

## STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Corporate Services Committee  
**FROM:** Chair, Corporate Services Committee  
**DATE:** 16 February 2011  
**SUBJECT:** **Chair's Report – RFN11-02-08**

---

As we start out on the annual plan process it highlights again the challenge of balancing community expectations and available finances. Although this is always difficult it has been made more so by the impacts of the flood damage and the subsequent need to use Council's disaster funds for repairs to infrastructure. The resulting discussions have highlighted the need for good asset information to enable quick assessment of losses and to give those funding agencies like NZ Transport Agency and Civil Defence confidence in any claims Council may make. It also confirms the decision Council made to insure our rivers and other utility assets through the Local Authority Protection Programme fund.

One thing the whole episode does illustrate is that long term planning is, while essential, only part of the picture, and many things outside of our control can happen that will require Council to change its plans maybe for one or two years but conceivably for much longer. As we start the Long Term Plan (LTP) review we may need to allow some room within our treasury limits for those unforeseen events.

### **Recommendation**

**THAT the Corporate Services Committee receives the Chair's Report – RFN11-02-08.**

Tim King  
Chair  
Corporate Services Committee