

# I give notice that an Extraordinary Meeting of Council will be held on:

Date: Tuesday, 16 April 2024

Time: 10.45am

**Location:** Council Chamber

**107 Te Heuheu Street** 

Taupō

# **AGENDA**

**MEMBERSHIP** 

**Chairperson** Mayor David Trewavas

**Deputy Chairperson** Cr Kevin Taylor

Members Cr Duncan Campbell

Cr Karam Fletcher

Cr Sandra Greenslade

Cr Kylie Leonard

Cr Danny Loughlin

Cr Anna Park

Cr Christine Rankin Cr Rachel Shepherd Cr Kirsty Trueman

Cr Yvonne Westerman

Cr John Williamson

Quorum 7

Julie Gardyne
Chief Executive

# **Order Of Business**

Nil

1	Karakia		
2	Whakapāha   Apologies		
3	Ngā Whakapānga Tukituki   Conflicts of Interest		
4	Ngā Kaupapa Here Me Ngā Whakataunga   Policy and Decision Making		
	4.1	Contract CN564 Omori Water Rising Main	3
	4.2	Approval of Submission to the Fast-Track Approvals Bill	8
	4.3	Approval of the draft Treasury Management Policy for consultation1	2
	4.4	Approval of Significant Assumptions for the Long-term Plan 2024-341	6
	4.5	Approval of the draft Revenue and Financing Policy for consultation2	0
	4.6	Approval of the draft fees and charges 2024/25 for consultation2	6
	4.7	Approval of the Draft Rates Remission and Postponement Policy for consultation3	0
	4.8	Approval of the draft Performance Management Framework for consultation3	5
5	Ngā Kōr	ero Tūmataiti   Confidential Business	

#### 4.1 CONTRACT CN564 OMORI WATER RISING MAIN

Author: Tom Swindells, Asset Manager Water

Authorised by: Kevin Sears, Acting Three Waters Manager

# TE PŪTAKE | PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval for unbudgeted water expenditure to enable delivery of the Omori Water Rising Main Project and to approve award of the tender.

# WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This project includes the construction of a new water rising main from the Omori water treatment plant (WTP) to the Omori reservoirs and installation of a burst control valve at the reservoirs. The project was in planning for delivery across years 1 and 2 of the upcoming Long-term Plan 2024-34 (LTP). Due to repeated watermain failures on the current pipeline feeding the reservoirs, each resulting in extended loss of water supply to homes across Omori, Pukawa and Kuratau, it is considered necessary to bring the project forward for immediate delivery.

No funding is currently available for the project and approval of unbudgeted water expenditure is therefore required. The project is considered to be of moderate significance due to the value of unbudgeted expenditure required, effects across the communities and due to this being a new project, there has not been any community engagement to date. It is considered appropriate that Council make a decision given the project is urgently required to ensure security of water supply, is of high importance to the community and has minimal impacts to any external parties as the work is within the road reserve.

The project was tendered to the Water Reticulation Construction Panel and the winning tender was that of Civtec with a price of \$821,569.25. Delivery is to be completed over the next 3 months. Total project cost is expected to be \$875,000.00.

#### NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA | RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Council

- 1. approves unbudgeted water expenditure in the 2023/24 financial year of eight hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars \$875,000.00 (excl. GST) for the project,
- accepts the Tender for Contract CN564 Omori Water Rising Main submitted by Civtec for the sum of \$821,569.25 [excl. GST] and authorises His Worship the Mayor and the Chief Executive to sign the Contract Document(s) and attach the Council's Common Seal to them.

# TE WHAKAMAHUKI | BACKGROUND

The proposal has not been presented previously.

# NGĀ KŌRERORERO | DISCUSSION

The Omori water supply services the townships of Omori, Kuratau and Pukawa. Water is abstracted from Lake Taupō near Kuratau,and is treated at a water treatment plant in Omori. The water is then pumped into the reticulation network that is hydraulically connected to the main water reservoirs on the outskirts of Omori. The network is therefore operated in dual modes where it is both a pumping pipeline (rising main) and a gravity pipeline network.

In recent years there have been numerous failures on the watermain feeding the reservoirs. The failures have resulted in significant water outages for the community. As well as the supply disruption, each failure event poses a contamination risk. One of the recent failures (December 2022) resulted in a boil water notice for the three townships.

Failures have generally been located on a PVC pipelines installed in 1997. PVC pipelines can normally be expected to have lifetimes of the order of 100 years, however where pipelines are subject to repeated stress

events such as those that can occur during pumping operations, expected lifetimes can be considerably reduced. The Omori water treatment plant pumps operated for many years in a manner that caused high pressure surge and resulting stress on the network pipelines. Stress on the network has been further increased by the treatment plant filter backwash system which draws directly off the network.

Changes have been made to optimise the treatment plant pumping operation and the impacts of filter backwashing, however the risk of pipeline failure will remain heightened while the PVC pipelines continue to be operated as a dual purpose pumping and gravity mains. For this reason, a project was planned in the upcoming 2024/34 LTP to install a new dedicated rising main from the water treatment plant to the reservoirs. As part of the project, the PVC pipelines would convert to gravity feed only which would significantly reduce pipeline stress events and the corresponding risk of further pipeline failure. In addition to construction of a new rising main it was proposed to install a burst control valve at the reservoir site which would be used to prevent the reservoir from draining during pipeline failure events and so help maintain water supply to the community.

Due to repeated pipeline failures in March 2024 which resulted in loss of supply to large areas of the community it is now proposed to bring this project forward for immediate delivery. This project includes the construction of a new water rising main from the Omori water treatment plant (WTP) to the Omori reservoirs and installation of a burst control valve at the reservoirs. The pipeline route is displayed in Figure 1 below.



Figure 1: Omori Water Rising Main - Pipeline Route

The pipeline is proposed to be installed within the road reserve for the entire route other than a short section at each end where the pipeline will be in Council owned land or within a registered easement. A short 3-month project delivery timeline is proposed to ensure the fast resolution for the community.

The project was not planned in previous LTPs meaning there is no funding currently available, and approval of unbudgeted expenditure is therefore required for delivery of the project.

Due to challenges around contractor availability and the repetitiveness of water main renewals, Council has established a panel of approved contractors. For these works the use of the panel was considered the most appropriate means of engaging a contractor.

The contract is based on NZS3910 and the design and tender documents were compiled by WSP Consultants and Taupō District Council.

# TE WHIWHINGA KI NGĀ TONO | TENDERS RECEIVED

Tender documents were issued for a proposed contract on Friday 15 March 2024. Tenders closed on Friday 29 March. 2 conforming tenders were received from the following organisations:

- Civtec, Taupō
- Camex Civil, Taupō

Tender prices ranged from \$821,569.25 to \$864,284.83.

# TE AROMĀTAI I NGĀ TONO | TENDER EVALUATION

Tenders were evaluated on a lowest price conforming basis.

# TE WĀRIU O TE KIRIMANA | RECOMMENDED CONTRACT PRICE

The recommended contract price is that submitted by Civtec for \$821,569.25 [excl. GST].

#### NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA | OPTIONS

Council may choose to accept the preferred tender or not. If the tender is not accepted then Council will need to consider alternative options for managing the ongoing pipeline failures and corresponding disruption to the Omori, Kuratau and Pukawa communities.

Alternative options include:

1. Pipeline renewals

Renewal of all PVC pipelines on the pumping route. While this option has some merit, it will not prevent surge events in the network which have ultimately caused the PVC pipeline to fail earlier than expected. The ongoing surge events may have similar impacts on the newly renewed pipelines. This option is also likely to cost significantly more due to the numerous additional connection details needing install and will take more time to deliver.

#### 2. Surge reduction

It may be possible to reduce surge events through further changes to the pumping and filter backwash operations. This may include for example installation of pressure relief valves, surge vessels, control system changes and an offline backwash system. This option may have a reduced capital cost, compared to the rising main solution but timeframe for delivery is likely to be longer due to the design and procurement processes needed. The solution would not remove the at-risk PVC pipelines from their current dual operation mode and therefore the risk of further failures would remain heightened.

#### 3. Do Nothing

Council may accept the risk of further pipeline failures until the 2024/34 LTP can be confirmed and budgeted funds made available for the project.

It is Officers view that unbudgeted funds should be made available so the rising main project can proceed immediately.

# NGĀ HĪRAUNGA | CONSIDERATIONS

#### Ngā Aronga Pūtea | Financial Considerations

The financial impact of the proposal is estimated to be \$875,000 Made up as follows:

Rising Main Contract	\$ 821,569.25
Project Management	\$ 30,000.00
Design Support	\$ 20,000.00
Sub Total	\$ 871,569.25
Total Financial Impact (Rounded Up)	\$ 875,000.00

#### Long-term Plan/Annual Plan

The expenditure outlined is currently unbudgeted. It is requested that unbudgeted water expenditure is approved. The expenditure will need to be loan funded.

#### Ngā Aronga Ture | Legal Considerations

#### Local Government Act 2002

The matter comes within scope of the Council's lawful powers, including satisfying the purpose statement of Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002. That section of the Act states that the purpose of local government is (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and (b) to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future. It is considered that social / economic and environmental well-being is of relevance to this particular matter.

No authorisations are required for the proposal:

#### Ngā Hīraunga Kaupapa Here | Policy Implications

There are no known policy implications.

#### Ngā Tūraru | Risks

- A risk with all construction projects is construction cost increases due to unforeseen items that the contractor cannot be expected to have allowed for. Risk items on this contract include unknown services, possible archaeological finds, and ground conditions such as rock. An appropriate contingency of approximately \$90,000 has been included in the contract price.
- There is a section of Omori Road that is subject to subsidence and the roading team are considering solutions for this area. The project team will work closely with the roading team to ensure the new rising main is installed in a manner that will support future roading stabilisation.
- As the project is proposed to be delivered using unbudgeted expenditure, it will impact debt levels.

# TE HIRANGA O TE WHAKATAU, TE TONO RĀNEI | SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DECISION OR PROPOSAL

Council's Significance and Engagement Policy identifies matters to be considered when assessing the degree of significance of proposals and decisions.

Officers have undertaken an assessment of the matters in the <u>Significance and Engagement Policy (2022)</u>, and are of the opinion that the proposal under consideration is to be of moderate significance.

The decision is of moderate significance due to it resulting in unplanned capital expenditure of \$875,000, affecting a large part of the Omori, Pukawa and Kuratau communities and due to this being a new project, there has not been any community engagement to date.

#### TE KÖRERO TAHI | ENGAGEMENT

It is considered appropriate that Council make a decision without further engagement given the project is urgently required to ensure security of water supply, is of high importance to the community and has minimal impacts to any external parties as the work is within the road reserve.

# TE WHAKAWHITI KŌRERO PĀPAHO | COMMUNICATION/MEDIA

Direct communication has been/will be carried out with affected parties/key stakeholders and wider communication will be carried out with the community.

# WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

Council approval is required for unbudgeted water expenditure to enable delivery of the Omori Water Rising Main Project and to approve award of the tender. The project is required to prevent further watermain failures, loss of water supply and contamination risks for the Omori, Pukawa and Kuratau communities. The project was planned for delivery in the upcoming LTP but ongoing failures and community disruption have instigated Council Officers to recommend immediate delivery of the project.

# NGĀ TĀPIRIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

Nil

#### 4.2 APPROVAL OF SUBMISSION TO THE FAST-TRACK APPROVALS BILL

Author: Erin OCallaghan, Team Leader Resource Management/Reserve Planning

Authorised by: Nick Carroll, Policy Manager

# TE PŪTAKE | PURPOSE

This report requests Council's formal approval on the attached submission prepared by staff on the Fast Track Approvals Bill.

# NGĀ KŌRERORERO | DISCUSSION

The Government has made the decision to take a phased approach to reform of the resource management system. Phase one was the repeal of the Natural and Built Environment Act and Spatial Planning Act, which is now complete. Phase two is the introduction of this fast-track approvals regime for infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits.

The Fast-track Approvals Bill aims to improve the approvals process for major projects and to reduce inefficiencies with the current system.

The Bill has a much broader scope to previous fast-track legislation and includes a separate process for the following approvals:

- resource consents, notices of requirement, and certificates of compliance under the Resource Management Act 1991:
- concessions under the Conservation Act 1987:
- authority to do anything otherwise prohibited under the Wildlife Act 1953:
- approvals under the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983:
- concessions and other permissions under the Reserves Act 1977:
- an archaeological authority under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014:
- marine consents under the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects)
   Act 2012:
- Crown Minerals Act 1991 (section 61 or 61B land access provisions):
- aquaculture activity approvals under the Fisheries Act 1996.

The Bill also makes a change to Environment Court processes under the Public Works Act 1981 for projects dealt with under the Bill.

A broad range of projects will have access to the Fast-track process (including infrastructure, housing, resource extraction, aquaculture, and other developments), provided they are regionally or nationally significant, are consistent with the purpose of the Bill and meet other eligibility criteria outlined in the Bill.

There are some projects that are specifically ineligible for the Fast-track process on the basis this preclusion is needed to protect the special status of whenua Māori.

The Bill does not have a definition for significant regional or national benefits, but it does provide some examples of what the Ministers may consider when determining this. This includes it being identified as a priority project in a central government, local government or sector plan or strategy, or central government priority infrastructure list, where it will deliver regionally or nationally significant infrastructure and where it will:

- · increase the supply of housing,
- · deliver significant economic benefits,
- · support primary industries, including aquaculture,
- support development of natural resources, including minerals and petroleum,
- support climate change mitigation,
- support adaptation, resilience and recovery from natural hazards,

- · address significant environmental issues, and
- be consistent with local or regional planning documents, including spatial strategies.

The Bill has a two-step process for applicants looking to use the Fast-track process for a project. These are: First, referral:

- a. Where an applicant either receives automatic referral to an Expert Panel called a 'Part A listed project' due to being listed in Part A of Schedule 2, or
- b. The applicant has applied and receives approval to be referred to the Fast-track process by the Joint Ministers (this includes Part B listed referred projects which still have to go through the referral process but have already been determined to have significant regional or national benefits) and standard referred projects); and

Second, a substantive application: if successfully referred to an Expert Panel (or automatically referred), an application is made for approval of the project.

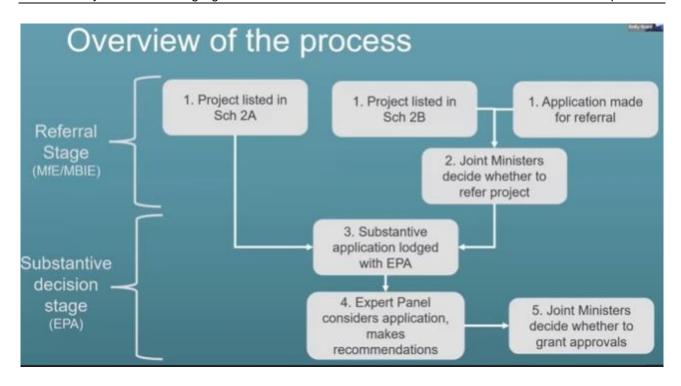
Whether the project is a Part A (automatically) listed project or a Part B listed referred project is determined by Schedule 2 of the Bill, which is currently blank and yet to released.

Joint Ministers make the final decisions on the referred projects, with an Expert Panel providing recommendations. Joint Ministers include the Ministers for Infrastructure, Transport and for Regional Development (with the Minister of Conservation and the Minister responsible for Crown Minerals in relation to some types of approvals).

The Expert Panel Convener must be a former Environment or High Court Judge. Membership of the panel includes:

- 1 person nominated by local authorities (could be an elected member);
- 1 person nominated by iwi authorities;
- 1 lawyer or planner to be chairperson;
- Relevant knowledge, skills, and expertise required;
- Can appoint special and technical advisors.

(Maximum of 4 persons)



See attachment 1 for full fast-track process overview.

#### **Submission Details**

Taituarā – Local Government Professionals Aotearoa have prepared a submission. Due to time constraints, at the time of writing this report officers have not had a chance to review their submission. However, generally Council supports sector matters that are raised in submissions by sector representatives. It is usual practice for Taituarā to cover the many technical elements, risks, and concerns with new legislation, therefore we have not included technical workings of the Bill in our submission. Officers have instead focused on issues that are relevant to Taupō District Council. Council officers will consider the Taituara submission prior to this Council meeting and will recommend any changes at the meeting, in the unlikely event that their submission is not as expected.

Officers have also not had a chance to include input from all our iwi partners. Council's submission supports inclusion of Treaty Settlements and obligations being included in the Bill. The submission also supports Mana Whakahono ā Rohe and Joint Management agreements being considered in decision making as we want to safeguard the commitments made in these relationship agreements and make sure they are not put at risk by fast-track approval processes. We understand that our iwi partners will make their own submissions on the Bill.

Attachment 2 is the Draft Council Submission. Council's submission points have focused on the importance of alignment with Council infrastructure strategies and Long-term Plans; concerns about the Minister for the Environment not being included as one of the joint Ministers; ensuring environmental safeguards are in place to support decision making; Resource Management Act considerations; landowner and occupier participation; and robust decision making.

Submissions are due on 19 April 2024. Once submissions are reviewed a Select Committee will hear submitters, Council may appoint one or more elected members to present this submission.

#### TE HIRANGA O TE WHAKATAU, TE TONO RĀNEI | SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DECISION OR PROPOSAL

Council's Significance and Engagement Policy identifies matters to be taken into account when assessing the degree of significance of proposals and decisions.

Officers have undertaken an assessment of the matters in the <u>Significance and Engagement Policy (2022)</u>, and are of the opinion that the proposal under consideration is of a low degree of significance.

# WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

Applications for project Fast-track approval are possible within the Taupō district. Given the significance of this legislation, it is considered appropriate that Taupō District Council are involved in the Select Committee process. It is recommended that Council approves the submission on the Fast-tracks Approvals Bill.

# NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA | RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Council

- 1. approves the submission on the Fast Track Consenting Bill (attached); and
- 2. appoints the following Elected Member(s) \_\_\_\_\_\_, to present the submission to the Select Committee.

# NGĀ TĀPIRIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Fast Track Process under the Fast-track Approvals Bill
- 2. Draft Taupō District Council Submission on Fast Track Approvals Bill

#### 4.3 APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY FOR CONSULTATION

Author: Jeanette Paenga, Finance Manager

Authorised by: Sarah Matthews, General Manager Organisation Performance

# TE PŪTAKE | PURPOSE

This paper seeks Council's adoption of the (draft) Treasury Management Policy 2024 for consultation alongside the 2024 Long-term Plan (LTP). The (draft) policy document is reproduced in Attachment 1 with a tracked changes version in Attachment 2.

This paper sets out:

- the purpose of the Treasury Management Policy and our legal obligations and requirements;
- the draft contents of the 2024 Treasury Management Policy;
- the key changes proposed in the 2024 Treasury Management Policy;
- options for Council to consider; and
- a recommendation for Council consideration and approval.

# WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is required under the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) to have a liability and investment policy. The Treasury Management Policy provides for this requirement. The policy maintains the prudent and conservative focus of the existing policy.

#### NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA | RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Council approves the draft Treasury Management Policy 2024 provided in Attachment 1 for consultation as part of the Long-term Plan 2024-34 subject to changes required as a result of the audit process.

# TE WHAKAMAHUKI | BACKGROUND

Section 102(2)(b) and (c) of the LGA requires that Council adopt an investment policy and a liabilities policy setting out its policies to manage its investments and liabilities, respectively. Sections 104 and 105 set out what must be included in these policies. Council's Treasury Management Policy (TMP) includes Council's policies in respect of both liabilities and investments.

Council recently adopted amendments to the Treasury Management Policy and adopted a new Statement of Investment Policies & Objectives for the managed Taupō Electricity Ltd fund. (Council Agenda 26 March 2024: Item 5.8). The amendments to the TMP involved removing references to the management of the Taupō Electricity Ltd Fund. Due to the delay of the Long-term Plan and the last part of Council's TEL fund being transferred across to Forsyth Barr in April 2024, it was considered financially prudent to make changes earlier that would enable investments within the intended parameters, avoid potential negative impacts from an unnecessary change in policy parameters, and any subsequent investment changes.

While council has adopted a new Statement of Investment Policies & Objectives, the adoption of the Treasury Management Policy in its entirety will fulfil Council Long-term Plan requirements.

#### NGĀ KŌRERORERO | DISCUSSION

The policy maintains a prudent and conservative focus with accountability to Council via a monthly Treasury Report.

The purpose of the Treasury Management Policy and its legal requirements

The purpose of the Policy is to set out the approved policies and procedures in respect of all treasury activity to be undertaken by Taupō District Council ("TDC"). The formalisation of such policies and procedures will enable treasury risks within TDC to be prudently managed. Moreover, regular reviews are conducted to test the existing Policy against the following criteria:

- Industry "best practices" for a Council the size and type of TDC.
- The risk bearing ability and tolerance levels of the underlying revenue and cost drivers.

- The effectiveness and efficiency of the Policy and treasury management function to recognise, measure, control, manage and report on TDC's financial exposure to market interest rate risks, funding risk, liquidity, investment risks, counterparty credit risks and other associated risks.
- The operations of a proactive treasury function in an environment of control and compliance.
- The robustness of the Policy's risk control limits and risk spreading mechanisms against normal and abnormal interest rate market movements and conditions.
- · Assistance to TDC in achieving strategic objectives.

#### The draft contents of the Treasury Management Policy

The (draft) 2024 Treasury Management Policy sets out the investment policy, liability management policy and governance & management responsibilities. It identifies the key investment and financing risks and how TDC intends to manage these risks. A copy of the (draft) 2024 Treasury Management Policy for consultation is provided in Attachment 1.

#### Proposed changes to the Treasury Management policy

The (draft) 2024 Treasury Management Policy is substantively the same as the current 2021 policy with a few changes made to the policy itself. These changes are summarised as follows:

- Change to Net External Debt/Total Revenue Borrowing Limit from 225% to 250% (paragraph 4.2)
- Change to a simpler, easier to manage fixed rate hedging percentages (paragraph 6.1.2)
- Removal of the control limits for financial Market investments as the limits contradict the requirement to match investments with cashflows (paragraph 6.2)
- Updated Authorised Investment Parameters (paragraph 6.6)
- Updated performance measures (paragraph 7)
- Updated roles, responsibilities and delegations (section 3)

Based on this information it is considered that there are two options.

### NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA | OPTIONS

#### **Analysis of Options**

Option 1 – Adopt the (draft) Treasury Management Policy 2024 for consultation (recommended)

Ad	Ivantages	Disadvantages
•	Will enable Council to consult on the draft policy as part of the Long-term Plan in June 2024.  The policy will reflect the current staff structure and roles and associated delegated authorities.  The policy settings will be less restrictive enabling Council to make prudent investment and borrowing decisions	• None

#### Option 2 – Do not adopt a (draft) Treasury Management Policy 2024 for consultation.

Advantages	Disadvantages
• None	<ul> <li>Does not meet the legislative requirements of the LGA 2002 to have a liability and investment policy.</li> <li>The policy will not reflect the current staff structure and roles and associated delegated authorities</li> <li>The policy will remain restrictive and affect Council's ability to make prudent investment &amp; borrowing decisions.</li> </ul>

#### Analysis Conclusion:

Option 1 is the preferred option. Council is required to have a current liability and investment policy in place. The draft Treasury Management Policy 2024 provides for this requirement.

#### NGĀ HĪRAUNGA | CONSIDERATIONS

#### Ngā Aronga Pūtea | Financial Considerations

The Treasury Management Policy provides the policy framework for all of Council's borrowing and investment activities and defines key responsibilities and the operating parameters within which borrowing, investment and related risk management activities are to be carried out.

Council acknowledges that there are various financial risks such as interest rate risk, currency risk, liquidity risk and credit risk arising from its treasury activities. Council is a risk adverse entity and does not wish to incur additional risk from its treasury activities.

#### Long-term Plan/Annual Plan

The draft information for the LTP has been prepared on the basis that the (draft) Treasury Management Policy 2024 will be approved by Council.

#### Ngā Aronga Ture | Legal Considerations

#### Local Government Act 2002

The matter comes within scope of the Council's lawful powers, including satisfying the purpose statement of Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002. That section of the Act states that the purpose of local government is (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and (b) to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future. It is considered that the economic wellbeing is of relevance to this particular matter.

The draft Treasury Management Policy 2024 has been made in accordance with the legislative requirements under the LGA.

#### Ngā Hīraunga Kaupapa Here | Policy Implications

The proposal has been evaluated against the following plans:				
√ Long Term Plan 2021-2031	□Annual Plan	☐ Waikato Regional Plan		
□ Taupō District Plan	☐ Bylaws	☐ Relevant Management Plan(s)		
Key borrowing and investment objectives form the basis of the policies. These objectives, while consistent with corporate best practice, are subject to overall Council objectives, as stated in Annual Plans and Longterm Plans.				

#### Te Körero tahi ki te Māori | Māori Engagement

Taupō District Council is committed to meeting its statutory Tiriti O Waitangi obligations and acknowledges partnership as the basis of Te Tiriti. Council has a responsibility to act reasonably and in good faith to reflect the partnership relationship, and to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti. These principles include, but are not limited to the protection of Māori rights, enabling Māori participation in Council processes and having rangatiratanga over tāonga.

Our statutory obligations outline our duties to engage with Māori, and enable participation in Council processes. Alongside this, we recognise the need to work side by side with the ahi kaa / resident iwi of our district. Engagement may not always be required by law, however meaningful engagement with Māori allows Council to demonstrate good faith and our commitment to working together as partners across our district.

Appropriately, the report author acknowledges that they have considered the above obligations including the need to seek advice, guidance, feedback and/or involvement of Māori on the proposed recommendation/s, objective/s, project/s or service/s outlined within this report.

#### Ngā Tūraru | Risks

If the Treasury Management Policy is not adopted, the policy will not be up-to-date and will not reflect our current information.

# TE HIRANGA O TE WHAKATAU, TE TONO RĀNEI | SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DECISION OR PROPOSAL

Council's Significance and Engagement Policy identifies matters to be taken into account when assessing the degree of significance of proposals and decisions.

Officers have undertaken an assessment of the matters in the <u>Significance and Engagement Policy (2022)</u>, and are of the opinion that the proposal under consideration is of a low degree of significance.

# TE KŌRERO TAHI | ENGAGEMENT

Officers have undertaken a rounded assessment of the matters in clause 12 of the Significance and Engagement Policy (2022) and are of the opinion that the proposal under consideration is of low importance.

#### TE WHAKAWHITI KŌRERO PĀPAHO | COMMUNICATION/MEDIA

Communication will be carried out as part of wider consultation with the community on the 2024 Long-term Plan.

### WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

Council is required under the Local Government Act 2002 to have a liability and investment policy. The draft Treasury Management Policy 2024 provides for this requirement. The proposed changes to the policy maintain the prudent and conservative focus of the existing policy.

#### NGĀ TĀPIRIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Draft Treasury Management Policy 2024
- 2. Draft Treasury Management Policy 2024 with tracked changes

#### 4.4 APPROVAL OF SIGNIFICANT ASSUMPTIONS FOR THE LONG-TERM PLAN 2024-34

Author: Philip Caruana, Senior Policy Advisor

Authorised by: Nick Carroll, Policy Manager

# TE PŪTAKE | PURPOSE

This paper seeks approval of the draft significant assumptions which will form part of the supporting information to be adopted for audit and consultation. A draft copy of the proposed significant assumptions will be circulated separately.

This paper sets out:

- the purpose of the significant assumptions and the legal requirements
- proposed changes to the significant assumptions since endorsement on 29 August 2023.
- the options for Council to consider.

# WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Local Government Act 2002 (the LGA) requires local authorities to report the significant assumptions supporting their long-term plans. By reporting these assumptions and consulting on them as part of the Long-term Plan 2024-34 consultation process, we inform our ratepayers of key areas of uncertainty and risk in our long-term planning.

Preparing and communicating significant assumptions ensures staff apply a consistent basis for planning across the different parts of the business e.g. using the same population projections for infrastructural investments and revenue forecasting.

Taituarā – Local Government Professionals Aotearoa best practice guidelines recommend elected members endorse these assumptions as early as possible in the process. This paper seeks approval of the significant assumptions relevant to the Long-term Plan 2024-34.

Officers are seeking Council's approval of the full suite of significant assumptions which will form part of the supporting information to be adopted in May for Audit review and later for public consultation.

# NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA | RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Council approves the draft significant assumptions supporting the Long-term Plan 2024-34 as proposed in Attachment 1 for consultation subject to any changes required as a result of the audit process.

#### TE WHAKAMAHUKI | BACKGROUND

A first tranche of draft significant assumptions was presented to Council at a workshop on 1 August 2023 and were later endorsed at a meeting on 29 August 2023. At this meeting, it was outlined that a second tranche of significant assumptions relating to financial matters would be developed. These have now been developed and a full suite of significant assumptions are being presented for Council's approval.

The Local Government Act 2002 (the LGA) (Part 1, Schedule 10) requires Council's Long-term Plan to identify:

- (a) significant forecasting assumptions and risks underlying the financial estimates;
- (b) key assumptions regarding the life cycle of significant assets and how these will be funded in the future; and
- (c) where there is a high level of uncertainty in forecasting assumptions.

An assumption is considered "significant" if it has a material impact on Council's revenue, operating expenditure, assets, future operational expenditure (Opex) and capital expenditure (Capex) or service levels. Taupō District Council's significant assumptions are provided in Attachment 1 (to be circulated)

and were developed with subject matter experts in various parts of the business and reviewed by an external consultant. The significant assumptions must be adopted as part of the supporting information for the consultation document.

# NGĀ KŌRERORERO | DISCUSSION

To ensure that the requirements of the LGA are met, staff have set out the uncertainty, risks and consequences of each significant assumption, and have proposed mitigation measures should they eventuate. This approach is set out in Figure 1.

Figure 1 UNCERTAINTY RISK CONSEQUENCE MITIGATION We assess how We establish the We set out the We propose confident we are that level of risk mitigation measures consequences for to safeguard our the assumption is associated with the Council, and our correct alternative scenario community, if the Council, and our set out in the alternative scenario community. assumption eventuates EXAMPLE: No natural disaster That a natural Substantial adverse Plan our emergency will occur in the disaster occurs impacts on Council response and have between 2024-34 Taupō district and community, e.g. resources ready to between 2024-34 loss of power, be allocated as communications. needed. evacuations etc.

Audit NZ will assess the quality of the significant assumptions and report on these as part of the audit of the Consultation Document.

#### Updates to the significant assumptions

The following changes have been made to the assumptions previously endorsed by Council:

- Introduce financial assumptions
- Minor updates to population and growth projection figures
- Updated legislative reform assumptions
- Included a new assumption "Delivery of the Capital Expenditure Programme"
- · Removed project specific assumptions and consolidated a number of others

#### NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA | OPTIONS

#### **Analysis of Options**

Based on this information it is considered that there are 2 options:

- (1) approve the full suite of draft significant assumptions as set out in Attachment 1 (to be circulated).
- (2) seek changes to the proposed significant assumptions.

Council staff have developed these significant assumptions together with subject matter experts in the relevant parts of the business. The changes to the assumptions have been reviewed by an external consultant. The recommendations made by the external consultant were incorporated in these assumptions.

It is recommended that Council approves the full suite of draft significant assumptions to enable these to be part of the audit process as supporting information for the consultation document.

#### Analysis Conclusion:

Our preferred option is option 1, that Council approves the full suite of draft significant assumptions supporting the Long-term Plan 2024-34 as proposed in Attachment 1 (to be circulated).

# NGĀ HĪRAUNGA | CONSIDERATIONS

#### Ngā Aronga Pūtea | Financial Considerations

The financial implications associated with the proposed significant assumptions have been considered by Finance staff and feedback incorporated.

#### Ngā Aronga Ture | Legal Considerations

# Local Government Act 2002

The matter comes within scope of the Council's lawful powers, including satisfying the purpose statement of Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002. That section of the Act states that the purpose of local government is (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and (b) to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future. It is considered that social and economic aspects are of relevance to this particular matter.

The proposed significant assumptions have been developed in accordance with the legislative requirements under the LGA.

#### Ngā Hīraunga Kaupapa Here | Policy Implications

The policy implications of the proposed significant assumptions have been addressed by the relevant business unit within Council as part of the preparation of the Long-term Plan.

#### Te Kōrero tahi ki te Māori | Māori Engagement

Taupō District Council is committed to meeting its statutory Tiriti O Waitangi obligations and acknowledges partnership as the basis of Te Tiriti. Council has a responsibility to act reasonably and in good faith to reflect the partnership relationship, and to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti. These principles include, but are not limited to the protection of Māori rights, enabling Māori participation in Council processes and having rangatiratanga over tāonga.

Our statutory obligations outline our duties to engage with Māori, and enable participation in Council processes. Alongside this, we recognise the need to work side by side with the ahi kaa / resident iwi of our district. Engagement may not always be required by law, however meaningful engagement with Māori allows Council to demonstrate good faith and our commitment to working together as partners across our district.

Appropriately, the report author acknowledges that they have considered the above obligations including the need to seek advice, guidance, feedback and/or involvement of Māori on the proposed recommendation/s, objective/s, project/s or service/s outlined within this report.

The full suite of draft significant assumptions will be subject to further engagement with iwi and hapū along with the wider community as part of the Long-term Plan 2024-34 consultation process.

#### Ngā Tūraru | Risks

The significant assumptions appended with this report form a key part of the Long-term Plan 2024-34 and are a requirement under the LGA. If Council chooses not to approve the proposed significant assumptions and seek only minor adjustments, these will be addressed in-time for adoption on 03 May 2024. However, any substantial changes could result in additional time being required and could delay the adoption of the consultation document and supporting information on 03 May 2024.

#### TE HIRANGA O TE WHAKATAU, TE TONO RĀNEI | SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DECISION OR PROPOSAL

Council's Significance and Engagement Policy identifies matters to be considered when assessing the degree of significance of proposals and decisions. Officers have undertaken an assessment of the matters in the Significance and Engagement Policy (2022) and are of the opinion that the proposal under consideration is significant.

# TE KŌRERO TAHI | ENGAGEMENT

Consultation with the community will be undertaken alongside the Long-term plan.

#### TE WHAKAWHITI KÖRERO PĀPAHO | COMMUNICATION/MEDIA

Communication will be carried out as part of wider consultation with the community on the Long-term Plan.

# WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

Officers recommend that you approve the draft significant assumptions (to be circulated). Consultation will happen alongside consultation for the Long-term Plan.

# NGĀ TĀPIRIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Significant Assumptions (under separate cover 2) ⇒

#### 4.5 APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT REVENUE AND FINANCING POLICY FOR CONSULTATION

Author: Aidan Smith, Senior Policy Advisor - Climate Change

Authorised by: Nick Carroll, Policy Manager

#### TE PŪTAKE | PURPOSE

This paper seeks your adoption of the draft Revenue and Financing Policy for consultation alongside the Long-term Plan 2024-34. A draft Revenue and Financing Policy is attached.

This paper sets out:

- the purpose of the Revenue and Financing Policy and the legal requirements
- the draft contents of the Revenue and Financing Policy
- proposed changes to the Revenue and Financing Policy
- · the options for Council to consider.

# WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The draft Revenue and Financing Policy sets out how Council intends to fund its various activities and services – whether from:

- · rates on the whole district
- rates on parts of the district
- or fees and charges for the use of services.

It also sets out how we will use revenues from:

- depreciation reserves
- the TEL fund (a \$65 million fund¹ from the sale of Taupō Electricity Limited and Taupō Generation Limited in 1995).
- the sale of land assets (particularly Council's east urban land holdings)
- that borrowing is the primary source of funding for capital expenditure.

This paper should be read in conjunction with the paper *Draft Fees and Charges for consultation* as there is a direct relationship between the funding approaches and proportions set out in the draft Revenue and Financing Policy and the setting of specific fees and charges.

The key changes proposed to the draft Revenue and Financing Policy are:

- An additional section setting out how the policy supports the principles set out in the Preamble to Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993 (a new legal requirement)
- proposed changes to the funding and rating approach for rubbish and recycling collection
- updates to reflect discontinuation of targeted rates for Whakamaru Fire protection and Tūrangi-Tongariro Community Board.
- Updates to our description of differentials
- Updates to the approach for using TEL fund revenues.
- Updating to the groups of activities and community outcomes

In the Appendix of the policy (also for adoption) is how the Council has determined the appropriate funding sources for each activity in line with Section 101(3) of the Local Government Act 2002.

Officers are seeking Council's approval of these changes and adoption of the draft Revenue and Financing Policy for consultation.

Item 4.5 Page 20

.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As at 30 June 2023

#### NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA | RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Council approves the draft Revenue and Financing Policy 2024 for consultation subject to changes required as a result of the audit process.

# TE WHAKAMAHUKI | BACKGROUND

The Revenue and Financing Policy is not required to be part of Council's long-term plan, nor is it required to be reviewed within any specified time period. However, Council typically reviews and updates its Revenue and Financing policy in line with its Long-term Plan to ensure alignment between the policy and update costs and revenues.

Council had a workshop on 5 October 2023 on Council's financial policies where an overview of the role and contents of Council's Revenue and Financing Policy and possible areas of change were presented, including:

- That the Uniform Annual General Charge of \$250 had not been updated for some time (since 2012/13).
- That possible Kerbside changes would have a different funding approach
- That dog fees and charges need review
- That Iwi and hapu have asked us to look at the toilet (pan) charges for wastewater, which significantly
  impact marae.
- That the pool funding may need updating.

Proposed changes and a draft Revenue and Financing Policy 2024 have since been prepared, which include the elements above plus some new changes.

Note that the pan charge for Marae is being addressed through a separate paper [Rates Remissions and Postponement Policy for consultation refers]

# NGĀ KŌRERORERO | DISCUSSION

The purpose of the Revenue and Financing Policy and its legal requirements

The Revenue and Financing Policy is required by legislation [Section 102 of the Local Government Act 2002, extract attached, refers]

The Revenue and Financing Policy ensures that Council determines the appropriate sources of funding for its activities as required by legislation [Section 101 of the Local Government Act 2002, extract attached, refers].

When choosing how to fund each activity Council must consider:2

- who benefits from the activity (including the period of those benefits and wider outcomes), including whether:
  - o it's the community as a whole
  - it's a particular part of the community (like an area, or a group of people say commercial properties)
  - individuals (e.g. pool users)
- who causes the harm or need for action (e.g. dogs)
- practicality and administration costs, and the costs and benefits of funding the activity distinctly from other activities.

This assessment is provided in an appendix to the Policy, also for adoption.

Council must also consider the overall impact of possible funding arrangements on social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being.

A copy of the legal requirements is attached [Attachment 2 – extracts of legal requirements]

The Revenue and Financing Policy sets this initial direction, and then subsequent policies and documents set out the details of funding and charges – see Figure 1 below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Summary of Section 101(3) of the Local Government Act 2002 (see attachment 2 for details).

#### Figure 1 - How the Revenue and Financing policy fits with other Long-term plan documents

# **Revenue and Financing Policy**

- How activities will be funded
- How revenues will be used

# **Funding impact statement**

- Sets the boundaries, or property types for targeted rates.
- Sets the valuation system and any differentials.
- Sets any other rates basis (e.g. number of toilets for wastewater).
- The basis for charging for multiple houses or units on a property.
- Sets the rating values.

# Fees and charges schedule

Sets all the applicable fees for council venues and services

# **Development contributions policy**

Sets the charges that apply to new development.

# Rate remissions and postponement policy

Sets out who will be exempt from rates.

# The draft contents of the Revenue and Financing Policy

The Revenue and Financing Policy sets the framework for how Council funds its operating expenses and capital expenditure. Then in Schedule 1 it sets out the funding approach for each of Council's activities. Appendix 1 provides the assessment against the considerations set out in Section 101(3).

A copy of the draft Revenue and Financing Policy 2024 for consultation is attached, with proposed changes from the current (2021) policy marked up [Attachment 1 – draft Revenue and Financing Policy 2024 (tracked changes)]

#### Proposed changes to the Revenue and Financing Policy

The key changes proposed to the draft Revenue and Financing Policy are:

- An additional section setting out how the policy supports the principles set out in the Preamble to Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993 (a new legal requirement)
- Proposed changes to the funding and rating approach for rubbish and recycling collection
- Updates to reflect discontinuation of targeted rates for Whakamaru Fire protection and Tūrangi-Tongariro Community Board.
- Updates to our description of differentials
- Updates to the approach for using TEL fund revenues
- Updating to the groups or activities and community outcomes

# Activities Currently Outside the 2021 Policy Bands

Activity	Rates share forecast 2024/25	Fees & charges forecast 2024/25	Resolution
Regulatory	74%	26%	Bands in the proposed 2024 Policy are:
compliance – Animal control			Rates 50 – 70%
and sundry			Fees and Charges 30 - 50%
compliance			Proposed 15% on average increase in fees and charges to stabilise. Council may need to do further increases to fees and charges in coming years to align with the policy.
			Further increases will need to be balanced against the risk of non-compliance driven by fees.
Regulatory	53%	47%	Bands in the proposed 2024 Policy are:
compliance – Liquor and Health			Rates 35 – 45%
licensing			Fees and Charges 55 – 65%
			Left the band as is, monitor new charges that have been proposed. Potential requirement for future increases if the proposed increases prove to be insufficient.
			Scope of increases is limited as some fees are set by legislation/central government.
Venues - AC Baths	70%	30%	Adjusted the band in proposed 2024 Policy. New proposed bands are:
			Rates 55 – 70%
			Fees and Charges 30 – 45%
Venues - Turangi	96%	4%	Bands in the proposed 2024 Policy are:
Turtle Pools			Rates 85 - 95%
			Fees and Charges 5 – 15%
			No adjustment to existing bands, monitor as costs are only 1% outside the bottom of the existing band.
Venues - Taupo Events Centre	79%	21%	Adjusted the band in proposed 2024 Policy. New proposed bands are:
			Rates 65 – 80%
			Fees and Charges 20 – 35%
Venues - Great	91%	9%	Bands in the proposed 2024 Policy are:
Lake Centre			Rates 75 – 85%
			Fees and Charges 15 – 25%
			No adjustment to existing bands, monitor costs and recovery from community vs commercial users. Intention is to move back in line with the Policy by managing user groups.

Cemeteries	29%	71%	Adjusted the band in proposed 2024 Policy. New proposed bands are:
			Rates 0 – 30%
			Fees and Charges 70 – 100%
Solid waste disposal	26%	74%	Adjusted the band in proposed 2024 Policy as revenue is higher due to amounts of waste being disposed. New proposed bands are:
			Rates 25 – 45%
			Fees and Charges 55 – 75%
Housing for the Elderly	65%	35%	Adjusted the band in proposed 2024 Policy. New proposed bands are:
			Rates 50 – 70%
			Fees and Charges 30 – 50%

Based on this information it is considered that there are two options.

# NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA | OPTIONS

#### **Analysis of Options**

Council can either adopt the draft Revenue and Financing Policy 2024 for consultation, or direct staff to make changes or provide additional information.

Adoption is sought to update and align Council's Revenue and Financing Policy with the draft long-term plan. It will form part of the supporting information for the long-term plan that Audit NZ will review. Adoption is desired today to allow Long-term Plan consultation to be undertaken over the planned period, and align with the project plan, including audit timeframes, and adoption by 30 September 2024.

If agreement on a draft for consultation cannot be reached today, officers will provide additional information and seek adoption at a special council meeting on 3 May 2024 to avoid missing or delaying consultation with the Long-term Plan 2024-34.

#### NGĀ HĪRAUNGA | CONSIDERATIONS

#### Ngā Aronga Pūtea | Financial Considerations

The funding implications of the direction in the Revenue and Financing Policy are determined by the subsequent policies which set actual fees and charges, and the revenue and expenditure set out in the Long-term Plan.

#### Ngā Aronga Ture | Legal Considerations

#### Local Government Act 2002

The matter comes within scope of the Council's lawful powers, including satisfying the purpose statement of Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002. That section of the Act states that the purpose of local government is (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and (b) to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future. It is considered that social / economic / environmental and / or cultural wellbeing are of relevance to this particular matter.

The proposal has been evaluated with regards to a range of legislation. The key legislation applicable to the proposal has been reviewed and the relevant matters for consideration are as follows:

Legal requirements are outlined above [see heading: *The purpose of the Draft Revenue and Financing Policy and its legal requirements*].

# Ngā Hīraunga Kaupapa Here | Policy Implications

The Revenue and Financing Policy is a high-order policy which provides direction to other policies and the Long-term Plan. These must therefore be considered and adopted together.

#### Te Korero tahi ki te Māori | Māori Engagement

Taupō District Council is committed to meeting its statutory Tiriti O Waitangi obligations and acknowledges partnership as the basis of Te Tiriti. Council has a responsibility to act reasonably and in good faith to reflect the partnership relationship, and to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti. These principles include, but are not limited to the protection of Māori rights, enabling Māori participation in Council processes and having rangatiratanga over tāonga.

Our statutory obligations outline our duties to engage with Māori, and enable participation in Council processes. Alongside this, we recognise the need to work side by side with the ahi kaa / resident iwi of our district. Engagement may not always be required by law, however meaningful engagement with Māori allows Council to demonstrate good faith and our commitment to working together as partners across our district.

Appropriately, the report author acknowledges that they have considered the above obligations including the need to seek advice, guidance, feedback and/or involvement of Māori on the proposed recommendation/s, objective/s, project/s or service/s outlined within this report.

The draft Revenue and financing Policy 2024 will be formally consulted on as part of the Long-term Plan consultation.

## Ngā Tūraru | Risks

There are no known risks.

#### TE HIRANGA O TE WHAKATAU, TE TONO RĀNEI | SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DECISION OR PROPOSAL

This is considered to be a significant matter according to Council's Policy. Consultation is required by the legislation [Section 102 of the Local government act, extract attached, refers].

#### TE KŌRERO TAHI | ENGAGEMENT

Consultation with the community will be undertaken alongside the Long-term Plan 2024-34.

# TE WHAKAWHITI KŌRERO PĀPAHO | COMMUNICATION/MEDIA

Communication will be carried out as part of wider consultation with the community on the Long-term Plan 2024-34.

#### WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

Officers recommend that you adopt the draft Revenue and Financing Policy for consultation (draft attached to this report). Consultation will happen alongside consultation for the Long-term Plan 2024-34.

#### NGĀ TĀPIRIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Draft Revenue and Financing Policy 2024 for consultation
- 2. Extracts of legal requirements

#### 4.6 APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT FEES AND CHARGES 2024/25 FOR CONSULTATION

Author: Aidan Smith, Senior Policy Advisor - Climate Change

Authorised by: Nick Carroll, Policy Manager

#### TE PŪTAKE | PURPOSE

This paper seeks your adoption of the draft fees and charges for consultation alongside the Long-term Plan 2024-34. A draft Fees and Charges Schedule cover the 2024/25 financial year is attached.

This paper sets out:

- the purpose of fees and charges and the legal requirements
- proposed changes to fees and charges
- the options for Council to consider.

# WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The draft Fees and Charges 2024/25 schedule sets fees for many of Council's activities and services, including:

- · building consents and resource consents
- pools
- libraries and museum
- council buildings and facilities (like the Taupō events centre, Great Lake Centre, and community halls)
- cemeteries
- housing for the elderly

This paper should be read in conjunction with the paper *Revenue and Financing Policy for consultation*, which sets out how council intents to fund its activities including what proportion of funding is expected to come from fees and charges vs rates.

Changes to fees are recommended across many of these activities to reflect the increasing costs to deliver these activities, and to ensure that that the share of funding from fees and charges aligns with the proportions set out in the Revenue and Financing Policy.

Officers are seeking Council's approval of these changes and adoption of the draft Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25 for consultation.

#### NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA | RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Council approves the draft Fees and Charges 2024/25 for consultation subject to changes required as a result of the audit process.

#### TE WHAKAMAHUKI | BACKGROUND

Council reviews its fees and charges annually, as set out in its 2021 Financial Strategy.<sup>3</sup>

The rate at which we set fees and charges impacts the funding available for Council activities and/or the contribution required from rates – so it is a key part of the Long-term Plan.

Council had a workshop on 5 October 2023 on Council's financial policies where an overview of the Revenue and Financing Policy, including the expected proportion of funding of activities from fees was presented. Council also had a workshop on 8 February 2024, where officers presented the intention to explore a 25% increase in fees and charges, where sensible, to reflect the need to catch up after a number of years of small changes to fees but significant cost increases to deliver services. This approach is intended to reduce the burden falling on rates.

<sup>3 &</sup>quot;Annually review fees and charges revenue to ensure that they are set at the appropriate levels."

Animal control (including dog registration), and Food premises fees have already been adopted by Council for consultation, as these have a requirement to be adopted by the end of May 2024. They are currently out for consultation. Those proposed changes are repeated in the draft Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25 for context.

Proposed changes and a draft Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25 have since been prepared.

# NGĀ KŌRERORERO | DISCUSSION

#### The purpose of the draft Fees and Charges schedule and its legal requirements

Council sets fees and charges for a number of its services, enabled by various legislation. Fees and charges, typically, are a cost-recovery mechanism and cannot over recover the cost of providing the service. For most of Council's activities fees and charges only part pay for the cost of a service, with rates funding the remaining costs.

Fees and charges should align with Council's Revenue and Financing Policy, or otherwise Council should consider amending that policy or making adjustments overtime to align with the policy.

#### Proposed changes to fees and charges

Increases to many fees and charges are proposed to reflect increasing costs of these activities and to ensure that the share of funding from fees and charges aligns with the proportions set out in the Revenue and Financing Policy.

The attached Draft Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25 sets out the proposed fees to apply from 1 October 2024. It also identifies what the change is from the current fee (for 2023/24) and what the difference is in both dollars and as a percentage. The reasons for the changes are also set out.

To inform decision-making, the draft schedule also sets out:

- how expected revenue aligns with the funding proportions of funding that should come from fees set out in the Revenue and Financing Policy.
- how much revenue is expected to be collected for each activity, and how much that offsets rates (e.g. what % increase in rates would be needed if there was no fees and charges revenue).

Some new fees and charges are proposed, and some changes to the wording of fees and charges – these are identified by tracked changes.

Animal control (including dog registration), and Food premises fees have already been adopted by Council for consultation, as these have a requirement to be adopted by the end of May 2024. They are currently out for consultation. Those proposed changes are repeated in the draft Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25 for context.

#### Increases to Fees and Charges

Council has a revenue and financing policy which sets out how Council activities are to be funded. This policy determines what portion of an activity is to be funded by rates and what portion is to be funded by fees. Successive Councils have limited the scope of fee increases to ensure that they do not overburden the community. However due to cost escalation across Council activities those increases have not always been sufficient to keep the revenue collected within the bands set in the revenue and financing policy.

This slipping of fees and charges revenue outside the bands means that rates must pick up the difference. The proposed fee increases reflect this mismatch between the policy and the actual revenue. Some of the proposed increases close the gap, others stabilise or help to start shifting the splits back in line with the policy.

In other words, while rates have increased significantly over the years fees have not increased at the same pace.

There are associated changes to the draft Revenue and Financing Policy which are outlined in the respective paper with recommendations on how to address the inconsistencies going forward.

#### NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA | OPTIONS

#### Analysis of Options

Council can either adopt the draft Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25 for consultation, or direct staff to make changes or provide additional information.

Adoption is sought to ensure alignment with Council's Revenue and Financing Policy and the draft Long-term Plan. It will form part of the supporting information for the long-term plan that Audit NZ will review. Adoption

is desired today to allow Long-term Plan consultation to be undertaken over the planned period, and align with the project plan, including audit timeframes, and adoption by 30 September 2024.

If agreement on a draft for consultation cannot be reached today, officers will provide additional information and seek adoption at a special Council meeting on 3 May 2024 to avoid missing or delaying consultation with the Long-term Plan 2024-34.

#### NGĀ HĪRAUNGA | CONSIDERATIONS

#### Ngā Aronga Pūtea | Financial Considerations

The funding implications of the fees and charges are outlined in the draft Fees and Charges Schedule where there is a significant financial impact. The proposed fees and charges align with the Long-term Plan revenue and expenditure plans and the Revenue and Financing Policy.

Any decisions to reduce fees would need to be met by either:

- a corresponding reduction in expenditure
- or a corresponding increase in funding from rates

#### Ngā Aronga Ture | Legal Considerations

#### Local Government Act 2002

The matter comes within scope of the Council's lawful powers, including satisfying the purpose statement of Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002. That section of the Act states that the purpose of local government is (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and (b) to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future. It is considered that social / economic / environmental and / or cultural wellbeing are of relevance to this particular matter.

The proposal has been evaluated with regards to a range of legislation. Fees and charges are set under a range of empowering legislation, including:

- Dog Control Act 1996
- Impounding Act 1955
- Building Act 2004
- Resource Management Act 1991
- Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013
- Health (Registration of Premises) Regulations 1966
- Food Act 2014
- Public Places Bylaw (and other bylaws re Water Supply etc, if applicable)
- Gambling Act and Racing Industry Act
- Burial and Cremation Act 1964 (if fees set via bylaws under that Act)
- Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (information requests and LIMs)
- Local Government (Rating) Act 2002
- Land Transport (Certification and Fees) Regulations 2014 (Overweight vehicle permits)
- Other fees in the schedule appear to be fees set using the Council's general power of competence under section 12 of the Local Government Act 2002.

#### Ngā Hīraunga Kaupapa Here | Policy Implications

Adjustments to fees and charges must be considered against the Revenue and Financing Policy. If the expected revenue from proposed fees and charges does not align with the proportions set in the Revenue and Financing Policy, Council should consider either:

- Amending the Revenue and Financing Policy, including the considerations of Section 101(3) of the Local Government Act 2002, to ensure alignment, or
- Signalling future adjustments to fees over time to bring them into line with the Revenue and Financing Policy.

#### Te Korero tahi ki te Māori | Māori Engagement

Taupō District Council is committed to meeting its statutory Tiriti O Waitangi obligations and acknowledges partnership as the basis of Te Tiriti. Council has a responsibility to act reasonably and in good faith to reflect the partnership relationship, and to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti. These principles include, but are not limited to the protection of Māori rights, enabling Māori participation in Council processes and having rangatiratanga over tāonga.

Our statutory obligations outline our duties to engage with Māori, and enable participation in Council processes. Alongside this, we recognise the need to work side by side with the ahi kaa / resident iwi of our district. Engagement may not always be required by law, however meaningful engagement with Māori allows Council to demonstrate good faith and our commitment to working together as partners across our district.

Appropriately, the report author acknowledges that they have considered the above obligations including the need to seek advice, guidance, feedback and/or involvement of Māori on the proposed recommendation/s, objective/s, project/s or service/s outlined within this report.

The draft Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25 will be formally consulted on as part of the Long-term Plan consultation.

## Ngā Tūraru | Risks

There are no known risks.

#### TE HIRANGA O TE WHAKATAU, TE TONO RĀNEI | SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DECISION OR PROPOSAL

The draft Fees and Charges are considered to be a significant matter under Council's Policy. Consultation is required by the legislation [Section 102 of the Local Government Act, extract attached, refers].

#### TE KŌRERO TAHI | ENGAGEMENT

Consultation with the community will be undertaken alongside the Long-term Plan 2024-34.

# TE WHAKAWHITI KŌRERO PĀPAHO | COMMUNICATION/MEDIA

Communication will be carried out as part of wider consultation with the community on the Long-term Plan 2024-34.

#### WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

Officers recommend that you adopt the draft Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25 for consultation (draft attached to this report). Consultation will happen alongside consultation for the Long-term Plan 2024-34.

#### NGĀ TĀPIRIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Fees and Charges Schedule 2024/25 for consultation (under separate cover 1) ⇒

# 4.7 APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT RATES REMISSION AND POSTPONEMENT POLICY FOR CONSULTATION

Author: Toni Wilkinson, Revenue Manager

Authorised by: Sarah Matthews, General Manager Organisation Performance

#### TE PŪTAKE | PURPOSE

This paper seeks your adoption of the draft Rates Remission and Postponement Policy 2024 for consultation alongside the Long-term Plan 2024-34. The draft Rates Remission and Postponement Policy is attached.

This paper sets out:

- the purpose of the Rates Remission Policy and the legal requirements
- the draft contents of the Rates Remission Policy
- · proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy
- the options for Council to consider.

# WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The draft Rates Remission and Postponement Policy sets out when and why Council will allow remission or postponement, of rates. This policy ensures a range of people and organisations in our community can access rates remission for a variety of reasons.

Current and proposed Rates remission or postponement policies include:

- 1. Lake Taupō and Crown owned Hydro Lakes
- 2. Community, Sporting, Churches, Marae, and Other Organisations
- 3. Rates Penalties
- 4. Māori Freehold Land
- 5. Council Utilities
- 6. Water Leaks
- 7. Natural Disaster
- 8. Waitahanui fixed targeted rate for water availability.
- 9. Those suffering financial hardship.

The key changes proposed to the Rates Remission and Postponement Policies are:

- an updated policy for Māori freehold land under development
- remission on toilet pan charges for Community Organisations, Marae and Churches.
- to support the preamble to the Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993

These changes were provided to Council through a workshop on 10 October 2023. Officers are now seeking Council's formal acceptance of these changes and agreement to adopt the draft Rates Remission and Postponement Policy for consultation.

# NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA | RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Council approves the draft Rates Remission and Postponement Policy 2024 for consultation subject to changes required as a result of the audit process.

#### TE WHAKAMAHUKI | BACKGROUND

The purpose of the Rates Remission and Postponement Policy is to provide for a range of situations when rates may be remitted or postponed for individuals or groups. These are based on a range of factors and each policy has its own set of objectives, conditions, and criteria. These situations range from supporting community organisations through to remitting water meter rates when there has been a leak.

Council develops the rates remission policy under sections 102(3), 108, and 109 of the Local Government Act 2002 and the policies must give effect to the Local Government (Rating of Whenua Māori) Amendment Act 2021, which requires rates remissions polices to support the principles in the preamble of Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993.

The rates remissions and postponement policies taken to the Council workshop on 10 October 2023 are longstanding and well-established policies which are reviewed every 3 years as part of the LTP process. At the workshop Officers explained some legislative amendments around Māori Freehold Land and an extension to remission available to community organisations through the targeted rate for sewer and provided some clarity through questions on the remission for the targeted water rate at Waitahanui. These are summarised in the bullet points that follow.

- The policy in relation to Māori Freehold land under development has been updated to recognise that
  there is a statutory remission provided for in section 114A of the Local Government Act 2002 which
  came into effect from 1 July 2022. The document sets out the criteria and objectives of the draft policy
  which has been disseminated to lwi and Hapu as a form of early consultation and their verbal feedback
  has been positive.
- At the workshop Officers explained a new and additional remission for community and sporting organisations through a 75% remission on sewer charges. This includes Marae and Churches which are non-rateable under Schedule 1 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.
- The Fixed Charge Targeted Water Rate remission for Waitahanui was discussed at the workshop and provides remission of the availability charge where the water is available but not connected. There are 61 out of the approx. 200 properties left to connect to Council supplied water in Waitahanui and therefore qualify for the remission. The implementation of this remission policy from 1 July 2021 takes into consideration that the infrastructure to extend the Taupō Township/Wairakei Village water supply to Waitahanui qualified for \$1.9m funding through the Central Government's New Zealand Drinking water standards programme. It recognises that Central Government's criteria to qualify for funding is decided by a measure on New Zealand's deprivation index.

The current Rates Remission and Postponement Policy includes the Role of the Officer/s who can determine whether or not the qualifying criteria for remission is met or not. Elected members asked Officers why there was reference to the Roles as those Officers could be targeted personally when remission can't be applied because the criteria is not met and how does a remission applicant get a decision reviewed. Officers undertook to look into this for Elected Members.

#### Central Government Rebate

It is important to note that central government funds a rates rebate scheme that Council's administer for them. In the current 2023-24 rating year the abatement threshold is \$30,100 and the maximum rebate is \$750. 1,183 ratepayers have qualified for \$855,522.81 and applications will continue to be received and processed through to 30 June 2024.

To access this annual rebate ratepayers can apply to Council through a form provided on our website and then either hand it into one of the Council customer services centres, post or email it in. Anyone who received a rates rebate in the previous year automatically gets sent an application form with their instalment 1 rates invoice so that they can reapply for the new year.

#### NGĀ KŌRERORERO | DISCUSSION

The draft Rates Remission and Postponement Policy has some changes when compared to the existing policy. The changes are highlighted on the attached draft document which has been fully reformatted, and parts rewritten to ensure they give effect to Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993 [Attachment 1 – draft Rates Remission and Postponement Policy].

# The draft rates remission and postponement policies that remain unchanged are:

- Rates Remission for the Lake Taupō Lakebed and Crown owned Hydro Lakes lakebeds (with
  easements to carry out the electricity generation business). The longstanding rates remission for Lake
  Taupō recognises the special characteristics and the immense value Lake Taupō has to the community.
  As with the other hydro lakes that qualify for rates remission, Lake Taupō is open to the public for
  enjoyment and recreational activities.
- Rates Postponement for Extreme Financial Hardship. There are no active postponements under this
  policy.

- Remission of Rates Penalty. This allows for the penalty to be taken off in certain circumstances and also provides an incentive to clear any arrears with the offer of penalty remission.
- Remission of General Rates for Council Owned Utilities. The purpose of this remission policy is to avoid collecting rates that are to be paid by the Council from revenue collected from other ratepayers.
- Water Rates Remission Attributable to Water Leaks. Leaks can go visibly unnoticed and most water
  meters in the district are only read every six months at which time unusual high use can be picked up.
  This policy allows for the water that has passed through the meter over and above the usual average
  usage for the property is remitted. The leak must be identified, proven and fixed for the remission to
  apply.
- Natural Disasters Rates Remission. This policy applies to residential properties that can't be inhabited or used due to a natural calamity.
- Waitahanui Fixed Charge Targeted Water Rate Remission. (see explanation above)

# The draft rates remission and postponement policies that have changed are:

# Rates Remission Policies on Māori Freehold Land

- The draft policy includes updated objectives, conditions, and criteria guidelines for the statutory remission for Māori Freehold land that is under development as provided for in section 114A of the Local Government Act 2002, which came into effect from 1 July 2022
- Allows for 100% rates remission (excluding water and sewage rates) for land while it is in the stage of being developed and not yet completed, used, or occupied and no income is derived. This is different to the current situation where rates are charged on a sliding scale from the commencement of development over a five-year programme.
- Where land is under development, rates will only be payable once the development is sufficiently completed to add value to the property at 30 June. At this stage of the development general rates are charged on the new improvement value for the portion of the land developed.
- Parts of Māori Freehold land that is being developed will qualify for rates remission, whilst the remainder
  of the land that is used will continue to be rated.
- New policy objectives better support the principles of Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993, and recognise the land is taonga tuku iho of special significance to Māori people.
- The policy has been updated to refer to parts of Māori Freehold land that can qualify for rates remission if it is in multiple ownership, unused, in a natural state and where no income is derived.

#### Toilet Pan Charges for Community Groups

Council has heard feedback from various local groups that the fixed targeted rate for sewage disposal which is assessed on a per pan or urinal basis is placing unjustified financial pressure on them. This rates remission policy recognises that these club rooms, Churches, or Marae generally have multiple pans and or urinals in toilet blocks which are used irregularly and/or for short periods. The new policy contains a 75% remission for the sewage disposal rate per pan/urinal.

#### Administering the Policy, remission approval and Rights of Appeal

Consistent with best practise the rates remission polices have been reviewed by external Lawyers who checked to ensure the qualifying criteria is concise and explicit. In addition, officers checked other rates remission polices and found that they also did not have an appeal process other than the one provided for under Act. The Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 provides an objection process where complaints and queries are submitted to Council and Council must then reply in writing with a decision. This decision is first provided by the revenue manager but can be escalated to the CEO or the Mayor.

To address Elected Members concerns and under external legal guidance the reference to who determines the qualification for remission or not has been moved from the draft rates remission policy document to the Delegations Register, which will be brought to Council before the new rates remission policies are enacted through the 2024-34 LTP.

Based on this information it is considered that there are 2 options

#### NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA | OPTIONS

**Analysis of Options** 

Option 1 – Adopt the draft Rates Remission and Postponement Policy for consultation.

**Option 2** – Direct staff to make changes or provide additional information. Either adopt today, subject to specific changes, or delay adoption until matters are resolved.

#### Analysis Conclusion:

The Council workshop held on 10 October 2024 provided an overview of each of the 9 existing Rates Remission and Postponement Policies and an insight into the suggested amendments. This paper recaps the workshop. Adoption is desired today to allow Long-term plan consultation to be undertaken over the planned period which aligns with the project plan, including audit timeframes, and adoption by 30 September 2024.

# NGĀ HĪRAUNGA | CONSIDERATIONS

#### Ngā Aronga Pūtea | Financial Considerations

The rates not collected because remission is granted is funded by other ratepayers. Rates remissions are included in the budget and the changes in the Rates Remission and Postponement Policy 2024 will not make a significant change to the rates remission budget.

# Ngā Aronga Ture | Legal Considerations

#### Local Government Act 2002

The matter comes within scope of the Council's lawful powers, including satisfying the purpose statement of Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002. That section of the Act states that the purpose of local government is (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and (b) to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future. It is considered that social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing are of relevance to this particular matter.

The proposal has been evaluated with regards to Section 85 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 and Sections 82 and 102(3)(a) of the Local Government Act. The key legislation applicable to the proposal has been reviewed and the relevant matters for consideration are as follows:

Additional Legal requirements are outlined above [see background section].

#### Ngā Hīraunga Kaupapa Here | Policy Implications

There are no known policy implications.

#### Te Körero tahi ki te Māori | Māori Engagement

Taupō District Council is committed to meeting its statutory Tiriti O Waitangi obligations and acknowledges partnership as the basis of Te Tiriti. Council has a responsibility to act reasonably and in good faith to reflect the partnership relationship, and to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti. These principles include but are not limited to the protection of Māori rights, enabling Māori participation in Council processes and having rangatiratanga over tāonga.

Our statutory obligations outline our duties to engage with Māori and enable participation in Council processes. Alongside this, we recognise the need to work side by side with the ahi kaa / resident iwi of our district. Engagement may not always be required by law, however meaningful engagement with Māori allows Council to demonstrate good faith and our commitment to working together as partners across our district.

Appropriately, the report author acknowledges that they have considered the above obligations including the need to seek advice, guidance, feedback and/or involvement of Māori on the proposed recommendation/s, objective/s, project/s or service/s outlined within this report. Early Consultation was conducted with Iwi and Hapū who were contacted through an email out to all marae, Iwi and Hapū groups. There was no formal feedback received. However, some members of Ngāti Tūrangitukua, Pouakani Marae and Ngāti Hine gave positive feedback verbally to the Iwi and co-governance team.

# Ngā Tūraru | Risks

There are no known risks with the proposed draft policy.

# TE HIRANGA O TE WHAKATAU, TE TONO RĀNEI | SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DECISION OR PROPOSAL

Council's Significance and Engagement Policy identifies matters to be taken into account when assessing the degree of significance of proposals and decisions.

Officers have undertaken an assessment of the matters in the <u>Significance and Engagement Policy (2022)</u>, and Council Officers are of the opinion that the proposal under consideration is of a low degree of significance.

## TE KŌRERO TAHI | ENGAGEMENT

Consultation with the community will be undertaken alongside the Long-term plan.

# TE WHAKAWHITI KŌRERO PĀPAHO | COMMUNICATION/MEDIA

Communication will be carried out as part of wider consultation with the community on the Long-term Plan.

#### WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

Officers recommend that you adopt the draft Rates Remission and Postponement Policy 2024 for consultation (draft attached to this report). Consultation will happen alongside consultation for the Long-term plan.

# NGĀ TĀPIRIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

Draft Rates Remission and Postponement Policy 2024

# 4.8 APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR CONSULTATION

Author: Tanya Wood, Senior Policy Advisor

Authorised by: Nick Carroll, Policy Manager

# TE PŪTAKE | PURPOSE

This paper seeks your approval of the draft performance management framework for consultation alongside the Long-term Plan 2024-34 (LTP). A draft performance management framework is attached.

This paper sets out:

- the purpose of the performance management framework and the legal requirements
- the draft contents of the performance management framework
- the options for Council to consider.

# WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is required to approve a performance management framework as part of the LTP to assist with setting levels of service and measuring achievement.

The performance management framework should be consulted on as part of the wider LTP package of supporting information. This is the preferred option as it will help to ensure that Council is meeting its legal obligations.

#### NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA | RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Council approves the draft performance management framework (objective reference A188810) for consultation subject to changes required as a result of the audit process.

#### TE WHAKAMAHUKI | BACKGROUND

The purpose of the performance management framework (PMF) is to allow the elected members and community to monitor council's performance on how well council did on delivering its activities. Advice from the Office of the Auditor General recommends that councils focus on a small set of well targeted measures that demonstrate that the community is getting value for their investment.

The PMF is broken down into different activities such as water, wastewater and transport. Within each activity, levels of service are set. Performance measures and targets are identified to measure whether or not Council is achieving the level of service. In each annual report, Council is required to report on our achievement of the performance measures. If a performance measure is not achieved, then the reason/s why must be disclosed.

For the transport, water, wastewater and stormwater activities, there are mandatory performance measures that must be included in the PMF. The wording of these performance measures cannot be altered.

There is an issue with the mandatory water performance measures which relate to parts 4 and 5 of the Drinking Water Standards. Council is unable to report on these measures, however they must be included the Long-term Plan 2024-34. Taumata Arowai introduced new water rules which came into force on 14 November 2022 and require different monitoring and reporting than against the Drinking Water Standards. Unfortunately, as these measures are mandatory, they must still be included. Officers are hopeful that changes to legislation will resolve this issue for future long-term plans.

The proposal has been presented to Council at a workshop on 13 February 2024.

There have been minor updates to the performance management framework following the workshop.

At that workshop, officers were directed to investigate the transport performance measure relating to crashes. There were concerns from elected members that it would be difficult to consistently achieve this performance measure. The wording of this measure is a mandatory measure which means the wording of the measure and the target cannot be altered. Officers considered whether an additional measure could be included, however it was felt that the addition of another measure would add confusion to the framework.

# NGĀ KŌRERORERO | DISCUSSION

Based on this information it is considered that there are two options.

# NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA | OPTIONS

#### **Analysis of Options**

Council must approve a proposed performance management framework to ensure it is meeting the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002. The proposed framework could be approved or alternatively Council can direct officers to make amendments. If there are wide ranging amendments this may lead to a delay in the approval of the performance framework, however that is not considered critical.

# NGĀ HĪRAUNGA | CONSIDERATIONS

#### Ngā Aronga Pūtea | Financial Considerations

The financial impact of the proposal has been factored into the development of the draft LTP budgets. Reporting on the measures does require staff and contractor time. While this has been budgeted for it is another reason for having a smaller number of well targeted measures.

# Ngā Aronga Ture | Legal Considerations

#### Local Government Act 2002

The matter comes within scope of the Council's lawful powers, including satisfying the purpose statement of Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002. That section of the Act states that the purpose of local government is (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and (b) to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future. It is considered that social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeings are of relevance to this particular matter.

The proposal has been evaluated with regards to a range of legislation. The key legislation applicable to the proposal has been reviewed and the relevant matters for consideration are as follows.

 The Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 sets the legal requirements for the performance management framework.

It is considered that the draft performance management framework is consistent with the requirements of the Local Government Act.

#### Ngā Hīraunga Kaupapa Here | Policy Implications

There are no known policy implications.

#### Te Kōrero tahi ki te Māori | Māori Engagement

Taupō District Council is committed to meeting its statutory Tiriti O Waitangi obligations and acknowledges partnership as the basis of Te Tiriti. Council has a responsibility to act reasonably and in good faith to reflect the partnership relationship, and to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti. These principles include, but are not limited to the protection of Māori rights, enabling Māori participation in Council processes and having rangatiratanga over tāonga.

Our statutory obligations outline our duties to engage with Māori, and enable participation in Council processes. Alongside this, we recognise the need to work side by side with the ahi kaa / resident iwi of our district. Engagement may not always be required by law, however meaningful engagement with Māori allows Council to demonstrate good faith and our commitment to working together as partners across our district.

Appropriately, the report author acknowledges that they have considered the above obligations including the need to seek advice, guidance, feedback and/or involvement of Māori on the proposed recommendation/s, objective/s, project/s or service/s outlined within this report. No engagement has been undertaken because the performance management framework will be formally consulted on as part of the LTP consultation period.

#### Ngā Tūraru | Risks

There are no known risks.

#### TE HIRANGA O TE WHAKATAU, TE TONO RĀNEI | SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DECISION OR PROPOSAL

Consultation is required by the legislation.

#### TE KÖRERO TAHI | ENGAGEMENT

Consultation with the community will be undertaken alongside the Long-term Plan.

# TE WHAKAWHITI KŌRERO PĀPAHO | COMMUNICATION/MEDIA

Communication will be carried out as part of wider consultation with the community on the Long-term Plan.

# WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

Officers recommend that you approve the draft performance management framework for consultation (draft attached to this report). Consultation will happen alongside consultation for the Long-term Plan.

# NGĀ TĀPIRIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

1. Performance Management Framework for approval for consultation