

HUTT CITY COUNCILKOMITI ITI MAHERE Ā-NGAHURUTANGA / MAHERE Ā-TAU  
LONG TERM PLAN/ANNUAL PLAN SUBCOMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held in the Council Chambers,  
2nd Floor, 30 Laings Road, Lower Hutt on  
**Wednesday 27 March 2024 commencing at 1:00 pm**

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**PRESENT:**

Mayor C Barry (Chair)	Deputy Mayor T Lewis
Cr G Barratt	Cr J Briggs
Cr K Brown (from 1.01pm)	Cr B Dyer
Cr S Edwards	Cr A Mitchell
Cr K Morgan	Cr C Parkin
Cr N Shaw	Cr T Stallinger
Cr G Tupou	

**APOLOGIES:**

There were no apologies.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

J Miller, Chief Executive  
A Blackshaw, Director Neighbourhoods and Communities  
J Griffiths, Director Strategy and Engagement  
A Geddes, Director Environment and Sustainability  
J Kingsbury, Director, Economy and Development  
J Livschitz, Group Chief Financial Officer  
B Cato, Chief Legal Officer (part meeting)  
C Parish, Head of Mayor's Office  
C Ellis, Head of Chief Executive's Office  
R Hardie, Head of Strategy and Policy  
D Nunnian, Manager Financial Strategy and Planning  
W Botha, Corporate Planning Lead  
S Bascand, Acting Engagement Lead  
A Andrews, Finance Transaction Services Manager  
M Nuth, Principal Advisor Research and Evaluation  
T Grieve, Communications Lead  
B Hodgins, Strategic Advisor (part meeting)  
V Jones, Senior Communications Advisor (part meeting)  
K Stannard, Head of Democratic Services  
K Glanville, Senior Democracy Advisor  
H Clegg, Minute Taker

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

1. **OPENING FORMALITIES - KARAKIA TIMATANGA**

Whakataka te hau ki te uru	<i>Cease the winds from the west</i>
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga	<i>Cease the winds from the south</i>
Kia mākinakina ki uta	<i>Let the breeze blow over the land</i>
Kia mātaratara ki tai	<i>Let the breeze blow over the ocean</i>
E hī ake ana te atakura	<i>Let the red-tipped dawn come with</i>
He tio, he huka, he hau hū	<i>a sharpened air.</i>
Tihei mauri ora.	<i>A touch of frost, a promise of a</i>
	<i>glorious day.</i>

Cr Brown joined the meeting at 1.01pm

2. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

4. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS**

There were no conflict of interest declarations.

Cr Shaw advised she was personally involved in a private subdivision development. Mayor Barry considered there was no conflict of interest regarding matters relating to the Development and Financial Contributions Policy.

5. **RECOMMENDATIONS TO TE KAUNIHERA O TE AWA KAIRANGI COUNCIL - 27 March 2024**

a) Draft Long Term Plan 2024-2034 and Consultation Materials

John Whittal, Audit Director, Audit New Zealand (Audit NZ) and Dwayne Fletcher from Vale Consulting (via audio-visual link) were in attendance for the item.

The Head of Strategy and Policy elaborated on the report. He advised that paragraph 29 of the report should reference '2024' instead of '2004'. He confirmed that the consultation document would include Audit NZ's unmodified opinion.

John Whittal advised that the unmodified audit opinion concluded that Council's draft Long Term Plan (LTP) document provided an effective base for public participation, outlined the consequences of choices, and reflected Council's Long Term Plan. He thanked the management team for their assistance during the audit process. He said the draft document disclosed the national uncertainty surrounding Three Waters. He noted that Council had taken an age-based renewals approach, which did carry risks related to affordability and unplanned failures. He also said that the draft document included a disclosure concerning substantial increases in the level of the capital programme. He said this posed a risk for Council regarding delivering the full programme.

In response to questions from members, the Director Neighbourhoods and Communities stated that the Te Wao Programme for Rangatahi included several components, with some being proposed for discontinuation and others set to continue.

Cr Mitchell suggested reviewing the wording in the draft LTP regarding the Te Wao Programme for Rangatahi.

The Director Economy and Development mentioned that officers were working with Waka Kotahi on funding for the Cycling and Micromobility Programme projects. He emphasised that some projects may need to be postponed if external funding was not immediately available.

The Group Chief Financial Officer added that more information would be available after the consultation period had closed.

In response to further questions from members, the Director Economy and Development advised that the Subdivision Roding Improvements project would span the entire 10-year duration of the LTP.

Members asked that this information be incorporated in the draft LTP.

In response to a question from a member, the Group Chief Financial Officer agreed to review how to indicate that the cost of servicing debt was included in the "How we Expect to Spend Your Rates" graphic.

In response to a query from a member regarding the differences between

savings and controlling costs, the Audit Director said that several Audit NZ officers had reviewed the draft document and concluded that the foreword adequately highlighted the community's main issues in a fair and balanced manner.

Members asked officers to consider the following:

- review the wording of the consultation options for the Petone Wharf;
- review the wording regarding the dog park on page 366 of the agenda;
- include the total cost and the financial share of other organisations for the Riverlink project;
- review the wording of question 11 in the feedback form. Members considered it to be a lengthy question.
- whether reference to future planned works for Eastern Hutt Road should be included (on page 393 of the agenda); and
- adding a footnote to clarify whether development contributions cover equivalent household units on page 401 of the agenda.

In response to a question from a member, the Chief Executive advised that minor editorial changes could be made to the draft document. She reminded members that substantial changes could not be made because Audit NZ had already received the audit opinion.

Cr Brown commended officers for balancing providing sufficient information and avoiding information overload. She noted that the water infrastructure information was presented in an easily understandable manner.

Cr Briggs acknowledged the infographics in the document, noting their legibility for neurodiverse and dyslexic readers.

Cr Dyer thanked everyone involved for their efforts on the draft document and the infographics. He pointed out that the proposed increase in the cost of a building consent for minor works would be higher than the actual cost. He questioned whether this would discourage people from applying for a building consent.

Cr Stallinger endorsed the comments from members. He requested that, in future, draft budgets be available for the final workshops for the draft LTP consultation document. He advised he would continue to vote against the proposed rate increase. He said that he did not feel confident releasing the document to the public due to not receiving staff costing information. He asked that parts (4) and (5) of the recommendations be taken separately.

Mayor Barry noted that increased costs for councils nationwide were due to higher civil construction costs, increased interest and insurance expenses, and emphasised the need for more in-depth discussions with the central government to establish a fair and sustainable way to budget and finance Long

Term Plans. He also expressed his anticipation for engaging with the community.

**RECOMMENDED:** (Mayor Barry/Cr Mitchell) **Minute No. LTPAP 24101(2)**

*“That the Subcommittee recommends Council:*

- (1) receives the information contained in the report;*
- (2) notes the high-level plan as outlined in Table 1 of the report;*
- (3) endorses the decisions provided by the Long Term Plan Working Group (comprising the Mayor and Chairs of standing committees) as detailed in Table 2 of Report No. LTPAP2024/1/70;*
- (4) agrees to adopt the underlying information for the draft Long Term Plan 2024-2034, attached as Appendix 1 to the memorandum of the supplementary agenda, acknowledging that it is still in draft form and will be updated after consultation feedback is considered and final decisions made;*
- (5) agrees to adopt the consultation document, attached as Appendix 2 to the memorandum of the supplementary agenda, for public consultation between 2 April and 3 May 2024;*
- (6) agrees to adopt the attached consultation feedback form attached as Appendix 3 to the memorandum of the supplementary agenda;*
- (7) receives the Audit opinion from Audit New Zealand following the adoption of the consultation document tabled at the meeting;*
- (8) notes the other updated budget and financial information attached as Appendix 5 to Report No. LTPAP2024/1/70, which has been endorsed by the Long Term Plan Working Group;*
- (9) agrees that the Chief Executive be delegated authority to make minor editorial changes to the draft Long Term Plan 2024-2034 documents ahead of these being published for consultation; and*
- (10) notes that the final Long Term Plan 2024-2034 will be presented to Council for adoption on 27 June 2024.”*

Crs Barratt and Stallinger requested that their dissenting votes be recorded against parts (4) and (5) above.

b) Reserves Investment Strategy update

Geoff Canham from Thrive Spaces and Places was in attendance for the item.

The Director Neighbourhoods and Communities elaborated on the report.

In response to questions from members, the Director Neighbourhoods and Communities agreed to clarify if the reference to the Taitā track – Old Farm Track re-development was the Ruakawa Street track in Stokes Valley. She advised that \$1.6M of the skatepark features were included in the Riverlink project and would be placed throughout the central city area.

In response to a question from a member, the Thrive Spaces and Places Officer advised that Mana Whenua and stakeholders who had participated in workshops had been consulted during the project's development. The Director Neighbourhoods and Communities added that other work had contributed to this one and fed into this project, and the community voice had been captured.

In response to a question from a member, the Thrive Spaces and Places Officer confirmed that the Places and Spaces Engagement Survey revealed that the public's preferred leisure activities were spending time at beaches and going on bush walks, which were not considered in previous Council recreation budget plans.

In response to questions from members, the Director Neighbourhoods and Communities advised it was proposed that over time, all parks and reserve areas would be provided with a basic level of services and facilities. She said details were provided within the respective Asset Management Plans. She added that the Reserves Investment Strategy only included new projects. She noted that officers understood the historic underinvestment in city assets, which would take time to rectify and would be assisted by development and financial contributions in response to growth.

In response to a question from a member, the Thrive Spaces and Places Officer acknowledged that not all areas of the city were the same and that modelling was critical to identify the drivers for individual areas.

Cr Tupou stated that the Investment Strategy addressed numerous concerns, including connectedness, safety, culture, and heritage. He said that it created a platform for residents to see the aspirations of Council and communities. He thanked officers for their efforts.

Cr Barratt mentioned the positive feedback she received about the proposed skatepark at Avalon. She was pleased to see skate facilities included in the Riverlink landscaping projects.

Cr Mitchell believed the Investment Strategy was exciting for the city and commended the focus on prioritising. He welcomed the proposal to provide

basic facilities at all neighbourhood reserves eventually.

Cr Brown acknowledged the challenging Investment Strategy and the progress made. She suggested adding playspaces to revitalise Queen Street and encourage local community engagement.

**RECOMMENDED:** (Mayor Barry/Cr Tupou) **Minute No. LTPAP 24102(2)**

*"That the Subcommittee recommends Council:*

- (1) *notes changes made to the Proposed Project List since the last update in September 2023, outlined in point 8, a – f in Report No. LTPAP2024/1/71;*
- (2) *notes the feedback provided to officers on the Draft Reserves Investment Strategy and Proposed Projects List attached as Appendix 1 to Report No. LTPAP2024/1/71; and*
- (3) *endorses a holistic, place-based approach to reserves investment as set out in the strategy;*
- (4) *agrees for the Reserves Investment Strategy and the Proposed Project list to proceed to draft Long Term Plan consultation; and*
- (5) *directs officers to group multiple projects in one neighbourhood where appropriate to ensure maximum benefits for the local community."*

## 6. QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

## 7. CLOSING FORMALITIES - KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Unuhia!	<i>Release us from the supreme sacredness</i>
Unuhia!	<i>of our tasks</i>
Unuhia i te uru-tapu-nui	<i>To be clear and free</i>
Kia wātea, kia māmā	<i>in heart, body and soul in our continuing journey</i>
Te ngākau, te tinana, te wairua i te	<i>Oh Rongo, raise these words up high</i>
ara takatū	<i>so that we be cleansed and be free,</i>
Koia rā e Rongo whakairihia ake ki	<i>Yes indeed, we are free!</i>
runga	<i>Good and peaceful</i>
Kia wātea, kia wātea!	
Ae rā, kua wātea!	
Hau, pai mārire.	

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 2.08 pm.

C Barry  
**MAYOR**

**CONFIRMED** as a true and correct record dated this 28th day of May 2024