 6pm
3 CLOSED FOR WEDDING
4 Open 11am till 4pm
WWW.PLAYHOUSECAFE.CO.NZ or call 5402985

Letters to the Editor

Thank you Mapua

Mapua's 'Famous Pack house Cinema' is now in recess for the summer until March 2018.

It is now three years since we began showing movies and in that time we have provided a mix of twenty four Classic and Recent releases to appreciative and enthusiastic audiences.

Our main aim of the monthly movie nights has been to provide funding for the Mapua Community Hall and we hoped to also create another enjoyable community social occasion

We think that both our initial aims are being met and we would like to thank all of those who have attended and supported us.

Peter and Di Ohalloran

Ruby Bay Mysteries

These two photos below have us stumped. The first is the sign that appears at both ends of Stafford Drive. The last house on the road is No. 260. Are major reclamation works planned to allow for the extra hundred properties? The second is the giant building recently erected at No.18. Its blank face and the ongoing earthworks out front suggest another is on the way. The *Nelson Mail* and TDC websites offer no clues.

Carol Cromie





Athlete Grateful for Support

I would like to say a huge thank you to the Mapua community for supporting my athletics this year. I am going to be doing a lot of travelling—to Hawkes Bay for New Zealand Secondary Schools in December, then to Adelaide to represent New Zealand Secondary Schools a week later, followed by several other meets in the new year and the NZ Nationals in March in Hamilton. These trips are all very costly but thanks to the following I have been well supported:

Andy Bell from Terra Firma Engineering, Chris Atkins from Perry's Auto Services, Linda and Sean Huxford from Mapua Plumbing, Martin and Lesley Langelaan from Timberworks NZ, Jane and Neil Smith from Chocolate Dog, Caroline Lusty from Groovy Paws Dog grooming and Mapua and Ruby Bay Community Trust who have paid for my Hamilton trip! I would also like to say thank you to Ron and Raewyn Howard for their support in the chiropractic area and to Catalyst Fitness for their continued support! What an amazing community we live in! I look forward to representing you all and will do my very best!



Izzy Neal

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Guy goes into the doctor's. 'Doc, I've got a cricket ball stuck up my bottom.'
'How's that?'
'Don't you start.' *Tommy Cooper*

Cruise the harbour or cruise to Mapua!



Come cruising on Easy Rider, a 35-foot catamaran under survey by Maritime NZ.

Nelson Harbour Cruise: Get to know the harbour and Australasia's largest fishing port. View close-up the yachts in the 400-berth marina. Sail north along the Boulder Bank past the historic lighthouse and quaint cottages. Photograph wildlife at 'Shag Tree'. Continue through The Cut, and around Haulashore Island where we stop for a swim, and back into the Haven, admiring multimillion-dollar hillside homes along the way.

Rate: $65 per passenger, minimum 10. Bring food, cold drinks and your togs. Free tea and coffee on board. Duration: about four hours.

Round Trip to Mapua: Cruise from Nelson to Mapua wharf and back. Sail out of the Marina past Port Nelson, through The Cut, along Rabbit Island and up Mapua Channel. Buy a beer or a wine at one of the popular cafes. Or have fish and chips and ice cream. Refreshments ashore not included in fare. Bring food, cold drinks – and your togs. Free tea and coffee on board. Sail back to Nelson on the afternoon sea breeze.

Rate: $90 per passenger, minimum 10 people. Duration: about five hours.

Note: Sailing times depend on the tides.

For details and bookings, phone 03-540 3939 or 027 666 1228.

Final Journey by Carol Pring

This was the runner-up to the wining short story in the Mapua Library's Literary Festival in September. It was to have been printed in the October edition of the Coastal News, but a gremlin saw to it that it was left out.

Editors

Don stood at the garden gate. The street was empty, but overhead he could see the silent delivery drones.

Forty years ago in another garden there had been a different type of drone, the gentle sound of bees collecting pollen from borage flowers. Tui had come to feed on flax, and fantails to raise their young in the maple tree.

Now he was lucky to have the two sparrows.

The birds were gathering nesting materials. He hoped they would be successful in raising a family this year. In the late autumn last year's nest had been blown down in a gale, its unhatched eggs smashed on the concrete path.

He closed his eyes and thought of gardens full of birds and colourful plants. So many plants had succumbed under a barrage of diseases. They had been replaced by uniform, drab looking, disease-resistant shrubs.

A distant grating sound announced his visitor was on the way. Gradually the sound became clearer, a loudspeaker playing *Happy Birthday* to Don. The pod slid around the corner of the street. Nobody in the row of small grey houses opened their doors, or even looked out the window. This was a category seventy-five plus area. Don was the oldest inhabitant, but the others were a similar age. They preferred to ignore the proceedings, knowing their turn would come soon enough.

The pod stopped outside the house and the music ceased. Its door opened: "Happy birthday Don! I am Morris your birthday bot. May I come inside with your presents?"

"What would you do if I said no?"

"Ha, ha," said Morris. "We all like our little joke! What nice a place you have here."

"Can we just get on with this?"

Morris scrutinised Don's face. "Oh dear, I am reading a lot of resentment."

"You're supposed to be a birthday bot, not a counselling one. Let's get this over so I can go for my-walk."

"Yes, I know you enjoy your long walks. Now just a little paperwork before the presents. Here it is, your 'Journeys' book."

Don took it and looked at the cover. *Journeys Through Life* was printed in large letters, and underneath in smaller print: The Special Journey of...' On the flyleaf were the words: 'A present from …to his descendants and to posterity.'

"Mass-produced tat!" said Don.

Morris ignored the comment.

"Please insert the name Donald McIntyre in the spaces, and we would really like you to write the answers to the questions inside. We do of course have the option to add them electronically, but we think it is better if you write them. As you know copies will be sent to all your designated descendants."

"Who gets the original?"

"We keep that for posterity."

"Hmph!" Don looked through the questions. "You've got most of this in your records, date of birth, parents, grandparents etc."

"Yes, but it is nice for your decedents to keep and pass on to their children."

"Most of it's inane nonsense. Question: 'What did you enjoy most at school?' I can answer that in one word—leaving."

"I understand your attitude. It is your last birthday. At this stage people do get a little anxious and frightened."

"Are your sensors working properly? Is that what you're reading from my face and body language?"

"Well, no. What I am getting, is impatience and anger."

"Exactly, because I don't want to waste what time I've got left filling in this bloody nonsense."

"It is part of the agreed procedure," said Morris, "passed by Act of Parliament. In some countries the end age is earlier. New Zealanders have the fortunate option of going to eighty."

"Let's be precise," said Don, "The day before their eightieth birthday. Tablet or injection still the choice is it?"

"You know resources are limited. We have to make a definite cut-off somewhere, but that is not my area of expertise. The funeral bot will contact you in six months to make the arrangements for your final journey."

"I understand the cut-off, it's the nonsense of birthday bots and these stupid *Journeys* books I'm complaining about."

"Please remember many elderly people have family overseas. You do. The cost of international travel is now prohibitive. I know you talk to them regularly on hellotheregovtnz. facility, but don't you think it is nice to leave them something personal?"

"Can't you understand? I thought the Alpha range of bots had been programmed to feel some emotions themselves."

"We are really just machines. Our superior programming simply enables us to sense your emotions and be more helpful."

"So you are not frightened of anything. You cannot feel terror?"

The bot's hesitation was short, but long enough for Don to note it.

"No, you know that is not possible," said Morris. "Bots react to dangerous situations, ones that cause people to feel fear. We are here to help, if necessary to rescue humans. I myself have saved people trapped in a collapsed building."

Don moved away from the table. "Just making myself a pot of tea."

"I'll get your birthday card and presents out, said Morris. There is some wine in your gift box if you would prefer it to tea."

"It's a bit early for wine. Although I wouldn't mind a beer in an hour or so at lunch time." Don carried the teapot over to the table. As he passed it over the bot's head he noticed it flinched slightly.

"Here is your card," said Morris, "the wine and all you need for the meal you selected. As it is your seventy-ninth it is real meat and field-grown vegetables."

Don thought of the Sunday roasts his mum and dad had cooked for him, and the happy memories of good food, drink and conversation around the table. Concentrate and keep thinking that way, he told himself.

"Good," said Morris smiling at him. "I can see that has cheered you up. I am now sensing lots of happy thoughts."

"So were you injured in that rescue operation you mentioned?" asked Don.

"Yes, but as you know it is of no concern to a bot. Even if we are badly injured our parts can be replaced."

"Have you had much replaced?"

"Oh yes, I'm very different from the original Morris."

"Is there anything left of the original?"

"The original chip is still there. That does not change, it is just added to."

"So, you have a sense of a continuity?"

"Definitely, it is a sense that helps us relate to you."

Don smiled and opened the food parcel. "Mmm! I'm looking forward to eating this. I'll put the meat in the fridge."

"Is there any anything else I can do," asked Morris. "You mentioned having a beer at lunch time. We could go to the New Community Centre."

Don faced him, "No, I think not."

"I understand. Anything else I can assist with?"

"I'd love to go down to the sea."

"Yes, we could do that. You do not want to go swimming do you?"

"No, not swimming, just a walk. And I'd like to enjoy the view on the way, not talk." He was starting to find it a strain to speak and keep a stream of happy thoughts at the front of his mind, to shield the darker ones at the back.

"You just give the pod directions then, and I shall sit quietly," said Morris.

They arrived at a small bay with cliffs on either side. Large waves broke through from the narrow entrance to the sea.

"Come on, I'll show you the spot on the cliff top where we used to watch the Hector's dolphins." As he led the way he concentrated on the view and continued to fill his mind with happy thoughts. He stopped at a point where the path narrowed. "Look down there Morris, you can see where the climbers fixed their ropes, this was a popular spot with rock climbers. Too windy today for climbing. Just watch the force of the sea hitting those rocks. Makes me feel free. Thank you for coming with me on this special journey."

"I can feel you're really happy here, Don," said Morris.

"Can you feel that? Well, I'm almost ecstatic", said Don. "How about you? You look worried. You don't like water do you?"

"I am programmed to alert people to danger and move them away from it. This is a potentially dangerous place."

"Like the old Community Centre? My wife and her friends were inside when the fire started. There were three Alpha bots outside but they didn't rescue them. Alphas don't like fire either. They can't be repaired once fire or water gets to their chips and circuits can they?"

Dan laughed and looked directly at him. "You look terrified Morris." He grabbed the bot and pulled, calling out to him as they fell over the edge: "And I'm ecstatic!"






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Hills Community Church

As we approach the end of the year we always seem to find ourselves on a path of increasing busyness; the pressure of finishing the year's tasks, the planning of Christmas and holiday gathering, and an ever increasing stream of end-of-year social engagements to make.

In this busy time I hope that you are able to find some peace and quiet to reflect on what is at the centre of the Christmas celebration. In celebrating Christmas we celebrate the gift of peace given to humankind, the gift of Jesus, Christ, the Prince of Peace. Immanuel, God with us.

Blessings in Christ, Rev John Sherlock

Mapua Community Carol Service.

Thursday 14 Dec. 6pm, Mapua Wharf

Come and celebrate the festive season at the Mapua community carol service held at the Mapua wharf amphitheatre. Come along with a picnic tea, or grab some fish and chips. Music from the Motueka Brass Band, with items from Mapua School, Tamaha cubs and a ukulele orchestra. Also Christmas mince pies.

Christmas and summer services in Mapua

Advent contemplative space 'Come to the quiet', 7pm Wednesday evenings during Advent. 6th, 13th, 20th December

Christmas Celebration Saturday 9 December 3-6pm.

An end-of-year combined event for Senior Moments, Messy Church, Kids'n'Koffee, and Craft and Coffee.

A little bit messy, a little crafty, for oldies and youngies alike, and everyone in between, of course with coffee – ending with a free BBQ tea.

Community Carol Service, Thursday 14 December at the Mapua wharf 6pm, (If wet at Hills Community Church)

Christmas Eve, (Sunday 24th)

9:30am communion service,

9pm Candlelit Carol service

Christmas Day

9:30am Family communion service

Sundays 31st December through to February 4th, 9:30am Worship service.

Hills Community Church,

'Living Christ-centred life, living Christ-centred love' Please see our website for further information. www.hillscommunitychurch.org.nz, or phone 540-3848

Sunday Worship: 9am, Traditional service 10am, Morning tea, 10:30am, Contemporary service & Children's programme. Communion is celebrated at both services on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

Rev John Sherlock, revsherlock.hcc@gmail.com hillscommunitychurch.org.nz or phone







Greetings from the Chair

Our community hall is thriving. Recently online in Stuff.Co.nz an article by Bob Irvine it was featured as being one of several such halls which bring our community together, and it does. It is our meeting place, our Wharenui, our place for celebrating lives and our place for enriching and enhancing our lives. Great effort keeps this treasure of ours nurtured. I and the hall committee are very very grateful to every single person who has given some of their time and or resources to the hall. This is the time of year where we look back and we are looking at a viable vibrant property of the community. I am privileged to be part of an extraordinary and generous community which is so well represented with our committee. All hall users, hall supporters, volunteers, hall staff and Mapua community, our grant donors, to council help Thank you, Thank you, Thank you.

Office Hours

The hall office will be closed from **Friday 22nd Dec** and will re-open on **Monday 15th Jan.**

Enjoy your Christmas with family & friends and we wish you a safe & happy Summer.

What's On at the Hall In December & January

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat	Sun
				1 9am Aerobics 10am Pilates 3-6pm Mapua Afterschool Care 6pm Mapua Youth Group	2 2PM Nelson Male Voice Choir	3 10-4 Mapua Makers Market
4 9.30am Low Impact Dance 3-6pm Mapua Afterschool Care 6pm Mapua Dance Fitness	5 9am Sioux Line Dance 1pm Tai Chi 2.30pm Sit & Be Fit 3-6pm Mapua Afterschool Care 4.30pm Theatre Sports 6pm Middle Eastern Dance 6pm Aerobics 7pm Pilates	6 9am Aerobics 10am Pilates 12.30pm Tai Chi 3-6pm Mapua Afterschool Care 6pm Yoga with Thomas	7 9am Mapua Art Group 3-6pm Mapua Afterschool Care 6pm Mapua Dance Fitness	8 9am Aerobics 10am Pilates 3-6pm Mapua Afterschool Care	9 9am Aerobics 10am Pilates 11-3 Mapua Afterschool Care Open Day!	10
11 9.30am Low Impact Dance 3-6pm Mapua Afterschool Care 6pm Mapua Dance Fitness 7pm Mapua Comm. Assc. Mtg	12 9am Sioux Line Dance 1pm Tai Chi 2.30pm Sit & Be Fit 3-6pm Mapua Afterschool Care 4.30pm Theatre Sports 6pm Aerobics 7pm Pilates	13 9am Aerobics 10am Pilates 12.30pm Tai Chi 3-6pm Mapua Afterschool Care 6pm Yoga with Thomas	14 3-6pm Mapua Afterschool Care 6pm Mapua Dance Fitness	15 9am Aerobics 10am Pilates 3-6pm Mapua Afterschool Care	16 1-5pm Ian Hamlin Painting Class 7.30pm Motueka Dance Group	17
18 9.30am Low Impact Dance 3-6pm Mapua Afterschool Care 6pm Mapua Dance Fitness	19 12pm-6pm Mapua Afterschool Care	20 Mapua Afterschool Care	21 Mapua Afterschool Care	22 Mapua Afterschool Care	23 mapuabookings@gmail.com	24
25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26 BOXING DAY 6pm Aerobics 7pm Pilates	27 8.30am Aerobics 9.30am Pilates	28	29 8.30am Aerobics 9.30am Pilates	30	31
1 JANUARY 2018 NEW YEARS DAY	2 NEW YEAR HOLIDAY	3 8.30am Aerobics 9.30am Pilates	4 6pm Mapua Dance Fitness	5 8.30am Aerobics 9.30am Pilates	6 8.30am Aerobics 9.30am Pilates	7
WWW.MAPUAHALL.ORG		MAPUA ART GROUP EXHIBITION				
8 9.30am Low Impact Dance 6pm Mapua Dance Fitness	9 6pm Aerobics 7pm Pilates	10 8.30am Aerobics 9.30am Pilates	11 6pm Mapua Dance Fitness	12 8.30am Aerobics 9.30am Pilates	13	14
MAPUA ART GROUP EXHIBITION						
15 9.30am Low Impact Dance 6pm Mapua Dance Fitness	16 9am Sioux Line Dance 6pm Aerobics 7pm Pilates	17 8.30am Aerobics 9.30am Pilates 12.30pm Tai Chi	18 6pm Mapua Dance Fitness	19 10.30am Family Puppet Show	20 8.30am Aerobics 9.30am Pilates	21
22 9.30am Low Impact Dance 6pm Mapua Dance Fitness	23 9am Sioux Line Dance 6pm Aerobics 7pm Pilates	24 8.30am Aerobics 9.30am Pilates 12.30pm Tai Chi	25 6pm Mapua Dance Fitness	26 8.30am Aerobics 9.30am Pilates 2pm Friendship Group	27 Like us on facebook	28

BLACKCURRANT FESTIVAL

SARAU FESTIVAL

& COUNTRY MARKET

We will be showcasing the Moutere again at our 11th annual Sarau Festival on 28 January 2018!

Put the date in your calendar now, and come along to support your community and your festival!

- Guest chef – Miles Drewery
- Barker's Bake-off – get creative!
- Photographic competition – start snapping.
- Moutere Artisans
- Moutere History
- Sarau cream teas
- Huge recycled book stall
- Animals and kids area back again – loads of fun for everyone!
- Masses of stalls, activities, workshops & displays.
- Food, beer, wine & cider
- Music and entertainment
- Blackcurrants & local produce, fresh, frozen and growing
- Wear purple!

A fun day out for the whole family.

Keep up with all the exciting Festival news and competition details on www.saraufestival.co.nz or 'like us' on facebook and keep up with our changes – we can't fit it all in here!

Moutere Spin

Moutere Spin is a small country gym studio specialising in small group spin cycling/ core fitness classes.



Summer Timetable

Monday 6am, 6:30pm; Tuesday 6am;
Wedneday 6am, 6pm, 7pm; Thursday 6am: Friday 6am
Facebook @MoutereSpin; Phone 0274229949

Our ice cream man was found lying on the floor of his van covered with hundreds and thousands. Police say that he topped himself.

Tommy Cooper

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A Cake for the Occasion

By Sarah La Touche

Every good thing has its time, and this lovely rich chocolate cake is no exception. This is a favourite recipe, gluten-free as well, and I drag it out whenever I feel like baking something with a sense of occasion. It is a fabulous, festive, full-on, no-holds-barred, ballsy chocolate cake to end all chocolate cakes!

In the photo I have made it as a nest of baby cakes to give it some festive flair with Christmas on the horizon, parties and holiday fun. You don't have to do the baby cakes version though. It will be equally spiffing made in a standard spring-form tin with its tantalising ganache icing and accoutrements, like lashings of fresh berries, shards of dark bitter chocolate, or pillowy mountains of whipped cream and candied or edible petals.



You can also double the recipe to make a stand-out double-layer cake. Make sure you double the ganache recipe too, and fill the centre with something divine like sweet Labneh cream, black cherry jam or some oozy chantilly cream. I can't be blamed for the calories, though. Bon appétit everyone and happy holidays!

Festive Chocolate Cake

Serves 8 -10 (makes 14 small cakes)

For The Cake

185g bitter dark chocolate (minimum 70% dark coco), roughly broken up
185g unsalted butter, soft
165g muscovado or coconut palm sugar
6 #7 eggs, separated
185g almond meal
Pinch of salt

Grease and line a 25cm spring-form cake tin with baking parchment. Put to one side. Pre-heat the oven to 190C.

Melt the chocolate in a saucepan over a bain-marie, and then cool slightly. Cream the unsalted butter to soft peaks, then add the sugar, beating until the mixture is light and fluffy. Add the egg yolks to the mixture one at a time, mixing each one thoroughly into the mix before adding the next one. This is easier to obtain if you have a cake mixer. Next beat in the cooled chocolate, and gradually add the almond meal.

In another bowl or copper, add a pinch of salt to the egg whites and beat until they form soft peaks. You should be able to turn the bowl upside down without the egg whites falling out.

Using a large slotted spoon, fold a spoonful of the whites into the chocolate mixture, then a third of the egg whites, folding gently, and finally the rest of the egg whites. Incorporate thoroughly. Spoon the mixture into the prepared baking tin and bake for 20 minutes at 190C, then drop the temperature to 180C, and bake for a further 40 – 45 minutes until the cake is cooked. A skewer should come out clean, and the centre moist and bouncy when you press with the tip of your finger.

Remove from the oven and place on a wire rack covered with a damp tea towel to cool. When completely cool remove from the tin and peel away the baking paper.

For the Icing

125ml cream
250g dark chocolate (minimum 70% dark coco), chopped roughly
Fresh berries, cream, toasted almond flakes, rose petals, thin chocolate shards, to decorate

To Ice the Cake

Scald the cream. Remove from the heat and add the chopped chocolate, stirring with a wire whisk until the chocolate has completely melted, and the Ganache is smooth and glossy. If the cream is too hot the chocolate will seize and you will end up with a granular mixture.

Stand the saucepan in cold water to help the icing cool down. When it has reached room temperature, pour over the top of the cake, and spread across the top and down the sides evenly with a spatula. Decorate to your heart's desire.

Sarah La Touche is a qualified Clinical Nutritionist. A registered member of the New Zealand Clinical Nutritionists Association, she also runs Plum Tree Cook School, Plum Tree House B&B and self-catering accommodation in Mapua, and walking & gastronomic hosted holidays in France and Spain. She is available by phoning 027 315 1165. sarah@livingnutrition.co.nz or www.holidaystaymapua.nz.

Enjoy your Healthiest Summer

Good health is truly a blessing and one that we often take for granted. All too often when things are going well we don't even think about our health. If you, your family and friends are healthy, consider it a real blessing! The opportunity to gather and enjoy each other's company without the worry or burden of suffering loved ones contributes greatly to a healthier holiday season.

Take Your Health to a New Level

If you and your loved ones fall into this category, consider taking your health to new levels. When faced with choices between healthy foods and unhealthy foods, choose the healthy ones. Make exercise your first priority by exercising first thing in the morning so that you do not get swept away by holiday activities and miss out on your workout. Schedule your chiropractic adjustments in advance so your nervous system and spine stays healthy and your body is more resistant to stress.

When you mak plans to gather with family and friends, do not just make appointments to gather around food and drink. Gather around going for walks in the park or hikes in the mountains or on the trails. Gather around fresh air and sunshine. If the sun is not out or the weather is bad in your area, take a fitness class together. If you have young children, this will help them to build healthy habits and values that can last a lifetime. Encourage houseguests to pack clothing and shoes for these kinds of activities.

Share Healthy Recipes and Gifts

When planning your holiday meals, experiment with healthier recipes. Look for dishes that call for fresh ingredients. Each year you can experiment with new recipes. Before you know it, your holiday meals will become both delicious and healthy while helping you get off the weight loss-weight gain rollercoaster ride that has been a plague for so many people. You will leave your holiday table guilt-free and empowered.

Healthy gift-giving can change a life. Many people are turning to healthy gift-giving as a way to say, I love you, I care about you, your health is important to me. Your willingness to invest in the well being of those that you love can go a long way to inspiring them to choose to invest in it. This action on your part can even act as an intervention to someone who is really in trouble and in denial about his or her health.



Healthy gifts can include a gym membership, exercise shoes, a heart monitor, a chiropractic examination. While so many gifts are forgotten within 30 days, healthy gifts can be life-changing and may be remembered for a lifetime.

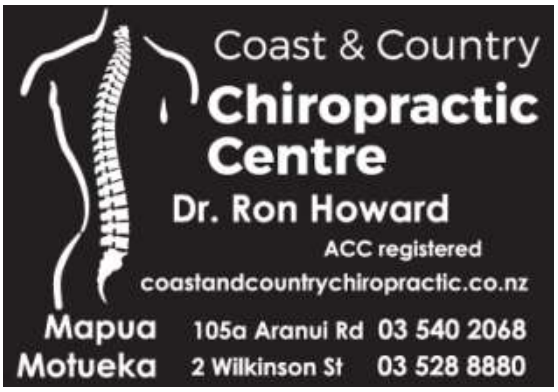
Embrace a Healing Path

If you or any of your friends or family members are experiencing pain or ill health of any kind this holiday season, this is all the more reason to make healthy choices a priority. By following these guidelines and optimizing normal movement and spinal function with chiropractic care, this holiday season can become an opportunity to embrace a healing path and a healthier New Year.

Everyone deserves to be healthy and express their full potential from the time they are born through their last breath of life. This includes you and your loved ones. We at Coast & Country Chiropractic Centre hope that you enjoy the healthiest, happiest holiday season ever in this very special part of the world—Mapua.

Dr Ron Howard





Tasman Bible Church

Getting God for Christmas

Is Christmas only for kids? It certainly is the case that they have an uncanny knack of getting to the root of an issue with remarkable speed and insight.

Like the young girl who heard the Christmas narrative and concluded that we finally had God 'with skin on'! Or, the young boy who having listened carefully to a sermon about God the Holy Spirit as likened in the Bible to the wind or breath that gives life – he concluded that he wanted God to be made 'un-invisible'!

Kids do have a natural (God-given) inclination to believe and that is assisted by a very natural (God designed) state of dependence. I am aware that others would want to argue otherwise and such a discussion would be incorporated in a nature/nurture type debate either way. My conviction is there is a positive inclination to believe in God from the 'get-go' alongside a tendency to also be what theologians have called 'fallen', also from the get-go.

Whatever your belief, kids are remarkably astute at times, not yet having learned to take on baggage that is dumped on them or picked it up along the way.

That is why the statements and questions about God and their desire for God to have 'skin on' or be 'un-invisble' are on the money when considering the central point of Christmas. The oft-quoted and under-pondered phrase from the Bible, '…and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld His glory, the glory of the One and only Son who came from the Father, full of grace and truth," is so rich and pertinent at Christmas-tide.

The idea of combining 'spirit' and 'matter' was offensive and impossible to Greco-Roman culture. To Jewish, the notion that God had a 'Son' (in the fullest sense of that word) was both incomprehensible and blasphemous. Yet, Christmas is all about the event of the Incarnation in Jesus Christ and for the purpose of making God known in a way we would 'get' most comprehensibly. It is God truly and permanently taking in Humanity in order to redeem Humanity.

The kids have actually got what they wanted in Jesus Christ – more than they bargained for actually. Do we 'get' God in this way? What was it you wanted for Christmas again? Are you prepared to consciously and deliberately receive what (better whom) you have been given?

Richard Drury

For more information on Tasman Bible Church go to www.tasmanbiblechurch.org.nz

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Playcentre: Helping Raise Our Children

Playcentre is different from your standard playgroup. You're there to play WITH your children. It's easy at home to find all the chores that need to be done. At Playcentre though, you spend 2.5 hours focused on whatever your kids are interested in that moment – painting, sandpits, play dough, dress-ups, climbing, and carpentry – it's all available to them. The children really respond to that focused attention and the possibility of choosing whatever they want. As a bonus, the mess is contained to Playcentre!

There is a paid 'supervisor' (teacher) on session that always has fantastic activities lined up – 'swing painting' (where the children lie on the swing and paint on paper underneath them); rockets made from film canisters, vinegar and baking soda; baking scones with each child mixing their own scone.

There are generally half a dozen families at each session. The kids quickly get to know the other children, and the parents likewise. We also have dads and grandparents coming along.

Mapua Playcentre has been a prominent place for families in the Mapua community for over 60 years. We have a qualified supervisor on each session and we love having visitors so please feel welcome to drop in at any time and find out what Kiwi families have been embracing for generations.

We offer a term of free sessions for first-time families and all children under two are free. Session times are Mondays and Fridays 9:30am – 12 noon during school terms. You can find us at 84 Aranui Road (behind the tennis courts by the scout den). Alternatively, please contact us with any questions you have either by phone: Kathryn on 021 253 4264, email: mapuaplaycentre@gmail.com or find us on Facebook.



Mapua Bowling Club

The Write Bias

On 2 November Club President Dave England welcomed a keen group of Mapua Bowling Club members to the start of the new season. The season Opening Day had been delayed a month due to green renovations. The members were delighted to have the green back in action.

The season will be busy from the start. Roll-ups are held at the club every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons beginning at 1.15pm.

The club has entered two Mapua teams in the President's Cup, a Nelson Centre tournament series held on Saturday mornings. The club also has a team in both the men's and ladies' Centre 5 Interclub Nelson-wide competition. In addition, Mapua Bowling Club has fielded teams in a number of tournaments at other clubs. Mapua's first open tournament of the season will be the Kath O'Reilly Memorial 2-4-2 which will be held on Monday, 11 December.

Club championships will also begin in December. It will be a very busy month for Mapua bowlers!

Have you been looking for an evening activity to help unwind after work? Or maybe you are someone who prefers bowling in the cool of the evening. In either case Leisure Bowls might just be what you are looking for.

Leisure Bowls was previously known as League Bowls. These sessions are open to new and existing bowlers with both friendly and competitive play. There is no need to pre-book; just turn up on a Monday evening and give it a go. Play starts at 6pm. Flat-soled shoes are essential to protect the green, but there are plenty of sets of bowls to borrow at the club and the bar is always open. Cost for the whole season is only $42.50 or you can pay $5 weekly. Why not give it a try?

To close for the year, we wish you bowlers out there a wonderful and safe holiday season.

For information about bowling, coaching or booking the clubhouse and facilities please call the president, Dave England, on 03 540-2934.

Barbara Brown



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We welcome our new stylist, Chelsea Glover
Chelsea specialises in ladies' fashion cuts, colour - Ombré and Balayage - and special occasion hair ups. She was winner of Bridal Stylist of The Year 2016, and is very passionate about her work.
To book with Chelsea online visit www.hairlounge.nz

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PANZ

Well, it is officially okay to talk about Christmas now. Our group is now on a bit of a break over the holiday season to take time with family and friends. But wait ... we will be keeping up our creativity by doing our Christmas Challenge. What is that you say?

We select two pictures from a whole bunch that we have submitted and we work very hard to find the perfect ones to paint over the next two months. How simple is that? Well, not really, the object is to take the picture and transform it into something that doesn't actually look like the picture but includes some element of the picture.

This is really taking us out of our comfort zone and making us use our creative minds and you would be amazed at some of the ideas our members come up with. I was really challenged and was particularly impressed with the results the first time I was involved in this fun activity.All will be revealed when we return to our Tuesday morning group at the Mapua Community Hall on 13 February next year..



We will hold our annual exhibition in February so please reserve the date on your calendars. Our opening night will be on Friday, 23 February and the exhibition will run until Sunday, 25 February 2018. As always, we will have a wide variety of outstanding pastel paintings on display and all will be available for purchase. The exhibition will be held in the Mapua Hall. Watch for details as we get closer to the date.

Until next year, on behalf of all of the members of the Pastel Artists of New Zealand, Nelson Region we would like to wish you all a happy, safe, fun-filled and joyous Christmas and New Year as you celebrate the holidays with your family and friends.

For additional information please contact our Area Rep, Glenys Forbes at 03 540-3388 or by email gmforbes@ts.co.nz. You can visit our FACEBOOK page: PANZ Pastel Artists of New Zealand to see what some of our pastel artists are creating.

Gloria Anderson

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Christmas Pudding Removal Sessions in the Mapua Hall



5 weeks pay-as-you-go classes start Tues 26 Dec, end Fri 26 Jan.
All classes 55-ish minutes.

Ten-trip ticket for any class; ... $80.00 ($8.00 /session)
Five-trip ticket for any class; ... $42.50 ($8.50 /session)
Casual rate (pay per class); $10.00
Casual double-header discount (two on the same day); ..... $17.00 ($8.50 each)

Tickets expire on Jan 26th. (no transfer to Term 1 sorry.) Tickets are transferable between family members but not outside family.

Note early morning start. Get in, get it over with then get on with the holiday. ☺

Tuesdays	2.30 – 3.15pm	Sit and Be Fit (gold coin)
Tuesdays	6pm – 6.55pm	High Intensity Interval (Cardio/Strength)
Tuesdays	7.05pm – 7.55pm	Pilates
Wednesday	8.30am – 9.25am	Aerobics (old-fashioned, but quite fast)
Wednesday	9.30am – 10.20am	Pilates
Fridays	8.30am – 9.25am	High Intensity Interval (Cardio/Strength)
Fridays	9.30am – 10.20am	Pilates
Saturdays	*8.30am – 9.25am*	*Strength session*
Saturdays	*9.30am – 10.20am*	*Pilates*

There will be two Saturdays Jan 6, and Jan 13.

Term 1 2018 will commence after Anniversary /Waitangi day holidays, Feb 13. NOTE: NO CLASS Tues 2 Jan and Fri 19 Jan because of prior Hall bookings.

Call Lynda 0272221491 for more details. Shoes needed for all sessions except Pilates. Bring a towel for the Pilates mat. All classes suitable for all ages/levels of fitness (choose your weights etc.)

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Fire Brigade

Sep17- Nov 17 call-outs

Oct 16: Alarm activated Toru Street. Removed battery,
Oct 28: Fire at Kina. Sparks from a small fire got in to a tree and dropped into some vegetables/rubbish below. Put fire out with help of Motueka Rural.
Nov 8: Sea flooded Broadsea Avenue. Called to McKee Domain to assist camper. Back to Broadsea Avenue to pump out basement at 9am.
Nov 11: Alarm activation at Tasman Bay Christian School. Defective unit.
Nov 13: Kitchen (oil) fire, Aranui Road. Out on arrival, minor damage inside
Calls this year: 71.

Safety Tip – Kitchen oil fires. When heating/cooking with oil watch it all the time. The flash point of cooking oil is about 330C. (oil will burst into flame). The oil will start to smoke well before that, which means the oil is getting very hot.

If the oil catches alight never throw water on it as it will exploded into a fire ball and damage you and your house.

If you have an oil fire, never try to move the pot/frying pan. If you can turn the heat off. If possible cover pot/frying pan with its lid, a chopping board, a damp towel or something flat and larger than the pot/frying pan.

A fire blanket is a very good option.

A small fire extinguisher will work to. Don't use it too close to the fire. (Most extinguishers are designed to be used from 2 - 3 metres away.)

Leave until cool. If you remove the lid before the oil cools down it will reignite

If you are unable to put out the fire immediately, dial 111 and ask for fire. If fire has fire-balled always call Fire and Emergency by dialling 111

Watch YouTube video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hu65vLJIwLQ

Visit fire and emergency NZ for more information.

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Under The Bonnet with Fred

Car of the Year 2017



After writing about some great cars this year I like to pick my Car of the Year with three cars deserving mention. Again I do tend to end up writing about sports cars and their dynamics of going fast or their slender, arousing body shapes which appeal to most men. I'm stuck with deciding between cool American or classy British, which has been an ongoing battle for status in New Zealand for years. While in India, despite it seeming unsophisticated to us, I was taken with a practical 4WD which I thought should be considered.



This American sports car has a name that won't go away for many years so Cushla and Ray's 2017 Ford Mustang convertible had all the colour and design to be different and to risk being different. Driving the car blew me away—how easy it was to drive. Acceleration was amazing with that nice growl from the exhaust which quietens on cruising, to add a nice touch. Handling was excellent although I was too cautious to really test it. Driving around the Bluff corners it handled without a flinch. The car was a fun driving experience and again had a brand name that brings back some memories of great car chase movies.



Jaguar always rings in your mind in New Zealand with thoughts of classy and fast cars and Arnie's 2004 Jaguar XKR is all of that. Very good to look at with that nice retro look of its older brother the E-type, which always fascinated me as a child.

Thank you again Arnie for letting me drive your expensive Jag which had acceleration beyond belief uphill on the by-pass road where I had to keep checking the speedo to make sure I was not overdoing it. Handling and the computer-controlled suspension made the drive down the Bluff corners exciting. Interior is very British with the smell of leather upholstery and wood grain dash. Good driving vision, easy to drive and you felt you were driving a real sports car.

Travel is great as it broadens your experience about motoring. In India I came across the Mahindra Scorpion and despite not quite to being up to New Zealand expectations of a luxury 4WD it was good enough for me. The paint was clear-coated and there was plenty of chrome on bumpers and trim to catch the eye. Some had two-tone paint which is coming back in vogue again. Automatic or manual and some even had leather upholstery. All the Indian owners I spoke to were very proud to have the status of owning a Mahindra Scorpion. A nice practical vehicle, good to look at and I thought it was all right.

In this car I could imagine myself driving down the streets of San Francisco as in the Steve McQeen movie *Bullet* with all that buzz, excitement and danger. The Car of the Year is Cushla and Ray's Ford Mustang for one simple reason—it was fun!

Fred Cassin



'You know, somebody actually complimented me on my driving today. They left a little note on the windscreen. It said, 'Parking Fine.' So that was nice.'

Tommy Cooper

Wai Festival Highlights Value of Water

By Mia Dryden, a Year 5 student

Term 3 and the first five weeks of Term 4 were used to plan and create things for the Wai (Water) Festival held on 17 November at the Mapua Wharf amphitheatre.

As part of our Kaitiakitanga studies, Room Ngaio focused on water. They discovered that there wasn't much drinkable water in the world and, because the population is increasing very quickly, it won't be long until there isn't enough to go around. This got them thinking—does everyone know that there is not a lot of drinkable water? People need to know how precious water is, how little there is and how we need to take care of it. We need to appreciate how lucky we are to have plenty of water daily.

Ngaio got Rimu and Maire students together and taught them about Earth's water. Everyone then decided to get together and work on teaching the rest of the school, parents and people in the community how precious water is. It took a long time to get everything ready but finally all activities were set to go.

The Wai Festival—the day that the whole Senior Learning Team had been working and waiting for—arrived. It was a beautiful day to be down at the wharf sharing our learning and celebrating that we are lucky to live in a place where water is available at the turn of a tap.

The festival opened with Jaeli, Cordelle and Asha performing the two Kapa Haka waiata (songs) they had spent a lot of time practicing, *Toia Mai* and *Mapua E*. Most of the Senior Learning Team students joined with them so that the waiata was louder and stronger. Robbie then came forward and invited Tim King, the Deputy Mayor, and the other guests to follow him to the Wai Festival performance and display area. Everyone walked up the path and through the archway that William and Oliver had made. It looked great with the bunting that Esther Cameron had helped students to make. The taniwha the students had drawn after being inspired by the carvings at the Riuwaka Resurgence looked great on the arch too.

Once everyone was seated they were amazed by the children's performance of the Tangaroa dance and movement sequence, choreographed by Honor Stephenson and Jo Randall. It was based on the story of Tangaroa (God of the Sea). It involved rakau (Maori dancing sticks), movement, haka and actions based around the ocean. The female actors wore shiny blue and silver capes, as did Tangaroa. Ruma Maire created spectacular masks for the actors to wear. These were inspired by the shapes of the sea and things in it.

After the performance, Robbie came forward and gave a speech about water and why we need to take care of it. After this, people were able to walk around the information kiosks and find out what the students had learnt and created. People loved being able to use the painted rocks to create poems, writing messages and pledges, carrying buckets of water on their heads and discussing the different topics with the students.



Bryn Thurlow with his group's water cycle sculpture

At the end of the day all the students felt happy and proud of the effort they had put in, their final products and the people's comments about what they had learnt.

Hopefully we have made a difference to the way people think about water and how they use it so that there is plenty to go around in the future.



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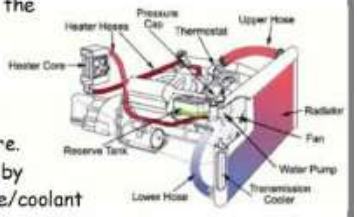
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Cooling System

Function & Maintenance

An engine's lifespan is very dependent on a car's cooling system. When a car overheats the resulting damage is often severe enough to require an engine overhaul. It is important to make sure the cooling system is always in good working order. Taking a few preventative measures may significantly increase the life of an engine.

The main function of the cooling system is to carry heat away from the engine to maintain the desired operating temperature. This is accomplished by circulating antifreeze/coolant throughout the engine. The heat generated is transferred to the antifreeze/coolant and carried to the radiator to be cooled.



Modern vehicles operate in a wide variety of atmospheric temperatures, from well below freezing to well over 37°C. The fluid used to cool the engine must have a very low freezing point, a high boiling point, and it must be able to transfer heat.

Because water holds heat, freezes and develops rust readily, it is very important an adequate amount of antifreeze is within the cooling system to reduce the possibility of the engine overheating or freezing. Antifreeze also contains additives to prevent rust and corrosion.

The temperature of the coolant can sometimes reach 121-135°C, even with antifreeze added these temperatures would boil coolant. To prevent this the cooling system is pressurised to around 14-15psi, effectively raising the boiling point by approximately 8.3°C.

Preventative maintenance includes regularly checking:

1. Radiator condition
2. Coolant/antifreeze condition
3. Coolant leaks
4. Coolant hoses condition
5. Water pump drive belt condition
6. Cooling fan operation
7. Pressure cap condition
8. Thermostat operation
9. Coolant reservoir level



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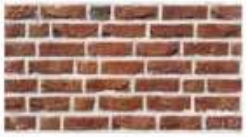
It's fair to say that winter now feels like a distant memory! I hope you are all enjoying getting out and about in our beautiful region and are enjoying all the summer has to offer!



Make sure that you head on down to the Rimu bar on the 14th of December from 5-7pm for our Christmas celebrations! The time to eat, drink and be Merry is upon us!

Merry Christmas everyone,
Enjoy your holidays and stay safe.

Mel Stringer—Administrator MDBA



The Masonry Company

Anyone who has lived in Mapua for a while will know that Guy Mansfield of The Masonry Company has been building in brick and stone in the area for quite some time.

Specialising in the traditional trades of brick and block laying, Guy is also skilled in stone work and solid plaster. From complete masonry construction for homes and structures to feature pieces and structural landscaping, The Masonry Company has been servicing this area with quality masonry services since 2001.

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Kids Collective—Mapua

Choosing the best Early Childhood Service for your child and family is one of the most important decisions that you will make as a parent.

It is essential that you ensure you are making the very best choice for your child.

At Kids Collective we believe children develop and learn best when they and their families are happy to be here and feel a sense of belonging.

We are licensed by the Ministry of Education and provide quality childcare and education for children.

Our Centres' uniqueness is reflected in the home-like environments we provide.

We ensure children are treated as individuals with individual needs. All children are listened to and treated with care, respect and fairness in partnership with the ideals and values of families and whanau.

At Kids Collective we aim to promote the learning and development of all children by providing a planned program of play based learning experiences.

We have a strong focus on promoting the development of early literacy and numeracy skills and knowledge.

A range of equipment and resources are provided both indoors and outdoors and children are encouraged to make choices about where, when and with whom they play.

Children are invited to participate in activities and to share their ideas, passions and interests with others.

We look forward to meeting you soon.
The Kids Collective Team

86 Aranui Road, Mapua
03 540 3330
kcmapua@xtra.co.nz



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Noticeboard

Art Walk (thro Motueka Arts Council) 2 Dec, 10am - 4pm Trewavas Street, Motueka. Approx 24 Artists work displayed, and for sale... Rain or Shine.

Room for rent at Ora Centre, 69 Aranui Road, Mapua. Please contact 021 222 1423

Motueka Lioness **Book-a-rama** between Xmas &New Year at Huia Rugby Club Rooms, Motueka. Looking for donations of good quality books, 2017 magazines, puzzles and DVDs. Contact Lynn 03 528-9217 or Joan 03 528-7392 for collection or delivery. All proceeds returned to local Community.

doTERRA Essential Oil Talk & Sharing at Mapua Community Hall. An open and fun forum for learning effective health tips with potent remedies for an array of ailments! FREE Giveaways. Thurs 1 Feb 6pm - 8pm. Enquiries Vanessa: 027 6244 756

Fair Exchange: A small group meets at Appleshed restaurant 9am 2nd & 4th Wednesdays to exchange home grown and home-made produce & goods. We welcome everyone! It's the sharing that counts. Info: Judith Holmes 021 072 8924 / 544-0890.

Ruby Coast Newcomers Social Group: meet new people, make new friends. Coffee 10am last Fridays at Tasman Store & occasional social events. Just turn up. Vivien/ Richard 526-6707, vpeters @xtra.co.nz

Motueka SeniorNet. Technology for mature adults. Monthly Members' meetings with guest speakers. Help sessions twice monthly. Courses & workshops change each term. Special interest groups meet regularly. De-mystify technology in a fun and friendly forum. Clubrooms 42 Pah St Motueka. More info: Seniornet motueka.org.nz, Neighbourly or call Annie 540-3301.

Mapua Art Group meets Bill Marris Room Mapua Hall Thursday mornings, 9-noon. Like-minded artists get together to paint, draw, help each other in a social environment. All levels & media welcome. $5 /session includes morning tea. Tables, chairs & easels provided. Cushla Moorhead 03 528-6548.

Java Hut Knit Group: 10am Tuesdays at Java Hut. Bring your knitting or crochet. Debbi 027 327 4055

Yuan Gong: Improve your health and life by daily Yuan Gong practise. Info: Marianne 0220 828 559

Mapua Friendship Club meets twice a month, 3rd Thursdays & last Fridays at Mapua Hall for indoor bowls and bring-a-plate afternoon tea. New members enthusiastically welcomed, no prior bowling experience needed - non-competitive, lots of laughs. $3 door fee, 20¢ raffle. Contact: Val 540-3685.

MDCA: Mapua & Districts Community Association meets Feb-Dec, second Monday of each month, 7pm Mapua Hall; contact: info@ourmapua.org

Taoist Tai Chi Beginning class Tuesdays 1- 2.30pm. Continuing class Wednesdays 12.30 - 2.30pm. All welcome. Enquiries 545-8375

Mapua Boat Club nights Thursdays 5.30-7pm at the Club rooms, Mapua Wharf. Visitors and guests welcome. For more info: mapuabcsecretary@gmail.com

Mapua Social Cycling Group: "Wheels 2 Meals". Approx 30 km ride, coffee break halfway, no racing! Depart Mapua Wharf each fine Thursday @ 9:30 am. Just turn up with your bike, HiVis top & coffee money, or email wheels2meals @gmail.com

Mapua Fellowship Group: (formerly Probus Club). Monthly meetings, Mapua Hall, first Fridays 1.30pm. A social group with interesting speakers and a monthly social lunch at venues around Nelson Tasman. Contact: Club Pres: John Sharman, 540-3642.

Ruby Coast Walking Group meets 9.30am Wednesdays outside Tasman Store. Walk ~1½ hrs, then coffee & muffin back at the Store. All welcome. Just turn up. Fiona 526-6840, fiona.oliver @xtra.co.nz

Kidz 'n' Koffee playgroup: Wednesdays 10-noon, Hills Community Church, Aranui Rd (during term time). All parents & carers welcome, we cater for 0-6 yrs. $2 don/ family. Make some new friends. Info: Esther 540-2177.

Spinners, Knitters, Weavers – Creative Fibre Group, Mapua Hall, 2nd Tuesdays 10am. All welcome.

Mapua Community Youth club. Year 9 -13 youth. 6.30-8.30 most Fridays at Mapua Hall. Contact: Andy Price 540 3316, Marv Edwards 027 312 6435. A community-based youth project for Mapua and district, funded and co-ordinated by Hills Community Church.

Daytime Book Group: Meets first Tuesdays 9.45am. New members welcome. Anne 540-3934

Toy Library: extensive selection of toys, puzzles & videos for children 0-5yrs. Mapua Hall every 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 10-11.30am & 6.30-7.30pm. Phone Anja, 544-8733, about membership or casual hire.

Coastal Garden Group meets 1pm first Thursdays, Tasman Bible Hall (opp. Jesters). Men and women most welcome to share their love of gardening. Guest Speakers, Workshops, Garden Visits. Ph 03 528 5405

Sing Your Lungs Out! (SYLO) Free community singing group for anyone with respiratory issues, followed by morning tea. Singing improves your lung health! 10am every Monday, Tokomaru Rooms, Te Awhina Marae, Pah Street, Motueka. Pip 0274 282 693

Mapua Craft Group meet Fridays 10-noon, supper room, Hills Community Church. Simple craft work including: paper craft & card making, sewing, knitting, small upcycling projects. Occasional guest speakers, demos & outings. A social, a cuppa, some easy craft along the way. $2 for room rent, koha for materials. Just come along.

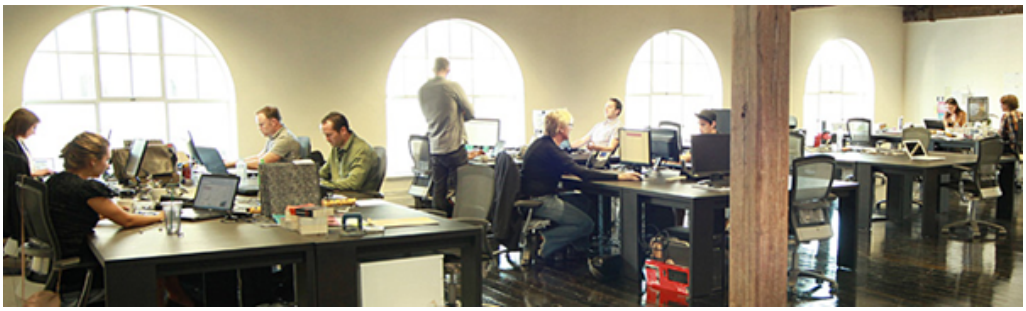
Women's Recreation Group - meets outside Mapua Mall Thursdays. Leaves 9.15am for 1½hr walk. Route varies. Join us whenever you can. Some members may cycle. Info Lynley 540-2292.

Ruby Coast Run Club meets 9am Mondays at Mapua School parking lot. Info: Debbi 027 327 4055.

Technical problems solved! - Don't know how to use your electronic devices? Can't set up something new you've bought? Need computer tuition? Local help is at hand! Average job price just $35. Web design and mobile app creation also available. Call Sam, 03 544-0737, sam@sambennett.co.nz.

Tasman Golf Club welcome new golfers to Kina Cliffs for local golf experience at realistic cost, the best in Nelson. Coaching available. Come join us, we can help you learn the game! Info: Gary 540 -885.

Mapua Business Centre and Shared Working Space



Background

There are a lot of great examples of shared work spaces around New Zealand and the world, we even have an excellent one in the heart of Nelson called the Bridge Street Collective. The aim is not to reinvent the world with this concept but to pick and borrow the ideas of the existing well utilised spaces and create one in the heart of Mapua District.

In the catchment area of Mapua, Tasman, Ruby Bay and the Moutere there are so many people working out of their homes and not getting that chance to collaborate with other people let alone other likeminded business people or start-ups businesses.

The different industries and skills are amazing here are few from initial research and word of mouth canvasing

- International Lawyer who's office is based in London
- Photo and media company
- Architect with clients all over New Zealand
- Account and business adviser who's whole client base is in Auckland
- World renowned Economics professor who teaches students over the net
- App developer who has a worldwide interior decorating app
- Agricultural services professional who has developed sheep scanning equipment

On top of these many home based businesses there is also the large tourism flow of both national and international visitors. Mapua is a central hub for the Great Taste cycle trail as it has great amenities such as restaurants, bars, sightseeing and a variety of accommodation for visitors to stay at. The great taste is also partnered with the Otago rail trail and we all know what businesses have popped up out of the wood work on the back of that. It is estimated at once at its peak 30,000 people will travel through Mapua as part of the great taste trail, we have all ready achieved half that last year alone.

These visitor will have the option of renting a desk or a meeting room to keep connected to their business while on the trail, they may even to choose to stay in Mapua for a couple of days because of this facility.

The Mapua Business Centre will become a base for Innovation and collaborative thinking with out the need to travel 30 minutes to Nelson to get the same environment.

Facilities

- The Business Centre will be made up of the following facilities
- Drop in Desk Space – available short term
- Dedicated Office Space for up to 4 people – medium to Long term renting but will have the privacy of any private office.
- Meeting rooms which can be booked by anyone online for meeting last up to 2 hours
- Fully functional video conferencing room which also doubles as a function room for larger groups.
- Shared commercial printing, scanning and copying function
- Shared Tea Room

The concept of shared working spaces

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hbZjdhrPzn8#action=share

This video highlights what can and is achieved with shared working spaces. Mapua and surrounding districts has so many innovative and international businesses operating from it already just imagine how these and fledging new business could growth with a collaborative working space!

What does getting this off the ground hinge on.

UFB is the key, the issue with home connections in the Mapua, Tasman, Ruby Bay and Moutere district is that homes and businesses are only connected to ADSL.

By being able to offer Fibre to businesses and visitors passing through the business centre will be come centre meeting point for innovation.

We would even have a drop in skype booth were people can talk over the net uninterrupted which will also appeal to non-business ordinated people but to the wider community.

The vision is to also offer Wifi access to the wider Wharf area so that Mapua wharf which is one of new Zealand most popular summer holiday areas becomes the first “cbd” in the Nelson Tasman and region to have this connectivity.

At the moment there is hardly any cell phone coverage on the Great Taste cycle trail so connecting Mapua to fibre and wifi it will become one of the main stop off areas for the trail and its visitors.

We have the demand for the facility, we just need the infrastructure to cater for this demand and good things will develop as is proven around the world by UFB and Collaborative working spaces.

Projected startup costs:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/18KrGIPYdM2Wu9X1IFALRf9FUUGvhoNsm1DXlnapiEh8/edit?usp=sharing

tasman district council | Te Kaunihera o te tai o Aorere

A Blueprint for Tasman's Digital Future

The Why, What and How

2021-2031

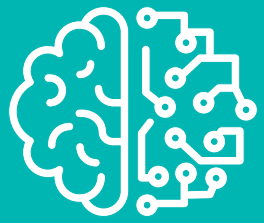


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Digital

Digital is about more than new technologies and improving IT systems. It also means doing things differently using new mindsets, skills, data and technologies to overcome barriers and better meeting New Zealand's needs.

- Strategy for a Digital Public Service

Introduction

The digital change that Tasman District Council will experience though the twenties will radically alter our technology landscape.

Here, we set out the strategic direction for applying digital in our region. This document partners with the Executive Summary of our **Digital Innovation Programme** which, sets out our strategic investment programme and roadmap for 2021–2024.

This document is a guide and will provide the context to support decision makers for Tasman District Council. We expect business cases, including those for the Digital Innovation Programme, to support this Blueprint. Additionally our success over the next decade will be measured on how well we deliver on it.

What information supports our Blueprint?

This Blueprint establishes the foundation for the development of key strategies, roadmaps and service designs for the future. We will deliver to our Blueprint with the support of the following:

- Future State Enterprise Architecture & Technology Roadmap
- Cloud Strategy
- Security Strategy & Roadmap
- Integration Strategy & Roadmap
- Data & Information Strategy & Roadmap
- Community Channels Service Design
- Core Council Applications Service Design
- Data Lake Service Design
- Information Services Operating Model Change Plan
- Council Change Plan



Why do we need a Blueprint?

A Vision For Our Digital Blueprint

Information Technology doesn't need to be difficult. In the ten years from 2021 to 2031, Tasman District Council will re-imagine the technology systems and digital services we provide. Our ratepayers, residents and the visitors to our region will be able to choose how they access our digital services and the information the Council has. Our staff will be able to work anywhere. The systems, processes and technology available will help them be more efficient and provide information and insights that support the work they do, helping them to be more effective even as they deliver more for our communities. Information Services will demonstrate excellence through a commitment to thought leadership, collaboration and by providing great service outcomes.

Throughout the next decade we will innovate and we will do things differently.

The technology and digital services we provide will change the way people think about our Council and will mean that we are efficient, relevant and meet the changing expectations of our communities.

Most importantly, we will deliver on the commitments we make. Quite simply, our vision for Information Services is **"Deliver, Differently"**.



Steve Manners - Chief Information Officer



Steve Manners
Chief Information Officer

Endorsing Our Digital Journey

Tasman is experiencing significant population growth that is placing heavy demand on our Council services. This demand is creating a higher dependence on our digital infrastructure and services.

Whilst we build for our new technology landscape we will be considering and catering for the diverse needs of all our residents.

We will be working towards addressing digital inclusion barriers to ensure access is for everybody.



Tim King - Mayor of Tasman

Our organisational vision is ‘Tasman Inspired’. Nowhere is this more embodied than the Blueprint for Tasman’s Digital Future. Technology plays a critical role in delivering value for Tasman’s people and places, and a step change is required if we are to realise that for our district.

We want to take advantage of digital solutions that give our residents more visibility of what we are doing, provide multiple ways to interact with the Council, and make it easier for businesses to create great services and products and take them to the world stage.



Janine Dowding - Chief Executive



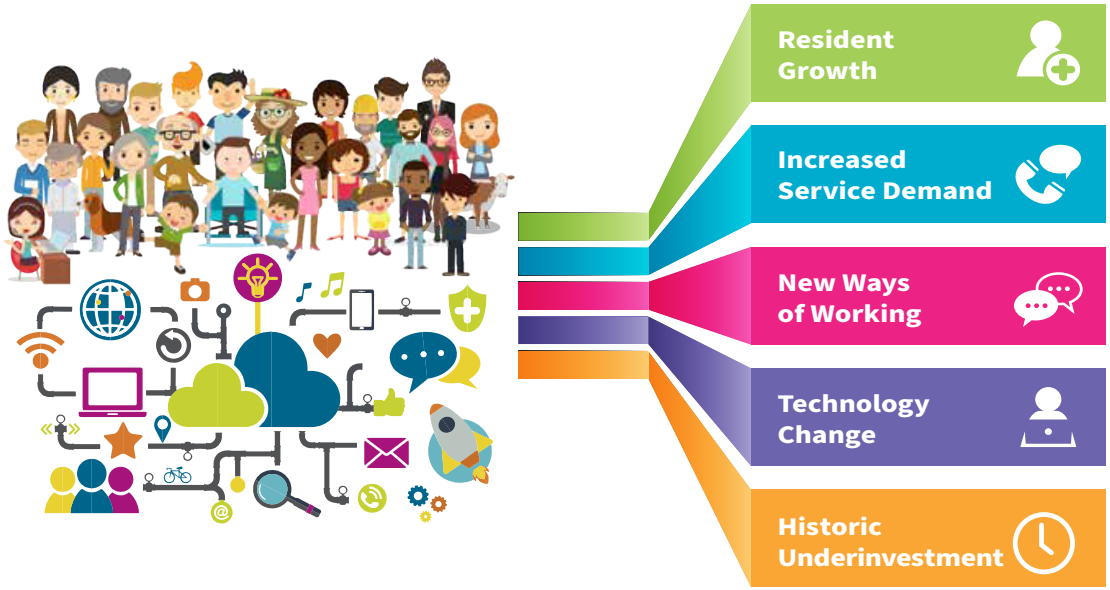
Tim King
Mayor of Tasman



Janine Dowding
Chief Executive

Why Digital Innovation?

The drivers for digital change are significant and come from residents, Council staff and elected officials. We outline some of the key drivers here.

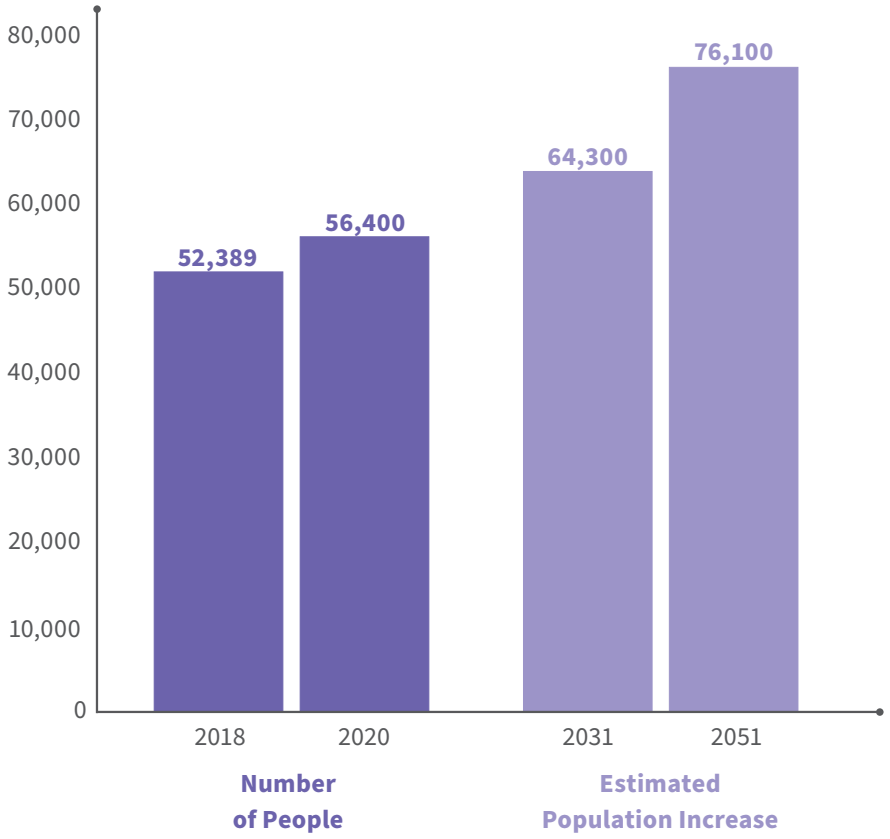


Need for Change

Since 2018 Information Services have been working on engaging the wider Council in the need for digital innovation. This has taken significant effort by a large number of people.

Successful outcomes of this work included the appointment of a Chief Information Officer to support us on our journey, the review of our technology landscape and this Blueprint.

Resident Growth



The overall population of Tasman is expected to increase by 7,700 based on a medium growth scenario the number of residents is expected to reach a total of 64,300 by 2031, and 76,100 by 2051*.

46.6
Median Age

*According to Stats NZ June 2020.



Public WiFi in the park would be cool. I could hang with friends and get my homework done.

Olivia Campbell, Student
Ruby Bay



The staff on the phone are lovely but I end up repeating myself and the advice is not always the same.

Val Clark, Retired
Wakefield



I juggle a lot everyday. I need all the Council stuff in one place to work on when it suits me.

Sophie White
Personal Trainer
Richmond



Why isn't there more Council information about what's happening in the environment right now to help us decide what we need to do together?

Brigitte Johnson, Bee Keeper
Golden Bay



We want to contribute to our region. We want all our contact with Council to be simple to access in one place.

Tom & Sue Blockhouse
Retired, Mapua



I don't want to travel miles to do things with Council. Online services are hard to use with my crap internet.

Len Wilson, Farmer
Murchison



The freedom camping info online is huge and confusing. Just show me what I can do and where.

Joesire Davis, Unemployed
Takaka (visiting)



WiFi in the local Marae and some technical training for my iwi will help the community grow and support each other.

Henare Tuati, Orchard Manager
Wakatu

Increased Service Demand - Residents

We have listened to feedback from our residents and businesses and considered the challenges they face.

We have developed resident personas (fictional residents) to help us understand the perspective of residents and business leaders so we can design solutions that better meet the community's needs.



It would be great for our systems to work more seamlessly from home and when I'm in the community. Having different places to work from around the region would be fab too!

Anna Fischer, Field Worker
Golden Bay



IT is a bit backwards here. It holds my team back from being efficient and there's no forum to look at how to make our processes and IT better. The IS team is great, but they never seem to have enough time.

Toby Brown, Policy Manager
Richmond



I like to do things as I've always done things. Learning new things is frustrating and I can't always find information I need when I'm out onsite.

Jim Howell, Building Consents Advisor
Richmond



Apparently, IT systems could help my team work more efficiently, but I don't trust them. It's hard to see where customer requests are at.

Trish Ward, Team Manager
Richmond



Why do I have to wait for IS? I've used IT tools and I know what I need to do my job wherever I'm working. Data is key to good decisions but its all over the place.

Sam Watson, Hydro Engineer
Richmond

Increased Service Demand - Staff

We have listened to feedback from our Council staff and considered the challenges they face.

We have developed Council Staff personas (fictional residents) to reflect the diverse needs of our people.

New Ways of Working

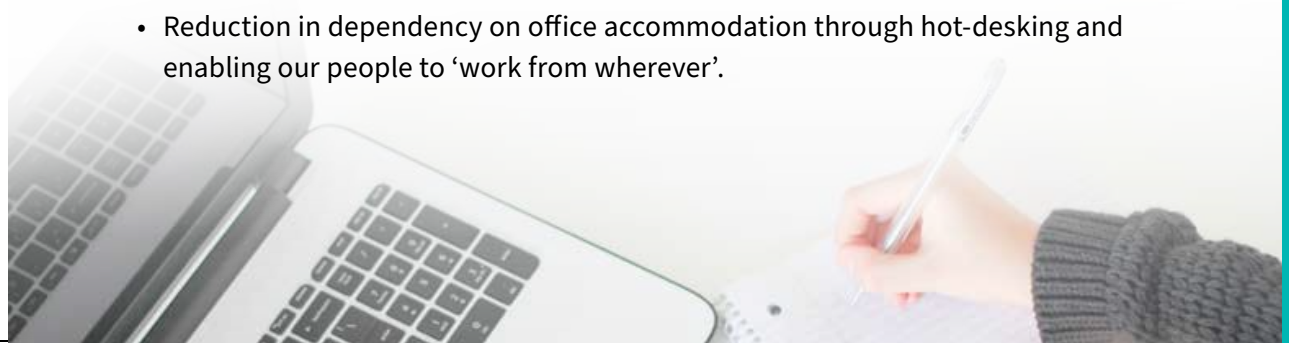
Multigenerational workforce

Our Council has a multigenerational workforce which demands a way of working that aspires to meet Council, resident and visitor needs in an environment of trust, collaboration, effectiveness and flexibility. Generation Z, our digital natives, will become a significant percentage of our staff and residents in the twenties.

Workforce Strategies

New workforce strategies are needed to deliver new ways of working for leaders and staff.

- Creating new growth mindsets to facilitate collaboration and continue to build capability with cross functional teams
- An effective, agile and mobile operating model which focuses on outcomes rather than level of activity
- More work/life balance through flexible working hours
- Using technology and data more effectively, such as ability to use own devices
- Building greater trust and collaboration across our organisation and with other public and private sector organisations
- Reduction in dependency on office accommodation through hot-desking and enabling our people to ‘work from wherever’.



Removing Barriers

New ways of working will boost flexibility and retention by removing many of the barriers and management styles of the past and bringing them in line with a modern multigenerational workforce.

New ways of working will enable our services to be re-imagined using a digital model looking at end-to-end supply chains.

Outcomes Focus

Through effective use of technology and reliable data, innovation and decision making we will be aligned to outcomes that deliver an effective and relevant experience for our communities.

Technology Change

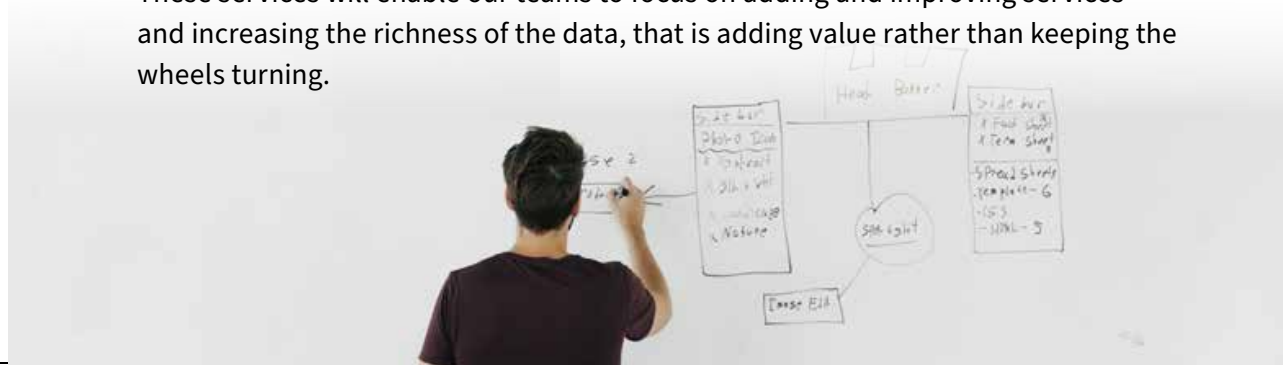
Diversity and Pace

The Tasman region is a socially diverse and at times remote environment, with the world around us changing at a pace never seen before. Consider the device in your hand and the level of access to services and information it now provides, this evolution continues. Our digital natives see ready and easy to access services and rich accurate information, 24/7 as a given. Social media platforms are changing the way society communicates, considers and discusses everything. Our Council must adapt to catch up and keep pace.

The Possibilities

The technologies to easily provide services and access to information are available and are advancing. Cloud-based services significantly reduce risk and the need for hygiene effort. Artificial Intelligence and data analytics combined are providing analysis of performance, development of novel insights, and increased visibility and understanding of future realities. High speed, high availability access to the Internet is becoming more commonplace. Technology and access improvements will provide access for our residents from even the most remote locations.

These services will enable our teams to focus on adding and improving services and increasing the richness of the data, that is adding value rather than keeping the wheels turning.



Emerging trends

- **Digital me –** technology is increasingly integrated with people to create digital representations; this includes digital twins.
- **Composite architectures –** packaged business capabilities with built in intelligence.
- **Formative artificial intelligence (AI) –** technologies that dynamically change to respond to situational variances.
- **Algorithmic trust –** trust models that ensure privacy and security of data, source of assets and identity of individuals and things.
- **Beyond silicon –** breakthrough materials that enable faster and smaller critical technologies; this includes biodegradable sensors and carbon-based transistors.

Gartner Hype Cycle for Emerging Technologies, 2020

Historic Underinvestment

Systems, Capability and Practices

The need to balance the priorities of Council has resulted in sustained underinvestment in the Council's information systems, services capability, and capacity. These investment challenges, over a significant period of time have made it difficult to progress towards adopting industry standard IT practices and approaches.

Regulatory Demands and Digital Ambitions

Due to resourcing constraints, there have been a number of unmet requirements which have resulted in a lack of delivery on the Council's digital ambitions. Information Services have been unable to fully support the Council in its response to growing regulatory demands, assist it to gain more value from its data or address the growing IT technology and digital debt.

Staff Investment

To address these gaps and achieve Council's goals, it is critical to provide dedicated investment in training and support for Information Services staff. By developing their skills, competencies and establishing best practice, Council will see significant improvements in this area.



"Investment in ICT will not only address our digital deficit, it will enable us to create positive business change having a flow on effect to the entire Council."

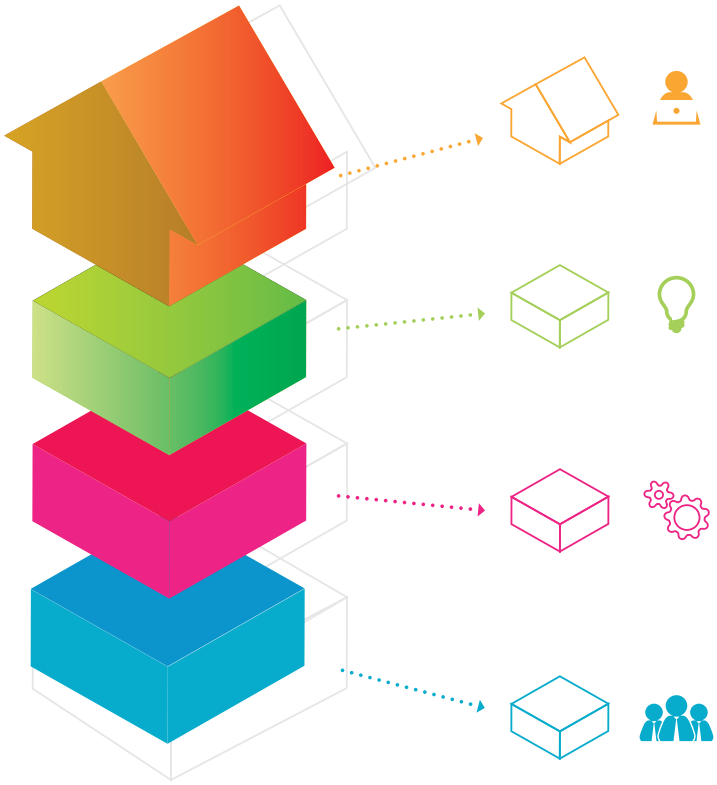
Steve Manners
Chief Information Officer



What will our Blueprint Cover?

Blueprint Scope

The scope of this Blueprint is outlined below.



Digital Catalogue
The digital services used by Residents and Council staff.

Workflow and Information
The business processes and information flow to enable delivery of Council services.

Systems & Software
The networks, computing, storage, software, cyber-security used to run Council business.

Operating Model
The practices, organisation structure, culture, roles and governance.

"Being successful means embracing a broad programme of change and innovation. The digital landscape we have today will become increasingly unrecognisable as our journey toward 2031 progresses."

Steve Manners
Chief Information Officer



Blueprint Anchors

Five key anchors have been developed to provide the foundation for our Blueprint, our approach to planning and the activity that follows. Blueprint Anchors provide critical guidance for Information Services staff and our service partners, about what approaches will be used.

Our Anchors support our **Deliver, Differently** vision, enabling the re-imagining of services and the fulfillment of our commitments.

Engage

Our residents

Our residents will use the channel of their choice to actively engage with us and share perspectives. Engagement threads will enable bidirectional engagement.

Our communities

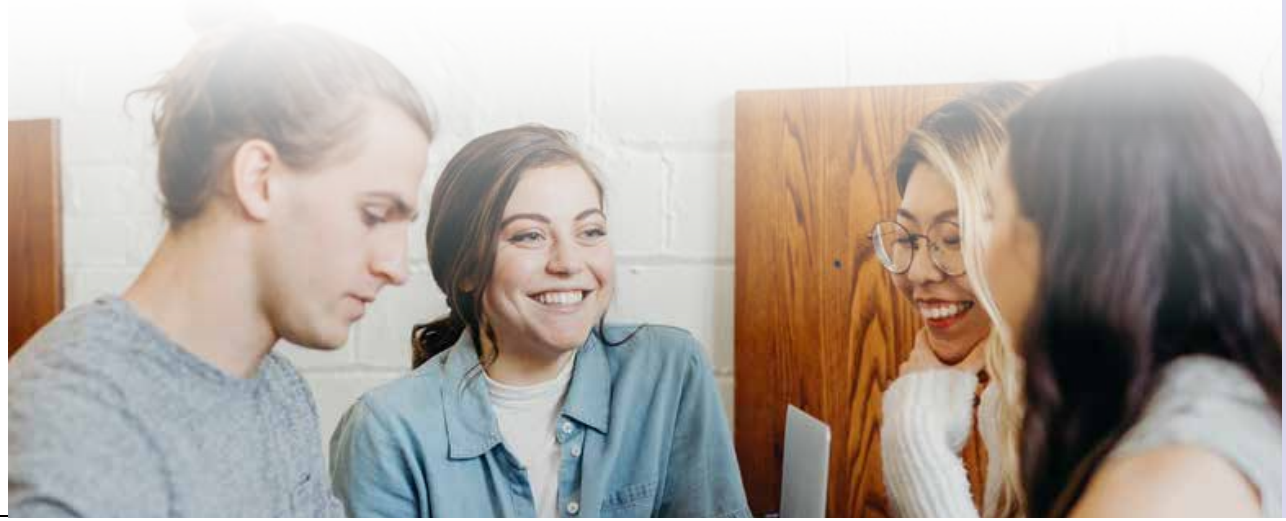
We will support digital inclusion initiatives to enable community engagement through digital channels and better dialogue with our communities and iwi.

Our staff

We will maximise engagement with our staff through clear and transparent channels.

Our partners

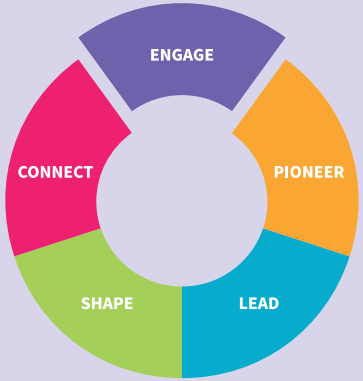
We will develop new ways of working with and engaging business partners and contractors.



engage

Verb

1. occupy or attract someone's interest or attention.
2. participate or become involved in.



Pioneer

We will pioneer new business models and ways of working to manage growth and development through collaboration with community groups, iwi, industry and other local Government.

By being inventive

We will be creative in designing solutions to problems and bring in specialists from across our region to collaborate with us. We will stimulate new thinking through the use of incubation approaches.

By being bold

We will be brave and use non-traditional approaches. We will listen to industry experts and apply metaphors from other sectors to accelerate change.

By being forward thinking

Our strategies and approaches will take on new models, frameworks and stretch the boundaries to create a new normal.

By remaining relevant

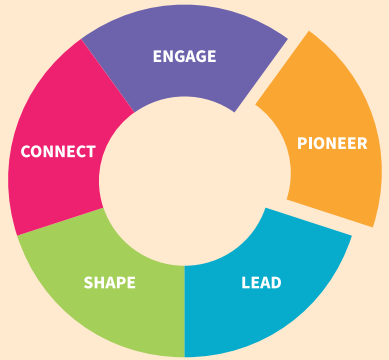
We will listen to and tap into our youth and their mindsets to ensure we remain relevant. We will welcome fresh ideas and adapt to meet the needs of digital natives in our evolving resident community.



pioneer

Verb

1. develop or be the first to use or apply (a new method, area of knowledge, or activity).



Lead

Once we have pioneered new approaches and ideas we will front foot their implementation.

With attitude and courage

We will apply Kiwi “can-do” mindset to leadership of difficult challenges and projects. Our teams will rebut attempts to stagnate innovation and forge through difficult challenges. Our leadership will champion our delivery heroes and support them through setbacks and reward their big wins.

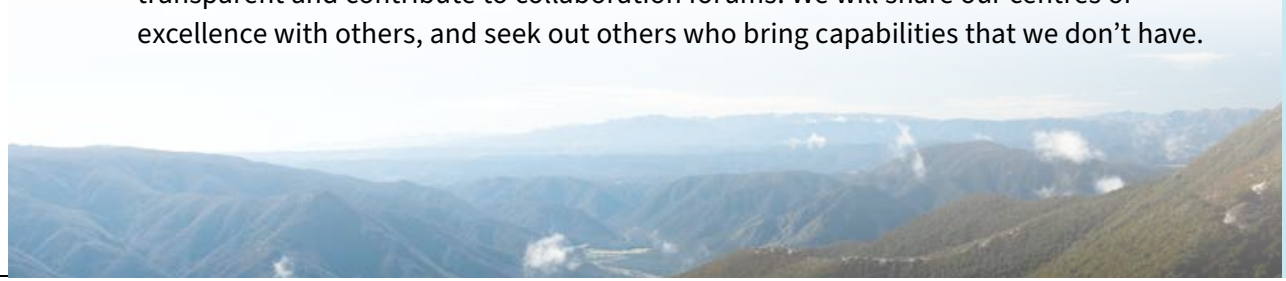
Our courage will be born out of our multi-disciplinary teams and their differences, from our community and the support of our leaders.

To be sought out for our actions

Our endeavors will be recognised by our peers in local government, central government and the technology sector. Others will seek us out to learn lessons from our mistakes and successes.

To work with others and share

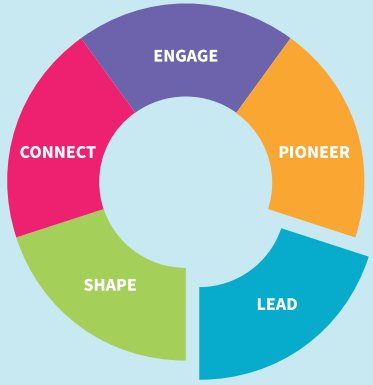
Our success will be determined by how well we collaborate with others. We will be transparent and contribute to collaboration forums. We will share our centres of excellence with others, and seek out others who bring capabilities that we don’t have.



lead

Verb

1. be a route or means of access to a particular direction.



Shape

We will shape our service models to deliver to our residents and the region's business needs.

The future of Tasman

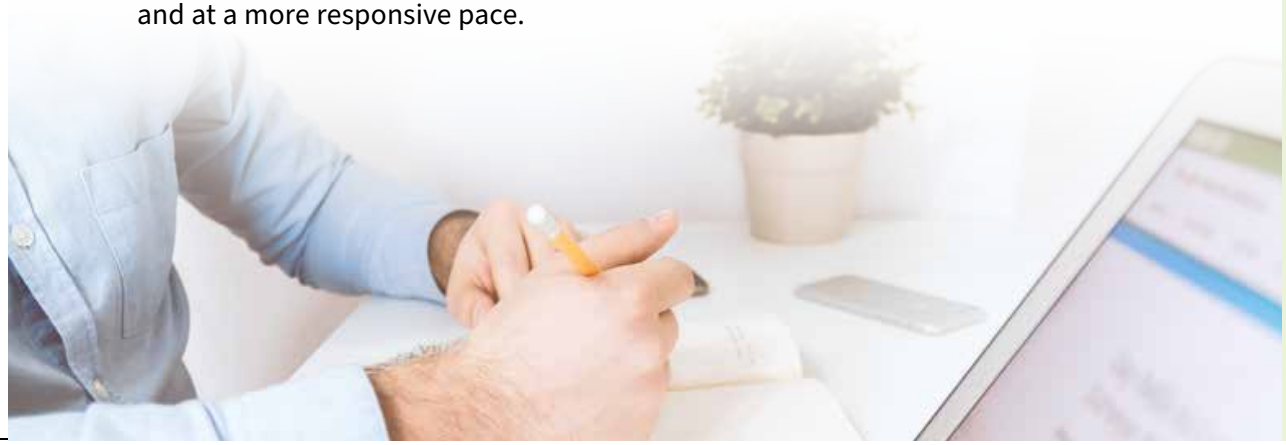
Digitisation is transforming the way people communicate, how we deliver service and our economic environment. The future of Tasman depends on how we adapt and how quickly we front foot our approach to digitisation.

Our capacity to serve

New ways of working will enable more capacity for Council to serve our customers as the region continues to grow and develop, by applying new ways of working that better meet their needs.

Our responsiveness

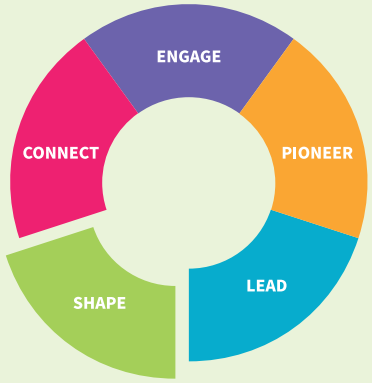
Through the use of new technologies we will be able to deliver many services 24/7 and at a more responsive pace.



shape

Verb

1. give a particular shape or form to determine the nature of, have a great influence on.



Connect

Residents, businesses and partners will easily use Council rich data to make choices and innovate.

Our systems and software

Our systems and software will enable connectivity and interoperability with our residents, Tasman businesses, Council business partners, contractors and central government.

Our data

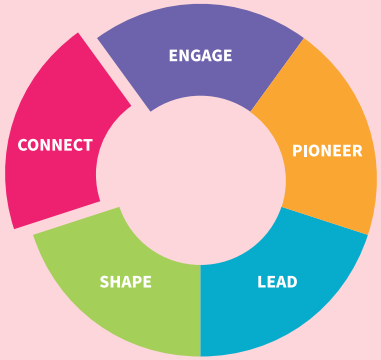
We will uplift our approach to managing and sharing data to enable analytics and re-use by community groups and businesses. We will curate our data assets and enable data connectivity through data lakes and Application Programme Interfaces (APIs).



connect

Verb

1. bring together or into contact so that a real or notional link is established.



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How will we make a Difference?

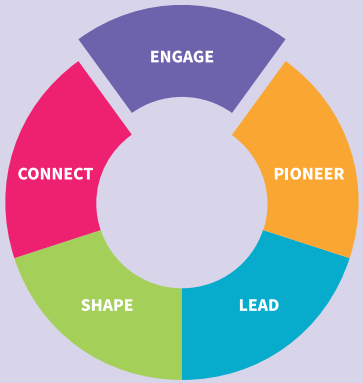
Strategic Principles

The thirteen **Strategic Principles** have been developed by Information Services to guide the digitisation of Council services and to enable community value.



Any time, any where, any device, any content

Deliver, differently by re-imagining services and meeting our commitments.



Universal Access

Our services and systems will be designed to enable universal access to any content from any location using the preferred device of the resident, business community or Council employee, at any time.

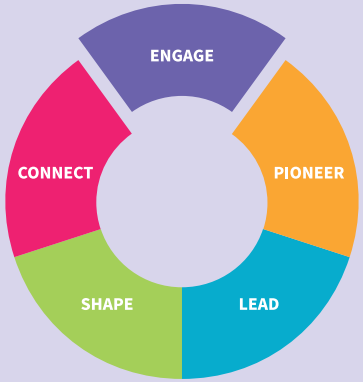
Continuous Connection

This points to an inclusive future where every Tasman resident has internet connectivity and access to a device to engage with Council services, at a time and place that suits them. It acknowledges our desire for continuous connection and device freedom – phone, PC, tablet and wearable technology e.g. smart watches.



Community Centred Design

Deliver, differently by re-imagining services and meeting our commitments.



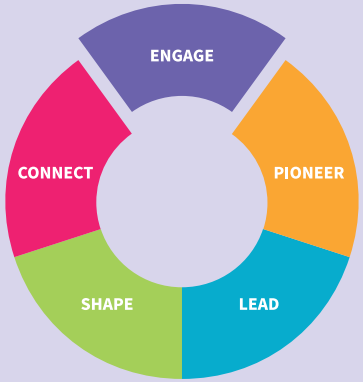
Resident and business first approach

We will reconsider Council services with the community needs front and centre. We will develop a MyTasman resident self-service capability that provides a one stop shop for all Council related services. We will utilise consultation approaches and personas to help inform our new service designs.



Digital Inclusion

Deliver, differently by re-imagining services and meeting our commitments.



Four Key Elements

We will focus on the four elements necessary for a person to be considered digitally included.

Motivation

Having an understanding of how the internet can help people to connect, learn or access opportunities and consequently have a meaningful purpose to engage with the digital world.

Access

Having access to digital devices, services, software and content that meet their needs at a cost people can afford. This is also about being able to connect to the internet where people work, live and play.

Skills

Having the digital know-how to use the internet in ways that are appropriate and beneficial. Skills like communicating, managing information, transacting, problem solving and staying safe online.

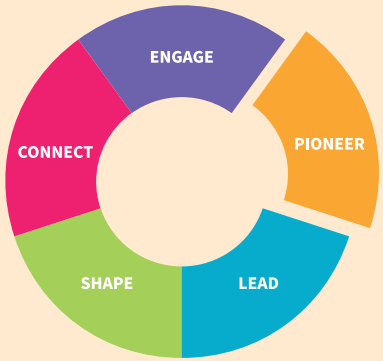
Trust

Having confidence in the internet and online services. Having the digital literacy to manage personal information and understand and avoid scams, and misleading communication.



Open Quality Data

Deliver, differently by re-imagining services and meeting our commitments.



Driving innovation

We will provide open quality data to drive innovation. This will encourage more investment in Tasman and help to build new business to make Tasman thrive – creating new jobs and a stronger economy.

Creating transparency

This strategy will make data that is currently hidden behind Council walls, available to use and share by both humans and machines. This does not include private information about residents or staff.

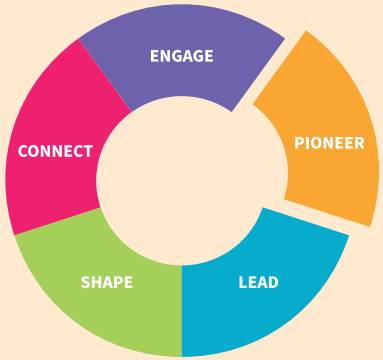
Data quality

We will significantly improve the quality of data held within Council, enabling better decisions that residents can trust and providing a license to enable re-use by businesses and individuals.



Value and Risk Based Decisions

Deliver, differently by re-imagining services and meeting our commitments.



Better outcomes for residents and business

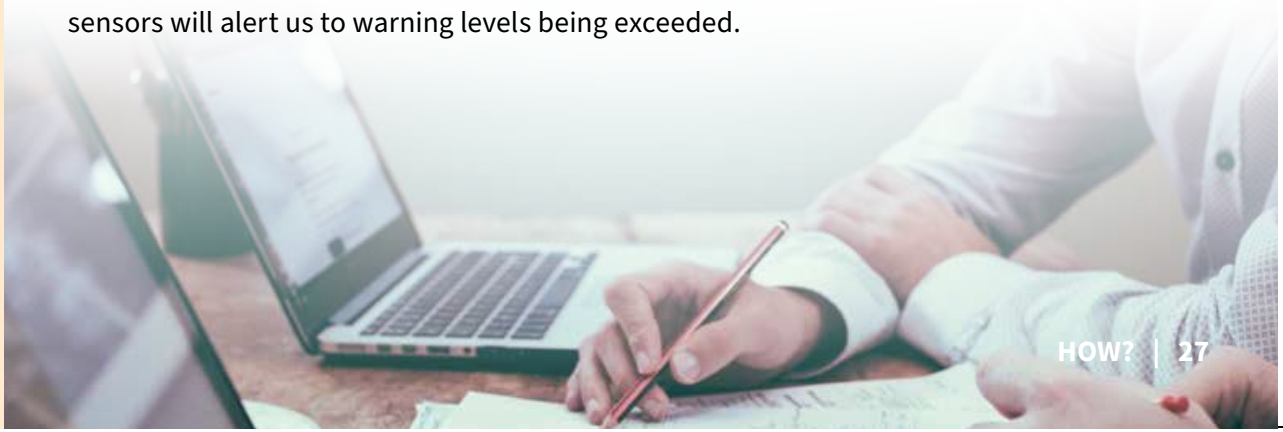
Our decision-making will be focused on providing more value and better outcomes for our residents and businesses. We will also take a critical look at our risk positioning, ensuring that Council's integrity is maintained. Risks will be continuously and proactively managed across Council and with our partners. From risk management comes opportunity to innovate. We will ensure our technology decisions allow us to leverage future innovations as they arise.

Better risk Identification

We will continue to optimise the way the Council collects, and has ready access to, information across a wide range of sources and mechanisms. Information recorded by Council needs to be well managed, of quality and suitable for use across all of Council.

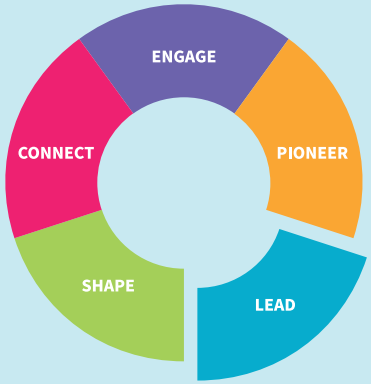
Leveraging technology to manage risk

The use of technology can automatically alert us to risks becoming issues. The risks are continuously evaluated against thresholds, which are identified through information we are collecting and monitoring. For example, salt water intrusion into bores indicates water rationing could become necessary. Internet of things (IoT) sensors will alert us to warning levels being exceeded.



Collaborate and Partner

Deliver, differently by re-imagining services and meeting our commitments.



Public and private partnerships

We will collaborate and partner with the community and businesses to ensure the best value is delivered and seamless access is available to renewed services. We will seek opportunities with public and private partners to ensure we constantly improve our ability to deliver services that are valuable to the community, or different parts of the community. Smart tools may benefit our region or enable Council services, enabling information to be accessed, utilised and combined in new ways.

Sharing expertise

We will look for innovation in how we fund improvements to our public applications and services. This may be through sharing of expertise, co-funding or developing centres of excellence for more intensive development and improvement.

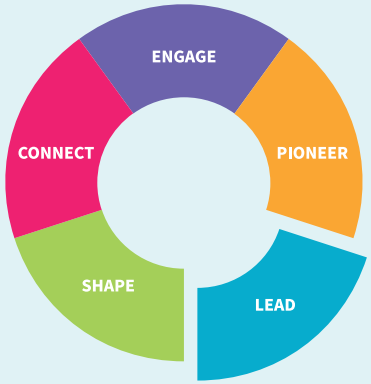
Partnering with specialists

We will partner with smart waste companies and Internet providers to install sensor driven smart bins in our freedom camping areas and reserves, which will also provide free Internet access to visitors. This will encourage visitors to be in the proximity of the bins to be online and will encourage good behaviour by making it easy to dispose of waste tidily.



Documents Digitised

Deliver, differently by re-imagining services and meeting our commitments.



Eliminate paper forms

We envision a future where Council staff do not need to print documents, and our residents and ratepayers can undertake business transactions digitally. This strategy will eliminate paper based forms, reduce environmental waste and significantly improve productivity. Staff will be more mobile and there will be a reduced reliance on office space.

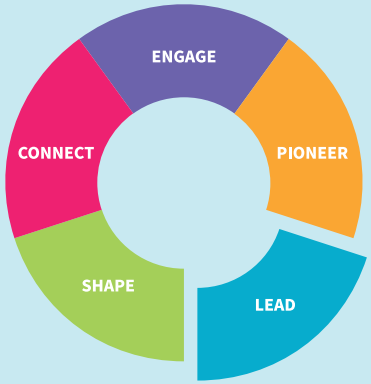
24/7 online

Storage of records will diminish over time and all documents and data will be available online for use by residents, businesses and staff.



Simplify and Streamline

Deliver, differently by re-imagining services and meeting our commitments.



Systems thinking

We will apply systems thinking and look at the Council service delivery model as a whole, re-imagining service delivery. A community is complex. People have different needs and wants and also require different levels of support across a wide range of services and providers. By looking at the big picture; its inter-relationships, boundaries and at multiple perspectives across partners, collaborators and community members, we will identify opportunities where we can improve services, together.

Removing complexity

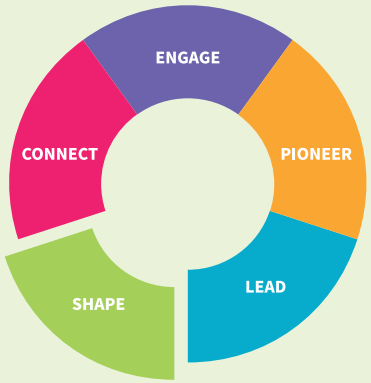
For most of us, service improvements translate to simplification and the removal of unnecessary complexities. By adopting standards and frameworks that work across platforms and datasets and providing efficient processes and service delivery to our community, we can still provide people with a rich experience and accurate, timely results. Our focus will be streamlining our processes and practices for minimal resistance and achieving desired Service Delivery customer objectives across all channels.

Sharing and re-use

We will be looking for where there is community value in commonality across authorities, and partner across organisations to share and re-use the best tools and access rich data. This type of sharing and re-use enables the likes of Call Centre and Customer Engagement professionals to provide a more detailed and personalised service to people who contact different parts of the Council, Council partners, and other public sector authorities.

Enterprise Automation

Deliver, differently by re-imagining services and meeting our commitments.



Modernisation

We will modernise the Council's systems and increase efficiency and productivity. We will systematically review Council workflow to eliminate bottlenecks and ensure optimal performance by removing manual processes, reducing errors and providing better accountability and auditability.

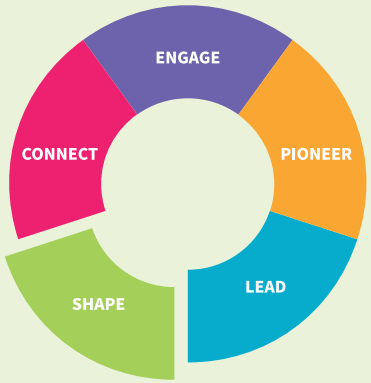
Accelerating service delivery improvements

Where we can accelerate improvements in service delivery, we will leverage artificial intelligence applications and tools, machine learning, spatial computing including virtual reality, digital twins and service orchestration.



Security Enabled

Deliver, differently by re-imagining services and meeting our commitments.



Security design principles

We will embed security design principles into our applications and systems at the beginning. This will ensure personal confidential data remains secure by considering technology, people and practises.

Data privacy

Our residents have a fundamental right to data privacy. We safeguard their valuable data in the cloud by demanding that all staff handle data as though it were their own, by enforcing encryption at rest and in transit, and by employing sophisticated data leak protection tools.

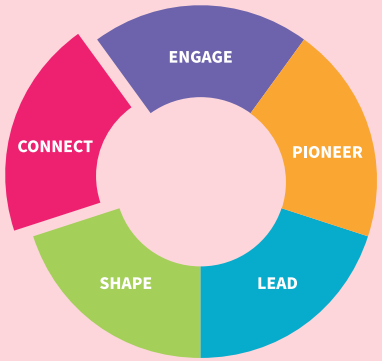
Community trust

We are open and transparent about data breaches and earn the trust of our community over time, rather than proclaiming it from the outset.



Cloud Fuelled

Deliver, differently by re-imagining services and meeting our commitments.



Closing computer room

We will free up accommodation space by eliminating our requirement for a computer room. This will improve our ability to provide Council services following natural disasters or fire. We will increase our agility and modernise our service catalogue, enabling faster implementation of new services. This will increase our security position, our ability to collaborate and reduce costs.

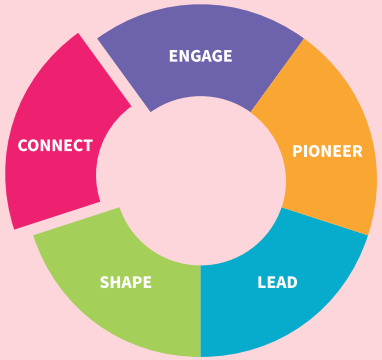
Central government policy

We will adopt the government Cloud First policy and adopt public cloud services in preference to traditional IT systems. Our adoption decisions will follow a risk assessment and we will only store data classified as RESTRICTED or below in a cloud service, whether it is hosted onshore or offshore.



Always On

Deliver, differently by re-imagining services and meeting our commitments.



Resident and business needs

Our service designs will reflect the requirement for services to be always available to meet the needs of our residents, staff and partners. Our systems will be lifecycle managed, ensuring that appropriate maintenance is applied.

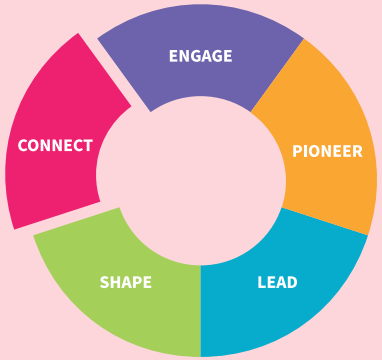
24/7 service

Our trusted council services are choreographed to be available 100% of the time.



Integrate Best of Breed

Deliver, differently by re-imagining services and meeting our commitments.



Specialists not generalists

We will choose systems that are best in their field and integrate them. This will enable re-imagining of service delivery and provide more efficiencies, reducing cost.

Reduce service delivery risk

It will also increase our agility by limiting our dependency on a few, in favour of many. We will also apply this approach to outsourcing by choosing specialists to support us where there is more value for residents, or a more cost efficient option.



How will we know if we are Successful?

Enagage

It is easy for everyone to engage with Council and the community and share perspectives

There is a healthy dialogue between the Council and residents

Our communities are connected across and beyond the region

Everyone has the opportunity to provide input and feels included in planning, decisions, spend and priorities

New partnerships are created and value is generated to deliver better outcomes for Tasman

Shape

Tasman is recognised as a Team of Excellence

People seek us out to work with us

“Legacy” is no longer relevant

Information Services Team is instrumental in helping resolve a regional event

The need for change is absorbed and novel solutions are delivered

Lead

Our experience marks a pathway for others

Our innovation is infectious and supports change across our sector and our region

People want to work and collaborate us

Information Services’ Big Picture view provides inspiration and direction

We have a reputation for delivery

Our people and our communities join the journey

Connect

Compliance is self managed

Technology is multi-lingual, culturally sensitive and considerate of differently abled

Data is publically available and is used to increase engagement and drive decisions

Our dialogue with residents, ratepayers and visitors can be fully online

Citizen science supports the insights we can provide

Compliance and consent data is linked to policy and visible to public

Pioneer

Innovation relationships are built with regional entities and across all levels of government

Data platforms are smart, open and connected

Regional identity and history is online

Our long term strategy is intergenerational

We leverage multi-provider partnerships for our fast data network

Our communities can select their Council engagement channel

On-demand public transport is app driven

Permits are self-serviced



A Blueprint for Tasman's Digital Future 2021-2031

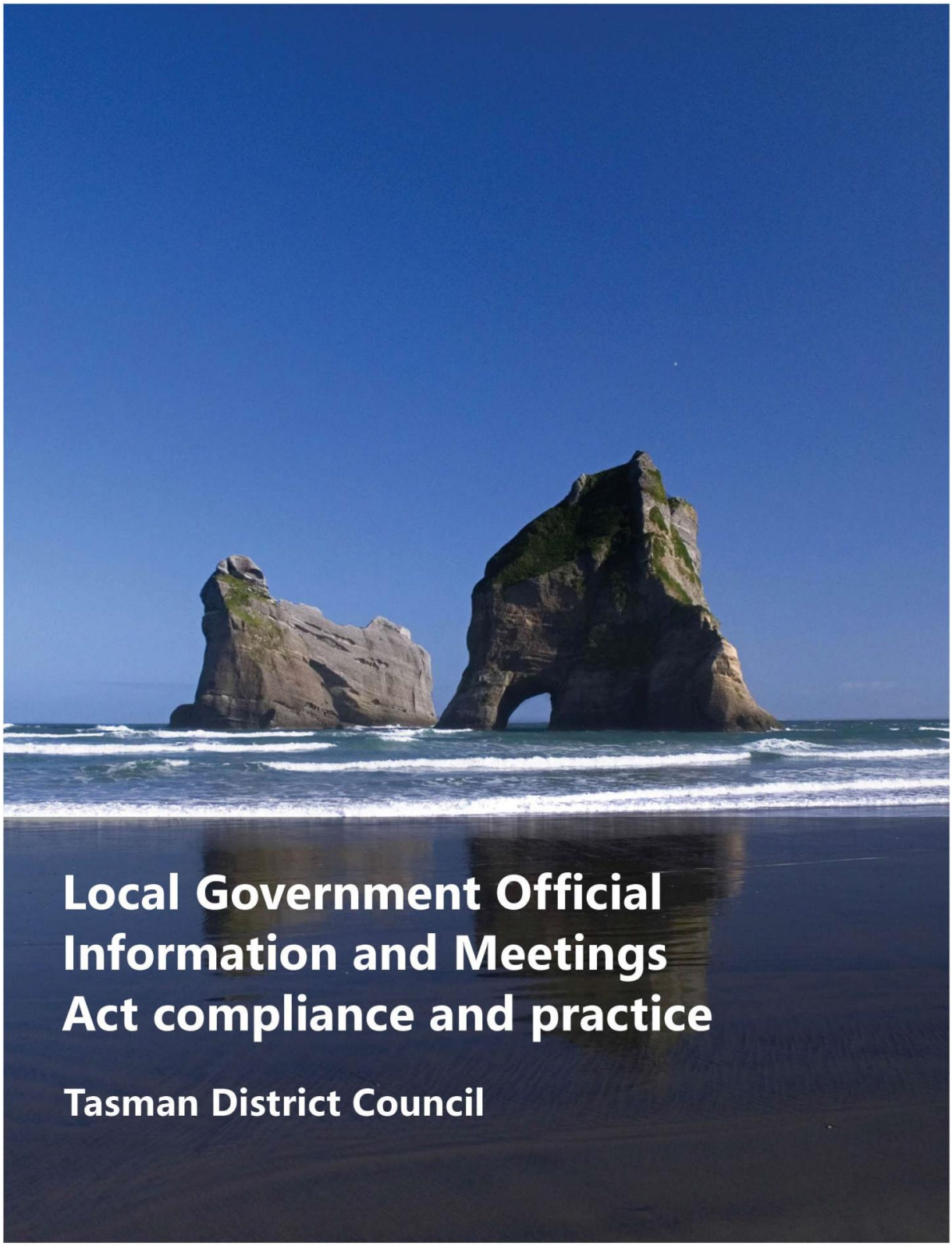
Steve Manners - Chief Information Officer *Kaiwhakahaere Matua Pārongo*

03 543 8400 **www.tasman.govt.nz** **info@tasman.govt.nz**

Ombudsman

Fairness for all

A.3a



Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act compliance and practice

Tasman District Council

Office of the Ombudsman
Tari o te Kaitiaki Mana Tangata

LGOIMA compliance and practice at Tasman District Council

Office of the Ombudsman
July 2019
ISBN 978-0-473-48815-4
Cover image courtesy Tasman District Council

LGOIMA compliance and practice at Tasman District Council

Report of the Chief Ombudsman July 2019

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Foreword

My investigation into Tasman District Council's practices under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA) is one of several local authority investigations I have recently conducted.

As Chief Ombudsman, I have been tasked by Parliament with monitoring agencies' official information practices, resources and systems. I do this by undertaking targeted investigations and publishing reports of my findings. This year I decided to focus on local authority LGOIMA practices.

In selecting which local authorities to include in this initial series of investigations, I wanted to ensure a mix of different council structures, levels of resources, and regions of the country. I also considered the nature of complaints received by my office and whether a council had been dealing with any high-profile issues that had increased the number of information requests received.

Tasman District Council is a unitary authority, which means it has the responsibilities of both a territorial authority and a regional council. The Council made a decision on the Waimea Dam this year. This was a matter of significant debate and strong views in the local community, leading to an increase in requests for information submitted to the Council.

I found that Tasman District Council has a positive and open culture driven by its leaders at both governance and operational levels. The Council is strongly committed to having good official information practices. It has a dedicated LGOIMA staff member, provides official information training to all staff, and the leadership team actively monitors how requests are managed.

The administration of council meetings generally runs smoothly, with clear internal deadlines for meeting reports to enable leadership review in time for the agenda to be made publicly available within LGOIMA timeframes.

The process for producing LIM reports is on its way to being fully automated. The ability of the Council to achieve 100 per cent timeliness during a state of emergency, and with the additional information a unitary council needs to include in a LIM, is admirable.

Agencies can become risk averse when considering release of information on a controversial topic. Tasman District Council is not immune; however, comments made by the Chief Executive and a number of her staff indicate that the Council is constantly challenging itself in this respect. A key priority for the Council is to address its record keeping and information management processes. Better systems for storing and retrieving information will improve the Council's confidence in being open with its information.

The Council had the opportunity to comment on my provisional findings, and I have taken this feedback into account in finalising this report. I have made 21 suggestions for action, and the Council has agreed to work through these. I will be following up with the Council at regular intervals over the next year to see how it is progressing.

I'd like to convey my sincere thanks the staff, senior leaders, and elected members of Tasman District Council for their thoughtful contributions to my investigation. The timing of my investigation was not easy to accommodate in light of the Pigeon Valley fires, and the period of drought that followed, but Council staff were still generous with their time and input, for which I am very grateful.

I also acknowledge members of the public, including journalists, regular requesters, and regular council meeting attendees for the views they shared in our public survey.

I look forward to my continued engagement with the Council as it works through my suggested actions.

Peter Boshier
Chief Ombudsman
July 2019

Introduction

This report sets out my opinion on how well the Tasman District Council[1] is meeting its obligations under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA).

My investigation has looked at how the Council deals with requests for official information, produces Land Information Memorandum (LIM) reports and administers council meetings in accordance with LGOIMA.

The purposes of LGOIMA are to increase the availability of information held by local authorities and to promote the open and public transaction of business at meetings. This ensures people can:

- effectively participate in the actions and decisions of local authorities;
- hold local authority members and their officials to account for any decisions; and
- understand why decisions were made, which will enhance respect for the law and promote good local government in New Zealand.

The Act also protects official information and the deliberations of local authorities from disclosure but only to the extent consistent with the public interest and the need to protect personal privacy.

As Chief Ombudsman, I am committed to improving the operation of LGOIMA to ensure the purposes of the Act are realised. Key to achieving this is Parliament's expectation that I regularly review the LGOIMA practices and capabilities of councils.

I have initiated this practice investigation using my powers under the Ombudsmen Act 1975 (OA). This provides me with the tools needed to investigate matters I consider important to improve administrative decision making across the public sector.[2] The full terms of reference for my investigation are in Appendix 1.

I have considered the information gathered through my investigation against an assessment framework consisting of the following five areas:

- Leadership and culture
- Organisation structure, staffing and capability
- Internal policies, procedures, resources and systems
- Current practices
- Performance monitoring and learning

[1] When I use the term 'Council', this primarily relates to the operational arm of the organisation unless the context suggests otherwise.

[2] See sections 13(1) and 13(3) Ombudsmen Act 1975

Appendix 2 provides a set of good practice indicators for each of these areas. These indicators are not exhaustive and do not preclude an agency demonstrating that good practice in a particular area is being met in other ways.

Reporting the outcome of these investigations promotes a council's accountability, and gives the public an insight into their council's ability to promote openness and transparency.

My opinion

I have not identified any conduct by the Council that was wrong, unreasonable or contrary to law and, as such, I have not made any formal recommendations.[3]

Through the investigation process, I have identified areas of good practice, and areas of vulnerability that I think the Council should address. I have suggested a number of actions, 21 in total, that I consider will improve the Council's practices. The Council has advised me that it accepts my suggested action points and is working through these. Many of the suggested actions are already embedded in work underway, and the Council is considering what resources it may require to implement the remainder.

In my report, I address each of the five dimensions listed above, setting out:

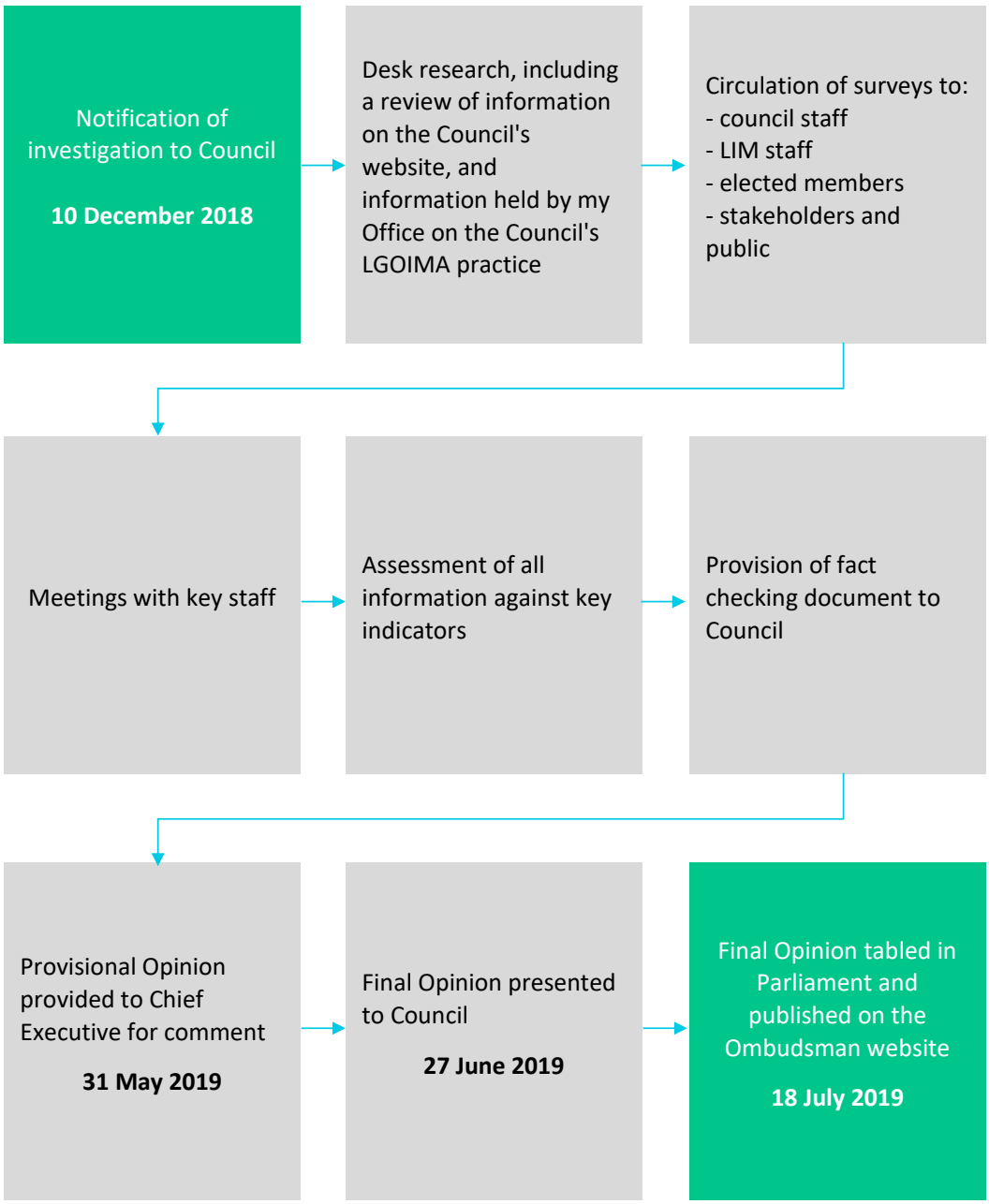
- an overview of my findings;
- aspects that are going well; and
- opportunities to improve the Council's LGOIMA compliance and practice.

My opinion relates only to the Council's practice during the period in which my investigation took place.[4]

[3] Formal recommendations under the OA are only made if I form an opinion that a decision, recommendation, act, or omission by the agency was wrong, unreasonable or contrary to law, etc. under s 22 of the OA.

[4] On occasion we may look at material from outside the investigation period where particular issues warrant further investigation.

Timeline and methodology

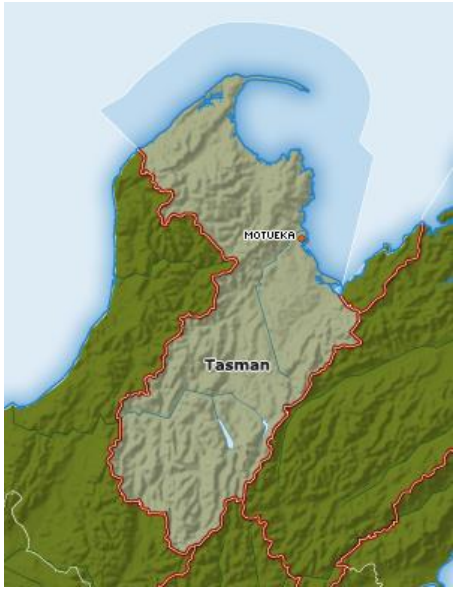


Tasman District Council: a snapshot

The Tasman District covers 9786 kilometres of the northwest corner of the South Island. It borders the Canterbury Region, West Coast Region, Marlborough Region and Nelson City.

Tasman District Council was established in 1989 and encompasses an area which, prior to that, was governed by four councils. In 1992, the Nelson-Marlborough Regional Council was disestablished and Tasman District Council, Nelson City Council and Marlborough District Council became a unitary authorities. Unitary authorities are councils which have the functions of both a territorial authority and a regional council.

The Council's headquarters are in Richmond, and its 13 councillors are elected from five wards. There are two community boards serving Golden Bay and Motueka.



Map courtesy Department of Internal Affairs

In 2017/18, Tasman District Council:

- served 52 100 residents
- received $71 018 million in rates
- employed approximately 300 staff
- received 145 requests under LGOIMA
- handled 83 percent of these requests within the legislative timeframe
- processed 771 LIM reports
- handled 100 per cent of LIM applications within the legislative timeframe

MAYOR Richard Kempthorne

DEPUTY MAYOR Tim King

ELECTED COUNCILLORS 13

WARDS Golden Bay, Lakes/Murchison, Moutere/Waimea, Motueka, Richmond

COMMUNITY BOARDS Golden Bay Community Board (four elected members), Motueka Community Board (four elected members)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE Janine Dowding

Executive Summary

Leadership and Culture

Tasman District Council's positive and open culture is driven by its leadership at both the governance and operational level. A high percentage of staff surveyed rated the elected members and Council senior leadership as supportive of openness and public participation.

The Chief Executive and her senior managers are strongly committed to having good official information practices and have championed the development of sound processes for dealing with LGOIMA requests. Council leadership has good oversight of how LGOIMA requests are being managed through regular reporting to leadership meetings.

Some comments received from staff suggested that despite the generally open culture, controversial issues, like the Waimea Dam and the Takaka Grandstand, had made the Council more risk averse about what information it actively puts into the public domain. Members of the public suggested that the Council only releases information that reflects it in a positive light.

To address these concerns, I have suggested the Council do more to incorporate the concepts of transparency and accountability into its language and culture, and make changes to its webpage on official information requests. I have also suggested the Council develop a proactive release policy. This would provide a principled framework for decisions about publishing information rather than purely focusing on risk.

The Council has identified that it has some significant work to do in the area of information management. Problems with information management were a recurring theme during this investigation and it presents a massive challenge for the Council to deal with. I commend the Council for taking ownership of this issue and starting work towards a solution.

Action points: leadership and culture	
1	Consider how to incorporate concepts of transparency and accountability into corporate communications and on website
2	Incorporate a link on the Council website home page that goes directly to the official information request webpage.
3	Review wording of official information request webpage to improve consistency with SSC guidance
4	Include positive messaging from senior leadership on openness and transparency as part of regular office-wide communications

Organisation structure, staffing and capability

The Executive and Governance team is responsible for the administration of council meetings. This team also has a dedicated role (the Executive Advisor) for managing the Council's official information obligations under LGOIMA.

Staff are offered regular LGOIMA training from the Executive Advisor and will respond to straightforward requests. More complex requests are referred to the Executive Advisor. The Executive Advisor works on the request with relevant staff and reviews the response.

The Customer Services Team is responsible for producing LIM reports. The process for producing LIM reports is managed through an electronic whiteboard which enables staff to work on LIMs concurrently from different locations. This provides a good level of resilience and flexibility if the numbers increase.

The Council's organisational structure works very effectively in respect of the Council's LGOIMA functions. However, staff outside these teams expressed concerns about how much time they have to spend collating information for LGOIMA requests. This was related to dealing with difficult requesters and involved requests. I have suggested staff record the time spent on LGOIMA requests, and that the Council consider whether a complaints process might be a way to address the concerns of some requesters and mitigate the volume of requests.

Having a dedicated subject matter expert for dealing with LGOIMA requests is beneficial but it is also a vulnerability should that person leave the role or be absent for an extended period. I have suggested that the Council consider ways to expand its specialist knowledge base across more staff. The Council is due to review its Delegations Register and should take this opportunity to align the official information delegations with current office practice.

Action points: organisation structure, staffing and capability	
1	Encourage staff to use the LGOIMA timesheet code to record time spent working on requests
2	Consider how to manage a potential increase in LGOIMA requests when planning how to engage with the community on matters likely to be of high public interest
3	Consider expanding LGOIMA specialist knowledge base within Governance Team
4	Consider developing an alternative framework to the LGOIMA database for dealing with individuals who are raising complaints in their correspondence
5	Review Delegations Register for consistency with LGOIMA delegation provisions and with office practice in respect of decisions on official information requests

Internal policies, procedures and resources

The Council has good policies and resources to support its LGOIMA practice in respect of official information, LIMs and meeting administration. It has developed a 'quick guide' for staff to assist them in deciding whether they need to refer requests through the Council's LGOIMA process. A LGOIMA database came online in September 2017 to record and track requests.

The LGOIMA request policy is due for review and I have made some suggestions for amendment. The Council should also develop some resources for staff on the substantive LGOIMA provisions. The Council does not currently have a proactive release policy so I have suggested it develop one to ensure a consistent framework around its proactive release practices.

Record-keeping and information management resources are problematic and a key priority for the Council. The Council has commenced a strategic project to replace the current EDRMS and improve its policies and procedures. In light of this, rather than make any specific suggestions for improvement, I have asked the Council to update me on progress at appropriate intervals.

Action points: internal policies, procedures and resources	
1	In its review of the LGOIMA request policy, consider • incorporating an introductory statement about the role of LGOIMA in promoting the transparency and accountability of the Council; • amending the timeframe for transfer of a request from 20 to 10 working days; and • including information that explains a charge might be remitted and what factors are relevant to a decision to remit or reduce a charge.
2	Develop guidance resources for staff on substantive LGOIMA provisions
3	Develop a proactive release policy
4	Update the Chief Ombudsman on Information Management project progress at appropriate intervals

Current practices

The Council is complying with LGOIMA timeframes for LIM reports (100 per cent compliance rate) and with the requirements relating to meetings. In respect of Council workshops, the record-keeping practice appeared to be inconsistent with the policy and I have suggested the Council review its practice and policy on this issue.

The majority (83 per cent) of LGOIMA requests are processed within the statutory timeframe; however, there is room to improve. The Council could make better use of provisions in LGOIMA like notifying an extension if it looks like the timeframe will not be met.

A review of ten LGOIMA files identified a number of good practices, simple and useful communications to requesters and a preference to release information wherever possible. The Council can also improve on how it documents the decision-making and administrative processes for responding to a particular request.

Requests involving elected members can be tricky but the Council manages this well. When an elected member is seeking information that would not routinely be provided, it is processed as a LGOIMA request.

The Council receives requests for information through a variety of channels. Staff have a high level of awareness about LGOIMA and know their obligations if there is a possibility information will be refused. One area that needs further consideration is property file requests. Responding to a routine property file request could potentially involve a refusal of confidential information on the property file. I have suggested the Council review its processes to make sure property file requests are handled in accordance with LGOIMA.

Action points: current practices	
1	Ensure that property file requests are handled in accordance with LGOIMA
2	Consider the use of appropriate mechanisms available in LGOIMA, such as extensions, if the timeframe for responding is at risk of being exceeded
3	Record the reasoning behind LGOIMA decisions, including any consideration of the public interest and the results of any consultations with third parties
4	Record the administrative steps taken in respect of LGOIMA responses where relevant
5	Review guidance for keeping records of Workshops

Performance monitoring and learning

The Council has good oversight of its LGOIMA performance. LIM timeframes and average processing times are tracked against the targets set out in the Long term Plan. The Council has started monthly reporting to ensure the meeting requirements are met.

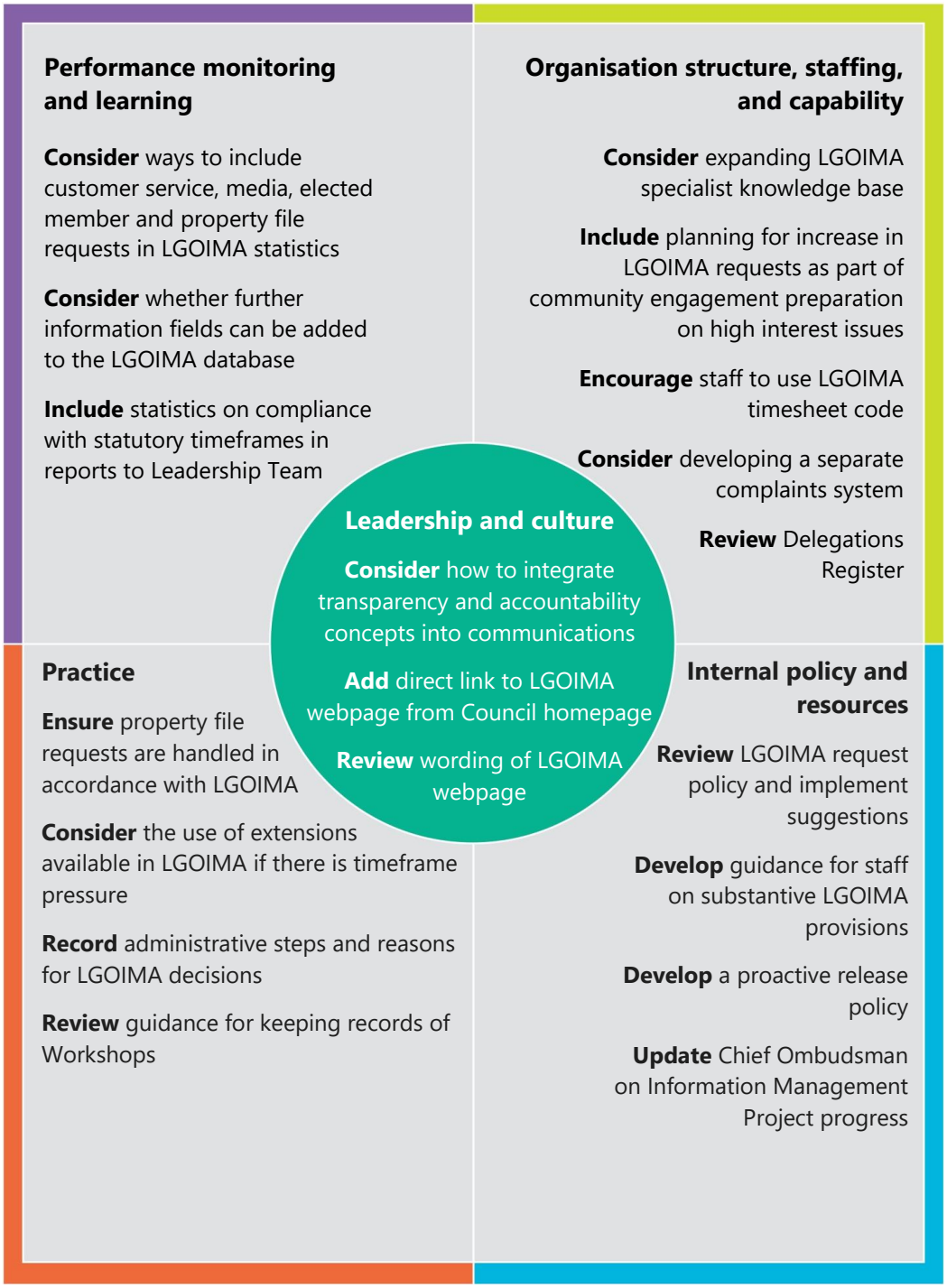
The Leadership Team receives regular reports on the number and average processing time of requests logged in the LGOIMA database. Multiple requests on the same issue are flagged, as are particular requests that may benefit from discussion. The report updates the leadership on staff training provided, gives suggestions for development of LGOIMA resources and advises about any Ombudsman investigations.

Many requests for information are dealt with immediately by staff and not recorded in the LGOIMA database and the Council therefore may not receive credit for responding to many more requests on time. While it is not realistic to log every request in the database, the Council should consider ways it might be able to collect some statistics on these requests to provide a more comprehensive picture of the LGOIMA work it is doing.

There are also opportunities to increase the amount of information captured in the LGOIMA database about specific requests, and to improve reporting to leadership on the percentage of requests responded to within statutory timeframes.

Action points: performance monitoring and learning	
1	Consider ways to include customer service, media, elected member and property file requests in LGOIMA statistics.
2	Consider whether it is possible to add information fields in the LGOIMA database for the following: • Subject matter of the request • Response timeframes and compliance with statutory maximums • Extensions notified • Outcome of request including withholding ground/ charging information
3	Include statistics on compliance with statutory timeframes in reports to the Leadership Team

Further lifting LGOIMA performance at Tasman District Council: summary of actions



Leadership and culture

At a glance



Achieving the purposes of LGOIMA depends significantly on the culture of a council and the attitudes and actions of its leaders. Elected members, Chief Executives and senior managers should take the lead in developing an environment that promotes openness and transparency; champions positive engagement with those who want to know and understand what work they are doing; and enables compliance with the principles, purposes and provisions of the legislation.

To assess the Tasman District Council's leadership and culture, I considered whether:

- elected members, Chief Executive, senior leaders and managers demonstrate a commitment to the Council meeting its LGOIMA obligations and actively foster a culture of openness;
- senior leadership have established an effective strategic framework which promotes a culture open to the release of information;
- senior leadership demonstrate a commitment to proactive disclosure, and public participation with clear linkages to the Council's strategic plans creating a public perception, and a genuine culture, of openness.

When it is clear to staff that their leaders view compliance with LGOIMA as an opportunity to operate in a more transparent, engaging and accountable manner, they will follow.

Aspects that are going well

Collaborative leadership

Tasman District Council is served by a competent and experienced Leadership Team, and the elected members have positive working relationships with Council staff.

The current Chief Executive (CE) came into the role in May 2018 having previously worked for many years in a senior central government role based in the region. Although new to the local government environment she has been able to draw on her public sector experience and her knowledge of the community as a long-term resident. The CE works with her four second tier managers (the Leadership Team) to manage the overall operational business of the Council.

There is a good working relationship between Council staff and elected members. Many staff spoken to by my investigators commented that the relationship between council staff and elected members, in their view, is relatively open compared to other councils. Elected members are able to deal directly with Council staff and the Council leadership does not want to restrict or limit that accessibility.

The CE described her working relationship with the Mayor as *"excellent"* and the boundary between governance and operational matters is well understood by both parties.

It is apparent that the constructive working relationship between the Mayor and the CE, and between councillors and staff generally is an influential factor in the positive office culture.

Supporting an open culture

Staff were invited to respond to a survey about the Council's LGOIMA practice. In response to a question asking staff about the Council's overall commitment to a strong culture of openness and public participation, 96 per cent of staff rated the Council as supportive of such a culture (54 per cent strongly supportive and 42 per cent moderately supportive). This is an impressive response, and is the highest I have yet come across in my practice reviews of councils.

My investigators met with Council staff and asked for their views on the role that Council leadership had played in creating this culture. A number of staff considered that the openness and transparency of the Council had increased significantly under the previous CE. The current CE has continued to develop and embed these values, particularly in the context of improving the level of customer service and encouraging greater public participation. Staff referred positively to the CE role modelling this behaviour and also considered the Mayor as being very supportive of openness and public participation.

In the staff survey, staff rated signals from their immediate managers through to the Mayor regarding the Council's commitment to openness and public participation generally. The results are set out in the table below and are consistent with the views staff expressed to my investigators. These are very encouraging results.

Staff perception of leadership support for openness and public participation

Leadership	Strongly supportive	Moderately supportive	Total supportive	Moderately or strongly negative	'They are silent on the issue' or 'don't know'
Mayor	57%	24%	**81%**	1%	13%
Elected members	31%	35%	**66%**	2%	24%
CE	71%	20%	**91%**	0%	9%
Senior Leadership	55%	35%	**90%**	2%	7%
Immediate Manager	67%	25%	**92%**	1%	6%

I met with the CE in April 2019 and asked her how open she thinks her organisation is. Her view was that there is room for improvement. She considers that there is a good culture of understanding in respect of LGOIMA, and a growing awareness of the need to be open and transparent.

The CE is conscious that her tenure commenced as the highly contentious Waimea Dam proposal was advancing through the Council decision-making process. The strength of opinions involved, and the level of opposition to the Dam, made for a risk-averse environment in terms of the release of information. This did not necessarily mean that information would not be released, but the accuracy and integrity of the information released needed to be checked and double-checked to ensure accuracy.

Some comments made by staff in the staff survey pick up on the theme of controversial issues leading to a more risk-averse approach, for example:

> *The culture in the organisation is generally open and frank, with good work by the previous CEO to encourage staff to be open and transparent with ratepayers. This has followed with the new CEO. However, I believe the recent controversy around the Waimea Dam and the Takaka grandstand have made the organisation more conservative and risk averse. In addition the recent change in public discourse has meant that information is more likely to be taken out of context and misrepresented. In a more polarised society, I believe this means we are less likely to put "inconvenient" or challenging information in the public domain. In addition to this, the expansion in information (email, text etc) means that it's much more difficult to manage public information, and we are not well resourced with people and systems to manage public information.*

Some respondents considered that poor record keeping and information management systems had a notable impact on the extent to which the Council could be seen as 'open'. For example:

> *My understanding of the reluctance of my organisation is not against openness in principle, more not being happy to be open with information and data which may be incorrect (from many possible sources) as a mitigation against risk and*

> *reputational risk - my own opinion is that we should be open, and use that openness to help correct any mistakes in the data/information we hold. Open honesty and transparency should mitigate any reputational risk and provide more opportunity to make it right and rebuild levels of trust and integrity with our community.*

These comments suggest that, as acknowledged by the CE, a culture of openness and transparency is a process of continuous improvement and assessment. Nonetheless, I am encouraged by the insightful nature of these staff comments, which, in my view demonstrates how committed staff are to the principle of openness.

Championing official information practices

The CE has strategic responsibility and executive accountability for official information practices. The Council's management of official information requests has many positives. There was a high level of awareness among all the staff that LGOIMA applies to any request for information held. There is a clear expectation, well-socialised across the organisation, that information should be released whenever it can be and as quickly as possible to requesters.

In the last two years, the Council has put considerable effort into its formal processes for dealing with official information requests. The Leadership Team receives regular detailed reports on how the Council is managing its official information obligations. Training on LGOIMA is offered regularly to all staff. LGOIMA training is promoted 'from the top' and the impression my investigators received is that staff have a good knowledge of the Act, will get on with releasing information and have the mandate from senior leaders to do so. As one staff survey responded noted:

> *TDC has a very open and pragmatic approach to requests for information that is quite devolved. I previously worked in central government where requests for information and decisions on release of information regularly involve senior management/CE and ministers with high levels of scrutiny and angst that is not apparent at TDC*

In the staff survey, staff rated signals from the Mayor through to their immediate managers regarding the Council's commitment to LGOIMA obligations. The results are set out below.

Staff perception of leadership commitment to LGOIMA obligations

Leadership	Strongly supportive	Moderately supportive	Total supportive	Moderately or strongly negative	'They are silent on the issue' or 'don't know'
Mayor	38%	15%	**53%**	0%	47%
Elected members	13.5%	22.5%	**36%**	0%	64%
Chief Executive	70%	19%	**89%**	0%	11%
Senior Leadership	58%	26%	**84%**	0%	16%
Immediate Manager	61%	26%	**87%**	0%	13%

The results indicate that staff perceive the CE, senior leaders and immediate managers to be generally as supportive of LGOIMA as they are of a culture of openness and participation. The CE in particular is rated as being strongly supportive in both areas.

Effective community engagement

The Community Development department is responsible for the various facets of the Council's engagement with the community. It produces the annual and long term plans for the district and runs public consultation processes.

The Council's Community Activity Community Relations Plan 2018 explains that community engagement is important to ensure that Tasman communities;

> *"-are informed about Council's activities and have the opportunity to express their views on Council's proposals. The decisions local authorities make affect their communities on a daily basis. Effective community engagement builds trust and understanding in the Council's decision making, while also increasing the Council's awareness of issues in the community."*

Staff consider that the Tasman community is very engaged with the Council. The Council often receives high numbers of submissions through formal consultation processes and considers it important to provide a personalised response to each submitter. The Council has developed a submissions database which contains each submission and the response provided, which helps ensure consistency across responses.

The Council is currently working to broaden the range of ways in which it engages with the community. It is considering how to ensure that the processes, language and channels for public input are easy to understand and accessible by as many people as possible. There is a current focus on changing the language to a simpler, informal style. The Council is also working on a digital strategy over the next three years to improve the way it delivers information and services online.

The Council assesses its performance in these areas in a variety of ways during the year. The annual survey of residents (*Communitrak*) is a helpful source of information in this respect, and the Council has recently added website analytics as a measurement tool in its Annual Plan. I am particularly impressed with the level of detail in the *Communitrak* survey and I commend the Council in being open and transparent in publishing the full survey results.

Proactive release in action

Local authorities are required to publish a significant amount of information such as meeting agendas with accompanying reports, minutes, annual plans, long term plans, annual reports, and information required for various public consultation processes. There is a constant output of information to the public as a part of day-to-day Council business.

Proactive release means deciding to release information that the Council is not required to publish. The Council does not currently have any policies around proactive release, however

the Leadership Team regularly discusses options for proactive release of information relating to topics of public interest, including matters that have been the subject of LGOIMA requests.

Information is also published regularly in *Newsline*, the Council's fortnightly newsletter which is sent to every resident, and uploaded to the website. The latest *Communitrak* survey from May 2018, which involved telephone interviews with 401 residents, reported that 55 per cent of residents surveyed get their Council information from *Newsline*.[5]

Council staff also have the ability to post information directly onto the Council website and are encouraged to use this as a means to release information where they consider there is likely to be a wider level of interest.

In response to my agency questionnaire, the Council provided a number of recent examples where information has been proactively released:

- A bulk release of LGOIMA requests and responses at the end of 2017.
- Information posted following a resolution to release minutes from a public -excluded meeting 6 September 2018.
- Other documents relating to the Waimea Dam including allegations of conflict and the outcome of the OAG investigation.
- Resolutions by the Council to release information following public-excluded portions of meetings.

The Council has demonstrated that it actively considers what information it can release on a regular basis. I think it would be useful to have a policy framework for this. I discuss this further in the chapter on Internal Policies, Procedures and Resources.

Tackling information management problems

A recurring theme throughout the surveys and meetings conducted by my investigators, was an acute concern about the state of the Council's information management and record-keeping systems and processes. One staff member made the following comment in the survey about how this impacts LGOIMA practice:

> *TDC doesn't value its information enough to be able to guarantee accurate answers to information requests.*

The Leadership Team is undertaking a Capacity and Capability Review ('CCR'), and, as part of that, has identified information management as a key problem area. The Council acknowledges that there has been *'underinvestment'* in information management both in terms of financial resources and strategic leadership for some years.

[5] https://www.tasman.govt.nz/my-council/key-documents/more/annual-residents-survey-reports/

In April 2019 the Leadership Team approved a strategic project with joint work streams to both replace its Electronic Document Management System (EDRMS) and improve its information management policy and procedures.

As part of the CCR, the Council is considering repositioning reporting lines for information management responsibilities to provide for closer oversight by the CE, and the creation of a Chief Information Officer role.

The Council has acknowledged that the state of its information management systems poses a risk to its ability to comply with LGOIMA obligations. I am satisfied that the leadership has taken ownership of the issue and is taking steps to address the problems.

Opportunities for improvement

Improving public perception of transparency

In order to obtain the views of the public who have made official information requests or attended meetings of the Council, in December 2018 I set up a public survey on my Office website and asked the Council to put it on their website.

I received 44 responses. Of course this is not a representative number, and so the results are of limited value. I am also conscious that my survey went online soon after the Waimea Dam decision and may have been an opportunity for those frustrated with that process and the outcome to share their views.

Sixty-eight percent of respondents to my survey disagreed (23 per cent somewhat disagreed, 45 per cent strongly disagreed) with the proposition that the Council publishes sufficient information on its website about the work it is doing.

I note here, that in contrast, the *Communitrak* survey, which asked whether respondents considered they received enough information about the work the Council is doing, found that 75 per cent considered that there was enough or more than enough information supplied to the community.

I asked respondents to rate the Council's openness compared to other local government agencies they had dealt with. Forty-eight percent of respondents rated this Council as the least open and 19 per cent as somewhat less open. Common themes contained in the comments sections for these questions were:

- The Council has too many closed workshops and non-public forums.
- The Council is 'obstructive' or 'secretive'.
- The Council only releases information that reflects it in a positive light.
- Information that is released is often selective or unbalanced – some comments referred to 'spin' and 'propaganda' on contentious issues.

- A number of comments referred to wanting more financial information published and more environmental information published especially about water quality.
- Poor information management came up a number of times.

It would be inappropriate for me to draw any conclusions about the Council's overall reputation for transparency on the basis of such a small sample. Even so, there are some steps the Council could take to improve public opinion in this area.

One suggestion is that the Council adopt some language that unequivocally champions the related concepts of transparency and accountability. My investigators had difficulty locating public statements from the Council of this nature.

Transparency is cited as one of the principles of engagement in the Significance and Engagement policy, but this theme is not followed through elsewhere. Most Council documents refer to engagement, participation, trust and accessibility. While these are important sentiments, I think there is room to be more direct about transparency and the mechanisms through which an individual can hold the Council to account.

Naturally, a shift in the use of language should be accompanied by evidence that demonstrates the Council means what it says. Just saying an organisation is transparent will not make it so. This is where a policy on proactive release could be helpful.

Action point
Consider how to incorporate concepts of transparency and accountability into corporate communications and on website

Website information about making a request

Location of webpage

The Council's webpage for making official information requests is accessible from the *'Meetings'* option from the dropdown menu of the *'My Council'* heading on the home page. Navigation requires two clicks to arrive at the *'Requests for official information'* link. Having the link under the *'Meetings'* option is not particularly logical or intuitive.

The location of the link for making requests came up during the meetings my investigators conducted with Council staff.

Following this a second option has now been added under the *'Feedback'* option from the dropdown menu of the *'Do it online'* heading on the home page. Again navigation requires two clicks to arrive at the relevant link. Having a link for an information request under the *'Feedback'* option is a slightly awkward fit and again not intuitive.

I do acknowledge that the website's search engine operates well, and putting "LGOIMA" in the search box brings up the relevant webpage as the top hit.

The State Services Commission (SSC) provides specific guidance to central government in respect of Official Information Act (OIA) webpages[6], and one of the principles it recommends is that an agency's OIA page be accessible directly from the agency's homepage. I think it is reasonable to expect local government agencies apply a similar principle in relation to LGOIMA requests. I suggest the Council adjust its website to have the link to requests for official information as one of the options on an appropriate drop down menu on the home page – either 'Do it online' or 'My Council' seem logical overarching headings.

Webpage content

The text of the webpage relating to requests is concise and simple to read and I like the emphasis that a request can be made by anyone, that a request can be verbal, and that all requests for information are treated as a request under LGOIMA.

I would prefer to see more about the purpose of the Act in the introductory wording for this page. This is an ideal place for the Council to show its commitment to transparency and accountability.

While the Council refers once on the webpage to the 'principle of availability', there is no explanation about what this is. The overall impression I have of the webpage wording is that there is more emphasis on withholding. I think the wording could be amended for better balance.

The information under the heading 'what information is available' doesn't answer the question in the heading. I suggest the Council consider putting something more informative describing the types of information people may want to request. This is also an opportunity to direct requesters to information that is already available on the website.

Finally, while there is a link provided to the resource produced by my office for requesters, there is no information directly on the webpage about the fact that a requester can complain to the Ombudsman if they are unhappy with the decision made on a request. The SSC guidance suggests having an item about what a requester can do if they are not satisfied, which includes lodging a complaint with my office.

Action points
Incorporate a link on the Council website home page that goes directly to the official information request webpage
Review wording of official information request webpage to improve consistency with SSC guidance

Encouraging a positive attitude to LGOIMA across the organisation

While staff reported high levels of confidence in the commitment of their CE and senior leaders to LGOIMA, some individual comments received suggested that not all staff view LGOIMA

[6] https://www.ssc.govt.nz/sites/all/files/oia-agency-website-guidance-dec2017.pdf

requests in a positive light. A number of staff noted the time that responding to LGOIMA requests can take, and perceived this to be interfering with their normal duties. For example:

> *Although there are LGOIMA obligations and staff try and comply, there is a feeling that it significantly interrupts the normal business of providing services to the community.*

Staff may feel more encouraged if the value of their work on official information requests was actively acknowledged by leadership in internal communications as an integral aspect of being a democratic and accountable organisation rather than something over and above 'business as usual'.

I am impressed with the level of involvement from the Leadership Team and the CE in developing the structures needed for good LGOIMA practice. I think this could be enhanced by some direct messaging from senior leaders about the principles and purpose of official information legislation in a local democracy.

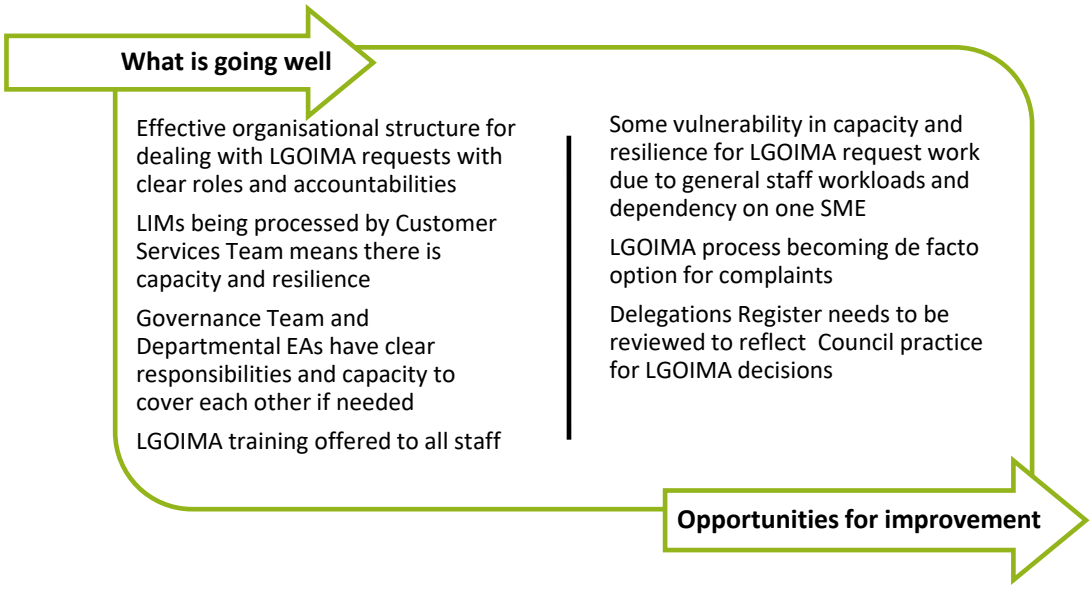
I understand that the primary office-wide communications around LGOIMA are the extracts from Leadership Team minutes that are circulated. These are relatively operational in nature and will sometimes include reference to the approach being adopted with specific LGOIMA requests and discussions about proactive release on hot topics. There might be an opportunity here to highlight examples of good practice in a particular case which would be one way to demonstrate to staff that the work is valued.

Recently the CE emailed staff about the project to replace the office EDRMS, and in listing the reasons for needing better information systems, referred to upholding the Council's principles of openness and transparency. This is an excellent example of the type of communication I encourage.

Action point
Include positive messaging from senior leadership on openness and transparency as part of regular office-wide communications

Organisation structure, staffing, and capability

At a glance



It is expected Councils will organise their structure and resources to ensure they are able to meet their legal obligations under LGOIMA in a way that is relevant to their particular size, responsibilities and the amount of interest in the information they hold.

To assess Tasman District Council's organisational structure, staffing, and capability, I considered whether:

- the Council had the capacity to discharge its LGOIMA obligations, with clear and fully functioning roles, accountabilities, reporting lines, delegations and resilience arrangements; and
- the Council has the capability to discharge its LGOIMA obligations.

Aspects that are going well

Organisational structure for responding to LGOIMA requests

Council staff are aware that any request for information held is a LGOIMA request. Straightforward requests for information are managed by staff across the Council on the understanding that if the request can be answered quickly by releasing information then it should be.

Where a requester refers to making an official information request, the request is likely to take time to work on, or the information is likely to be withheld, then the request will usually be channelled through the LGOIMA process. This is also the case if the request is on a topic that

has generated a high level of interest, to ensure that responses can be coordinated. In meetings with staff, the issue of frequent requesters was also cited as a reason to refer someone through the formal process. One staff member explained:

> *In my experience, LGOIMA is usually implemented because of a serial, persistent requester of information is taking up considerable staff time. Otherwise, information from my business unit is readily available.*

Co-ordination and oversight of requests referred through the LGOIMA process is managed by an Executive Advisor role dedicated to the official information function. The role reports directly to the CE as part of the Executive and Governance Team (Governance Team). It is currently a contract position for an average of 20 hours a week with flexibility to move up to 40 hours a week for specific projects. Cover for this is also provided by the CE's Executive Assistant. The Governance Team is also available to advise staff dealing with requests both in terms of process and substantive decision-making.

When a request is referred to the LGOIMA process the Executive Advisor allocates the work of gathering information to the relevant team or manager, keeps track of timeframes, obtains any necessary advice or input from the CE or Leadership Team and reviews the final decision on the request. If the decision is non-controversial, the Executive Advisor will sign the response to the requester. If not, then a senior manager or the CE will sign the response.

The structure for responding to LGOIMA requests appears to work well. There seems to be a pragmatic balance between responding to simple requests immediately and having the ability to refer more complex matters to a specific process. As I discuss in the next chapter, I like the fact that the Council has given staff clear and simple guidance about how to decide whether a request can be dealt with by them or whether it should be referred through to the LGOIMA process.

Having a dedicated role for coordinating and overseeing LGOIMA requests from start to finish is invaluable, as is the fact that the role is closely connected with the CE and reports to the Leadership Team. There are also strong links between the dedicated LGOIMA role, the in-house legal advisor, the Community Relations Manager and of course the rest of the Governance Team. This ensures that there is ready access to advice and input into the LGOIMA request where required and that relevant staff have a good overview of what is happening with LGOIMA requests.

In the staff survey, 97 per cent of respondents confirmed that the systems and resources to support them in processing a LGOIMA request were effective. This is a very positive response. In the comments section for this question, the majority of respondents highlighted the fact that they were supported by a subject matter expert (the dedicated role). Training also featured significantly.

LIM reports

Land Information Memorandum (LIM) reports are produced by the Customer Services staff with input across the Council for the various elements that need to be included in the report. Customer Services staff rotate various roles and producing LIM reports is part of the rotation.

The process was significantly automated three to four years ago, which has made it much quicker than the old system of passing the physical file around various contributors.

The placement of the LIM report function as part of Customer Services, and the automation of much of the work, means that there is good capacity amongst customer service staff. Work can be shifted between service centres where necessary. Recently, the team was able to accommodate the state of emergency due to the Pigeon Valley fires by calling on more staff at a different service centre to process LIM reports.

Specialist staff who are called on to contribute to LIM reports will prioritise the work in order to meet the deadlines. However, it can sometimes be difficult to fit it in along with their other work.

Feedback suggests that the organisational structure for producing LIM reports works well, particularly now the system is automated, meaning contributors can add their comments simultaneously.

Requests for information from property files

The Customer Services team also deals with all requests for property files. The Council is still in the process of scanning its property files. This is another role that rotates between Customer Services staff, with a stream of work involving ongoing scanning, and also scanning files that are requested as soon as the request comes in (if it hasn't yet been scanned). Gradually all files will be digitised. If a file has already been digitised, it is a simple process to release the file to a requester.

Administration of meetings

Council meetings are administered by the Governance Team. There are two main work streams; one involves the running of Council meetings, and the other involves the official information function and the Delegations Register.

The work of administering meetings is managed by the Executive Assistants for the CE, Tier 2 managers and the Mayor with the help of a Governance Administrator. The CE's Executive Assistant is the team leader, and has the role of Committee Advisor to the full council. The Executive Assistants to the Tier 2 managers are Committee Advisors to Council committees. If one Executive Assistant is absent or needs help in relation to a particular meeting, others can cover so there is a good level of resilience.

Generally the structure works well. Committee Advisors have an important role to play in ensuring the smooth running of a meeting, and they are able to advise councillors on logistics. If a councillor has a question, they will generally approach the Tier 2 manager responsible for the committee, or the CE in a full council meeting.

Staff are well aware of the process and timeframes for the collation and publication of agendas and associated reports. Decision reports must be reviewed by the Leadership Team. Executive Assistants manage the timeframes and will follow up with staff writing reports if necessary. At times they will be consulted by staff on whether or not something meets the bar for a public

excluded recommendation. Executive Assistants will build up expertise within their Departmental area through their day-to-day work, and their knowledge of the Departmental work is very valuable for their work as a Committee Advisor.

Training

Orientation training runs on a six weekly cycle and each block of new employees is expected to attend these sessions. One session includes an overview of the work of the Governance Team, and broadly covers meeting processes and LGOIMA requests. There are also several components on information management and technology including an information management overview, information services training, and a session on using Promapp (a business process mapping software tool).

More detailed training on meeting processes is provided to elected members at the commencement of each fresh term, and Committee Advisors are trained on the job.

The Executive Advisor regularly offers in-house LGOIMA workshops to all new and existing staff. My investigators had the opportunity to view the training presentation, and discuss the content with the Executive Advisor. The training has been designed by the Executive Advisor to cater specifically for the issues that come up for this Council and to discuss the processes staff can use to deal with requests. The Council has also been active in seeking training from my Office for both staff and elected members. The Executive Advisor will also report to the Leadership Team on any training needs she identifies.

The Customer Services team has its own training programme, which includes training staff on how to produce a LIM report.

Comments from staff and the staff survey results suggest that the training related to LGOIMA is well regarded and effective. Seventy-four percent of staff who responded to my survey confirmed that they feel adequately trained to respond to a LGOIMA request.

Opportunities for improvement

Capacity and resilience for LGOIMA request work

A number of staff in the survey expressed concern at the amount of time that dealing with a LGOIMA request can take and considered that this took away from work that they should be doing instead.

There are no simple answers. Everyone at the Council needs to be conscious that responding to LGOIMA requests is a legitimate use of their time and that this is a core aspect of anyone's role in a public sector organisation; however, it may be that this requires more staff resource.

The Council advised that it has a timesheet system where work carried out can be recorded under various time codes. I understand that the option of using the LGOIMA code for time spent on LGOIMA work is underutilised at present. A starting point would be that staff be encouraged to use it to give managers a better idea of the resource required for business planning purposes.

When asked about the Council's capacity to handle a large influx of requests, staff had mixed views. Of those that responded to this question in the survey, 30.5 per cent indicated that the Council would cope with this and still maintain the quality of its responses, 30.5 per cent thought not and 39 per cent did not know.

When a high profile issue is expected to generate significant public interest, the potential for an influx of requests should be a factor included in any community engagement planning. If information can be proactively released at an earlier stage, this might mitigate the volume of requests.

The Council's current LGOIMA process is quite heavily dependent on the Executive Advisor role. While the CE's Executive Assistant can cover this function, it would be problematic if the Executive Advisor was absent for an extended period. Having a subject matter expert for LGOIMA requests is clearly beneficial for the Council, but does create a vulnerability if the person in the role were to leave. To counter this risk, the Council may wish to consider expanding the specialist knowledge of staff in the Governance Team to create more resilience.

Action points
Encourage staff to use the LGOIMA timesheet code to record time spent working on requests
Consider how to manage a potential increase in LGOIMA requests when planning how to engage with the community on matters likely to be of high public interest
Consider expanding LGOIMA specialist knowledge base

Management of complaints

In the staff survey, some staff comments referred to frequent requesters, vexatious requesters, or requesters who *'are trying to play different bits of the council for their own benefit'.* The time required to deal with these requests was a source of frustration, and a number of staff thought a disproportionate amount of time was spent on supplying information to a small number of people. One commenter made the following observation:

> *The Leadership needs to balance the demand placed on the organisation by regular and vexatious LGOIMA requesters and normal requestors.*

Staff are able to refer more time-consuming matters to the LGOIMA process, which provides some help. However, there doesn't seem to be an appropriate referral point for individuals raising a number of issues additional to making a request. In some instances the LGOIMA database is being used to keep track of communications from individuals who may not be making a request for information but who continue to contact the Council on a frequent basis.

More than one staff member indicated that there is a need for a centralised complaints process for issues that cannot be resolved through initial contacts. I agree.

Developing a centralised complaints process is not a matter that falls within the parameters of this investigation. However, I mention it here because the lack of such a process is starting to encroach on the official information function.

Action point
Consider an alternative framework to the LGOIMA database for dealing with individuals who are raising complaints in their correspondence

Delegations

The Council maintains a comprehensive Delegations Register which provides for delegations from the full council to various committees and the CE. At the introduction of the register, the rationale for having written delegations is set out:

> *Delegations must be unambiguous and made in writing in order to protect both the Council and the delegate.*

In relation to official information, the Register provides:

> *1.5.1 The authority to exercise the Council's powers under Parts II to V of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (except those in section 32 of that Act) is delegated to the Chief Executive.*
>
> *1.5.2 The ability to refuse to release information under Part 1, s6 or s7 (conclusive reasons for withholding information); or Part 2, s17 (refusal of requests) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 is restricted to the Chief Executive.*

In general the Council follows this by requiring most refusal decisions on official information requests to be approved by the CE. However, as I have indicated in other parts of this report, the reality is that a range of staff are in fact responding to LGOIMA requests every day. The Council indicated that in practice where the withholding of information is minimal, for example the deletion of third party personal details, that Council staff would release information with redactions. Similarly, the Executive Advisor and senior managers will from time to time make such decisions on non-controversial information.

I am not clear whether these practices are consistent with the Delegations Register. The delegation to refuse information is described as being 'restricted' to the CE, which implies that this power is not supposed to be delegated. However, this seems inconsistent with LGOIMA, which explicitly grants the CE the power to make a decision on a request and the ability to authorise an employee to do so. The Council cannot resolve to alter this.

LGOIMA has specific provisions that govern the delegation of local authority powers.[7] However other sections in the Act require the CE, *'or an officer or employee authorised by that Chief Executive' to* make a decision or perform an action.[8]

During the course of my investigation the Council conveyed that it will be revising the Delegations Register. I suggest the Council consider the office practices it wants to adopt in

[7] Sections 42 and 43 LGOIMA

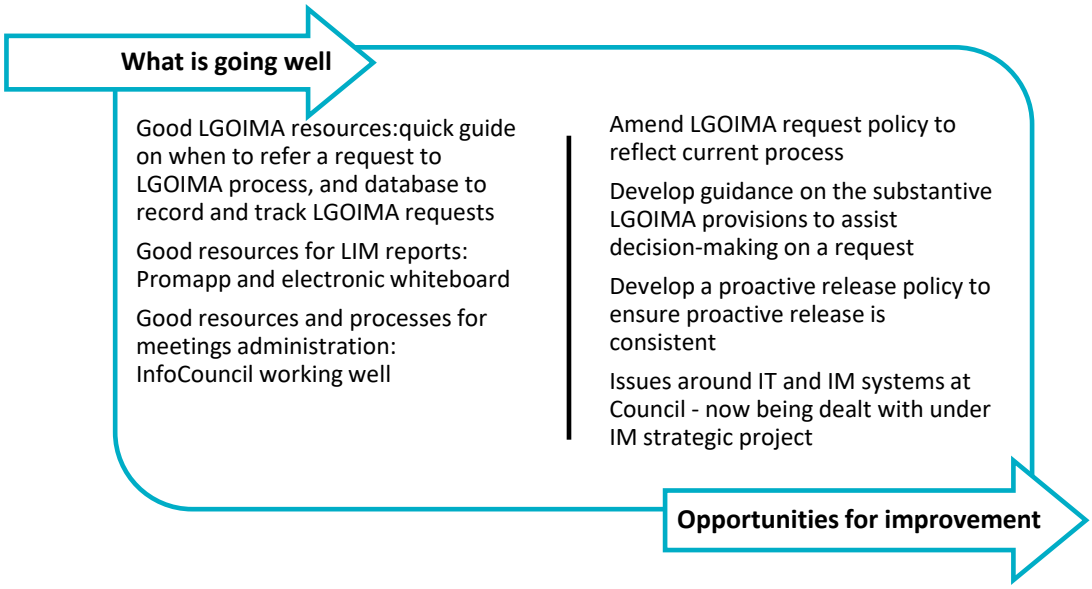
[8] See section 13(5) LGOIMA for example

terms of decision-making on requests, and redraft the delegation to comply with the provisions in LGOIMA that relate to decision-making powers and delegations.

Action point
Review Delegations Register for consistency with LGOIMA delegation provisions and with office practice in respect of decisions on official information requests

Internal policies, procedures and resources

At a glance



While it is not a legislative requirement, nor an assurance that compliance with LGOIMA will occur, I do expect as a matter of good practice that councils develop or adopt policies and procedures that will assist staff to apply the requirements of the Act consistently. In addition, staff should be supported by good systems, tools and resources in their work that will enable agencies to effectively process requests and make good decisions consistent with the provisions in the Act.

To assess Tasman District Council's internal policies, procedures and resources, I considered whether it had accurate, comprehensive, user-friendly and accessible policies, procedures, and resources that enabled staff to give effect to the Act's principles, purposes and statutory requirements. This includes policies, procedures and resources in relation to:

- dealing with official information, the administration of Council meetings, and producing LIM reports;
- records and information management; and
- proactive release of information.

Aspects that are going well

LGOIMA resources

The Council's LGOIMA request policy was written in 2015, and last updated in 2016, so it is not reflective of the current LGOIMA practices. The Council has indicated that the policy is about to be revised in light of the processes it now has in place.

I am pleased to note the definitions of 'information held' and 'request' at the beginning of the policy and how these are expressed, as well as the early reference to the principle of availability meaning that information should be released unless there is a good reason not to.

The policy touches on the main points that staff need to be aware of when dealing with a request, including how to advise a requester about a decision to withhold, how charging should operate, the timeframes for various actions, the need to advise a requester that they can complain to the Ombudsman and the provision of a decision letter template. I like the advisory to staff that no reason for withholding information applies to protect information for all time.

The policy is generally robust, but could do with some improvements, as well as an update on the operational process. I have made some suggestions under the '*Opportunities for improvement'* section of this chapter.

To reflect the process now in operation for LGOIMA processing, there is both a Promapp guide and a hard copy laminated 'quick check' guide. The 'quick check' guide is to help staff assess whether they are dealing with a request that should be referred through the LGOIMA process. This is a great example of a pragmatic way for an agency to set the threshold for referral.

A key resource for LGOIMA work is the LGOIMA database, which came online in September 2017. The database is accessible to all staff, but only the Executive Advisor and CE's Executive Assistant have editing rights.

Staff can use the database to track the progress of requests. They can see whether the same requester has other requests in train or whether there are requests on related topics that might be helpful to know about. Everyone can view the documents in relation to that request.

In our staff survey, 71 per cent of respondents found the official information policies and procedures easy or very easy to access and 75 per cent found them useful or very useful.

LIM resources

The Council's LIM policy sets out the Council's obligations under LGOIMA for producing LIM reports, and includes information about timeframes, payments, and the information that needs to be included on a LIM. It references the discretion to include other information and gives some examples of the type of information that could fall into this category.

Last year the Council introduced an electronic whiteboard for LIMs. Applications for LIMs are logged into the system by Customer Services. The system uses workflows to keep track of the status of a report, and tasks for the various contributors will show up in their workflow.

There are step by step operational instructions set out in Promapp which include directions on how to use the system, what steps need to happen, when and who is responsible for those steps, and where to look to check that all the necessary information has been obtained. There are also references to who can help if something is not working smoothly, or if a report is more complex and requires more resource to meet the timeframe.

Overall the resources available to support customer services staff processing the LIM reports are generally comprehensive and user-friendly for standard LIMs.

I conducted a staff survey specifically about LIM reports, aimed at staff who compile or contribute to the reports. Eighty-nine per cent of staff who responded considered that the systems and resources to support them for producing LIM reports were effective.

Meeting resources

The key resources for the Governance Team in administering meetings are the Standing Orders, a Minutes Protocol and the InfoCouncil programme.

The Standing Orders are published on the Council's website and include all the meeting requirements from LGOIMA and Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, with additional guidance on some parts.

The Minutes Protocol provides guidance on what the minutes should contain including mandatory and best practice elements. The process for finalising and confirming minutes is also set out.

I am pleased that the Minutes Protocol makes the point early on that confidential minutes from a public excluded session may be requested and that withholding would not be automatic:

> *Any request to release confidential minutes still has to be considered under the provisions of LGOIMA. In other words, the fact that the public was excluded from that part of the meeting is not an automatic reason to withhold from the public.*

I also note that the Minutes Protocol is clear that while minutes will only be published on the website when they are confirmed by the next meeting, *'unconfirmed minutes will always be made available to the public on request'.*

There is a section of the Minutes Protocol that refers to minutes from workshops and working parties. It states that for Council workshops and working party meetings formal minutes will not be kept, as informal meeting notes are an adequate form of record. Those notes are expected to contain key outcomes/ actions and the expectations of the next steps. I think the policy wording is good, but I am not clear whether this is being followed. I discuss this further in the chapter on Current Practices.

The Council uses the specialised software programme 'InfoCouncil' to produce its agendas, the reports that go with each agenda item, and the minutes for all Council and committee meetings. InfoCouncil contains report templates and report writers generate their reports in

this programme. The programme prompts the report writer to decide which LGOIMA provision applies if there is going to be a recommendation that the public be excluded for that item.

Opportunities for improvement

LGOIMA request policy

The Council has advised that it is due to update its LGOIMA request policy to reflect the recent changes to its operational practice. This provides an opportunity to review what other information may be useful to include in the policy.

As I discuss in the first chapter, I want to see more emphasis on transparency and accountability in Council documents, and I think this is especially important for the LGOIMA request policy. While there is a statement referencing these concepts in the definition of 'public interest' it could be more prominent.

In respect of 'procedure', the policy suggests that a number of actions need to occur within 20 working days. The list currently includes transferring the request. Section 12 of LGOIMA requires transfers to be notified within 10 working days, so this part of the policy needs to be corrected.

The section on charging acknowledges that a charge must be reasonable and refers to a manager's discretion in deciding how much of the staff time should be charged. I think this needs greater explanation. Ombudsman investigations of complaints about charging will look at the rate charged, the length of time involved, and whether there are public interest reasons or hardship reasons for some or all of the charge to be remitted. The Council does not have a separate charging policy, so its approach to charging needs to be fully explained in this policy.

Action point

In its review of the LGOIMA request policy, Council should consider:

- incorporating an introductory statement about the role of LGOIMA in promoting the transparency and accountability of the Council;
- amending the timeframe for transfer of a request from 20 to 10 working days; and
- including information that explains a charge might be remitted and what factors are relevant to a decision to remit or reduce a charge

Guidance on how to apply the LGOIMA provisions

The Council does not have any internal written guidance for staff on how to apply the various LGOIMA withholding provisions, or how to assess these against the public interest where applicable. Nor is there any substantive guidance on the administrative refusal grounds, transfers or extensions.

I acknowledge that having a dedicated LGOIMA role means that more complex matters are likely to be dealt with by a subject matter expert with ready access to guidance from legal

counsel and senior managers. Nonetheless, I think it would be helpful for staff working on requests to have access to user-friendly substantive guidance.

My Office is working on a programme of publishing comprehensive guides on various OIA/LGOIMA provisions. A number of new guides have been produced and are available on my website. It may be useful for staff to have quick links to these guides.

The Council could consider developing its own targeted guidance which captures common request areas or public exclusion reasons and gives examples of the Council's general approach. The guidance should include some discussion around how to weigh public interest considerations, and what those might be in a particular example.

Action point
Develop more guidance resources for staff on substantive LGOIMA provisions

Proactive release policy

The Council has no policy on proactive release, although it has demonstrated that it does consider proactive release regularly. I think the Council should consider developing a proactive release policy to reflect and regularise its practice in this respect. The policy can be principles based rather than setting any hard targets, but it should be incorporated into the policy framework. This could be as a stand-alone policy, part of its LGOIMA request policy, or in its community engagement policies.

In undertaking such an exercise the Council would be able to recognise where it is already releasing information proactively, and consider other areas where information could be published without issue. I acknowledge that the community engagement arm of the Council will want to ensure the information published is of public interest and does not make the website more difficult to use.

Action point
Develop a proactive release policy

Record keeping and information management

Systems and procedures

As discussed in the chapter on Leadership and Culture, staff comments from the surveys and the meetings with my investigators indicated that record keeping and information management is a major concern.

The primary concerns relate to the complexity and range of the business information systems in use, including a significant number of paper records. There are also issues around the compatibility of business information systems with each other.

Because Tasman District Council is a unitary authority, there is a larger number of different IT systems operating independently than would be the case with a standalone territorial authority or regional council. In this context a staff member observed in the survey:

> *While we like to provide open access to a lot of our data (e.g. our environmental data), a lot of our data is contained in legacy systems, a lot of our data would be hard to access (internally as well as externally) due to it being poorly structured and requiring interpretation by staff who are busy or may have left. In short we would need a large investment in reengineering a number of our IT systems before our data could become fully open and transparent.*

My investigators heard from Council staff that record keeping tends to be managed within specific work groups rather than across the whole organisation. As a result, there is no shared understanding across the Council about where some types of information might be or should be, or if the information is duplicated across a number of systems. This 'silo' approach to information management will, among other things, impact the Council's ability to respond accurately to official information requests and on LIM quality.

Staff gave examples of information they had not realised existed until a conversation with a colleague who had been in the organisation longer advised them that the information could be found on a paper file.

Aside from a review of the business information systems, staff comments indicated that there is a need to improve understanding around record-keeping obligations across the Council. At present there is no consistent operational understanding on how the Council expects staff to create, maintain and dispose of records. Staff across the organisation have different views about what their record-keeping responsibilities are and who is responsible for dealing with a particular record.

The Council has commenced a strategic project to replace the current EDRMS with an EDRMS better suited to its needs. The second strand of the project involves improving the Council's information management policies and procedures.

Policies

There is a Records Management policy dated 2014 which will be part of this review. The policy as it currently stands sets out high level responsibilities for the Council and staff in terms of good record keeping principles and legislative requirements. There is some operational information contained in the policy about the responsibilities of staff at various levels, however it is likely this needs updating. For example I note that staff are advised to forward emails telephone notes, correspondence and file notes to the Records Services Team for filing, however I understand this would not be the current process.

There is an information management session included in the orientation programme for new staff, and one- to-one training is provided to new staff to assist them with the systems they will have to use regularly. Some guidance on how to save records is also provided in Promapp.

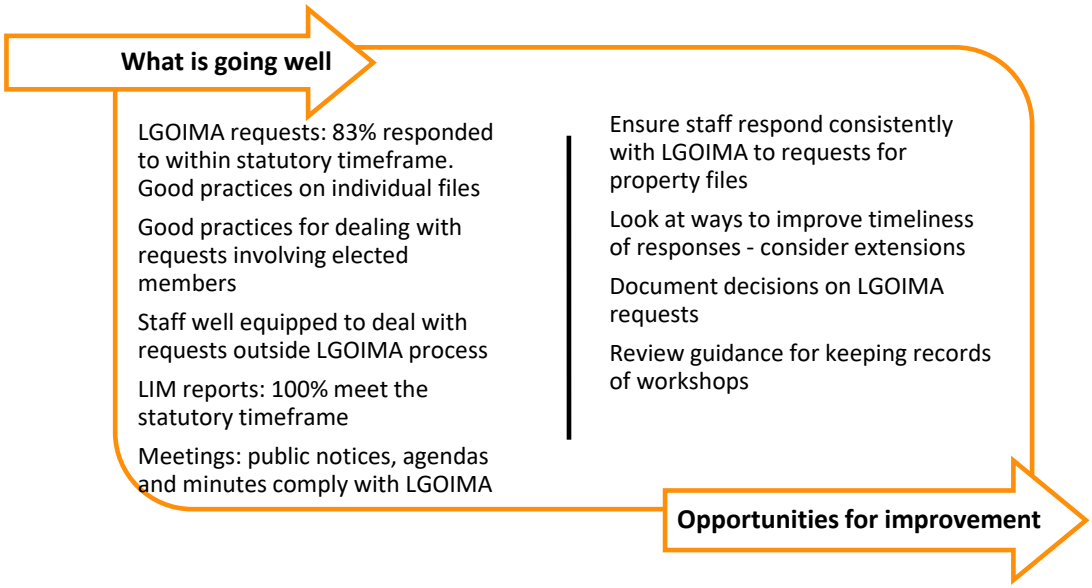
Of the responses received to our staff survey, 51 per cent found the information management policies easy or very easy to access, 19.5 per cent found them difficult or very difficult to access and 29 per cent did not know how easy they were to access. In response to a question about the usefulness of information management policies, 42 per cent of staff found the policies useful or very useful, 26 per cent found them not useful, and 32 per cent did not know how useful they were.

Given that the Council has commenced a project to address the information management and record-keeping problems, it would be unhelpful for me to suggest any specific actions at this point. However, I want to monitor the Council's progress on this. I suggest the Council update me at appropriate intervals on how the project is progressing.

Action point
Update the Chief Ombudsman on Information Management project progress at appropriate intervals

Current practices

At a glance



The effectiveness of LGOIMA is largely dependent on those who implement it on a day-to-day basis and how they apply the resources available to them to manage the realities of giving effect to the Act.

To assess the current practices of Tasman District Council I consider whether:

- the Council's practices demonstrate understanding and commitment to the principles and requirements of LGOIMA;
- Council staff have a good technical knowledge of LGOIMA; and
- the Council is coping with the volume and complexity of its LGOIMA work and is compliant with the Act.

Aspects that are going well

Official information practices

The Council supplied statistics on LGOIMA requests from the time the LGOIMA database went live in September 2017 through to June 2018.

The total number of requests formally logged as LGOIMA requests for this period was 145. The majority of requests were responded to within the statutory timeframe; however, there is room to do better, and I discuss this under '*Opportunities for improvement*' below.

The average time to respond to a request over this period was 11 working days. This is a comparatively good figure.

My investigators reviewed 10 LGOIMA request records from the LGOIMA database from a three-month period to get a sense of how the Council manages varying types of request. In the files reviewed, I was pleased to note the following:

- Every response provided advice to the requester that they could complain to the Ombudsman if not satisfied with the response received.
- The acknowledgement email for a request advises the requester that the law requires the Council to respond *'as soon as is reasonably practicable'* and gives the due date for that request.
- The language used in communications with requesters was easy to understand and the information requested was conveyed as simply as possible – for example, in a reply email using different colours to answer particular questions.
- It was clear across all the files that the Council strived to give information where it could, sometimes above and beyond what was asked for.
- A record was kept of the information released.
- A verbal request was properly recorded and appropriately dealt with.
- There was a good example of clarification with a requester within seven working days of receiving the request, and the amendment of the timeframe for a response was correctly applied from the date the requester clarified their request.
- A request was transferred within 1 working day.
- The statutory timeframes were met for eight of the ten files.
- The information available on the database and visible at first glance was very useful; it included the name of the requester, date and due date for request, whom the request was allocated to, where the correspondence on the request is stored, and a space for additional notes.

Two practice issues were noted. The Council needs to log requests received by email outside working hours on the day they are actually received, not the next working day;[9] and when imposing a charge, the Council needs to ensure it excludes the provision of any personal information from the calculation of the charge.[10]

[9] Refer to the guide produced by my Office; *Requests made online* guide available at http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/system/paperclip/document_files/document_files/2469/original/online_requests.pdf?1516146949

[10] The Privacy Act 1993 does not allow public sector agencies to charge for making personal information available – see section 35.

Requests involving elected members

Councils will generally supply decision-making information to councillors under the common law need-to-know principle. Where a councillor requests further information, a Council can consider whether the information should be supplied on the same basis, or whether it is more appropriate to treat it as a LGOIMA request. The important point is that when a councillor requests information, that request is subject to LGOIMA, as when anyone else requests information.

Staff at Tasman District Council demonstrated a good understanding of how LGOIMA applies to requests from elected members. Information requests from elected members will often go through the CE. If information is released to one councillor that relates to Council business, the standard practice is to release the information to the other councillors. Staff will also direct councillors to the LGOIMA process where appropriate, for example if a request will involve a lot of work or relates to a topical issue.

The Council has also had recent experience of a request from a member of the public for meeting notes made by an individual councillor. Initially the Council refused the request on the basis that it considered it did not hold the information. It had not checked with the councillor as to whether there were any notes. The requester complained to my office, and after I notified an investigation, it was established that the councillor did make some notes, and the Council accepted that it was deemed to hold this information. On reviewing the notes, the Council concluded there was no basis under LGOIMA to withhold them and released the notes to the requester.

Council staff indicated this was a useful learning experience for the Council to realise the reach of LGOIMA in covering information held by councillors, where that information relates to council business. The process of consulting the elected member and obtaining the information from them was straightforward and the elected member was happy to assist.

I think the Council is clear on the boundaries between governance and operations when dealing with LGOIMA requests. Councillors will be consulted on a request only where appropriate or necessary, and councillors are themselves referred through the LGOIMA process if they are seeking information that is not part of the usual information sharing process between councillors and the organisation. The Council's professionalism in this area is admirable, in particular that Council management does not feel the need to restrict communications from councillors to particular channels or certain staff.

Dealing with requests outside the prescribed process

Public enquiries

The Council's Customer Services department can deal with 300 calls a day. It also manages the Council's 'info' email inbox and assist people who visit the service centres in person.

A significant proportion of those contacts will involve requests for official information. Wherever possible, staff will provide the information requested as soon as possible or direct a requester to where they can source the information. Staff are aware that LGOIMA applies to

any request for official information held, and use the 'quick check' guide to see if they can deal with it directly themselves, or should refer it to the Governance Team as a LGOIMA request. If a customer services officer is unsure they can check with their Team Leader.

Triaging requests for official information in this way is practical and efficient so long as it is understood across an organisation that staff must act consistently with LGOIMA when responding to a request. In reality this may make little practical difference where staff can provide information that satisfies the requester within their preferred timeframe.

The important point is that where information is refused, the refusal decision must be communicated in accordance with section 18 of LGOIMA, which requires that the Council:

- provide the reason for the refusal and, if requested, the grounds in support of that reason; and
- advise the requester that they may make a complaint to the Ombudsman and seek an investigation and review of this decision.

From the information provided by the Council and the comments staff made to my investigators, I am satisfied that the training and guidance given to staff is clear on when LGOIMA applies, and on the need to refer a request to the Governance Team if information is likely to be refused.

Media enquiries

The Council's media policy has an open approach to media requests. Media are able to contact staff directly rather than being channelled through communications advisors. The policy espouses the view that it is more useful and transparent for the media to be able to talk to the subject matter expert.

The policy specifies that the information provided should be factual only. Where media are seeking opinion or comment this is considered to be the role of the elected members not staff.

LGOIMA will apply where staff are providing factual information in response to a media request regardless of whether the Act is referred to or not.

Staff are aware that LGOIMA applies, and that where a media request meets the threshold set out in the quick guide, then it should be referred to the Governance Team.

Producing LIM reports

The Council's Long Term Plan contains targets for LIM reports regarding the statutory timeframe and the average number of working days to process a LIM. In the last financial year (1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018) the Council processed 771 LIM reports and met its target of 100 per cent compliance with the 10 working day timeframe set out in LGOIMA.

It did not achieve its target of taking an average of five working days to process a LIM report but it did reduce the average timeframe from seven working days to 6.5 working days. Given that as a unitary authority, the Council will have to check and potentially collate more

information for LIM purposes, it seems to me that the Council is doing well on LIM timeframes particularly given the challenges posed by how property information is stored.

Publication of meeting notices, agendas and minutes

I am satisfied that the Council appears to be generally compliant with the statutory requirements for public notification of meetings, publication of agendas and issuing minutes.

LGOIMA meeting notification requirements have specific timeframes. The public is notified of meetings initially by publication of the annual schedule of meetings agreed on by the Council at the beginning of the year. The Council publishes meeting notices it in its fortnightly *Newsline* newsletter, and in other local newspapers in the alternate week of the fortnight, which meets these requirements. The Council also updates the meetings calendar on its website whenever a meeting is changed, added or cancelled, and this notifies the public and councillors at the same time.

LGOIMA provides that agendas and associated reports must be made available for public inspection two working days in advance of a Council, Committee or Community Board meeting. Staff that met with my investigators indicated that the Council is well organised about the meeting cycle and has internal deadlines for reports that are rarely missed. The Council aims to get the agendas ready by five working days before a meeting, and will distribute the agendas to councillors, put them on website and have hard copies available at the service centres and libraries.

I asked the Council to supply me with records of the last five meetings in order to assess compliance with LGOIMA timeframes. The timing of my request meant that the last five meetings occurred in November and December 2018. I note that in that period, the dates given to me for the publication of agendas suggested that the two working day timeframe was not always met. The Council has explained that due to the Waimea Dam decision-making process, there had been five full council meetings between October and December 2018, where there would normally only have been two. This is unprecedented and significantly stretched staff resources at the time. I was advised that on one occasion during this period staff worked until close to midnight to ensure the rule of two clear working days was observed.

Minutes are published on the website when they are confirmed at the next meeting, and unconfirmed minutes are made available to the public on request. There have been some recent departures from this process which I discuss further in the last chapter on performance and monitoring.

Opportunities for improvement

Dealing with property file requests under LGOIMA

Requests for information from a property file are not often considered to be LGOIMA requests. This is probably because the Building Act 2004 provides for public access to certain types of information about a building. That access right is subject to LGOIMA withholding provisions.[11]

The Building Act gives the public a right of inspection and photocopying of certain documents at Council premises during ordinary working hours. However LGOIMA applies to any information held (including non-documentary information) and envisages the supply of that information to a requester within a statutory timeframe. I understand that councils will often keep a range of information on a property file that will in many cases extend beyond the documents specified under the Building Act. That information falls outside the Building Act provisions but not outside LGOIMA.

In my opinion, a request for information from a property file is also subject to LGOIMA. Where the Council releases the information requested and the requester is satisfied, then the fact that LGOIMA applies makes little difference to the outcome. However I understand that the usual practice for property file requests would be to release the standard documents to which the Building Act provides a right of access. Other information held on the file would not always be released, and often there will be no reference to this in the reply to the requester.

Where information is not released in response to a request that could reasonably be expected to captured that information, this amounts to a refusal. Compliance with LGOIMA requires that the requester be notified of the decision to refuse that information, the grounds for that refusal, and their right to complain to the Ombudsman.

There are some simple steps that can be taken to ensure that property file requests are compliant with LGOIMA. The first step is to be clear both in information available on the website, and in the Council's initial interactions with the requester, what a request for a 'property file' will be assumed to cover. The requester then has an opportunity to specify differently if he or she wants to. Written communications with the requester, ideally when acknowledging receipt of the request for a property file, should also state clearly what the request has been interpreted to cover, and that if the requester is seeking all the information in relation to a property then this would need to be considered separately. This can be repeated whether in a covering email or letter, or by way of a disclaimer, when the file information is released.

Customer Services staff have dealt with requests for confidential information from a property file and know to refer this to the Governance Team as a LGOIMA. However, the Council may need to take steps to ensure it is complying with LGOIMA for standard property file requests.

Action point
Ensure that all property file requests are handled in accordance with LGOIMA

[11] Sections 216-2017 of the Building Act 2004.

Meeting the statutory timeframes for LGOIMA requests

Of the 145 requests logged in the LGOIMA database between September 2017 and June 2018, 121 were responded to within the statutory timeframe and 24 outside that timeframe. This means the Council met the statutory timeframe for only 83 per cent of requests during that period. This is comparatively low and I want to see this improve.

The Council was asked to select reasons, in order of priority, for missing the statutory timeframes. The Council's top four reasons for delays, in priority order were:

1. Complexity and broad scope of the request
2. Factors external to the individual request (eg high numbers of requests, resource constraints)
3. Difficulties locating or collating the information
4. Waiting to receive advice or documents from different sections of the Council

The Council can take steps to improve its performance on meeting statutory timeframes.

The Council reported that it did not notify extensions to the timeframe for responding to any of these 145 requests. However, extending the response timeframe is a legitimate option if the request involves collating or searching through a large amount of information, and this would unreasonably interfere with Council operations.

If Council leadership places value on meeting the statutory timeframes, then there will be organisational awareness that this is important and will encourage individuals to reprioritise work in order to better achieve deadlines. Having a slightly more layered delegation for some types of request could also reduce the time required for the sign out process.

The difficulties with how information is stored and retrieved is not going to be fixed quickly, but in the longer term the planned improvements should also improve timeliness.

Action points
Consider the use of appropriate mechanisms available in LGOIMA, such as extensions, if the timeframe for responding is at risk of being exceeded

Documenting decisions on LGOIMA requests

There is currently no practice of separately recording or summarising the decision-making process on a request. Requests, responses, and internal email correspondence are kept in a LGOIMA email archive folder which can be retrieved if necessary. If there have been verbal discussions about the approach to a request, these will not be captured.

There will be many requests where the written decision on the request provides an adequate record and little else is required. However, where information is refused, a charge is imposed, a third party is consulted, or potentially controversial information is released, then the following information should be recorded:

- the reasons for withholding information – not just a reference to the section but a brief explanation of how and why the relevant withholding ground applies to the information requested in this case;
- if withholding is being considered under section 7(2), how the public interest test in section 7(1) was considered;
- if a charge is being imposed, what the amount of the charge is and how this has been calculated, and all the communications with the requester about the imposition of that charge;
- if a possibly controversial decision to release information is being made – the reasons for that decision (for example how privacy or commercial sensitivity grounds were considered, or whether the decision to release was due to the public interest);
- if the requested information involves a third party, the consultation that took place with that third party and how the third party's views were considered;
- any administrative difficulties that arose in processing the request. For example: where a request involves a large amount of information, or is for information that might exist but cannot be found, a record of the steps taken to assess the volume of information, the steps taken to look for information, and the work involved in responding to a request. This is important information to justify an administrative refusal of a request, or the imposition of a charge. It's also a record of what repositories of information were searched in case of a future complaint, or a similar request.

Action point
Record the reasoning behind LGOIMA decisions including any consideration of the public interest and the results of consultations with third parties
Record the administrative steps taken in respect of LGOIMA responses where relevant

Council's response

In response to my provisional opinion, the Council commented that while there is no specific template record for decisions made, there will be a comprehensive email trail of input from staff at all levels which is likely to demonstrate the rationale behind each response.

My comment

While an email trail can explain the rationale for a decision, there is value in having the information listed above collated in one place. I encourage the Council to keep a decision record that staff can easily access when considering how to manage new requests. This is important to ensure consistent decision making, or to justify departing from a standard approach. Having a decision-making template can also act as a guide to ensure various steps in the decision-making process are taken – for example, ensuring that the public interest was considered, and how.

Records of council workshops

As discussed in the previous chapter, the Minutes Protocol has a provision about minutes or informal meeting notes for a Council workshop. However, I understand that current practice may not reflect this. My investigators were advised that committee advisors no longer attend workshops, so that staff are aware that workshops are not a formal process. No formal records of individual workshops are kept but they are diarised with a note about the subject matter.

A few staff noted that once the issue being workshopped has gone through to a formal council meeting, materials and workshop content will frequently be included in the public report on the matter, and so will be released in some form.

I understand the concern that all parties attending workshops need to be aware that a workshop is not a formal council meeting and that decisions cannot be made in these forums. I also acknowledge that workshop material or discussion may end up being released later on in the process.

A LGOIMA request can be made for an attendee's recollections or personal notes of workshops. While in some instances there may be a basis for withholding this information, the Council nonetheless has to extract it first before considering whether there is a basis to withhold it. Dealing with requests of that nature can therefore be administratively complicated.

I think it is a matter of good practice to have clarity and consistency around record keeping for workshops. I am also mindful of the Public Records Act obligations to create and maintain full and accurate records.[12] It seems to me that it would be helpful to have a standard approach to the type of record kept for Workshops, and that the record should at least summarise what the workshop was about.

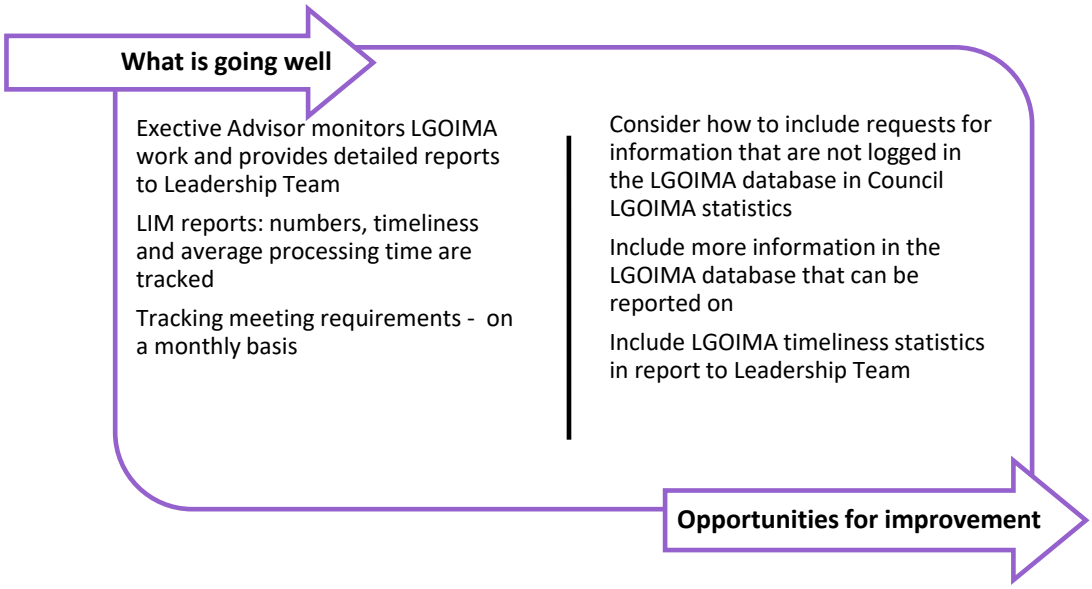
It seems to me that the provision in the Minutes Protocol provides a good starting point. It would benefit from some instructions about where workshop records should be saved, and extend to include keeping a record of any materials presented or distributed to workshop attendees.

Action point
Review guidance for keeping records of council workshops

[12] Section 17(1) Public Records Act 2005

Performance monitoring and learning

At a glance



Ombudsmen have consistently advocated maintaining a full audit trail in respect of any decision made by an agency. Making decisions under LGOIMA is no different. Once this information is recorded, agencies have a wealth of information that can be used to inform business planning and future decisions concerning access to information – but only if it is captured in a way that is meaningful, facilitates subsequent analysis, and regular monitoring and reporting occurs.

To assess performance monitoring and learning of the Council in respect of its LGOIMA obligations, I considered whether:

- the Council had an established system for capturing meaningful information about its LGOIMA activities and established appropriate and relevant performance measures;
- there was regular reporting and monitoring about the Council's management performance in respect of LGOIMA compliance; and
- the Council learned from data analysis and practice.

Aspects that are going well

Monitoring LGOIMA official information work

The Executive Advisor provides regular monthly reports and updates to the Leadership Team. The reports include current requests of interest, suggestions for the proactive release of information, and Ombudsman investigations and enquiries. The reports also record the

training provided to staff, identify any new training and resource needs, and update any progress in LGOIMA resource development. These matters will be discussed in the Leadership Team meeting. Minutes from the Leadership Team meetings are disseminated to tier 3 managers to share with their teams.

The LGOIMA database allows for collation of basic data from requests logged in the system. The Executive Advisor uses this to create reports to the Leadership Team on the number of requests and the average number of working days the Council is taking to respond.

The regular reporting from the Executive Advisor means that the Council leadership has an excellent grasp of its organisational performance in this area. Through this reporting, and input from the Community Relations Team, the Leadership Team is well placed to consider proactive release options where appropriate, and does so. I have made some suggestions to improve the reporting of statistical information to the Leadership Team in the '*Opportunities for improvement*' section below.

Quality assurance for work on LGOIMA requests is provided by the organisational track as all responses on formal LGOIMAs go through the Executive Advisor who is the subject matter expert. The in-house solicitor is available for complex matters. The Executive Advisor is also proactive in working with the Ombudsman's Office regarding best practice.

Measuring LIM performance

The Long Term Plan has targets for LIM reports regarding the statutory timeframe and the average number of working days for processing. The relevant tier 2 and tier 3 managers continually monitor how the Council is tracking on these targets. Achieving the LTP targets for LIMs is a performance indicator in the position descriptions for those managers.

Quality assurance for LIM reports is managed by a peer review before issuing a report.

Tracking meeting requirements

The CE recently advised my office that, following a request from a member of the public for copies of minutes, it became aware that its usual process for minutes had not been followed. Confirmed minutes for three meetings in October, November and December 2018 had not been uploaded to the website, and another set of unconfirmed minutes from November 2018 had not yet been referred to the Council to be confirmed.

The Council considers this oversight to be most unusual and that it likely occurred as a result of the increased pressure on staff resources during the Waimea Dam meetings, and the Pigeon Valley fires.

I appreciate that in busy times matters can be overlooked, and that the LGOIMA requirement is to have the minutes available for public inspection, rather than having minutes uploaded to the website. Nonetheless, as the Council recognises, having minutes available on the website is the usual practice of most councils and an important accountability mechanism.

The CE has advised that the Council will now be carrying out monthly reporting to ensure this does not happen again. I commend the Council for taking this initiative. If it is not already doing so, I suggest that it would be useful to also track agenda timeframes in that reporting process.

Opportunities for improvement

Counting official information requests

As discussed in previous chapters, only a small percentage of the LGOIMA requests the Council responds to are recorded in the LGOIMA database. Enquiries from the public, media enquiries and property file requests are not included in the Council's LGOIMA statistics. In some instances, as with media and some public enquiries, no record is kept. In other cases, there will be records of the request kept in a different format, for example as a service request.

I would like the Council to consider how it might better capture the number of official information requests it is dealing with through these different channels. I am not expecting every interaction involving a request to be recorded. However it seems likely that there could be a way to report on numbers of property file requests. There are a number of ways it might also be possible to provide a reasonable estimate of requests for information dealt with by customer services.

Reporting the LGOIMA requests being managed through these different activities will provide a more accurate picture. Making this information available internally and externally could have an immediate positive impact on perceptions of transparency.

Action point
Consider ways to include customer service, media, elected member and property file requests in LGOIMA statistics

Capturing useful information about requests

I also consider that the Council would benefit from increasing the type of reportable data it collects about the requests in the LGOIMA database.

It would be useful to have fields that would allow collation of statistics on the subject matter of the request; response timeframes and whether these were inside or outside the statutory timeframe; extensions; and the outcome of the request – including reference to a withholding ground or whether a charge was imposed.

This information would assist the Council to track its performance in terms of timeliness, whether the number of extensions indicates a resource issue, as well as trends in the subject matter of requests. Having a field for the outcome would give the Council an idea of how often it was releasing or withholding information and how often charges are imposed.

Action point
Consider whether it is possible to add information fields in the LGOIMA database for the following: • Subject matter of the request • Response timeframes and compliance with statutory maximums • Extensions notified • Outcome of request including withholding ground/charging information

Statistical reporting to Leadership Team

The report provided to the Leadership Team on LGOIMA requests gives overall numbers, and the average number of working days to answer a request each month. However, this form of reporting does not inform the Council how it is tracking in terms of meeting statutory timeframes. I suggest it would be helpful to amend the reports to include figures on this.

Action point
Include statistics on compliance with statutory timeframes in reports to the Leadership Team.

Appendix 1: LGOIMA practice investigation terms of reference

This document sets out the terms of reference for a self-initiated investigation by the Chief Ombudsman into the practices of Tasman District Council relating to the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA).[13]

Purpose of the investigation

The investigation will consider how the Council works to achieve the purposes of the LGOIMA through its processing and decision-making under that Act, (in relation to both the Act's official information and meetings parts).

The investigation will include consideration of the Council's supporting administrative structures, leadership and culture, processes and practices, including information management public participation, and proactive release of information to the extent that these relate to achieving the purposes of the LGOIMA.

The investigation will identify areas of good practice, and make suggestions for improvement opportunities if any areas of vulnerability are identified.[14]

Scope of the investigation

The investigation will evaluate the Council's leadership and culture, organisational systems, policies, practices and procedures needed to achieve the purposes of the LGOIMA, with reference to a set of indicators, grouped around the following dimensions:

- Leadership and culture
- Organisation structure, staffing and capability
- Internal policies, procedures, resources and systems
- Current practices
- Performance monitoring and learning

The investigation will include consideration of how the Council liaises with its elected members on LGOIMA requests, and may meet with elected members if, as the investigation progresses, it would be prudent to. The investigation will also consider how the agency administers Part 7

[13] See sections 13(1) and 13(3) of the Ombudsmen Act 1975 (OA).

[14] Formal recommendations under the OA will only be made if the Chief Ombudsman forms an opinion that a decision, recommendation, act, or omission by the agency was unreasonable or contrary to law under section 22 of the OA.

Local Authority meetings. The investigation will not consider decisions taken by full council (committee of the whole).[15] However, in relation to decisions by full council, the reasonableness of any advice provided by officials or employees, on which the decision was based may be considered as part of the investigation.

The investigation will not consider the processes and decision making of Council Controlled Organisations (CCOs) or Community Boards (CBs), as they are separate statutory entities and are subject to obligations under the LGOIMA in their own right.[16] However, the investigation will consider the extent to which the agency subject to the investigation has appropriate processes, policies or resources in place to manage the relationship between the CCO or CB and the council in relation to:

- Transferring requests to ensure compliance with the requirements of s 12 of LGOIMA
- Decision making and accountability on a request, in that the lines of accountability and decision making are clear between the Council and CCO or CB particularly in circumstances where the Council provides administrative support for LGOIMA responses.[17]
- Consultation on requests, to ensure the process is managed appropriately.

A sample of decisions reached by the Council on individual LGOIMA requests may be considered as part of this investigation, to assist the Chief Ombudsman's understanding of the Council's official information practices. Other samples that may be reviewed include records of the processing of Land Information Memorandum requests (LIM), and records of recent Council meetings.

If evidence emerges concerning specific examples of LGOIMA breach, then a determination will be made in each case as to whether it can be addressed adequately within this investigation, or whether a separate stand-alone intervention is warranted. Any process issues which can be resolved during the course of the investigation will be rectified immediately.

Investigation process

The Manager Official Information Practice Investigations will work with a team of Senior Investigators and Investigators to assist the Chief Ombudsman conduct the investigation. The investigation team will liaise with your nominated contact official during the investigation. Information may be gathered through the processes set out below.

[15] See s13(1) Ombudsmen Act 1975

[16] Council Controlled Organisations are subject to Parts 1-6 of LGOIMA see section 74 of Local Government Act 2002.

[17] The decision must be made by the chief executive or any officer or employee authorised by the chief executive see section 13(5). Elected members (mayors or councillors or members of boards) are not officers or employees and are therefore not permitted to make decisions on LGOIMA requests.

Information gathering

The information for the investigation will be gathered through desk research, a detailed survey of the Council 's official information practices, a staff survey, a survey of elected members, meetings with key staff, and a survey of key external stakeholders. As usual, any requests for information during this investigation will be made pursuant to section 19 of the Ombudsmen Act 1975 and subject to the secrecy provisions in section 21 of that Act.

Desk research

A review of publicly available information including the Council's annual reports, strategic intentions documents, and any other material made available on its website. Desk research will also review data and information held by the Office of the Ombudsman (for example, statistical data).

Surveys

The following surveys will be conducted:

- A survey of the agency, including requests for the supply of internal documents about:
  - Authorisations to make decisions on LGOIMA requests
  - Strategic plans, work programmes, operational plans
  - Policies, procedures and guidance on responding to LGOIMA requests
  - Training materials and quality assurance processes
  - Reports on LGOIMA performance and compliance to the agency's senior management
  - The logging and tracking of LGOIMA requests for response
  - Template documents for different aspects of request processing
  - Policies, procedures and guidance on records and information management to the extent they facilitate achieving the purposes of the LGOIMA
  - Policies, procedures and guidance on proactive publication
- A survey of council staff about their experience of the LGOIMA culture and practice within the council
- A survey of key media and stakeholder organisations that have sought information from the agency -the Chief Ombudsman may issue a media release that includes a link to the stakeholder survey.
- A survey of elected members, asking them about training received on LGOIMA, information management, and their roles and responsibilities under LGOIMA.

Meetings

In addition to the meeting between the Chief Ombudsman and the Council's Chief Executive, the investigation team will meet with staff within the agency as set out in the schedule below. Also included is the likely length of time required for each meeting:

A member or members of staff with responsibility for	Approximate time required
Strategic direction, organisation and operational performance	1 hour
Logging and allocating and tracking LGOIMA requests, processing and dispatch of LGOIMA requests	1 hour
Providing information in response to LGOIMA requests.	½ to 1 hour
Decision makers on LGOIMA requests	½ hour
Media/communications	1 hour
External relations / stakeholder engagement	1 hour
Website content	½ hour
Information management	½ hour
Human Resources and training	½ hour
Providing legal advice on the LGOIMA, including the application of refusal grounds, when a response is being prepared, and 'public excluded' resolutions	1 hour
Receiving public enquiries (receptionist, call centre manager if relevant)	½ hour
Those involved in the administration and arrangement of meetings under part 7, for example the Council Secretary or meeting secretary, and including council staff who provide advice and make recommendations to elected members as to whether items should be discussed as public excluded meetings.	1 hour

A summary of key points gathered from the meetings will be sent by email to the individual staff to confirm accuracy.

The investigation team may meet with additional staff, as the investigation progresses.

Other

A review of the Council's intranet.

A review of a sample of files held by the Council on previous requests for information, previous requests for LIMs and records held on recent Council meetings.

Fact checking

After all the information has been gathered, an initial summary of the facts relevant to support each of the indicators will be sent to the Council to ensure any relevant information has not been overlooked.

Reporting

Draft report

The draft report of the Chief Ombudsman's investigation will cover the indicators and incorporate good practices as well as any issues that may have been identified during the investigation. The draft report will outline the Chief Ombudsman's provisional findings and when relevant, identify the suggestions and/or recommendations that may be made to improve Council's official information practices. The draft will be provided to the Chief Executive for comment.

The Chief Ombudsman is required to consult with the mayor or chairperson before he forms his final opinion, if the mayor or chairperson so requests.[18]

Final report

Comments received on the draft report will be considered for amendment of, or incorporation into, the final report. The Chief Ombudsman will provide the final report to the Chief Executive of the Council so that she can respond to the findings and suggestions and/or recommendations.

The final report will be made available to the Council's Mayor, published on the Ombudsman's website, and tabled in Parliament.

Evaluation

Following completion of his investigation, the Chief Ombudsman will conduct a review exercise as part of his Continuous Improvement programme. This will involve seeking the views of the Council's senior managers on their experience of this practice investigation, its value and relevance to their improving their work practices, and how future investigations may be improved when applied to other agencies.

[18] See section 18(5) Ombudsmen Act 1975.

Appendix 2: Key dimensions and indicators

Introduction

There are five key dimensions that have an impact on official information good practice in local government agencies:

Leadership and culture

Organisation structure, staffing and capability

Internal policies, procedures and resources

Current practice

Performance monitoring and learning

These dimensions are underpinned by a series of **indicators,** which describe the elements of good practice we would expect to see in order to evaluate whether each of the dimensions is being met.

These indicators are not exhaustive and do not preclude an agency demonstrating that good practice in a particular area is being met in other ways.

Note: Where this document refers to 'official information requests', this includes requests made under Part 2, Part 3, Part 4 and applications for Land Information Memoranda under section 44A.

Leadership and culture

Achieving the purposes of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) largely depends on the attitudes and actions of leaders, including elected members[19], chief executives, senior leaders and managers within the agency.

Elected members, chief executives and senior managers should take the lead in promoting openness and transparency, championing positive engagement with official information legislation.

Elements	Things to look for (indicators)
Elected members, chief executives, senior leaders and managers demonstrate a commitment to the agency meeting its obligations under the Act and actively foster a culture of openness within the agency	✓ Chief executives, leaders and the relevant elected members work together to promote a culture of positive LGOIMA compliance and good administrative practice ✓ Senior leaders make clear regular statements to staff and stakeholders in support of the principle and purposes of official information legislation, reminding staff of their obligations ✓ Senior leaders demonstrate clear knowledge and support of the Act's requirements ✓ Senior leaders encourage staff to identify areas for improvement and provide the means for suggesting and implementing them when appropriate ✓ Senior leaders make examples of good practice visible ✓ A visible and explicit statement exists about the agency's commitment to openness and transparency about its work

[19] Elected members are not subject to LGOIMA, but they do hold information that is subject to the Act, and they are requesters under the Act. The expectation is that they model openness and transparency in the work that they do, and demonstrate a commitment to compliance with the legislation in order to secure the public's trust and confidence in the local authority.

Elements	Things to look for (indicators)
Senior leadership have established an effective official information strategic framework which promotes an official information culture open to the release of information	✓ The agency has a strategic framework describing how it intends to achieve: – Compliance with the Act – Good practice – A culture of openness and continuous improvement – Participation and access to information by the public and stakeholder groups ✓ Senior leaders takes an active role in the management of information ✓ A senior manager has been assigned specific strategic responsibility and executive accountability for official information practices including proactive disclosure ✓ Senior managers have accountabilities for compliance with the Act ✓ Appropriate delegations exist for decision makers and they are trained on agency policies and procedures and the requirements of the Act ✓ Senior leaders model an internal culture whereby all staff: – Are encouraged to identify opportunities for improvement in official information practice (including increasing proactive disclosure) and these are endorsed and implemented – Are trained to the appropriate level for their job on official information policies and procedures and understand the legal requirements – Have compliance with the Act in their job descriptions, key performance indicators, and professional development plans ✓ Senior leaders oversee the agency's practice and compliance with the Act, the effectiveness of its structures, resources, capacity and capability through regular reporting. Any issues identified that risk the agency's ability to comply with the Act are actively considered and addressed

Elements	Things to look for (indicators)
Senior leadership demonstrates a commitment to proactive disclosure of information and public participation, with clear links to the agency's strategic plans, thereby creating a public perception, and a genuine culture of openness	✓ Senior leaders are committed to an active programme of proactive disclosure and stakeholder engagement where the agency seeks and listens to the public's information needs through: – Regular stakeholder meetings and surveys – Reviewing and analysing requests and media logs – Reviewing and analysing website searches ✓ There is clear senior leadership commitment to the proactive release of information resulting in the agency publishing information about: – The role and structure of the agency and the information it holds – Strategy, planning and performance information – Details of current or planned work programmes, including background papers, options, and consultation documents – Internal rules and policies, including rules on decision-making – The agency's significance and engagement policy – Corporate information about expenditure, procurement activities, audit reports and performance – Monitoring data and information on matters the agency is responsible for – Information provided in response to official information requests – Other information held by the agency in the public interest ✓ The agency holds up to date information that is easily accessible (easy to find, caters for people requiring language assistance or who have hearing or speech or sight impairments) about: – What official information it holds – How it can be accessed or requested by the public and its stakeholders – How to seek assistance – What the agency's official information policies and procedures are (including charging) – How to complain about a decision ✓ The agency makes information available in different formats, including open file formats ✓ The agency's position on copyright and re-use is clear ✓ The public and stakeholders perceive the agency to be open and transparent

Organisation structure, staffing and capability

Responding to official information requests is a core function of the local government sector.

Therefore, it is expected agencies will organise their structure and resources to ensure they are able to meet their legal obligations under the Act considering each agency's size, responsibilities and the amount of information held.

Elements	Things to look for (indicators)
Agency has the capacity to discharge its official information obligations, and obligations around local authority meetings, with clear and fully functioning: • roles; • accountabilities; • reporting lines; • delegations; and • resilience arrangements	✓ An appropriate, flexible structure exists to manage official information requests and obligations around local authority meetings which is well resourced reflecting the: – Size of the agency – Number of requests received (and from whom, public, media, other) – Number or percentage of staff performing official information and meeting functions in the agency – Percentage of time these staff are also required to undertake other functions – Need to respond within statutory time limits – Use of staff time, specialisations, structural resilience ✓ Roles and responsibilities are clearly defined: – Specific responsibility exists for coordinating, tracking and monitoring official information requests and agency decisions (and ombudsman decisions) and there is the authority and support to ensure compliance[20] – Decision makers are sufficiently senior to take responsibility for the decisions made and are available when required, and if not, resilience arrangements exist. – The official information function is located in an appropriate unit or area within the agency that facilitates effective working relationships with relevant business units (for example, media and legal teams)

[20] This indicator is also relevant to performance monitoring and learning

Elements	Things to look for (indicators)
Agency has the capability to discharge its official information obligations, and obligations around local authority meetings	✓ Training at all levels on the requirements of the Act is provided regularly and staff are expected to attend, and to apply the knowledge acquired ✓ Training is role specific with additional training for senior managers, decision makers and staff with official information and meeting responsibilities to support their work ✓ Expectations are set by senior leaders that regular refreshers are provided to all staff ✓ Training is provided on information management and record keeping that is role-specific and includes guidance on information retrieval as well as information storage ✓ The process for staff to assess and make decisions on official information requests and meetings is clear, understood, up to date and staff apply and document the process ✓ Agency staff, including front line staff and contractors, know what an official information request is and what to do with it. ✓ User-friendly, accessible resources, guidance and 'go to' people are available ✓ Staff official information capability is regularly assessed and monitored through, for example, performance reviews and regular training needs analyses ✓ Official information obligations, and obligations related to local authority meetings are included in induction material for all staff ✓ The agency's internal guidance resources are accessible to all staff

Internal policies, procedures and resources

Agencies should develop or adopt policies and procedures that will assist staff to consistently apply the requirements of the Act supported by good systems, tools and resources ensuring effective processing of requests consistent with the requirements of the Act

Elements	Things to look for (indicators)
The agency has official information and meeting policies, procedures and resources that are accurate and fit for purpose	✓ Good policies, procedures and resources exist for receipt and assessment of requests, which cover: – What is official information – Identifying the type of official information request received (Part 2, 3, 4 or 6 of LGOIMA) and distinguishing from Privacy Act requests – What to do if information is held by an elected member – Identifying the scope of the request – Consulting with and assisting the requester – Logging requests for official information – Acknowledging receipt of the request – Correctly determining statutory time limits and tracking the handling of the requests – Identifying who in the agency should respond to the request – Establishing criteria for deciding whether, and if so, how a response to a request should be provided urgently – Managing potential delays (including the reasons for them, the escalation process and invoking the extension provision ✓ Good policies, procedures and resources exist for information gathering on requests, which cover: – Identifying the information within the scope of the request – Searching, finding and collating the information at issue – Documenting the search undertaken for the information within the scope of the request (including time taken if charging is likely) – Transferring requests to other agencies and advising the requester – Consulting officials within the agency and third parties – What to do if the information is held by a contractor covered by the Act by virtue of section 2(6) of LGOIMA – Engaging with elected members on official information requests ✓ Good policies, procedures and resources exist for decision making on requests, which cover:

Elements	Things to look for (indicators)
	– Making a decision whether to release the information – Making a decision on the format in which information is released – Making a decision whether to charge for the release of information – Guidance on application of withholding or refusal grounds relevant to requests made under Parts 2, 3 and 4 – Guidance on any statutory bars on disclosure relevant to the legislation the agency administers – Imposing conditions on release where appropriate – Advising the requester of the decision – Recording reasons for each item of information withheld, and the agency's consideration of the public interest in release where required ✓ Good policies, procedures and resources exist for releasing requests, which cover: – Providing the information in the form requested – Preparing information for release (including redactions) ✓ Good policies, procedures and resources exist for the administration of local authority meetings, which cover: – How and when meetings (ordinary and extraordinary) are publicly notified – How items not on the agenda for a meeting may be dealt with – How and when agendas and associated reports are made available to the public – When it is appropriate to hold a workshop rather than a meeting – Preparing, and allowing the public to inspect or receive copies of minutes of meetings and workshops – Decision making on whether meetings should be 'public excluded' – Ensuring a resolution to exclude the public is compliant with Schedule 2A LGOIMA ✓ The agency has tools and resources for processing official information requests, such as templates, checklists, *'go-to'* people, effective tracking and monitoring systems, and redaction software and staff are trained on how to use them. ✓ The agency's official information and meeting policies, procedures and resources are regularly reviewed and up-to-date ✓ Staff find the policies useful and easy to access

Elements	Things to look for (indicators)
The agency has appropriate record keeping and information management policies, procedures and resources	✓ Staff are able to identify, access and collate information that has been requested under the Act ✓ The agency has accurate and comprehensive records and information management policies, procedures and resources which enable information relevant to a request to be identified and collated ✓ The policies and procedures cover aspects such as: – Creating, organising, maintaining and storing records – How to access information held by elected members – Managing and modifying records – The security of information – A guide to determining which records systems exist and what information each holds – Retaining, retrieving and disposing of records – Both manual and electronic records, including personal email accounts, instant messaging and text messages – Assigned responsibilities and performance criteria for records and information management by staff – The provision of secure audit trails – Annual/periodic audits of records ✓ These policies and procedures are regularly reviewed and up-to-date ✓ Staff find the policies and procedures useful and easy to access

Elements	Things to look for (indicators)
The agency has accurate and comprehensive proactive release policies, procedures and resources	✓ The policies and procedures cover the release of such things as: – Information that has been released in response to official information requests – Information described in section 21 of the LGOIMA about the agency's internal decision making rules, including its official information policies and procedures – Strategy, planning and performance information – Financial information relating to income and expenses, tendering, procurement and contracts – Information about work programmes and policy proposals – Information about public engagement processes, including public submissions – Minutes, agendas, and papers of advisory boards or committees – Information about regulatory or review activities carried out by agencies ✓ The policies and procedures include a process for identifying opportunities for proactive release, for example, where a high number of official information requests is received about a subject ✓ The policies and procedures include a process for preparing for proactive release, including managing risks around private or confidential information, commercially sensitive information and information subject to third party copyright ✓ The policies outline how and where the information should be made available for access, and if any charge should be fixed ✓ They are regularly reviewed and up-to-date ✓ Staff know about the agency's proactive release policies and procedures ✓ Staff find the policies useful and easy to access

Current practices

The effectiveness of the Act is largely dependent on those who implement it on a day to day basis and how they apply the resources available to them to manage the realities of giving effect to the Act

Elements	Things to look for (indicators)
Official information and meeting practices demonstrate understanding, compliance, and commitment to the principles and requirements of the Act.	✓ The agency complies with maximum statutory timeframes to transfer, extend, decide on requests, and release official information ✓ The agency complies with statutory timeframes for notifying meetings, and making available agendas ✓ The agency makes standing orders, meeting agendas and associated reports, and meeting minutes available to the public ✓ The agency produces comprehensive meeting minutes which contain, for example: - the time the meeting opened and closed, the date, place and nature of the meeting - the names of the councillors attending the meeting, those who have leave of absence or who have given an apology, and the arrival and departure times of councillors who arrive or leave during the course of the meeting - a record of every resolution, motion, amendment, order, or other proceeding of the meeting and whether they were passed or not - any 'public excluded' resolutions are in the form set out in Schedule 2A and comply with section 48 LGOIMA - the outcome of any vote taken - the names of members voting for or against a motion when requested or after a division is called ✓ Requests are handled in accordance with the applicable law (Privacy Act; Part 2, 3, 4, or 6 of LGOIMA) ✓ The agency makes appropriate use of the withholding grounds and administrative reasons for refusal, and the provisions for excluding the public from the whole or any part of local authority meetings ✓ The agency makes appropriate use of the legislative mechanisms for dealing with large and complex official information requests ✓ The agency gives proper consideration to the public interest in release of official information, and explains this to requesters ✓ The agency interprets the scope of official information requests reasonably

Elements	Things to look for (indicators)
	✓ The agency consults with, and provides reasonable assistance to requesters ✓ The agency consults appropriately with third parties ✓ Elected members involvement in agency official information decision making is appropriate ✓ The process for escalation of issues is used where necessary and is effective ✓ Official information is released in the form requested unless there is a good reason not to ✓ Consideration is given to releasing information in accessible formats ✓ There is evidence that agency practice aligns with its policies and procedures ✓ Staff regularly use the agency's policies and procedures
The agency has good record keeping and information management practices	✓ The agency documents its handling of official information requests, including the steps taken to search for the requested information, the information identified as relevant to the request, and the reasons for its decisions ✓ The agency's records and information management practices facilitate official information compliance (it is generally easy to find information that has been requested under the Act) ✓ Staff regularly use the agency's records and information management policies and procedures as described in *Good records and information management policies, procedures and resources* ✓ The agency demonstrates good record keeping processes and practices for all meetings, both formal and informal
The agency has good proactive release practices	✓ The agency publishes useful information online including the types of information described in the 'Good proactive release policies, procedures and resources' indicator, under *Internal policies, procedures, and resources* ✓ The agency publishes information in multiple formats, and applies open use standards ✓ The agency's position on copyright and re-use is clear ✓ Staff use the agency's proactive release policies and procedures where applicable

Performance monitoring and learning

Agencies should adopt performance monitoring and learning frameworks that enable them to learn and drive performance improvement and innovation

Element	Things to look for (indicators)
The agency has an established system for capturing and analysing data to inform meaningful and appropriate performance measures	✓ Performance measures include: – Quantity –for example the number of requests, from where and the number processed – Efficiency –for example duration of request handling, number of responses that exceed legislative maximum time limits, the reasons for any delays – Quality- for example outcome of any internal quality assurance reviews and/or external reviews of official information and meeting decisions and processes and whether or not the results of those reviews provide evidence of system wide issues – Monitoring of opportunities for proactive release –for example identifying common types of requests or a high number that indicates information that could be made available ✓ The agency collects data about its performance under the Act including: – The number of requests – The type of request (Part 2, 3, 4 or 6 of LGOIMA) – The type of requester (for example; media, political researcher, corporation, individual citizen, elected member, interest group etc) – The information sought – The number and reason for transfers, and whether the transfer was made in time – The number and reason for any 'public excluded' resolutions – The number, length and reason for extensions – The outcome of the request (granted in full, granted in part, refused in full, withdrawn or abandoned) – The number and amount of charges made and collected – The grounds on which information was withheld or the request refused – Whether the requester was consulted prior to any refusal under section 17(f), which provides that *'A request made in accordance with section 10 may be refused (if)… the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.*'

Element	Things to look for (indicators)
	– Whether any elected member was consulted on the decision – Whether the decision was notified to any elected member – Whether, and which, third parties were consulted – The time from receipt of the request to communication of the decision – The time from receipt of the request to release of the information – If the time limit (extended or not) was breached, the reasons for the delay – Whether the response was proactively published and if not, why – Whether the Ombudsman investigated or resolved a complaint about the request – The outcome of the Ombudsman's investigation or involvement – The outcome of any internal quality assurance reviews of processes or decisions – Staff time spent and costs incurred in processing official information requests, including the time spent assisting in processing requests by staff who are not in core LGOIMA roles ✓ The agency analyses this data to determine whether it is complying with its relevant performance measures ✓ The agency monitors information demand (for example, through official information requests, website use, and other enquiries) to identify opportunities for proactive release ✓ The agency monitors any difficulties in identifying and collating information that has been requested
There is regular reporting about the agency's management and performance in respect of official information requests	✓ Data about the agency's official information performance, and information demand is regularly reported to senior leaders, and at least quarterly to the Chief Executive ✓ Reports include emerging themes or trends, opportunities for improvement and proactive release, resourcing, capacity or capability (training) issues ✓ Reporting informs planning, resourcing and capability building decisions

Element	Things to look for (indicators)
The agency learns from data analysis and practice	✓ The agency has a system for sharing official information learning and experience, such as meetings, newsletters, email or intranet updates, or official information *'champions'* ✓ The agency monitors relevant data, guidance and publications, including those produced by the Ombudsman, Local Government New Zealand and the Department of Internal Affairs ✓ The agency monitors the outcome of Ombudsman investigations and reports these to relevant staff, including official information decision makers ✓ The agency analyses information to determine where it has the potential to improve official information practice, stakeholder relations, or increase opportunities for public participation ✓ The agency periodically reviews its relevant systems, structures, and compliance with policies and procedures ✓ The agency actively participates in initiatives to share and discuss best practice externally, for example through forums, interest groups, networks and communities of practice

Tasman District Council - Capital Programme – Draft Annual Plan 2026/2027

Please note *there is a correction to the capital programme total figure of $80.6 million shown on page 16 of the Annual Plan 2026/2027 Consultation Document (CD) and therefore a difference to the detailed information provided below. This difference comes down to two issues:*

- *There was an addition error in the CD table, which understated the total figure by $17.4 million. When corrected, the CD figure should read $90.3m excluding the capital budget for our joint ventures (JVs), or $98 million including the JVs.*
- *The detailed financial information below does not include $11.2 million of capital lag. We adjust the figure down for the lag because projects can run into issues with, for example, resource, consents, or land purchase, and so the full programme budget is usually never spent.*

Activity Area/Project name	Project descriptions	Draft Annual Plan 2026/2027
Environmental Management		**$709,806**
Environmental Science		
Technical Equipment	Flood monitoring and network communication technology upgrades for resilience	$23,091
New/upgrade monitoring site structures	Maintenance/upgrade of flood monitoring site structures and base communication	$5,248
Software & Modelling	Flood forecasting models for flood warning and flood inundation models for flood hazard mapping	$31,488
Technical equipment	Drone replacement and estuarine dynamics model	$43,243
Software & Modelling	Flood Mitigation modelling for Motueka, model visualisation software (WaterRide), and drone imagery processing hardware	$111,351
Technical Equipment	Replacement/upgrade of non-site-specific technical equipment for flow, water quality, survey, and other environmental data collection	$68,224
Technical Equipment	Site-specific monitoring equipment: Moutere, Tākaka, Aorere, Waimea, Buller, Motueka	$68,224
Upgrade & maintenance of monitoring sites & equipment	Cellular communication network upgrades, flow site upgrades, and rainfall site upgrades to ensure network resilience and trend analysis	$145,946
New monitoring site structures & equipment	New flow, groundwater, weather, lake & river water quality monitoring sites and access agreements	$58,378
Software & Modelling	Lab sample management system, environmental website, environmental data management software, and telemetry software	$131,199

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Computer Hardware	Computer Hardware for Environmental Data Management Systems	$15,744
Compliance		
Compliance Monitoring - Equipment	Renewal of compliance management equipment	$7,669
Public Health & Safety		**$932,004**
Regulatory Services		
Reg-Animal Control - Cap -Equipment	Animal control equipment	$20,992
Harbourmaster		
Harbourmaster - Equipment	Renewal and upgrades of equipment and plant	$37,838
Harbourmaster Vessel	Purchase and maintenance of Harbourmasters vessels and vehicles	$839,675
Harbourmaster Building	Building renewals and upgrades	$28,634
Harbourmaster District-Wide Sign Renewals	Harbour/channel marker and signage renewals	$4,865
Transportation		**$15,994,413**
Carpark Resurfacing	Resurfacing of off-street carparking facilities	$232,411
Footpath Rehabilitation	District wide footpath renewal	$232,416
Carpark Lighting Renewal	Reactive renewal and car park lighting	$9,363
Street Furniture Renewals	Reactive renewal of street furniture	$15,237
Borck Creek Cycle Trail Bridge	New crossing for widened Borck Creek on Tasman's Great Taste Trail	$378,604
Richmond Cycle Lanes	Creation of cycle lanes on key routes throughout Richmond	$21,189
New Residential Greenways	Create new slow speed residential areas in townships	$248,522
Wai-iti Domain to Hoult Road Great Taste Trail	Construction of Great Taste Cycle Trail between Wai-iti Domain and Hoult Road	$461,079
Wai-iti River cycle bridge	New bridge for realignment of the Great Taste Trail	$192,968
District Land Purchase-Land under Roads	District wide land purchase to cover Notice of Requirements	$102,700
Rural Development Road Improvements	Improvements to rural roads to cater for rural residential growth	$52,480
Unsealed Road Metalling	Routine metalling of unsealed roads to mitigate gravel loss	$1,568,929
Structures Component Replacements	Bridge component replacements	$192,820
Sealed Road Resurfacing	Resurfacing of sealed roads	$6,248,423

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Drainage Renewals	Renewal of drainage assets including culverts, kerb and channel, surface water channels and sumps	$2,261,092
Pavement Rehabilitation	Pavement rehabilitation of sealed roads that meet NZTA funding criteria	$1,257,389
Public Transport Infrastructure	Construct and purchase new infrastructure to facilitate public transport services	$16,422
Cycle Path Resurfacing	Resurfacing of subsidised cycleways	$44,216
TSR - Streetlight Renewals/Upgrades	Streetlight Renewals & Upgrades	$237,838
Traffic Services Renewals	Renewal of road signs and traffic lights	$590,432
Roadside Hazard Mitigation	Removal of trees and other obstructions close to the carriageway to reduce risk to drivers involved in loss of control crashes in high-speed areas	$23,838
Reactive Safety Improvements	Address emerging road safety issues	$104,992
Speed Management Plan Implementation	Installation of speed signs and traffic calming	$264,865
Bus stop infrastructure improvements	Bus stop infrastructure improvements	$15,892
Bus on-board services	Digital tracking of eBus services	$5,297
Motueka West Bank culvert	Upgrade culvert to improve resilience	$200,000
Aniseed Valley drainage	Upgrade Drainage to improve resilience	$100,000
Beach Road retaining wall	Upgrade retaining wall to improve resilience	$100,000
Easton Loop culvert	Upgrade culvert to improve resilience	$65,000
Paton Road retaining	Upgrade retaining structure to improve resilience	$300,000
Factory Road retaining	Upgrade retaining structure to improve resilience	$200,000
Hill Street / Queen Street intersection	Safety improvements of the intersection	$250,000
Water Supply		**$29,216,568**
Richmond South Reservoir	Development of concrete reservoir tanks to provide storage for Richmond West & South area	$51,350
Richmond WTP - Capacity Upgrade	Increase capacity of current WTP including new plant pipe work, pressure cylinder & controls	$118,919
Richmond Reticulation - Gladstone Rd Upgrade	New water main from Queen Street to Three Brothers Corner Roundabout	$3,614,916
Backflow Prevention Programme	Installation of backflow preventions at key sites	$77,025
Richmond Pipe Renewal	Planned renewal of pipes in six Richmond central streets	$424,865
Occupational Health & Safety	Initiatives to improve health and safety (anchor points, railings and chlorine storage)	$94,463

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88 Valley Reticulation Upgrades	Upgrade Treeton Pump Station, new main from Treeton to Totara, extra storage capacity	$1,565,497
88 Valley Flowmeters, Hydrants, Pumps, VSD & Valves Renewals	Renewal of Flowmeters, Hydrants, Pumps, VSD & Valves in 88 Valley Scheme	$14,054
Dovedale Reticulation Renewal Programme	Renewal of reticulation within the Dovedale scheme	$108,108
Dovedale Telemetry Upgrade	SCADA/telemetry software upgrades at various sites in Dovedale	$27,027
Dovedale Retic - Flowmeters, Hydrants, Pumps, VSD & Valves	Renewal of meters, hydrants, pumps, VSD and valves within the Dovedale scheme	$54,054
Dovedale - New public water supply source	Dovedale - New source & raw water line from Motueka River Valley	$3,313,333
Redwood Valley WTP & PS - Treatment Upgrades	Replace all old components at the site and building to meet DWSNZ	$4,938,218
Redwood Reticulation Renewal Programme	Renewal of reticulation within the Redwoods scheme	$57,297
Redwood Telemetry Renewal	Renewal of telemetry within the Redwoods scheme	$29,189
Redwood Retic - Flowmeters, Hydrants, Pumps & Valves	Renewal of meters, hydrants, pumps, VSD and valves within the Redwoods scheme	$32,432
Wai-iti Dam Water Augmentation Pipeline	New intake gallery and gravity main to supplement supply capacity	$1,305,496
Tapawera WTP Upgrades	Includes two new bores and treatment building, filtration, UV & electrical upgrades	$2,692,537
Urban Water Club Scheme Monitoring Equipment	Routine replacement of monitoring equipment	$22,703
Urban Water Club Reticulation - Valve Renewal	Renewal of valves within the Urban Water Club schemes	$198,919
Urban Water Club Reticulation - Hydrant Renewal	Renewal of hydrants within Urban Water Club schemes	$54,054
Urban Water Club Reticulation - Renewal	Renewal of reticulation within the Urban Water Club schemes	$1,081,082
Urban Water Club Reticulation - Pump & VSD Renewals	Renewal of pumps and VSDs (Variable speed drives) within Urban Water Club schemes	$81,081
Kaiteriteri Reticulation - Reservoir Improvements	Existing reservoir roof and liners maintenance upgrades	$216,216
Richmond South Reticulation - Low-Level Water Main	New trunk main to service Richmond South Reservoir	$3,389,100
Waimea Water Strategy - Brightwater & Wakefield Water Reticulation	New and upgraded infrastructure including source, treatment and reticulation to assist in meeting compliance and improve the level of service and growth capacity for Wakefield and Brightwater	$2,063,895

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Collingwood - WTP - install filtration & pH adjustment	Collingwood - WTP - install filtration & pH adjustment	$207,286
Kaiteriteri - WTP - contact tank, WTP - filtration, flush to waste	Kaiteriteri - WTP - contact tank, WTP - filtration, flush to waste	$191,297
Māpua Reticulation Upgrades	Māpua Reticulation Upgrades to service growth	$102,700
Korepo Road Renewal	Reticulation Upgrades to service growth	$486,487
Richmond Reticulation Upgrades	Richmond Reticulation Upgrades to service growth	$513,500
Brightwater Reticulation Upgrades	Brightwater Reticulation upgrades	$162,162
Māpua Wharf Booster Pump Station	Māpua Wharf booster pump station upgrades	$81,081
Māpua Ruby Bay Treatment Plant	Māpua Ruby Bay Treatment Plant Pump Upgrades	$146,833
Urban Water Club Reticulation - Renewal	Planned renewal of reticulation within the Urban Water Club schemes	$964,865
Urban Water Club Reticulation - Renewal	Reactive renewal of reticulation within the Urban Water Club schemes	$170,270
Motueka Retic - Flowmeters, Hydrants, Pumps, VSD & Valves	Renewal of flowmeters, hydrants, VSDs (Variable speed drives), & valves in the Motueka Scheme	$21,622
Motueka - Parker St Reservoir	To assist in meeting compliance and to improve resilience	$542,633
Wastewater		**$7,131,048**
Safety Improvements	Initiatives to implement health and safety improvements	$69,189
Renewals at Pump Stations & WWTPs	Renewals of all mechanical and electrical assets: pumps, valves, wet well and valve chamber pipework, odour mitigation, flow meters, electrical, telemetry and backflow	$912,433
Growth Allowance	Allowance for the addition of smart technology to low-pressure pump systems	$34,595
Renewal and Upgrade of the Motueka WWTP	Pre-planning for the replacement of the WWTP	$369,363
Renewal and Upgrade of the Motueka WWTP	Secure designations, and possible land purchase for the replacement of the existing WWTP	$1,081,082
New Telemetry	Conversion of the last remaining sites from analogue to digital	$59,519
District-wide Reticulation Renewals	Renewal of reticulation - various locations	$154,050
WWTP Pond Sludge Removal	Removal of sludge from wastewater ponds for reuse or disposal	$1,003,076
Motueka WWTP - replacement membrane	Periodic replacement of the Motueka WWTP membranes	$1,049,594
District-wide manhole lid replacements	Renewal of damaged manhole lids	$21,727

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District-wide carbon filters	Install carbon filters at key locations to address odour issues	$54,159
District-wide sludge reuse or disposal	Reuse sludge on-site where testing meets acceptable conditions, disposal to landfill if sludge cannot be reused as soil conditioner	$616,200
Richmond South Connection to WW Trunkmain	Install pipe to cater for existing under capacity and growth	$14,892
Waimea Strategy - Wastewater upgrades	Upgrades and renewals to cater for growth and improve resilience	$456,038
New Mapua gravity reticulation	Māpua reticulation upgrades to service development	$108,108
District-Wide Reactive Reticulation Renewals	Various locations for renewal	$270,270
Richmond Intensification	Investigate increase in capacity of reticulation	$256,750
Install Network Flow Meters and Sensors	Installation of flow meters at older pump stations, this data helps assess network upgrade and renewal needs	$108,108
District Wide WWTP Nutrient Removal	Nutrient Removal of WWTP discharges	$389,195
Richmond South - reticulation in Bateup and Whites Road Area	Reticulation for areas identified for growth	$25,675
Richmond West - reticulation to service commercial/industrial	Upgrade of pressure pipe reticulation	$77,025
Stormwater		**$8,820,420**
Alexandra Hospital (Richmond) Stormwater	To construct an overland flow channel to improve resilience to flooding	$308,100
Bateup Drain Upgrade	Upgrade to Bateup Drain to support development of zoned areas	$2,994,207
Stormwater Quality Improvements	Implementation of measures to improve the quality of stormwater discharge at strategic locations	$81,081
Richmond Stormwater Land Purchase	Land purchase to enable construction of new stormwater assets	$2,567,500
Minor Stormwater Improvements	District-wide minor stormwater improvements for isolated level of service improvements	$135,135
Lower Queen Street Bridge Capacity Upgrade	Increasing the span of the existing bridge over Borck Creek to match the new width of the creek bed	$1,449,353
Borck Creek SH60 Bridge Capacity upgrade	The existing culvert needs to be replaced with a bridge spanning the increased width of Borck Creek	$25,675
Reed/Andrews Drain: SH6 Culvert and Network Tasman drain upgrade	Upgrade the Reed/Andrews drain and replace the existing culvert under SH6 with a bridge to match the increased flow capacity of the drain	$25,675

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Borck Creek Widening - Headingly Lane to Estuary	Upgrade the capacity of Borck Creek between Lower Queen Street and the estuary	$667,550
Richmond South SW Pukerua Subdivision	Council funding toward new drain construction and associated bridge	$60,154
Richmond South Stormwater Channel Programme	Programme Management Support - to support growth development area	$110,595
Richmond Intensification Stormwater Capacity Upgrades (FDS T	Investigation to the upgrading local pipes to allow infill housing growth	$215,670
Stormwater - Flood Resilience	Upgrades and renewals of strategic assets to improve resilience	$179,725
Waste Management & Minimisation		**$2,797,790**
Waste minimisation infrastructure	Capital investment for waste minimisation - could include organic or dry waste facilities from Y3	$1,130,948
Expand existing Materials Recycling Facility building	Extend the existing building, replace the dry store, build a new office facility to better sort and store fibre, and accommodate a new contract	$1,274,817
Resource Recovery Centre (RRC) bin renewals	RRC bin renewals	$51,351
RRC safety improvements capital	Site safety minor improvements	$36,180
RRC environmental controls	Improvements to reduce discharges or contain materials	$33,926
RRC pavement upgrades	RRC pavement upgrades	$108,108
RRC minor improvements	RRC minor improvements	$26,756
Closed landfill improvements	Provide erosion protection to closed landfills	$135,704
Flood Protection and River Control Systems		**$13,356,572**
River Flapgates Asset Renewal	Renewal of pipe flap gate assets located along river stopbanks or in coastal areas	$21,622
River X and Y Rock Work	Supply and installation of rock protection work for bank stabilisation in River X and River Y rating areas; managed through River Maintenance Contract	$640,541
June July 2025 recovery - Rock repair and rebuild	Reinstate flood protection	$4,800,000
Class X Capital Works	Capital upgrades and repairs on Council-owned stopbanks	$218,919
Flood Mitigation Works Motueka	Motueka Stopbank Refurbishment Stage 2 project, with co-funding provided from MBIE/Kanoa under the Regional Infrastructure Fund	$3,516,140

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Flood Mitigation Works Motueka	Tranche 2 60% Government-funded placeholder	$3,645,850
Flood Mitigation Works Motueka	Tranche 3 60% Government-funded placeholder	$513,500
Community Development		**$17,521,601**
Community Facilities		
Motueka Community Pool	Development of Motueka Community Pool	$5,757,619
Saxton Field - New Play Space	Planned new play space on Saxton Field	$260,862
Saxton Field - New Play Space	Planned new play space on Saxton Field - RFC-funded portion	$902,637
Waimea South Facility	Community facility in Wakefield	$3,594,500
Waimea South Facility	Community facilities in Brightwater	$1,232,400
Aquatic Centre - Plant	Ongoing plant upgrade	$154,050
Aquatic Centre - Cap - Building	Ongoing building upgrade	$102,700
Motueka Rec Centre - Building Cap	Building upgrades	$154,050
Community Housing		
Tākaka Cottages - Furn & Fittings	Furniture and fittings upgrade between tenancies	$5,248
Murchison Flats - Cap - Buildings	Upgrade between tenancies	$16,216
Housing - Hollis Hill (Brightwater) - C	Upgrade between tenancies	$27,027
Cap Pearless (Wakefield) Furn & Fttgs	Furniture and fittings upgrade between tenancies	$23,784
Vosper Street Flats (Motueka) - Cap - Furn/Fttgs	Furniture and fittings upgrade between tenancies	$3,784
Mears-Haven (Motueka) Cap - Furn/Fttgs	Furniture and fittings upgrade between tenancies	$21,622
Mears-Haven (Motueka) Cap - Buildings	Upgrade between tenancies	$10,811
Aotea Flats (Richmond) Cap - Furn/Fittings	Furniture and fittings upgrade between tenancies	$29,760
Parks & Reserves		
Rural Rec & Esp Res Capital	Ongoing development of esplanade reserves	$12,782
Cemeteries Capital	New burial and Ash beams	$154,050
Capital - Public Conveniences	Renewal of public toilets	$102,700
Playground - Miscellaneous	Development of new reserves	$172,973
Playground - Renewals	Development of new reserves	$27,027
Playground - Capital	General Renewals	$27,028
Carparks/Accessways Reseals	Resurfacing of existing carparks and accessways	$102,700

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Sportsgrounds - Capital	Development of sportgrounds	$10,270
Reserve Financial Contributions		
Land - Reserves - Golden Bay	Purchase of new reserves	$155,676
Walkways/Esplanades - Golden Bay	Ongoing development of esplanade reserves	$27,638
Community Projects - Golden Bay		$51,350
Cemeteries - Golden Bay	New burial and ash beams	$102,700
Coastcare - Golden Bay	Coastal restoration	$23,808
Land Purchases Waimea/Moutere	Purchase of new reserves	$154,050
Cemeteries - Waimea/Moutere	New burial and ash beams	$48,946
Waimea - Walkways Capital	New walkway development	$23,808
Coastcare - Waimea/Moutere	Coastal restoration, including Moturoa	$38,796
Facility upgrade contribution - Moutere Hills Centre	Extension of the Moutere Hills Centre	$205,400
Playground General - Waimea/Moutere	New playground equipment	$264,558
Picnic Area/Gardens General - Waimea/Moutere	Development of reserves	$23,808
Toilets General - Waimea/Moutere	Renewals of public toilets	$23,808
Moturoa Rabbit Island - Pou-whenua & signage	New Pou-whenua & signage	$25,675
Walkways General - Motueka	Renewal of walkways	$17,856
Cemeteries - Motueka	New burial and ash beams	$14,285
Coastcare - Motueka	Coastal restoration	$17,856
Sportsfields General - Motueka	Sportsfield and hard surfaces renewals	$178,558
Motueka Community Board Projects - Fund by Special Projects	Projects approved by the Motueka Community Board	$12,782
Playgrounds General - Motueka	New playground equipment	$164,320
Walkways General - Richmond	Development of walkways in new reserves, Paton, Richmond West	$424,189
Kingsland Forest development	Ongoing planting & development of Kingsland Reserve	$451,892
Cemeteries - Richmond	New burial and ash beams	$41,080
Richmond - Washbourn Gardens	New paths & irrigation at Washbourn Gardens	$29,760
Playgrounds General - Richmond	New playground equipment	$178,558
Picnic Area/Gardens General - Richmond	Development of reserves	$35,711
Paton Road Development	Development of Paton Road Reserve	$730,197

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Waimea River Park	Continuing development of habitat, walkways, and furniture	$4,371
Sportsgrounds general	Sportsfields upgrades and renewals	$109,924
Special Purpose Committees		
Hall - Capital - Furniture and Fittings	Renewals at 20 community halls via annual request from Committee	$12,782
Hal - Plant & Equipment	Renewals at 20 community halls via annual request from Committee	$5,405
Hall - Capital - Buildings	Renewals at 20 community halls via annual request from Committee	$590,525
Museums		
Museums Capital	Improvements to the Golden Bay Museum	$51,350
Libraries		
Furniture and Fittings	Replacement of furniture and fittings	$15,744
Adult Collections	Library books	$243,506
Children's Collections	Library books	$80,819
AV Collections	DVDs, Talking books	$33,514
Council Enterprises		**$2,231,133**
Aerodromes		
Motueka Aerodrome Capital Expenditure	Provision to allow for the reseal of the main runway and other capital renewals	$300,964
Motueka Hangar development	Motueka hangar development	$256,750
Tākaka sealed runway reseal	Extension of the sealed portion of the crosswind runway	$3,156
Camping Grounds		
Campgrounds - Riverside - Upgrade	Annual capital renewal programme	$129,730
Campgrounds - Fearons Bush - Cap Works	Cabin renewal	$124,324
Pōhara Cap works roading	Renewal of internal roading at Pōhara Campground	$108,108
Pōhara Holiday camp	Pōhara Holiday camp ablution and kitchen upgrade	$64,865
Collingwood Coastal Erosion repairs	Coastal rock wall replenishment	$27,027
Collingwood Camp Cap works	Cabin renewal and site works	$313,514
Commercial Property		
Māpua Wharf Precinct - Capital works	Annual capital renewal programme	$308,100

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Port Motueka Fund - Reinvestment and Equity	Compliant facilities for boat maintenance activities to improve environmental protection	$108,108
Commercial property - Port Motueka boat washdown facility	Commercial property - Port Motueka boat washdown facility	$324,325
Ports		
Tarakohe Cap Entrance Traffic	Road safety at the entrance	$162,162
Support Services		**$855,465**
EV charge points	Expansion of EV charging capacity to meet fleet demands	$97,297
Fleet optimisation	Modernisation and electrification of the vehicle fleet	$184,980
Main Office - Building	Main Office minor capital	$24,998
Richmond Library - Building	Roof improvements and cladding replacement	$11,904
Tākaka Library - Building	Building resilience work	$11,904
Computers - Cap - Hardware	General computer hardware and software renewals	$451,000
Environmental - Capital - Furniture & Fittings	Replacement of furniture and fittings	$2,099
Asset Management - Vehicle Purchase	Vehicle purchase renewals	$40,473
Regulatory Services Capital Plant	Renewal of regulatory management equipment	$30,810
Joint Ventures		**$9,675,563**
NTRLBU - Renewals	Renewals of key infrastructure	$5,571,563
NRSBU Controlled Activity - LoS	Maintaining and improving LoS	$2,608,000
NRSBU Controlled Activity - Renewals	Renewals of key infrastructure	$1,496,000

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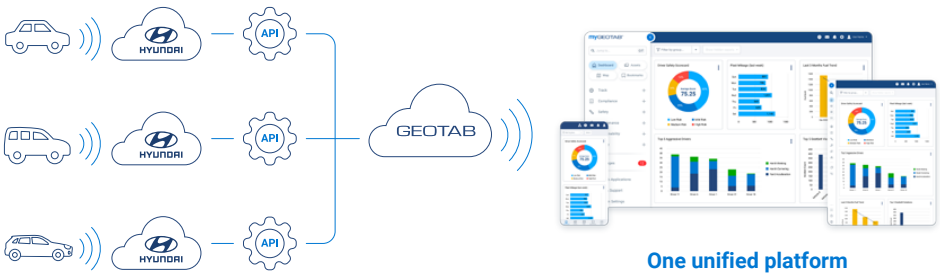


Geotab Integrated Solution for Hyundai vehicles

One integrated platform for connected and sustainable fleet performance.

Elevate fleet management for Hyundai vehicles, harnessing insights for enhanced visibility and business efficiency.

With OEM-embedded telematics for Hyundai vehicles, view high-quality data insights to help monitor vehicle performance, vehicle status and more. Get centralized access to the connected vehicle data via the MyGeotab platform and the power to analyze performance for business decisions. Data points support location tracking, engine metrics as well as insights on fuel consumption, maintenance and more. This integrated solution does not require any aftermarket telematics hardware.



One unified platform

For vehicle eligibility, please reach out to your Geotab contact or reseller to complete the VIN Check request form

Key benefits:

Integrated fleet management

Upon request, data from Hyundai vehicles is funneled to the MyGeotab platform for actionable insights on one intergrated platform.

Powerful fleet management tools

Get activity reports, maintenance alerts and other fleet metrics for better performance and fleet productivity.

Maximize vehicle uptime

OEM-embedded telematics devices on Hyundai vehicles and MyGeotab help fleets operate their vehicles at peak utilization rate.

Cost advantage and remote activation

No additional hardware or installation expenses, helping to save time and money.

Contact us to learn more:
email: OEMLD@geotab.com | toll-free: 1-800-397-7102

GEOTAB

Productivity

- Monitor timely arrival & departure of assets
- Inventory management using zones
- Monitor vehicle health using fault data

Compliance

- Driver vehicle inspection report
- Distinguish business vs personal trips

Operations

- Monitor utilization of the vehicle based on trip distance (Odometer)
- Setup maintenance reminders (distance and time to maintenance)



Safety

- Analyze and promote safe driving utilizing speed data

Sustainability

- Monitor fuel level % and state of charge %
- Monitor charging status of vehicle

Expandability

- Access software development kit (SDK) and APIs to develop custom applications suited to your business
- Marketplace Solutions

HYUNDAI

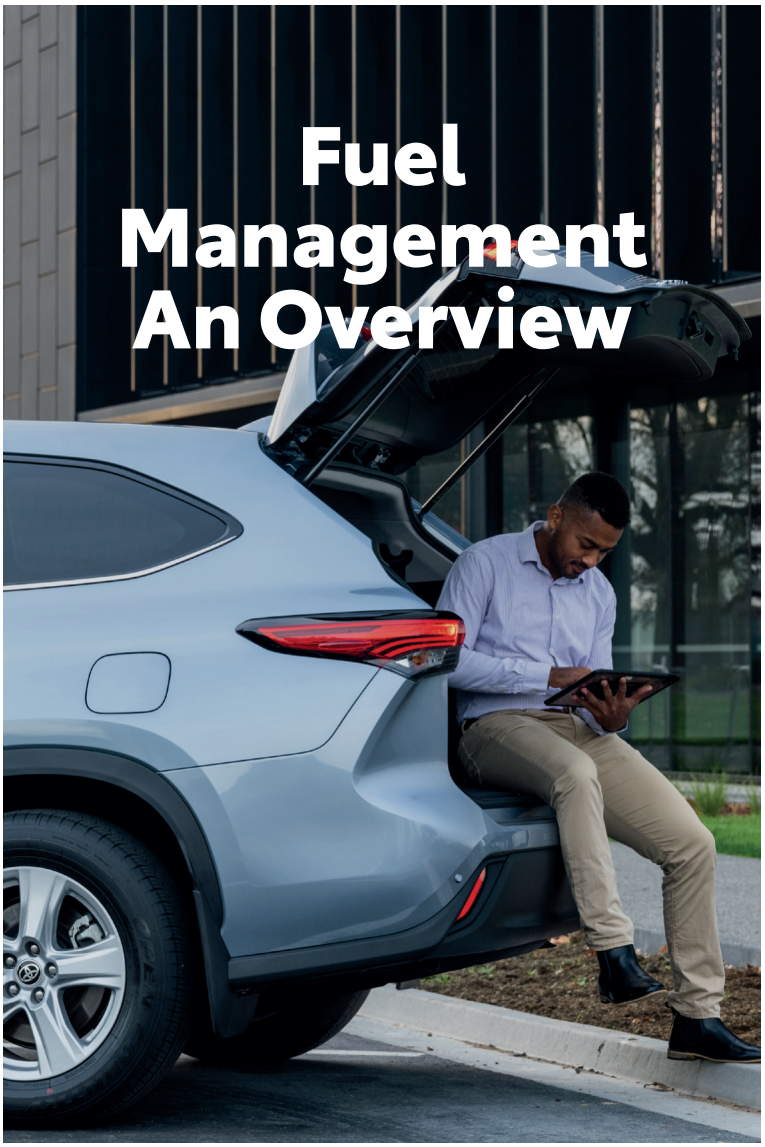
The power of Geotab's telematics technology — along with Hyundai vehicles — equips fleets with a turnkey connectivity solution that helps maximize productivity and reduce downtime. Collect and monitor rich, high-quality data from Hyundai's range of models, all with end-to-end data protection. With ready-to-go OEM embedded telematics and an integrated MyGeotab fleet management platform, reaching a new level of connectivity couldn't be easier.

Contact us to learn more:
email: OEMLD@geotab.com | toll-free: 1-800-397-7102

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GEOTAB



TOYOTA
Fleet Management

Effective fuel management for your business

Managing fuel is a critical and often costly part of looking after a fleet. That's where Toyota Fleet Management New Zealand (TFM) can help – with a market-leading solution.

How does it work?

We aim to be your true partner in achieving greater fleet efficiency. With our Z Business Partner Offer, you'll receive great fuel discounts off the pump price. It's just a smarter way to manage your fuel.

Z Business Partner Offer

The Z business card fuel programme is recommended for:

- Large corporate and government fleets in diverse locations
- Small to medium-sized businesses

Features:

- Enjoy 8-12 cents off the pump price on every fuel grade at any Z service stations, Caltex and Challenge service stations.
- Earn Fly Buys Points or Airpoints Dollars by linking your Z Card account to your Fly Buys or Airpoints number.
- Access to 550 service stations and truck stops throughout NZ.
- Available on all vehicles for qualifying customers, whether financed by us or not, including other vehicle makes that are part of your business fleet.

Benefits:

- Save with discounts on fuel
- No transaction fees, or card replacement fees
- Access one of the largest networks across New Zealand
- Online account management
- Control fuel purchases and prevent fraudulent transactions through real-time purchase restrictions.

What else does it offer?

To get a clear overview of your fleet's activity, odometer readings are collected at the time of each fill.

This forms the basis of TFM's comprehensive reporting available on ToyotaFleet Online – a powerful tool that will save you substantial time and costs. Reporting includes:

- Notification of vehicles due/overdue for service
- Tracking and reporting of vehicle usage against agreed kilometre allowance

In addition to reporting through ToyotaFleet Online, this also extends across to:

- FBT management and reporting
- Fuel transactions by business unit, cost centre and vehicle

Like to find out more?

For more information on TFM Fuel Management, contact your TFM Relationship Manager, a Toyota Dealer or call us on **0800 GO FLEET.**





TOYOTA
Fleet Management

Toyota Finance New Zealand trading as Toyota Fleet Management