

Report No:	RCN12-06-14
File No:	A506
Date:	14 June 2012
Decision Required	

REPORT SUMMARY

Report to: Full Council
Meeting Date: 27 June 2012
Report Author Susan Edwards – Strategic Development Manager
Subject: Report to adopt the Long Term Plan 2012-2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the Long Term Plan 2012-2022, noting that the decisions of the Council meeting on the 24 May 2012 have been reflected in the wording and financial information contained in the Plan.

This report also asks Council to adopt the Long Term Plan 2012-2022.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That Council adopts the final Long Term Plan 2012-2022.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

THAT the Tasman District Council:

- (i) Receives the Report to adopt the Long Term Plan 2012-2022, Report RCN12-06-14.**
- (ii) Agrees to the changes outlined in Appendix 1 made to the Schedule of Charges subsequent to the meeting on 24 May 2012.**
- (iii) Receives Audit New Zealand's Audit Report on the Long Term Plan 2012-2022 for inclusion in the document.**
- (iv) Adopts the Long Term Plan 2012-2022 pursuant to Section 93 of the Local Government Act 2002.**
- (v) Authorises the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to approve any minor edits or changes to the document, prior to publication.**

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Subject: **Report to adopt the Long Term Plan 2012-2022**

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for Council to adopt its final Long Term Plan 2012-2022.

2. Background

- 2.1 Council publicly notified its Draft Long Plan 2012-2022 on 29 February 2012. Submissions on the document closed on 3 April 2012.
- 2.2 Over 900 submissions were received on the document. Of those 180 submitters wished to present their submissions to the Council. Council heard submissions at Council meetings between 23 April and 4 May 2012.
- 2.3 Council held four days of workshops between 9 and 15 May 2012 to discuss all the submissions and to give staff direction on what matters to take to Council on 24 May 2012 for decisions.
- 2.4 At its meeting on 24 May 2012, Council considered the submissions received on the Draft Long Term Plan, and discussed and made decisions on a wide range of matters for incorporation into the final Long Term Plan 2012-2022. The proposed changes were largely in response to the submissions received on the Draft Plan, the current economic climate, and recent rainfall events which have affected the Tasman District.
- 2.5 Council officers have incorporated the changes agreed at the 24 May meeting into the final Long Term Plan. The financial information and the wording in the final document reflect the Council's decisions on 24 May.

3. Key Changes from the Draft Long Term Plan

3.1 A copy of the final Long Term Plan has been circulated under separate cover. The major parts of the final document that have changed from the Draft Plan are:

- The Mayor's and Chief Executive's Message.
- The Consultation and Submissions section.
- The Key Issues section.
- The various Activity sections have some minor amendments to reflect the Key Issues section changes, and the projects being included, deleted or amended to give effect to Council's decisions on 24 May 2012.
- The financial data is amended, including the Funding Impact Statements for each activity, capital works tables, graphs, etc., to give effect to Council's decisions on 24 May 2012.
- The Funding Impact Statement is amended to give effect to Council's funding and rating decisions on 24 May 2012.
- The Schedule of Charges contains a few amendments, as agreed on 24 May 2012 Council meeting, along with a few additional changes that have been made since the meeting (some minor wording changes in the Building Consent fees to provide better clarity and inflating some of the Building Consent fees that hadn't previously been inflated – refer Appendix 1).

3.2 The major content changes in the final document, which were made largely in response to submissions, are:

- Agreeing to retain the Lee Valley Dam project in the Long Term Plan, but noting that Council will work with the Waimea Water Augmentation Committee, and consult with other interested parties, to refine the funding model and costs of the project.
- Providing funding towards the completion of Tasman's Great Taste Trail loop over the years from 2012–2019. To offset this project Council has deleted a number of projects previously planned for Saxton Field. Council has also signalled that the stages of the project are dependent on contributions from the Government and the community.
- Allocating \$3 million of the special dividend from Port Nelson Ltd into Council's disaster fund and using the remaining \$1 million to reduce general rate funded debt.
- Continuing with the Tourism Activity Targeted Rate as proposed in the Draft Plan, which is to be charged as a flat rate across all the District's rateable properties. Council has also agreed to undertake a review of its ongoing involvement in and funding of tourism activities prior to June 2013.

- Including funding for a joint study of the three roundabouts near Champion Road with the New Zealand Transport Agency and Nelson City Council.
- The upgrade of the Graham Valley Road has been deleted from the final Long Term Plan to reduce overall levels of debt.
- Council's share of funding for roading and other transportation projects has been retained at much the same levels as provided for in the Draft Long Term Plan, even though the New Zealand Transport Agency has reduced the Government funding for local roads and has not provided an inflation adjustment for roading work.
- Some further funding has been provided in the Long Term Plan for erosion control work at Jackett Island.
- Changing the solid waste budget to align with the changes to the costs of the Emissions Trading Scheme and to delay some of the capital works projects planned at the resource recovery centres and landfill.
- Amending the areas and properties where the refuse and recycling rate is payable.
- Delaying and deleting some of the projects proposed in the Draft Long Term Plan at Saxton Field so that Council's work programme is aligned with the changes proposed by Nelson City Council but at the same time still providing for major new developments to meet community needs.
- Increasing the water rate due to the dispute with the Industrial Water Users not being resolved at this stage.
- Deleting the proposed new wharf and marina in 2012/2013 at Port Tarakohe and replacing these projects with a weigh bridge and wharf crane.
- Reducing the funding for the Lower Motueka Flood Control project to \$5 million within the 10 years and reviewing the scope and timing of the project.
- Increasing the low flow restricted water supply rate discount from 10 percent to 20 percent, which means that customers on these water supplies will pay 80 percent of the cost of water per unit to customers on urban water supplies.

4. Financial/Budgetary Considerations

- 4.1 If Council agrees to adopt the final Long Term Plan the general rate increase for the 2012/1013 financial year will be approximately 3.63 percent. This is less than the 4.75 percent increase proposed in the Draft Plan. The overall rates changes (including targeted rates) will range from a reduction of about -1.62 percent to an increase of about 15.51 percent for the sample properties Council uses as rates examples across the District (note that individual properties may vary from these examples). The wide range of rates changes reflect the changes in property values as a result of the property revaluations in 2011.

5. Options

- 5.1 At the 24 May 2012 meeting Council considered what was to be included in the final Long Term Plan. The various options were considered at that stage. The decisions of 24 May have been given effect to in the final document Council is being asked to adopt at today's meeting.
- 5.2 Council is required by the Local Government Act 2002 to adopt its final Long Term Plan and set the rates prior to commencement of the new financial year on 1 July. Therefore, Council can only make minor wording changes to the final Long Term Plan at this stage.

6 Audit Report

- 6.1 Audit New Zealand is Council's auditor. The final Long Term Plan has been audited by Audit New Zealand staff. The audit report will be tabled at the meeting.

7 Significance

- 7.1 The decisions on the content of the final Long Term Plan 2012-2022 are significant to residents of Tasman because of the financial and service level consequences. The Local Government Act 2002 requires Council to use the Special Consultative Procedure during the preparation of its Long Term Plan and Council has undertaken this process and meets the requirements of the Act.

8. Recommendation

- 8.1 That Council adopts the final Long Term Plan.

9. Timeline/Next Steps

- 9.1 Upon adoption of the Long Term Plan, the document will come into effect on 1 July 2012 and will be in force until it is reviewed in three years time. Annual Plans will be prepared in the two years in between.
- 9.2 Council staff will make any minor wording amendments made at the meeting and any minor editing changes made subsequently.

- 9.3 Council staff will send copies of the document to the organisations we are required to under the Local Government Act 2002, and will make copies available in Council offices and libraries and on the website. Staff will also respond to the people and organisations who wrote in submissions on the Draft Long Term Plan advising them of Council's decisions on the matters they raised.

10. Draft Resolution

THAT the Tasman District Council:

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Susan Edwards
Strategic Development Manager

Appendix 1: Changes to the Schedule of Charges for Building Consents