
2012-22 DRAFT LONG-TERM PLAN – KEY ISSUES AND FUNDING REQUESTS

1. Purpose of report

This report provides for decisions on key issues and funding requests.

This report must be read in conjunction with the report on oral submissions and report on community feedback on this agenda. Community views and the results of survey work are included in those reports – this report provides for the decisions on key proposals and new funding requests.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Strategy and Policy Committee:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Agree the recommendations in the following appendices*
 - (a) *Te Papa*
 - (b) *Johnsonville roading*
 - (c) *Chest Hospital*
 - (d) *Miramar Town Centre upgrade*
 - (e) *Surf Life Saving*
 - (f) *Basin Reserve Trust*
 - (g) *Earthquake risk mitigation (opex)*
 - (h) *Earthquake risk mitigation (capex)*
 - (i) *Otari Wiltons Bush*
 - (j) *Housing upgrade programme*
 - (k) *City safety **(to be circulated)***
 - (l) *FIFA under 20s World Cup bid*
 - (m) *Long Haul attraction*
 - (n) *Nairnville Park*
 - (o) *Couch grass*
 - (p) *Alex Moore Park*
 - (q) *Clyde Quay Boat Harbour*
 - (r) *Deep Water Pool*
 - (s) *Cycling Coordinator*
 - (t) *Vogelmorn Hall*
 - (u) *Aotea Rail Overbridge*
 - (v) *Seatoun Wharf upgrade*
 - (w) *Wellington Hockey*
 - (x) *Destination Wellington*

- (y) *Australia marketing campaign **(to be circulated)***
- (z) *Regional Amenities Funding*
- (aa) *Replacement venue for the Town Hall **(to be circulated)***
- (bb) *Seafood Festival/Migrating Kitchen*
- (cc) *Fluoride*
- (dd) *Volunteering*
- (ee) *Ngā Hau e Whā o Paparāangi*
- (ff) *Suicide prevention*
- (gg) *Encroachment fees*
- (hh) *Financial Strategy, policies, rates differential, Downtown Levy **(to be circulated)***
- (ii) *Performance measures*

3. *Note that submissions that related to operational matters such as maintenance or renewal works, requests for more information, for reviews and changes to programmes or projects, have been provided to relevant officers and will be considered alongside existing work programmes and actioned as appropriate.*
4. *Recommend that Council agree the projects to be funded by the Plimmer Bequest funding as outlined in the draft 2012-22 long-term plan.*
5. *Recommend that Council agree to enter into a formal agreement with the Greater Wellington Regional Council to manage Council land adjacent to Belmont Regional Park.*

3. Background

The draft 2012-22 Long-Term Plan was developed by taking into account two key influences:

1. Council's strategic vision; *Toward Wellington 2040: Smart Capital*

This was adopted by Council in October 2011. It was subsequently used as the focus for officers' planning and during the early engagement process to gather community and stakeholder views on what Council should focus its energy and investment on.

2. A constrained financial environment

Our research and engagement with stakeholders reinforced the need for Council to restrain its expenditure and keep rates affordable.

This resulted in a number of key proposals being identified as important steps Council should take towards its long-term vision. Council also committed to 'working smarter' in ways that would enable us to maintain or improve the delivery of services and reduce costs.

It also resulted in a number of challenging decisions including:

- Not including a number of new initiatives in the draft plan including a number from within Council and our Council Controlled Organisations (CCOs)
- Deferring some upgrade projects that had been previous planned for, and in some cases consulted on with the community
- Committing to make significant efficiencies within the Council's operations in a way that would not impact on the levels of service experienced by the public

Through the special consultative procedure, the public was invited to respond to these proposals and other changes.

4. Discussion

Community feedback has largely focused on key proposals already included in the draft plan, including savings options, fees and charges and areas of investment.

It is noted that, in developing the draft plan, officers sought to consider in advance all potential new initiatives and other funding requests. In particular Council Controlled Organisations were requested to submit proposals so that they could be considered earlier in the planning process than they have in previous years. This approach has reduced the number and size of new funding requests received during the consultation phase.

It is also noted that, in making their submissions, many key stakeholders thoroughly considered Council's new vision, community outcomes and priorities. They consequently identified how their activities aligned to those priorities and, in some cases, alerted Council to new opportunities to and benefits from partnering with them. These will be pursued by relevant business units as we implement our new plan.

Those issues that were raised in submissions fall into four broad categories:

- i. *Changes to proposals outlined in the draft plan, on which officers have made a recommendation*

These are discussed in the appendices.

- ii. *Funding requests and other prominent issues raised through submissions, on which officers have made a recommended response*

These are also outlined in the appendices.

- iii. *Operational matters within existing levels of service*

Some submitters made requests relating to specific operational matters, which will not impact on proposed levels of service.

These have been provided to the relevant business units, who will review the information and consider steps that can be taken in response by considering;

- their relative contribution towards Council's overall outcomes, and
- whether there is sufficient flexibility within the work programmes to accommodate the requests.

An example of such a request is the proposal for a wilderness toilet at Tarakena Bay. Officers will continue to talk to relevant parties to see whether this initiative can proceed.

In all cases a response will be provided to submitters.

iv. Matters for further consideration

Other submissions raised issues that require further investigation.

Where appropriate, these will be considered as part of preparing for the 2013/14 Annual Plan. Examples of such requests include the call for a Pacific fale, a request to resurface Hataitai netball courts and a requested upgrade of the Hataitai velodrome.

In addition to this, requests, such as those to update the Social & Recreation Strategy and to develop a Pacific Strategy, will be considered as part of the policy forward work programme.

v. Minor wording changes

Some submissions requested minor wording changes to the text of some activities.

Where these improve the context and detail of the plan, without adversely adding to its length and readability, the changes will be made.

Examples include changes to text suggested by Council's Accessibility Advisory Group in its submission and the call for greater commentary on the importance of the harbour and Wellington's connections to the Porirua Basin, as requested by a number of submitters including the Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust.

Due to the financial constraints the Council is operating under, including the need to stay within the parameters of its Financial Strategy, officers are only recommending budget and other changes where a proposal is sufficiently robust, clearly aligns with Council's priorities, and has received significant and broad community backing.

5. Conclusion

The report provides for consideration of new funding requests and the key issues that were raised during the draft long-term plan consultation. Having deliberated on submissions and officers' advice, elected members are now required to balance those views and agree funding decisions for the coming year.

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