

HUTT CITY COUNCILTE KOMITI ĀPITI RAUTAKI, MAHERE TEKAU TAU ME TE MAHERE Ā-TAU
STRATEGY, LONG TERM AND ANNUAL PLAN SUBCOMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held in the Council Chambers,
2nd Floor, 30 Laings Road, Lower Hutt on
Tuesday 24 March 2026 commencing at 9:30 am

To watch the livestream of the meeting, please click on the link here: [24 March 2026 Strategy, Long Term Plan and Annual Plan Subcommittee](#)

PRESENT:

Mayor Fauono K Laban (Chair)	Deputy Mayor K Brown (Deputy Chair)
Cr G Barratt	Cr T Lewis
Cr B Dyer	Cr P Ravi
Cr S Edwards	Cr N Shaw
Cr A Mitchell	Cr T Stallinger
Cr C Parkin	Cr M Tonga-Grant
Cr TA Puketapu	Cr K Yung

APOLOGIES: There were no apologies.

IN ATTENDANCE:

J Miller, Chief Executive
A Blackshaw, Director Neighbourhoods and Communities
J Griffiths, Director Strategy and Engagement
J Kingsbury, Director Economy and Development
J Livschitz, Group Chief Financial Officer
B Cato, Chief Legal Officer
R Hardie, Head of Strategy and Policy
D Nunnian, Manager Financial Planning and Performance
W Botha, Corporate Planner Lead
N Twilton, Strategic Financial Advisor
A Andrews, Finance Transaction Services Manager
K Glanville, Senior Democracy Advisor
H Clegg, Minute Taker

PUBLIC BUSINESS

1. **OPENING FORMALITIES - KARAKIA KAUNIHERA**

Tuia te mana akiaki	<i>Sow the seeds of courage</i>
Rarangahia te mana rangatira	<i>Weave the power of unity</i>
Kia tipu, kia puāwai	<i>To grow and prosper</i>
E ripo ngā wai	<i>There are ripples in</i>
O Te Awa Kairangi	<i>Te Awa Kairangi</i>
He Kaitiaki ki te whenua	<i>There are Kaitiaki on the land</i>
He oranga taiao	<i>Protected environment</i>
He oranga tangata	<i>Thriving people</i>
 Haumi e, hui e Taiki e!	 <i>Connected, united, affirmed!</i>

2. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

MINOR ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA

Pursuant to Standing Order 10.13, the Chair advised that a minor item, "Mayoral Statement", not listed on the agenda, would be read at the meeting.

MAYORAL STATEMENT

Mayor Fauono Laban spoke to his statement, attached as page 6 to the minutes.

4. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS**

There were no conflicts of interest declarations.

5. **RECOMMENDATIONS TO TE KAUNIHERA O TE AWA KAIRANGI COUNCIL - 24 March 2026**

- a) Draft Annual Plan 2026-2027, Draft Long Term Plan 2024-2034 Amendment and Engagement Materials

The Head of Strategy and Policy elaborated on the report. He advised that the 2025 carbon emissions reduction KPI is based on a 2017 baseline. He further noted that the building consents measure required amendment to align with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment's (MBIE) 95% standard (allowing a 5% tolerance), and that a new MBIE measure, requiring 80% of building inspection requests to be actioned within three days, would be incorporated.

In response to questions from members, the Director Strategy and Engagement advised that the statement on page 243 of the agenda would be amended to clarify the basis for comparison with other authorities.

Deputy Mayor Brown noted that the Annual Plan positions Council well for the Long Term Plan, acknowledging the need to balance priorities and make adjustments. She emphasised the importance of clearly communicating the significant change associated with the establishment of, and transition to, Tiaki Wai.

RESOLVED: (Mayor Laban/Cr Mitchell) **Minute No. SLTAP 26101 (2)**

"That the Subcommittee recommends Council:

- (1) *receives and notes the information contained in the report;*
- (2) *notes that at its meeting on 27 February 2026, Council agreed to a range of decisions related to the preparation of the Draft Annual Plan 2026-2027 and the Long Term Plan 2024-2034 Amendment;*
- (3) *notes that the community engagement process for the Draft Annual Plan 2026-2027 and the Long Term Plan 2024-2034 Amendment is planned for the period from 30 March 2026 to 1 May 2026;*
- (4) *notes the proposed rates revenue increase for 2026-27 equates to \$4.33 per week or \$225 per year for an average household property,*
- (5) *notes that the overall rates revenue increase of 9.5% (after growth) is less than the 12.9% (after growth) projected in year 2 of the Annual Plan 2025-2026;*
- (5) *approves the Draft Annual Plan 2026-2027 attached at Appendix 1 to the report;*
- (6) *approves the Draft Long Term Plan 2024-2034 Amendment attached at Appendix 2 to the report that captures changes to the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034 due to the transition of water services and assets to Tiaki Wai;*

- (7) notes that following the removal of costs and activities related to water services, formal consultation is not required on the Draft Annual Plan 2026-2027 because there are no significant or material differences from the content of the current Long Term Plan;
- (8) approves the engagement material attached in Appendix 3 to the report for public engagement between 30 March to 1 May 2026;
- (9) notes that consultation on proposed changes to the Revenue and Financing Policy will be undertaken separately from the Annual Plan; and
- (10) delegates to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Mayor, authority to make minor editorial changes to the Draft Annual Plan 2026-2027 and the Draft Long Term Plan 2024-2034 Amendment documents prior to publication for public engagement."

b) Revenue and Financing Policy Consultation

The Manager Financial Planning and Performance elaborated on the report.

In response to a question from a member, the Group Chief Financial Officer advised that the general rates differential figures on page 265 of the Draft Annual Plan would be reviewed and amended if required.

RESOLVED: (Mayor Laban/Cr Dyer)	Minute No. SLTAP 26102(2)
<i>"That the Subcommittee recommends Council:</i>	
(1) <i>approves the Draft Revenue and Financing Policy consultation document attached as Appendix 1 to the report for public consultation between 30 March to 1 May 2026;</i>	
(2) <i>approves the Draft Revenue and Financing Policy for consultation, attached as Appendix 2 to the report;</i>	
(3) <i>notes the feedback and direction provided to officers ahead of finalisation of the Revenue and Financing Policy Consultation material; and</i>	
(4) <i>delegates to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Mayor, authority to make minor editorial changes to these documents prior to publication for public consultation."</i>	

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	<i>Oh Rongo, raise these words up high</i>
te ara takatū	<i>so that we be cleansed and be free,</i>
Koia rā e Rongo whakairihia ake	<i>Yes indeed, we are free!</i>
ki 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 9.47am.

K Laban
MAYOR FAUONO

CONFIRMED as a true and correct record
Dated this 26th day of May 2026

Mayoral Statement – Strategy, Long Term and Annual Plan Subcommittee

Tēnā koutou katoa, talofa lava, namaste, ni hāo, mālō e lelei and warm greetings to you all.

I want to take the opportunity to acknowledge what our city has been doing so well: bringing people together. Over recent weeks we've hosted outstanding events that have filled our parks and venues, and showcased Te Awa Kairangi as a great place to visit, explore and play sport.

Events like the 2026 Masters Touch and the Women's Open Club National Softball Championship tournaments show just how valuable our facilities are. Fraser Park was the perfect setting. Bringing together players, whānau and supporters from across Aotearoa (and the leadership of Councillor Shaw!), sport is about connection, and when we provide great parks and sportsgrounds, we help make those connections possible. These tournaments also bring visitors into our city, support local spending, and build our reputation as a place where communities want to come together.

Just this weekend, at Hutt Park, the New Zealand Gaelic Athletic Association Championships brought a huge amount of energy into the city. With 100's of athletes across men's and women's Gaelic football, hurling and camogie, it was a celebration of culture, sport and community. Irish and Kiwi players, teams and supporters coming together to compete and connect. These events don't just create great memories; they bring visitors, and vibrancy, whilst also strengthening our economy and the visibility this place, we call home.

We will continue investing in the places and partnerships that make these moments possible. Our community facilities and our people make this possible.

Turning our attention to the Annual Plan and our long-term direction, I want us to keep sight of that bigger picture: a city that is active, connected, welcoming, and confident about the future.

I am asking that we approach today's discussion in good faith and with a clear focus on outcomes for Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai. Our job is to be straight with people about what we can afford, what we must prioritise, and what sits behind the numbers. I want to acknowledge Officers for the work that has brought these papers to the table, and I want to acknowledge our community, because people continue to show up, ask questions, and care deeply about the future of our city.

Nō reira, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa.