



LONG TERM PLAN

2024 – 2034

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Submissions Close 30th April 2024.

Make a submission online at

<https://www.kaikoura.govt.nz/have-your-say>

Or drop into Council offices for a paper form.

96 West End Kaikōura 7300



KAIKŌURA
DISTRICT COUNCIL



Ten Years in Ten Points

1

Our LTP 2024-34 is our chance to look up and look forward in terms of Council planning. It is refreshed every three years. It provides the roadmap that shapes our priorities and how they are funded.

2

Our plan for the next ten years and beyond hasn't changed much since 2021 with a number of major projects and programmes continuing on course. We continue to strive towards "Moving Kaikōura Forward" as we come out the other side of the significant challenges from the last few years and look to the future.

3

Our plan is shaped by several strategic priorities, issues and opportunities that impact us locally, regional, nationally and globally. We need to understand these strategic priorities and build in consideration of them into all that we do.

4

We are in a similar situation to all Council's around the country in terms of financial costs and pressures, operating in an environment where the funding system for local government is fundamentally broken. Nationally it is recognised that simply relying on rates and debt will not be enough for a sustainable long term funding model. However, right now, we need to continue to work within the framework we have and lobby for change.

5

Our work programmes and supporting budgets have been developed from base principles on a "no frills" basis to ensure we continue to focus on our core infrastructure assets as well as prioritise investment in catching up with our roading and footpath programmes. We need to finish what we started.

6

We have four main issues for consultation in this draft LTP, although feedback is sought on everything that we are proposing to do. These four items include investment in footpaths, financial support for the Whale Trail, our general rates differential and our rural recycling services. We have also summarised some of the other good stuff planned for the next ten years.



7

Our long-term Infrastructure strategy shows that we are in a very good space with our core infrastructure assets compared with many other Council's around the country. We are effectively delivering an "enhanced business as usual" programme to ensure we are staying on top of the maintenance of our assets going forward to avoid kicking the can down the road.

8

Our Financial Strategy shows that, for the second smallest Council in New Zealand, we are in a relatively strong and stable financial position as we look to the future. Our recent comprehensive rate review process had a focus on ensuring costs are funded from the right areas, with an increased focus on user payers where possible. Our debt levels are under control and, at a maximum peak of \$9.3m in 2026/2027 continue to be well below both our self-imposed or our legislated debt cap. This is a good news story after the financial challenges of the earthquake in 2016

9

Although we have continued with our no-frills approach to the budgets, we have been realistic with our proposed rate rise given the overall cost increases with the current economic climate. The overall proposed rates increase for 2024/25 is 14.5% which is below the average across the country. Our average rate across the District is \$3,378.98. Expected overall rates increase across the ten years of the LTP average 4.9% .

10

We want your feedback and input into our draft LTP before it is adopted at the end of June 2024. There are a number of ways to make a submission and have your say. Follow this link for more information

[www.https://www.kaikoura.govt.nz/have-your-say](https://www.kaikoura.govt.nz/have-your-say)



KAIKŌURA
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Table of Contents

Welcome to our Long Term Plan	1
How does it work from here?	4
Message from the Mayor	5
Te Rūnanga O Kaikōura	9
What have we achieved over the last three years	13
What you have told us	19
Our Vision	21
Where are we going?	22
Strategic Priorities Issues and Opportunities	25
Key Consultation Items	31
TOPIC ONE - Increased Footpath Improvements	32
TOPIC TWO - Council Financial Support for the Whale Trail	38
TOPIC THREE - Reduce the Differential on the General Rate for Rural and Semi-Rural Properties	42
TOPIC FOUR - Rural Recycling Services	48
What Else Are We Planning To Do Over The Next Ten years?	54
Infrastructure Strategy	58
Financial Strategy	63
What does it mean for you and your rates?	69
Your Mayor and Councillors	72
Tell us what you think?	73

Key Dates

Come along and talk to us, find out more!

- 1** Council Chambers drop-in session
10th April @ 6pm
- 2** Kekerengu Community Hall Drop-in session
11th April @ 7pm
- 3** Takahanga Marae session
14th April @ 11am
- 4** Inland Road Community drop-in session
17th April @ 6pm
The Collie Club - Mount Ferneaux Farm 1299.1- Inland Road Highway 70

Welcome to our Long term plan 2024 – 2034

The Long Term Plan (LTP) is our opportunity to take stock of where we are and look forward in terms of planning what the priorities for Council are over the next decade and how these will be funded.

The LTP is a legislative requirement to provide the community with Councils programme of work and strategic priorities for the next 10 years. It is a process that is performed every 3 years. The last LTP was completed in 2021. There are a number of supporting documents for the LTP, with a key document being the Infrastructure Strategy (which focuses on our roads, bridges, water supply, stormwater and wastewater).

The Infrastructure Strategy, which feeds into the Financial Strategy, takes a long-term view of our assets (between 30-50 years) so that we make informed decisions that consider the intergenerational requirements of our community.

We need to strike the balance between the needs and aspirations of our community, and the ability to pay for proposed services and infrastructure work. Nationally, we are in a period of financial challenge with both high inflation and interest costs. Local authorities across the country are not immune to these challenges with the cost of essential services increasing significantly since the last LTP. The increasing cost of unfunded mandates from central government through stricter regulation and tighter compliance requirements is also contributing to the challenges we are facing.



KAIKŌURA
DISTRICT COUNCIL



As a community we have achieved a lot since our last LTP in 2021, but there is always more to do. There may be a number of challenges along the way, but it is important to have a roadmap or direction for the journey ahead.

This draft LTP consultation document outlines where we have come from, what we are planning on delivering, how we plan to do it and the sources of funding e.g. rates, grants, user charges & debt.

We are asking for your thoughts on four key issues we have identified. While the plan doesn't include every project in detail, we have endeavored to provide an overview of projects, infrastructure or services that have significant cost or have high community interest. We welcome feedback on anything included in the draft LTP.

If all of the preferred options and proposals outlined in this document go ahead, it would mean an annual average rates increase over ten years of 4.91%. You can find out more information on all of the content of the LTP at [www.https://www.kaikoura.govt.nz/have-your-say](https://www.kaikoura.govt.nz/have-your-say)

Whether you agree, disagree, or have different suggestions we want to hear from you. Make your submission and tell us what you think. Your feedback will help the Mayor and Councillors make their final decisions.



Key Consultation Items

1

Increased Footpath Improvements

We want to continue to build the momentum on our footpath renewal programme and invest more over the next few years. Refer to Page 32 for more detail.

2

Council Financial Support For The Whale Trail

We have been working alongside the Whale Trail trust with this exciting project for some time. We now want to consider whether we make financial contributions towards their work in our District and how much that might be. Refer to Page 36 for more detail.

3

Reduce The Differential On The General Rate For Rural And Semi-Rural Properties

Following the comprehensive rates review process completed in December 2023, Council plans to reduce the differential on the general rate for rural and semi-rural properties. Refer to Page 42 for more detail.

4

Rural Recycling Services

Three options are presented in regard to whether we continue with the services or not and how they are funded. Refer to Page 48 for more detail.

How Does It Work From here?

MARCH

**CONSULTATION
ON KEY ISSUES
OPENS ON**

28th March
2024

APRIL

**CONSULTATION
CLOSES ON**

30th April
2024

MAY

**COUNCIL
HEARINGS TAKE
PLACE**

15th May
2024

JUNE

**COUNCIL
CONFIRMS LONG
TERM PLAN ON**

26th June
2024

JULY

**LONG TERM PLAN
IS IN PLACE FROM**

1st July
2024





**Mayor Craig
Mackle**

Message From The Mayor

Our last LTP in 2021 was our first real opportunity to come up for air after the events of the earthquake in November 2016 and to take a good look ahead for the District. Our LTP planning was supported by a strong evidence base from our Infrastructure Strategy and other documents.

We were able to target investment in our roading and footpaths to address historic under investment and long standing areas of concern for our community.

Our plan for the next 10 years and beyond hasn't changed much since we last spoke to you with a number of the major projects and programmes continuing on course. What has changed is that, due to factors largely outside our control, the cost of delivering it has increased significantly. This is a national problem for local authorities across the country.

Not only are we all having to manage the economic implications from the global pandemic, but Councils across the country are also operating in an environment where the funding system for local government is fundamentally broken.

The recent review into the future for local government recommended that a substantial overhaul of the local government funding and finance system is required. Relying on rates and debt will not be enough for a sustainable local government funding model.

With the new coalition Government any improved funding system will take some time to agree and implement and so we need to continue to operate within our current framework. We need to continue to try to balance rates affordability with achieving the outcomes needed and desired by you, our community.

Following the investment in our infrastructure after the earthquake we find ourselves in a more fortunate position than a number of other Councils. However, if we don't continue to appropriately invest in the maintenance of our assets, we are just 'kicking the can down the road' and pushing problems down the line for others to deal with which will have far greater cost implications.

As the second smallest local authority in New Zealand with limited capacity and resources we need to continue to punch above our weight. We need to be ready to explore new revenue generating & commercial opportunities, such as Wakatu Quay and the proposed hot pools development, as well as continuing to deliver core services for our Community. We also need to invest in systems and processes to help us be more efficient and effective.

Our vision as a Council remains 'Moving Kaikōura Forward'. In order to do that partnerships and collaboration are key.

Our partnership with Te Runanga o Kaikōura (TRoK) remains as important as ever, if not more so with the current political climate. We need to continue to try to identify and work on shared priorities for our community going forward. We also have a lot of mahi (work) ahead of us to build new relationships with central government, but we are well placed to do that and have a history of showing strength and resilience as a community with a reputation for getting on with it.



We have achieved a lot over the last three years and have dealt with some major hurdles along the way, but we have more to do.

We know that it is a tough time financially for many people given the current economic climate and so have been very conscious not to drastically change our course or introduce a heap of new initiatives or projects.

We are focusing on finishing what we have started and getting the job done. We do want your feedback on the options for several issues we have identified. Before they are included in our work programme we are asking you to consider our preferred options for the issues, why we have focused on them and how we will fund them.

Although we have continued with our no-frills budgets as well as focusing on the user pays component of our financial strategy, we have also been realistic with our anticipated rate rise given the overall cost increases with the current economic climate. The overall proposed rates increase for 2024/25 is 14.5%. This is similar to the average across the country. Expected overall rates increases across ten years of the LTP average 4.9%.

**Make a
submission
and HAVE
YOUR SAY!**

**Please
provide your
feedback by
30th April
2024**



**Your
feedback
will help
us make
our final
decisions**



Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura



"Mō tātou, ā, mō kā uri a muri ake nei"
"For us and our children"

I would like to start by acknowledging the strength of partnership between Mana Whenua and the Kaikōura District Council community, this is a first time that Ngāti Kuri features in a district councils long term plan, this is credit to our whānau, hapu and community leadership. I acknowledge the drive for equality from our Mayor and fellow Councillors.

Tenei te mihi kia koutou.

Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura is the Papatipu Iwi authority for this area, our geographical boundary post settlement stems from Pari Nui O Whiti (just out of Blenheim) to the north, the Hurunui river to the south and inland past Hanmer Springs. Within our boundary we encompass Marlborough District Council, Kaikōura District Council and the Hurunui District Council. With all three councils we endeavour to foster strong partnerships for the betterment of each community and its members.

Our Papatipu Marae is Takahanga which is situated overlooking the township of Kaikōura. It is our obligation to manaaki and awhi our community and all those who are in transit and or making Kaikōura their residence. In 2016 Ngāti Kuri were able to action our manaaki for the Kaikōura community by becoming the refuge for our local community and visitors in the district when the earthquake struck. We were humbled and honoured to have taken on that role and support of our community through this trying time.

Over the years Kaikōura has had an increase in cultural diversity which has been great for our small town. I would like to acknowledge your uniqueness and culture that you bring to our small town and invite the celebration of our multicultural traditions.



Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura

"There are 5 pou which Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura operate from: Cultural, Environmental, Health and wellbeing, Economic and Rangatahi/kaumatua/pakeke. These 5 pou are the potency of our existence and they make up the fundamentals of our operation.

Within these pou we work on the values of:

- Rangatiratanga – Leadership and chieftainship over our whenua, moana, culture, whānau, hapū, iwi and all those residing in our takiwā through preservation, protection and partnership
- Kotahitanga – Working as one, uniting and partnering for the betterment of our community
- Manaakitanga – Showing kindness, care and support to all those who come under our korowai (mantle)
- Kaitiakitanga – Showing true stewardship and guardianship over our Moana, Whenua and Whanau (community)
- Tika/Pono/Aroha - Being righteous in what we do, being truthful and honourable in our actions and doing everything with compassion and empathy.

Historical records confirm 800 years of local Maori activity in Kaikōura, however local legends talk of the earliest arrivals in the 11th Century. This long-term plan is a means and guide for Mana Whenua to carry out our roles and values over our ancestral land, ocean, rivers and taonga.

The natural environment and its resources are Ngā Taonga tuku iho (treasures of the people) handed down by our ancestors. Through practicing Kaitiakitanga, a tradition handed down through generations, we enable sustainability of our natural resources for generations to come. It is our responsibility as a community to work together and show stewardship for the survival of our marine environment and our flora and fauna.

Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura



Both the Kaikōura earthquake and more recently COVID-19 have taught us valuable lessons about personal wellbeing and connectedness. Mental, Physical, Spiritual and Psychological health and wellbeing are areas of importance.

Throughout this plan there are developments that could assist the wellness of the community, but I believe there are also specialised engagements, services and workshops available that are not highlighted.

A community sharing and input process that took place last year highlighted the need for more community events and coming together to help support and unite the Kaikōura community. Our newly refurbished Mayfair theatre could be a starting point for this to occurring. Another area to look at is supporting and strengthening our services that are already established.

Another highlighted area has been the need for affordable housing. We want to work with Kaikōura District Council to explore the possibilities around Papakainga housing. Whilst looking into Papakainga housing it is suggested that the Council research and mirror the housing scheme that the Waiau community has established with the assistance and support of the Hurunui District Council. With both these options our community will be able to mitigate the issue of housing in the district.



Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura



Ko Tapuae-o-uenuku te maunga
Ko Waiau-Toa te awa
Ko Te Tai O Marokura te moana
Ko Ngāi Tahu te Iwi
Anei Matou te Mana o te Whenua ko Ngāti Kuri e pai nei e

Kia ora

As mentioned above in our pepeha (Salutation) we as Ngāti Kuri have an intrinsic connection to our mountains, river, moana and whenua. The Waiau-Toa is our Mana awa it has a life essence and it sustains us on all levels. It is an undisturbed river that has own whakapapa (history).

This river provides employment, enjoyment, sustenance and vitality for members of our rural sector. This river feeds into many tributaries including its sister river the Waiau-Uwha. We as Ngāti Kuri have an obligation to protect the natural essence of this river and are working with the Council and Waka Kotahi (NZTA) to ensure a safe road in and out of this reserve with little to no effect on the river. This plan is not intended as a substitute for consultation with Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura. Rather it is a guide and pathway of future sustainability for the Kaikōura community. The quintessence of partnership starts at the top and like a ripple effect emanates through the community. It is through this partnership that we as a community will thrive and be productive, dynamic and flourish.

No reira tēnei te mihi kia koutou katoa nga whānui o Kaikōura Kia Ora

Hariata Kahu
Chair of Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura.

What Have We Achieved

Over the past 3 years?

Have we done what we said we were going to do?

In our last LTP we sought feedback on five key issues as well as outlining a number of other projects we were planning. Below is a summary of what we have achieved over the last three years.

Roading and Footpaths

As a result of feedback we committed to undertaking a programme of works totalling close to \$5million for a large amount of resealing and pavement work over a

period of six years to help eliminate the accumulated backlog of under investment.

- We have resealed over 39 km of roads and 20.9 km of unsealed roads have had an overlay.
- The benefits of this investment can be seen with the improvement of a number of our key roading performance metrics in our Infrastructure Strategy.
- Over the last three years we have been able to achieve 1.6 km length of footpath renewals (excluding the new link pathway). An acceleration of this programme is proposed.
- 1.6km addresses 20% of our worst footpaths.
- Further investment is proposed in this draft LTP.





District Plan Review

Work completed over the last three years of the ten year roadmap includes:

- Completing the new Natural Hazards chapter of the plan.
- Rehousing the current District Plan into a format that meets the National Planning standards.
- Commencing the wider spatial plan for Kaikōura that aims to set the blueprint for the next thirty years.
- Working with a number of external parties with regard to various private plan changes.

Waste Management

- Over the last three years Council has implemented a number of initiatives under our waste management and minimization plan. This includes a fortnightly kerbside rubbish collection service in our Urban area using Innovative Waste Services (our Council Controlled Organisation (CCO)).
- We have also completed the establishment of a new Waste Transfer Station.
- Undertaking preliminary works to close off the existing full landfill.
- Further closure works are required over the next two years.

Tourism & Business support

We have continued to provide financial support and work alongside Destination Kaikōura, our Regional Tourism Operator (RTO). A key piece of work completed by Destination Kaikōura has been the Kaikōura Destination Management Plan (DMP). The plan's primary goal is to provide a blueprint that will help the region achieve regenerative growth in visitor expenditure, and new jobs in the tourism and hospitality sector and owner enterprises. It is a vital document as we navigate out of the Covid pandemic and economic climate and has been held up as an exemplar by central government Ministers.



LED LIGHT UPGRADE

WORK WAS COMPLETED ON THE LED LIGHT UPGRADE ACROSS OUR LOCAL ROAD NETWORK AND THE INSTALLATION OF A CENTRAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

30%

THIS UPGRADE RESULTED IN A 30% REDUCTION IN ELECTRICITY

THE LED UPGRADE ALSO HELPS WITH THE DARK SKY TRUST GOALS OF RESPONSIBLE LIGHTING

AFTER CONSULTATION

\$800,000

WAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE WAKATU QUAY REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT, THIS MEANS THE FULL \$9.8M GRANT FUNDING WILL BE RELEASED

DETAILED DESIGN FOR A STAGED DEVELOPMENT IS NOW UNDERWAY

WAKATU QUAY REDEVELOPMENT

SCOUT HALL REFURBISHMENT

2022

THE SCOUT HALL REFURBISHMENT WAS COMPLETED IN 2022

MAJOR PROJECTS

KAIKOURA DISTRICT COUNCIL

OUR LAST MAJOR EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY PROJECT IS THE REPLACEMENT OF THE GLEN ALTON BRIDGE. THIS IS A COMPLEX CHALLENGE & PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE OVER THE LAST 3 YEARS BUT NOT AS MUCH AS PLANNED



GLEN ALTON BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

LINK PATHWAY PROJECT

60%
OF WORK COMPLETED ON LINK PATHWAY

MEMORIAL GARDENS

POINT KEAN

COMPLETION IS ANTICIPATED BY THE END OF 2024

PROPOSED HOT POOLS DEVELOPMENT
WE HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH EXTERNAL PARTIES ON THE PROPOSED HOTPOOLS AND SPA DEVELOPMENT AT THE OLD POOL SITE.

SOUTH BAY HARBOUR REDEVELOPMENT
THE PGF FUNDED BUSINESS CASE FOR THE SOUTH BAY HARBOUR REDEVELOPMENT HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNMENT. THE NEXT STEP IS A FEASIBILITY STUDY AND TO TAKE UP THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK WITH OUR NEW GOVERNMENT ON THIS PROJECT

DARK SKY TRUST

WE ARE SUPPORTING THE DARK SKY TRUST IN THEIR EFFORTS AS WELL AS WITH AN APPLICATION TO GET KAIKOURA ACKNOWLEDGED AS AN INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY PLACE

INFRASTRUCTURE ACCELERATION PROJECT
COUNCIL IS ALSO WORKING ON A \$7.8M KAINGA ORA FUNDED INFRASTRUCTURE ACCELERATION PROJECT. THIS WILL ENABLE FUTURE HOUSING AND GROWTH IN OUR DISTRICT

FURTHER PROJECTS & OPPORTUNITIES

2021

IN 2021 WE
SIGNALLLED TO
UNDERTAKE A
RATING MODEL
REVIEW IN
TIME FOR JULY
2024

2023

AN UPDATED
FINANCING &
REVENUE
POLICY WAS
ADOPTED IN
DECEMBER 2023

\$100,000

IN 2022 A DISCRETIONARY COMMUNITY
GRANT WAS ESTABLISHED WITH A FUND
OF \$100,000 TO SUPPORT THE ARTS AND
CULTURE

THIS INITIATIVE FOSTERS ENGAGEMENT &
PARTICIPATION & DEVELOPS COMMUNITY
RESILIENCE & WELLBEING

**RATING
MODEL
REVIEW**

GRANTS

THIS MEANS THAT WE WOULD
REVIEW HOW RATES WERE
ALLOCATED ACROSS OUR
DISTRICT

73 PROJECTS HAVE BEEN
SUPPORTED SO FAR
\$159,081.95

WE UPHOLD OUR REGULATORY
RESPONSIBILITIES WITH
EDUCATION AND
ENFORCEMENT



THE KAIKOURA
AQUATIC CENTRE
WAS OPENED IN 2021

REGULATION

**KAIKOURA
AQUATIC
CENTRE**

WHY?

REGULATORY HELPS ENSURE PEOPLE ARE
DOING WHAT THEY NEED TO AND OUR
COMMUNITY CAN FEEL SAFE WITH THE
SERVICES THEY PROVIDE

\$70,000

CONTRIBUTED BY COUNCIL
ANNUALLY FOR
OPERATIONAL COSTS

DRIVEN BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT WE HAVE
HAD TO ADDRESS SEVERAL MAJOR
ISSUES OF NON-COMPLIANCE ACROSS
BUILDING, ANIMAL, FOOD AND HEALTH
AND RESOURCE CONSENT

CLOSE
TO **\$1M**

CONTRIBUTED BY COUNCIL
FOR THE CAPITAL BUILD

2021



WHAT ELSE HAVE WE DONE?

In addition, Council continues to deliver the day-to-day business of operations, statutory functions, community services and governance. The next graphic provides a snapshot of some of the core business mahi undertaken over the last three years:



1

MAYOR

7

COUNCILLORS

1

LOCAL ELECTION

46 COUNCIL MEETINGS

39 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

17 FINANCE, AUDIT & RISK MEETINGS

27 WORKS & SERVICES MEETINGS

LEADERSHIP & GOVERNANCE

16

PENSIONER FLATS

14

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS

11

COMMUNITY EVENTS

23

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS GIVEN \$200,000

73

COMMUNITY GRANTS FUNDED \$159,081.95

2579

CUSTOMER SERVICE REQUESTS

COMMUNITY & CUSTOMER SERVICES

115

COUNCIL DECISIONS

LIBRARY VISITS 35,683

NEW LIBRARY MEMBERS 611

CORE BUSINESS

KAIKOURA DISTRICT COUNCIL

122

ILLEGAL PARKING INFRINGEMENTS

1050^M

OF NEW LINK PATHWAY & BOARD WALKS

BUILDING, PLANNING & REGULATORY

30 PIM'S

OPERATIONS

99%

KNOWN DOGS REGISTERED

248

DOG COMPLAINTS ATTENDED

OVER 1.6 KMS OF FOOTPATHS RESURFACED

2500^{M2}

OF PAVEMENT REPAIRS

198

RESOURCE CONSENTS

447

LIM'S

356

BUILDING CONSENTS

20.9KMS

UNSEALED ROAD REPAIRS

9391

POTHLES REPAIRED

39 KMS

OF ROADS RESEALED

"New footpaths are looking great"



"Keep up work with the footpaths please"

"Keep up the good work"

More To Do! What You Have Told Us:

Our historic under investment in our roading and footpath infrastructure has been consistently reflected in the feedback that we have received through our annual customer satisfaction surveys. Satisfaction levels with our roading hit an all-time low in 2017 after the earthquake and has shown a slightly improving trend since then, but is still one of the lowest overall scoring areas.

Similarly, customer satisfaction in respect of footpaths showed a decline from 2013–2016 and remained low since then. This feedback helped support the case for prioritising a significant increase in the levels of investment in these two specific areas in our LTP 2021–2031.

In terms of physical works on the ground a lot has been done over the last three years and our draft residents satisfaction survey results for 2023/24 indicate an overall upward increase in satisfaction with both roading and footpaths. It is very pleasing to see that there has been a 10% increase in satisfaction to 51% with footpaths and a 7% increase with overall roading to 56%. Despite the overall upward trend, there remains more work to be done and this is reflected in the feedback. We need to maintain the momentum and continue to get the job done.



"The library is awesome"

"Council need to make it easier to do business"



Other points to note from our 2023/24 survey include a high level of satisfaction with public facilities with our library receiving exceptional feedback. Our intention to remove lending fees for books in the draft LTP is hopefully a further positive for the community. There was also a number of comments and feedback around maintaining and improving walking, cycling and outdoor play opportunities within the District. We are seeking community feedback in the draft LTP with regard to financial support for the Whale Trail project within the district.

One of our lowest scoring areas from 2023/24 was with regard to responses to customer requests. Our frontline staff received fantastic feedback, but collectively we need to focus on improving on our overall customer experience from the start right to the end of any interaction. We have included in the draft LTP a number of projects and initiatives to help us 'make the boat go faster' and improve our efficiency and effectiveness. A key project in this space is our essential internal system upgrade.

Although we performed well overall in the eyes of the community from the feedback from the 2023/24 survey, we need to continue to do better and Move Kaikōura Forward.



MOVING KAIKŌURA

Forward



Moving

Kaikōura



Forward

Our Vision!

Where Are We Going?

From a Council perspective, we believe that “Moving Kaikōura Forward” remains an appropriate vision in 2024 as we continue to focus on the future post pandemic.

The summer season of 2023/2024 has been strong from a visitor perspective and a number of tourism and commercial businesses have reported financial results similar or better than pre-Covid which is good sign.

We do need to acknowledge that not all sectors have bounced back and that the farming community are still experiencing steep increases in on-farm expenditure and lower market prices. Our proposed change to the rural differential may provide some relief.



We will continue to deliver on core infrastructure programmes and projects that we identified back in 2021 as being priorities. We need to finish what we have started with a focus on mahia - getting it done and doing what we said we were going to do.

Internally, we are focusing on how we can make the 'boat go faster' and bring a better, more efficient and user friendly, level of service to our community.

We are planning to undertake a major systems upgrade to replace core software from the 1990's. We are looking to do that in partnership with our neighbour Hurunui District Council. This may assist in opportunity for collaboration and support across a number of areas.





Our Community Outcomes

Community outcomes are the high-level priorities the Council will focus on to promote community well-being.



COMMUNITY

We communicate with, engage and inform our community



DEVELOPMENT

We promote and support the development of our economy



SERVICES

Our services and infrastructure are cost effective, efficient and fit-for-purpose



ENVIRONMENT

We value and protect our environment



FUTURE

We work with our community and our partners to create a better place for future generations

The Local Government Act requires all Councils to set community outcomes. These outcomes have originated from several sources, such as from community feedback, from interactions with our partner agencies and key stakeholders, and from Reimagine Kaikōura, our Recovery Plan developed post-earthquake.

Each of our activities within Council are linked to our community outcomes that promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our community (these are known as the “four well-beings”).

The draft Long Term Plan 2024-2034 outlines a performance framework of how we know when we are successful in achieving our community outcomes, and how we are going to measure success.



Strategic priorities, issues and Opportunities

As we deliver on our vision and outcomes over the next few years, we also need to consider a few strategic priorities, issues and opportunities relating to the environment that we are working in. Some of these are outlined as follows:

Continue to Deliver – MAHIA – Getting It Done!

We need to continue to do what we say we are going to do as we have over the last three years. We need to stick to our agreed priorities and plan. This does not mean that we close ourselves off to opportunities or don't respond to change, far from it, but we need to focus on the things we can control and prioritise our efforts as a small rural Council.

We need to ensure that we are able to deliver on our planned commitments in terms of both our capital programme and our operational responsibilities. Our capital programme is dominated by three large, multi-year complex projects (Wakatu Quay, IAF and Waioa-Toa/Clarence bridge) we have right sized the programme and cashflow to reflect the risk profile of those projects and available resources to deliver.

Partnership & Collaboration

The political and legislative landscape for local government will continue to significantly change over the next few years. We have seen a radical policy shift with the new coalition government with some major reforms altering course.

It will be a while before we get further clarity on exactly what that means. Through that change and opportunity, we need to strengthen our partnership with local Iwi as well as key stakeholders such as central government, neighbouring Councils, Environment Canterbury, Department of Conservation, our health services and community services groups. Working collaboratively has never been so important ensure the best outcomes for our community.



Economic Development

Continuing to support economic development in the District over the next few years as we hopefully emerge from the impacts of Covid 19 and the knock on effects to the global economy will be a priority for Council. Our main avenue for that is through the financial support to Destination Kaikōura our Regional Tourism Operator (RTO).

This is proposed to continue at levels agreed in the 2021-2031 LTP including inflation. Our economic development activity also provides information support, as well as Council support, resources and funding (to a tune of \$30,000 per annum) for events and projects which assist economic development in the district.

We need to work with external parties to help both enable and facilitate appropriate economic development, but within our imposed constraints of legislative requirements and resources.

Funding & Revenue

As with all local authorities around the country, our main source of revenue is from rates. In 2023, rates contributed to 47% of our total revenue, with grants and subsidies forming 10%, user fees and charges 9% and other revenue 34%. KDC has very few strategic assets that consistently generate revenue, with the largest one being our 11.5% share of the Marlborough Regional Forestry venture. Under the current financial system this is likely to continue.

The recent review into the future for local government recommended a substantial overhaul of the local government funding and finance system is required. Relying on rates will not be enough for a sustainable local government funding model. Council will continue to advocate at both a local, regional and national level for change. This will take time, but we have a good opportunity with the new coalition government to push for change.

We also need to look for appropriate opportunities locally to generate alternative revenue. Current example of opportunities include the Wakatu Quay redevelopment and proposed hot pools and wellness center, where Council has the opportunity to see rental returns. We need to consider all opportunities in a balanced way, that ensures prudent use of ratepayer funds and assets.



Climate Change

Unlike many coastal areas around New Zealand, we are not expected to be affected by any significant sea level rise over the next century. This was primarily due to the big coastal uplift following the 2016 earthquake. That doesn't mean that we won't be affected by other climate change effects though that will need consideration in all of our activities going forward.

Our natural hazards report for Kaikōura outlines the natural hazards that have potential to impact the district including flooding, fault rupture, liquefaction, landslide debris inundation and debris flow fans. We have built this into our District Plan as well as our Infrastructure Strategy. As our District Plan review progresses over the next ten years we will be ensuring that climate change issues are fully integrated into our planning.

We expect that over time we will experience more extreme weather events more frequently, including droughts, fires, flooding and unpredictable rain events. Council has made provision in our emergency works budget to address issues on our roading and three waters networks after relatively minor events. However, this is unlikely to be sufficient for a major event such as the Kaikōura earthquake.

Rising sea temperatures and ocean acidification are issues that have potential to significantly impact on our coastal and marine environment. Local environmental groups have already identified impacts on marine birds and mammals from the reduced availability of food sources.

Kaikōura District Council is partnering with ECan and other local authorities through our jointly agreed regional Climate Change Action plan to jointly work and fund some regional level priorities over the next three years.



At a local level we are continuing to focus our infrastructure investment on alternative transport modes such as footpaths and shared user paths. We are promoting more efficient use of water through our water Supply Bylaw 2020 which limits things such as garden watering by non-hand held irrigation.

We are also continuing to partner with and work alongside a number of community groups such as the Kaikōura Dark Sky Trust and have recently adopted a draft plan change for improved responsible lighting across the District.

We work with ECan where we can to manage our natural resources - water, air and land and Council and Councillors actively support the Kaikōura Water Zone Committee.

We will continue to work in partnership with a number of organisations such as Te Korowai, Te Whare Haumanu, DOC and Kori to achieve our common goal for sustainable guardianship of our unique environment.





Reform Agenda

The major shift in policy from the new coalition government has come at a challenging time in the LTP development process for all Councils across the country. Although both the Affordable Water Reform legislation and that relating to the Resource Management Act have been repealed it will be some time before we are clear on a detailed way forward for either topic.

The Future for Local Government review completed in October 2023 has raised some very important issues, especially around a sustainable funding model for local authorities. Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) reached a consensus position across the country in terms of the 17 recommendations from the review with the aim of picking up the conversation with the new coalition government in 2024.

In terms of the proposed Water Reforms and the service delivery model legislated by the previous government, Kaikōura District Council has always recognised that nationally there is a need for change, especially around the funding for infrastructure, but did not believe that the proposed mega entity model was in the best interests for our District. We were an active member of Communities for Local Democracy (C4LD) which proposed alternative delivery models prior to the national election.

There is now an opportunity to pick that conversation up with our local counterparts in Canterbury and beyond when considering Local Waters Done Well.

In terms of our draft LTP 2024-34, we have assumed that ownership and responsibility for ongoing maintenance and service delivery for three waters remains the responsibility of Council over the ten year period. Our Infrastructure and Financial Strategies reflect that. We have built in appropriate planning for renewal of three waters infrastructure as well as meeting all known regulatory requirements from Taumata Arowai, the water services regulator for Aotearoa.





Key Consultation Items

The four main consultation items that we want specific feedback on....

- **Increased footpath improvements**
- **Council support for the Whale Trail**
- **Reduce the differential On the general rate for rural and semi-rural properties**
- **Rural recycling services**

Increased Footpath Improvements

Topic 1



Let's keep it going!

The condition of footpaths in Kaikōura has been a significant concern to the community, consistently receiving the lowest score of any Council activity in KDC's annual resident satisfaction survey.

The Council began to address this issue by approving an annual investment of \$100,000 for the replacement of footpaths per year from 2022 for a period of nine years, which would be in addition to an annual budget of \$60,000 to repair and maintain footpaths that are not yet in such a poor condition that they need to be completely replaced.

Over the last three years we have resurfaced over 1.6km (out of a 8km backlog) of footpaths in the township (not including the new link pathway). Although this represents a great start, it only addresses 20% of the footpaths backlog and which are in the worst condition. We have a lot more to do.

What are we Proposing?

The Council obtained guidance from a community working group regarding how these investments should be best used with a prioritised programme of renewals identified for the first three years.

It was initially believed that this larger budget would be sufficient to significantly improve the overall condition of paths in the town. It has however subsequently been found that the actual cost of footpath construction works was higher than expected, limiting what can be achieved with this level of funding.

Two options are outlined for feedback:

Increased Footpath Improvements Topic 1



Let's keep
it going!

The condition of footpaths in Kaikōura has been a significant concern to the community, consistently receiving the lowest score of any Council activity in KDC's annual resident satisfaction survey.

The Council began to address this issue by approving an annual investment of \$100,000 for the replacement of footpaths per year from 2022 for a period of nine years, which would be in addition to an annual budget of \$60,000 to repair and maintain footpaths that are not yet in such a poor condition that they need to be completely replaced.

Over the last three years we have resurfaced over 1.6km (out of a 8km backlog) of footpaths in the township (not including the new link pathway). Although this represents a great start, it only addresses 20% of the footpaths backlog and which are in the worst condition. We have a lot more to do.

What are we Proposing?

The Council obtained guidance from a community working group regarding how these investments should be best used with a prioritised programme of renewals identified for the first three years.

It was initially believed that this larger budget would be sufficient to significantly improve the overall condition of paths in the town. It has however subsequently been found that the actual cost of footpath construction works was higher than expected, limiting what can be achieved with this level of funding.

**Two options
are outlined
for feedback:**



OPTION TWO

Maintain Investment at \$100,000

Maintain current footpath investment per the previous LTP at **\$170,000** total investment, with **\$100,000** of renewal works and **\$70,000** of maintenance works annually. The NZTA subsidies assumptions are as per option 1 meaning NZTA would subsidise approximately **\$69,360** leaving just over **\$100,000** in year 1 to be funded by rates. (the \$100,000 will increase by inflation over the 10 year period).

This option sees a replacement of between 10 – 15% of approximately 40km of community footpaths over 10 years leaving a far higher amount still in poor condition and therefore this option is not the preferred.



How will this Impact your rates?

Option One Our Preferred Option

Accelerated programme of footpath improvement (capital spend \$250k in years 1-6 then \$125k thereafter, maintenance spend \$60k p.a.).

Advantages	Disadvantages	Ten Year Cost
The higher spend will enable approximately 30% of footpaths to be replaced within the next 10 years.	Involves borrowing to cover the shortfall in years 1-6, which reduces the impact on rates in years 1-6 but leaves loan costs for year 7 onwards	\$2,830,150 Net cost (after NZTA subsidy) \$1,675,449
Increase in overall debt after ten years	Impact on all rates types	What this means for you?
\$888,000	Year 1 = \$40,330 Year 10 = \$191,025	A medium urban household CV \$760,000 would pay \$112.54 in year one and an average of \$156.86 per year.

Option Two

Maintain current level of footpath improvement (\$100k capital, and \$70k maintenance spend, for all ten years).

Advantages	Disadvantages	Ten Year Cost
Doesn't involve any borrowings and so there is no ongoing loan interest and principal to repay for the future.	The lower spend will only enable 10%-15% of footpaths to be replaced within the next 10 years, leaving many footpaths in poor condition for longer. Involves a higher rates increase in year 1 because this option doesn't use any borrowings to fund the programme.	\$1,872,927 Net cost (after NZTA subsidy) \$1,108,773
Increase in overall debt after ten years	Impact on all rates types	What this means for you?
\$NIL	Year 1 = \$100,640 Year 10 = \$121,220	A medium urban household CV \$760,000 would pay \$143.37 in year one and an average of \$155.46 per year.

Council financial support for

The Whale Trail Topic 2



Where are we at?

The Whale Trail project was largely borne out of “Reimagine Kaikōura”, our post-earthquake community recovery plan and sits well within our 2024–2034 Long Term Plan vision to continue “Moving Kaikōura Forward”.

The Marlborough Kaikōura Trail Trust (the Trust) was set up in 2017 and has secured significant funding to plan and design the trail, complete a technical study and a business case to support the funding required for its development. To date the project has secured \$28m with \$26m from Central Government, \$2m from Marlborough District Council and \$0.6m from the Rata Foundation. The trail is approximately 194 kilometers long and would be used for both cycling and walking that will connect the communities of Picton, Blenheim, Seddon, Ward, Kekerengu, Clarence and Kaikōura.

The total budget for the project is \$32m of which \$30m is for construction and \$2m for enhancement works. The Trust aims to secure the difference from the project budget to the current funding through sponsorship (\$3m) and community engagement (\$1m).

The Whale Trail is designed to bring economic, health and wellbeing, environmental and cultural benefits to the region and its communities with the primary objectives including i) build community connections and encouraging local recreational uses ii) increase understanding of local taonga and history iii) attract new and regular visitors and encourage them to spend more and stay longer in more communities along the trail iv) increase access to existing and new amenities and v) grow existing and encourage new small and medium businesses.

Currently, there are multiple sections of the trail under construction within the districts north of Kaikōura and the project is anticipated to be complete by the end of 2025. The trail route from Kaikōura to Hapuku is in the process of being finalised.

It is a requirement of the Trusts' Government contract that they secure local financial partnership. Marlborough District Council have provided a financial commitment of \$2m to the project within their boundary with an ongoing annual maintenance component of \$80k.

In total, the Trust estimates the full cost of trail construction within the Kaikōura district (including major bridges at Kekerengu, Tirohanga and Hapuku as well as multiple minor bridges) will be approximately \$11m. There is an opportunity for Council to demonstrate its support for this significant community project on behalf of the Kaikōura community.

The Trust are also seeking an annual contribution for ongoing maintenance of the trail. This funding will ensure that the user experience is the best it can be, however, the Whale Trail Trustees are mindful of the need to investigate ways in which trail users can financially support the ongoing costs of upkeep of the trail and this will be a focus as the trail completion is achieved.

There is high confidence that the user experience will inspire support when the trail is open and operating. In addition to visitor revenue coming into Kaikōura District from use of the Whale Trail, the Trust also anticipates new job and business opportunities, improved community connectivity, and environmental, cultural and wellbeing benefits. The section of the trail between Waiau Tou/Clarence and Puhi Puhi is not part of this government contract and will be part of a separate project. Councils current position is that it is not our intention to own, maintain/service any of the Whale Trail assets.

The business case for the Whale Trail indicates the Trail supporting up to 137 jobs each year (tourism, maintenance, pest control etc) and an average economic contribution of approximately \$13m per year based on a \$367m contribution over a 28 year period. An estimated 50,000 additional recreation users from outside the region are expected with 14% of those estimated to be international notwithstanding the expected significant usage by locals.

The sections of the Whale Trail within the Kaikōura district will be an added catalyst for new opportunities by being part of, or being able to provide, a 'multiplier co-efficient' by linkage to a number of new initiatives already underway or proposed such as the Wakatu Quay development, Hot Pools Development (proposed) or the Waiau-toa/Clarence River and Molesworth Recreation Reserve Great Walk that was indicated for support as part of the new governments election pledge.

Council financial support for **THE WHALE TRAIL**

What are we **Proposing?**



Council is seeking community feedback on providing financial support to the Whale Trail. This will demonstrate our commitment as a community to the project and to help ensure that the proposed Kaikōura sections of the trail can proceed as planned with the balance of Trust funding. Partner co-funding is a requirement for the Trust and Marlborough District Council have provided \$2m as a commitment for the Marlborough sections and \$80 p.a. in annual maintenance costs.

This project contributes to our strategic priority and community outcome of continuing to support economic development within the District as well as contributing towards alternative transport and recreational activities for both locals and visitors.

"It's proven that cycle tracks benefit community"

"More cycle ways please"

Three options are outlined for feedback



Provide Financial Support To The Whale Trail

Option One

Our preferred Option

Council to provide a debt funded total capital contribution of **\$200K**, \$50k per year for the first 4 years of the LTP and maintenance funding, from rates, of \$15k starting in year 2 and increasing slightly each year as sections are completed, e.g. \$30k by year 3, \$50k by year 4 and up to \$80k by year 5. It is proposed that the funding will be covered by the commercial rate, not less than 60% and the general rate, not more than 40%.

Provide Less Financial Support

Option Two

Council provides a debt funded total capital contribution of **\$200K**, \$50K for the first 4 years of the LTP but caps the ongoing operational maintenance commitment up to a maximum of \$40K per annum over the next 10 years. This will demonstrate commitment to the project and help ensure the Kaikōura sections of the trail can progress but without overly burdening the rate payer for ongoing maintenance costs. The Trust would have an opportunity to seek alternative funding options and support for ongoing maintenance.

Provide No Financial Support To The Whale Trail

Option Three

Council provides no direct financial contribution to the project in terms of either capital or ongoing maintenance costs. Without any financial commitment from Council, it is possible that the Trust will not be able to advance the sections of the Trail within Kaikōura District or that even if they are completed the maintenance of the trail will not be at the standard that ensures a safe and enjoyable user experience.

How will this Impact your rates?

Option One

Our Preferred Option

Pay a total capital contribution (grant) of **\$200K**, \$50,000 per year for four years (loan funded), and pay an operating grant increasing per year to \$80,000 (plus inflation).

Advantages	Disadvantages	Ten Year Cost
The project continues, and brings economic, environmental, and cultural benefits to the district.	The cost of ongoing maintenance (at \$80,000 per year) is not insignificant and is around 25% of the budgeted maintenance cost for all of the Council's parks and reserves combined.	\$858,822
Increase in debt is	Impact on all rates types	What this means for you?
\$200,000	Year 1 = \$1,625 Year 10 = \$113,168	A medium urban household CV \$760,000 would pay 28c in year one and an average of \$14.40 per year. A medium commercial retail property CV \$830,000 would pay \$4.46 in year one and an average of \$192.40 per year.

Option Two

Pay a total capital contribution (grant) of **\$200K**, \$50,000 per year for four years (loan funded), and pay an operating grant capped at \$40,000 once it reaches that level (year 4).

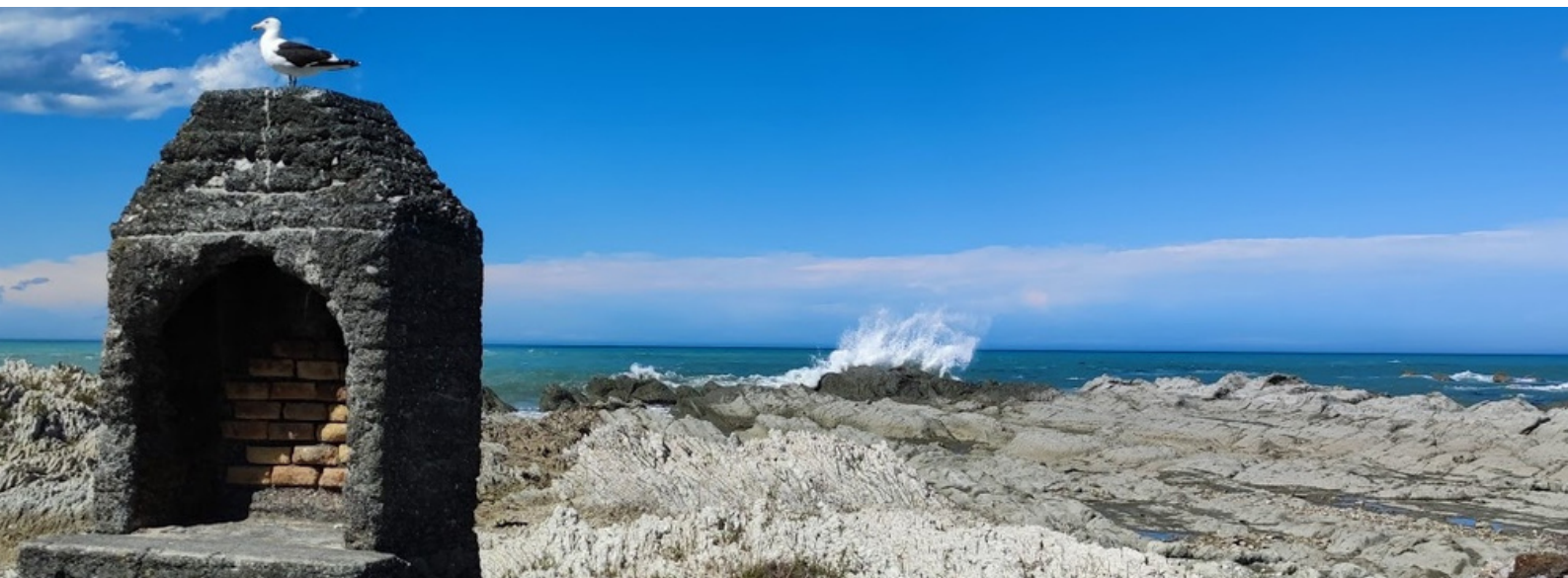
Advantages	Disadvantages	Ten Year Cost
Ratepayers have the assurance that ongoing maintenance costs will not escalate beyond the \$40,000 cap (plus inflation and loan servicing). The project continues, and brings economic, environmental, and cultural benefits to the district.	The annual maintenance grant may not cover costs with the result that the trail (or sections of it) are not maintained to the standard the Trail Trust wishes to keep.	\$572,229
Increase in debt is	Impact on all rates types	What this means for you?
\$200,000	Year 1 = \$1,625 Year 10 = \$64,941	A medium urban household CV \$760,000 would pay 28c in year one and an average of \$9.74 per year. A medium commercial retail property CV \$830,000 would pay \$4.46 in year one and an average of \$117.17 per year.

How will this Impact your rates?

Option Three

Don't fund the project. This would mean that the community misses out on what could be an iconic feature.

Advantages	Disadvantages	Ten Year Cost
There is no cost to ratepayers.	The Whale Trail does not continue through to the Kaikōura district, the local economy misses out on the economic benefits the Trail is expected to bring.	\$NIL
Increase in debt is	Impact on all rates types	What this means for you?
\$NIL	Year 1 = \$NIL Year 10 = \$NIL	There is no cost to rate payers.



Reduce the differential on the general rate for rural and semi-rural properties

Topic 3

As signalled in the last LTP, Council undertook a comprehensive review of its funding sources last year, known as the rates review, and went out for public feedback over September and October, with a hearing in November 2023.

A change to the general rate differential had not been signalled in the rates review consultation options, and so the wider public had not been given the opportunity for feedback on this particular issue.



Where are we at?



What are we Proposing?

Following strong submissions from rural and semi-rural landowners and Federated Farmers of New Zealand, the Council has considered that feedback and plans to reduce the differential on the general rate, from 90% to 80%.

The change is relatively significant because it affects how the proportion of overall general rates is split and therefore the level of rates payable by every ratepayer in the district. The outcome is that semi-rural and rural ratepayers pay slightly less than they otherwise would have done of the overall general rate, urban ratepayers (residential and commercial) will pay slightly more. There are several reasons why Council believes this is appropriate.

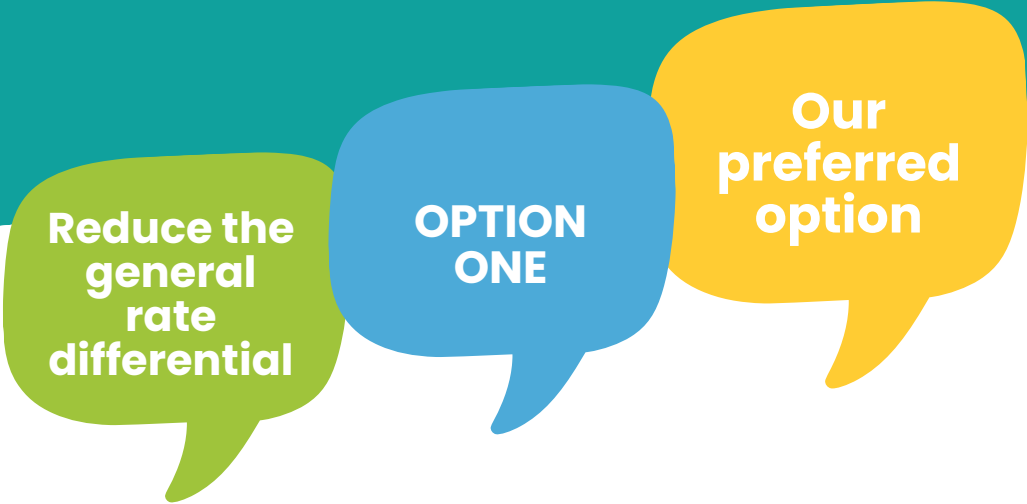
One reason the Council feels a lower differential on the general rate may be appropriate, is that the general rate funds certain activities that are more likely to benefit urban ratepayers. The main activities funded by the general rate are:

- Mayor & councillors, including administration support
- Building & regulatory activities (the portion not covered by building consent fees)
- Library, public halls, pensioner housing (the portion not covered by rents)
- Parks, reserves, walkways, and playgrounds
- Community grants & events
- Resource consents (the portion not covered by planning consent fees)
- Community development & emergency management
- The transfer station and recycling services
- The general running of Council (CEO, HR, communications, legal & other professional advice)

Another reason the Council feels a lower differential may be appropriate, is that semi-rural and rural properties generally have much higher capital values than urban properties (especially residential homes), and so semi-rural and rural properties generally pay much higher rates than their urban counterparts.



Two options are outlined for feedback



Option One Our Preferred Option

This option involves reducing the general rate differential for rural/semi-rural properties to 80%
 If this option is adopted, then urban properties pay a bigger share of the general rate, and rural and semi-rural properties pay less.

Advantages	Disadvantages	Total General rate
Reduces the proportion that rural and semi-rural properties pay in the general rate.	Increases the proportion that all urban properties pay in the general rate.	\$2.79 million
Semi Rural Sector	Rural Sector	Urban Sector
\$0.63 million (22.6%)	\$0.56 million (20.1%)	\$1.6 million (57.3%)

The table on the following page shows the total rates impact, if all preferred options are adopted, and the general rate differential is 0.8:1 for rural and semi-rural properties



How will this Impact your rates?

45

	Year 1 %	10-year total %	Year 1 \$	Per week \$
Residential - Urban - High Value	6.5%	40%	302.37	5.81
Residential - Urban - Medium Value	8.0%	42%	296.06	5.69
Residential - Urban - Low Value	10.4%	45%	290.06	5.58
Dairy Farm - Semi Rural - High Value	4.8%	43%	478.61	9.20
Lifestyle block - Semi Rural - Medium Value	10.8%	49%	304.29	5.85
Residential - Semi Rural - Low Value	15.8%	54%	278.63	5.36
Commercial - Urban - High Value (30 room motel)	10.0%	35%	2,744.25	52.77
Commercial - Urban - Medium Value (12 room motel)	14.1%	40%	1,814.01	34.88
Commercial - Urban - Medium Value (Retail)	17.5%	46%	1,269.11	24.41
Commercial - Urban - Low Value (Retail)	14.8%	47%	658.07	12.66
Farm - Rural - High Value 2xSUIP	4.2%	42%	757.62	14.57
Farm - Rural - Medium Value	4.2%	42%	377.53	7.26
Farm - Rural - Low Value	6.7%	45%	313.41	6.03

Keep the general rate differential

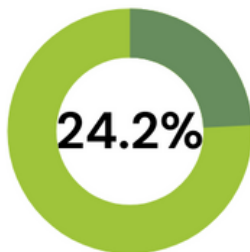
Option Two

Option Two

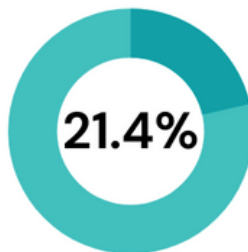
Keep the general rate differential at 90% for rural and semi-rural properties.

Advantages	Disadvantages	Total General Rate
Maintains the status quo that urban properties pay in the general rate.	Maintains the status quo that rural and semi-rural properties pay in the general rate.	\$2.79 million
General rate Semi-Rural	General Rate Rural	General Rate Urban
\$0.67 million (24.2%)	\$0.6 million (21.4%)	\$1.52 million (54.4%)

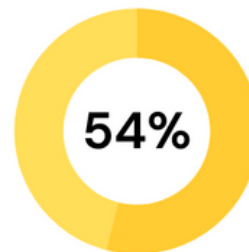
The table on the following page shows the total rates impact, if all preferred options are adopted, and the general rate differential is 0.9:1 for rural and semi-rural properties.



SEMI RURAL



GENERAL RATE RURAL



SEMI RURAL

How will this Impact your rates?

47

	Year 1 %	10-year total %	Year 1 \$	Per week \$
Residential - Urban - High Value	4.8%	39%	222.65	4.28
Residential - Urban - Medium Value	6.6%	41%	243.83	4.69
Residential - Urban - Low Value	9.4%	44%	263.94	5.08
Dairy Farm - Semi Rural - High Value	8.2%	47%	816.50	15.70
Lifestyle block - Semi Rural - Medium Value	13.4%	52%	376.59	7.24
Residential - Semi Rural - Low Value	17.7%	56%	311.83	6.00
Commercial - Urban - High Value (30 room motel)	8.8%	34%	2,435.67	46.84
Commercial - Urban - Medium Value (12 room motel)	13.2%	39%	1,691.33	32.53
Commercial - Urban - Medium Value (Retail)	16.7%	45%	1,212.07	23.31
Commercial - Urban - Low Value (Retail)	14.0%	47%	624.40	12.01
Farm - Rural - High Value 2xSUIP	7.7%	46%	1,403.15	26.98
Farm - Rural - Medium Value	7.7%	46%	696.98	13.40
Farm - Rural - Low Value	9.9%	48%	463.17	8.91



Rural Recycling Services Topic 4



Where are we at?

The provision of rural recycling services was a topic of discussion in the Council's last Long-Term Plan and some changes were subsequently made, with the Council currently providing three un-manned facilities at Clarence, Kekerengu and on the Inland Road for receipt of recyclable materials, at a total cost of approximately \$26,000 per year.

It is however believed that these services and the funding of them may still not be entirely appropriate to the needs of the community. Because of their locations the catchments for these facilities are relatively small, attract low volumes of recyclable materials which are sometimes contaminated by refuse, and many rural ratepayers receive no benefit from them.

It is also recognised that in most cases the rural residents of the District have to visit either the Resource Recovery Centre in Kaikōura to dispose of their refuse or facilities outside of the District, and that they could also deliver their recycling at the same time.

What are we proposing?

The Council considered, as part of the rates review work last year, that the rural recycling service could be funded through a targeted rate on all rural properties, but some rural residents have said that they don't think that this is appropriate because of the issues described previously.

Three options
are outlined
for feedback



OPTION ONE

Keep Rural Recycling & all rate payers fund them

Our preferred option

The rural recycling centres continue to be operated at the existing sites (Lynton Downs, Clarence and Kekerengu), but are funded by all ratepayers, rural and urban.

Keep Rural Recycling & rural rate payers fund them

OPTION TWO

Rural recycling centres continue to be operated at the three existing sites, funded by all rural ratepayers regardless of whether the sites are conveniently located for them to use.

End Rural Recycling Centres

OPTION THREE

The rural recycling centres cease to be operated and all materials for recycling would need to be brought to the Kaikōura Resource Recovery Centre by the individuals using that service.

How will this Impact your rates?

Option One Our Preferred Option

Rural recycling service continues to be delivered, funded by general rates.

Advantages	Disadvantages	Ten Year Cost
The service continues, with communal collection points at Lynton Downs, Clarence, and Kekerengu. The cost is shared amongst all ratepayers and so is a very low cost to bear.	All ratepayers collectively fund the service regardless of whether they benefit from the service.	\$290,760
Impact on all rates types	What this means for Urban	What this means for Rural
Year 1 = \$26,000 Year 10 = \$32,092	A medium urban household CV \$760,000 would pay \$9.61 more in year one and an average of \$10.33 per year over ten years	A medium rural property CV \$4,330,000 would pay \$53.87 less in year one and an average of \$60.67 less per year over ten years.



How will this Impact your rates?

Option Two

Rural recycling service continues to be delivered, funded by a new Rural Recycling targeted rate and funded by rural ratepayers only.

Advantages	Disadvantages	Ten Year Cost
Rural recycling service continues to be delivered, funded by a new Rural Recycling targeted rate and funded by rural rate payers only	All ratepayers collectively fund the service regardless of whether they benefit from the service	\$290,760
Impact on all rates types	What this means for Urban & Semi-Rural	What this means for Rural
Year 1 = \$26,000 Year 10 = \$32,092	Urban and Semi-Rural properties would not pay for this service	All rural properties would pay \$63.48 in year one and an average of \$70.99 per year over ten years

Option Three

The rural recycling service is removed. Loss of the service could result in increased litter if those communities did not use alternate options for their recycling.

Advantages	Disadvantages	Ten Year Cost
This option comes at no cost to ratepayers.	Communities that have been using the recycling collection service will have to take their recycling to the Resource Recovery Centre in Kaikōura or to facilities outside the district.	\$Nil
Impact on all rates types	What this means for Urban	What this means for Rural
Year 1 = \$Nil Year 10 = \$Nil	There is no cost to ratepayers	There is no cost to ratepayers

KEY CONSULTATION ITEMS



1

Increased Footpath Improvements -

Increase funding? Or stick with the status quo?

2

Whale Trail Funding -

Provide financial support? Provide less financial support? Provide no financial support?

3

Reduce the differential on rural and semi rural rates -

Reduce the general rate? Or keep the general rate?

4

Rural Recycling -

Keep recycling and all rate payers pay? Keep recycling and only rural rate payers pay? Or end rural recycling stations?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Have Your Say at:
www.kaikoura.govt.nz/have-your-say

We need your feedback by 5pm Tuesday
 30th April







The Next Ten Years..

What else are we planning to do?

- 1** Following Council funding commitment in August 2023, the Wakatu Quay redevelopment is progressing with a revised staged approach to the build. Detailed design is expected to be completed by mid 2024 and construction on the supporting infrastructure and building commencing in the latter half of 2024.
- 2** The replacement bridge across the Waiau Toa/Clarence River remains an ongoing challenge, but at this point we remain committed to working with all parties to find an agreed solution and have made provision for this to be completed by 2026.
- 3** We will continue to work with Kāinga ora and the private developer to deliver on the Infrastructure Acceleration Fund project which sees an upgrade to infrastructure along Ludstone Rd and Green Lane in order to help facilitate housing outcomes. The developer has initiated work on a private plan change for Ocean Ridge and it is anticipated that ground works at Vicarage views will commence over the next 12 months.
- 4** We will be undertaking a number of renewals projects in the three waters space to ensure that we keep on top of assets. This includes the renewal of 9km of water main in the urban area.
- 5** We are also continuing with our roading renewal programme to continue to address the historic backlog and get on top of ongoing renewals. We are looking to invest a total of close to \$15million over the next ten years.

6 There remains some work required to fully close off the old landfill. The final plan is currently with Environment Canterbury for their approval. This will be undertaken over the next two years.

7 We have a number of projects funded through the Better off Funding still to complete. These include the replacement of the West End toilets and a new toilet facility in Churchill Park.

8 As part of our rates review, Council agreed that as of 1st July 2024 it will be free to borrow all hard copy books from our library although replacement costs for lost or not returned library items will still be charged.

9 We will continue to provide tourism and general business support by providing annual financial assistance to Destination Kaikōura, our regional Toursim Operator (RTO). This is in line with the inflated contribution agreed in the 2021 LTP for the ten-year period. This is paid by commercial ratepayers and through the accommodation sector charge for visitor accommodation.

10 Our ten-year update of the District plan will continue, with our spatial plan anticipated to be completed by September 2024. This provides the roadmap for next thirty years with each chapter of the District plan being updated in a prioritized order following that. We will continue to work alongside private developers and groups who instigate their own private plan changes. We anticipate that during 2024 both PC4 for the Light Industrial Park and PC5 for the lighting plan change will both become operative.

11 Support for economic development remains a priority. We will continue with our economic development activity including working alongside private initiatives, such as the proposed hotpools development, housing and industrial developments. We will also provide Council support, resources and funding (to a tune of \$30K per annum) for events and projects which assist economic development within the district. Where appropriate, we will also look to partner on initiatives that provide an alternative revenue source to Council as well as contributing to wider economic development.

12 In addition to contributing to the regional Canterbury Climate Change Action Plan priorities we will continue to support various environmental initiatives each year either financially or with assistance in kind.

- 13** We will continue to support, develop and implement community events and activities that help grow our District and make it a fun place to work, rest and play.
- 14** Our various community grants embed arts and culture in our District, fostering engagement and participation that develops community resilience and well-being. Our annual discretionary grants pool is \$100k per annum for 2024/25.
- 15** We have budgeted to undertake a major internal system upgrade and replace our Enterprise Resource Planning (IT systems) in 2025. This is the software system that manages our core business activities including accounting, rates and consents. It is a significant project from both a financial and user perspective, but is much needed as our current software dates back to the 1990's. We are undertaking the replacement in collaboration with our neighbours, Hurunui District Council, which will provide greater opportunities for joint working and collaboration going forward. It will also help improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our services to our community.
- 16** Over the next two financial years we will also be continuing with our project to digitise all paper-based Council records.
- 17** We have revised our policy on development contributions as we continue to work with a number of developers in the District.
- 18** We have undertaken a full review of our current fees and charges and are moving towards ensuring they conform with our agreed Financing and Revenue Strategy and that we move to a more equitable user pays basis for some discrete services. Some of these fees and charges have not increased for a number of years and are now more reflect the true costs of the services and are in line with neighbouring Councils.
- 19** From 1st July 2024 we will be introducing a new interactive tool for dog control that not only helps to confidentially reunite owners and their animals faster, but also helps to share relevant Council updates and information with regard to animal control. The costs are all built into the annual dog registration fees.
- 20** We continue to provide the ability to help individuals trace their family history. Find out more through our wonderful library.

**TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAM
2024/2025**

46

TOTAL PROJECTS IN
2024/2025

\$11.3M

TOTAL 2024/2025
SPEND

\$63.3M

TOTAL OVER 10
YEARS 2024/2034

\$10.4M

ACROSS ALL 3
WATERS

\$6.2M

FOR DRINKING
WATER

\$4M

FOR WASTEWATER

\$0.2M

FOR STORMWATER

**TEN YEAR
INVESTMENT IN
3 WATERS**

**TOTAL FOR IT
SYSTEM
REPLACEMENT**

\$650,000

OVER TWO
YEARS
2025/2025

\$2M

TEN YEAR INVESTMENT
IN FOOTPATHS (OF
WHICH \$888,000 IS LOAN
FUNDED)

**TEN YEAR
INVESTMENT IN
FOOTPATHS**

**TOTAL INVESTMENT
IN DISTRICT PLAN
REVIEW**

\$3.5M

**OVER TEN
YEARS**

\$12.8M

TEN YEAR INVESTMENT IN
ROADING (EXCLUDING BRIDGE
REPLACEMENT AND IAF)

\$38.3M

TEN YEAR INVESTMENT IN
ROADING (ALL INCLUSIVE)

**TEN YEAR
INVESTMENT IN
ROADING**



Infrastructure Strategy

What's it all about?

Our 30 year Infrastructure Strategy is one of the core documents that underpins our LTP. Infrastructure is the built and underground stuff that has an impact on every part of our life.

The Council manages this infrastructure so you have safe water to drink and wash with, your sewerage is taken away and treated, there are facilities for you to dispose of your rubbish and recycling, you can get from place to place safely within the District and there are systems in place to protect and enhance our natural and built environment. The below graphic provides a summary of our infrastructure network assets:

DRAINAGE

FOOTPATHS

STREET LIGHTS

PAVEMENT FORMATION

SIGNS/ TRAFFIC FACILITIES

QUANTITY

CULVERTS & PIPES: 841
MANHOLES/ SUMPS: 690
LINED CHANNELS: 15
DAMS: 1

REPLACEMENT COST

\$7,699,265

QUANTITY

SEALED/ PAVERS/ CONC:
46.9KM
UNSEALED: 2.1KM

REPLACEMENT COST

\$6,848,776

QUANTITY

412
STREET LIGHTS

REPLACEMENT COST

\$1,482,460

QUANTITY

SEALED/ PAVERS/ CONC:
118KM
UNSEALED: 95KM

REPLACEMENT COST

\$129,847,290

QUANTITY

LINES: 107KM
MARKINGS: 234
SIGNS: 1673

REPLACEMENT COST

\$943,730

ROADS AND

FOOTPATHS



3 WATERS

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

8
KDC SCHEMES

215 KM
OF PIPES

\$34.5M
TOTAL VALUE AT
LAST VALUATION
(2022)

1
SYSTEM SERVING OCEAN RIDGE
AND KAIKOURA TOWNSHIP

13
MAIN PUMP STATIONS
57 KM
OF PIPES IN THE PUBLIC
NETWORK

1
TREATMENT PLANT
\$29.4M
TOTAL VALUE AT LAST VALUATION
(2022)

RURAL STORMWATER IS
MANAGED BY KDC

2
URBAN SYSTEMS SERVING
OCEAN RIDGE & KAIKOURA
TOWNSHIP

18.7 KM
OF PIPES IN THE URBAN
PUBLIC NETWORKS

\$8M
TOTAL VALUE AT LAST
VALUATION (2022)

\$19.88 M
VALUE EXCLUDES LAND

TOTAL VALUE
OF COUNCIL
OWNED
BUILDINGS

WATER

WASTE
WATER

STORM
WATER

27

COMMUNITY
FACILITIES &
BUILDINGS

"Maintenance should be the top priority, looking after our assets"

Infrastructure strategy

We need to understand the status of our infrastructure to help us make investment decisions now for the best long-term management of our assets. If we don't continue to manage and maintain our infrastructure assets we create problems down the track. A number of Councils around the country are now facing those problems and are not necessarily in a position to fund all the works that need doing.

Our 2021 Infrastructure Strategy highlighted that because of the work that had occurred since the 2016 earthquake and the work scheduled for the next ten years, if Council manages the infrastructure appropriately there was not expected to be a major spike in expenditure for council assets over the course of the next 30 years. This is a very good place to be in compared to some other Councils. The only immediate cost in the first ten years was to address the substantial backlog of road resealing and pavement renewals due to historic underinvestment. Increased investment was also agreed for the footpath renewal programme.

What are the key factors from our refreshed infrastructure strategy that have influenced this LTP for 2024-2034?

The refreshed 2024 Infrastructure Strategy can be best described as an 'enhanced business as usual' approach, which continues to focus on effective delivery of core functions, without taking any major new directions. In refreshing the strategy, we have also considered the effects of climate change, population trends and potential District growth.

Roading, footpaths and bridges

There remains a continued focus on undertaking larger amounts of road resealing and pavement renewals over the next five years to eliminate the accumulated backlog and get us back up to where we should be. Our investment since 2021 is already showing results in terms of our key performance indicators for roading.

Additional expenditure is also proposed to continue to address the renewals of our footpaths. We have made a great start on the programme, but further work and investment is required. It is anticipated that, unlike the 2021 LTP, some NZTA (Waka Kotahi) subsidy will be available to help fund this programme.

Provision has also been made for addressing several roading issues caused by extreme weather events and ongoing issues relating to the 2016 earthquake. Some of our rural back country roads have been subject to major slips due to excessive rainfall in geologically weakened areas. We have made limited provision for future emergency works as well as investing in preventive resilience measures such as increasing spending on roadside drainage in rural areas.

The Glen Alton Bridge replacement project across the Waiau Toa/Clarence River continues through in the draft LTP as a major project.

Water supply, wastewater and stormwater

Our refreshed Infrastructure Strategy also outlines the major issues and priorities for our three waters infrastructure. With the shift in policy direction with the new government, we have assumed that Council will continue to own and manage the three waters infrastructure through the ten year life of the LTP.

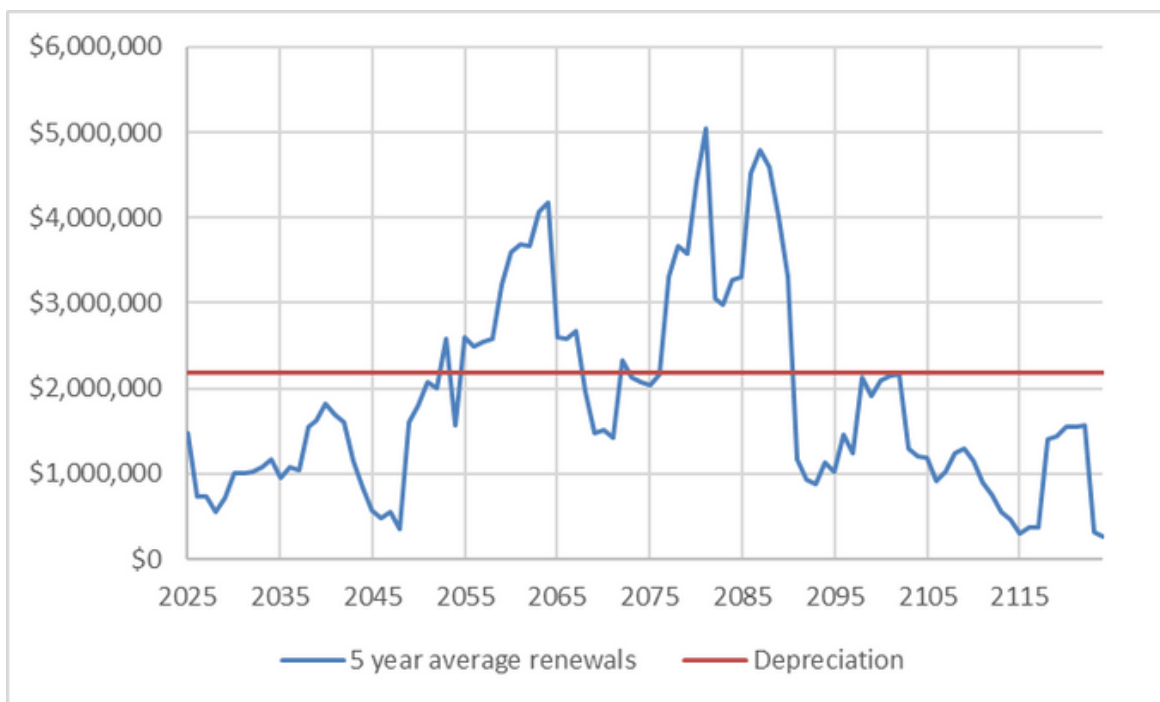
Provision has been made for expenditure for the renewal of approximately 9km of water main in the Kaikōura community that is currently theoretically near or beyond the end of its useful life and that was not damaged and replaced as a result of the earthquake. Several growth and demand projects have also been scheduled for the period of the draft LTP.

Financial provision has also been made for the growing compliance requirements coming from Taumata Arowai the national water regulator. Provision has also been made to address several resource consent condition issues associated with the wastewater treatment plant as well as the capping of the old landfill site.

The following graph demonstrates the limited investment required in the next ten years, with Council being in a significant renewal 'trough' for the duration of the 30-year infrastructure period, but with an intense period of replacements likely to commence in around 35 years time.

Asset renewal profile graph

The 30-year Infrastructure Strategy is available online a part of the LTP supporting documentation.



Financial Strategy



The Financial Strategy sets out how the Council plans to fund its operations for the next ten years, and the impact on rates, debt, and services. For the first three years of the draft LTP, the Council will focus on finishing what we started, most notably improving the overall condition of essential assets, such as roads, footpaths, water and wastewater systems. We will also ensure that the services we provide are appropriate for a community of our size, fit for purpose, and comply with legislation.

In doing so, affordability is our greatest challenge, and we are committed to ensuring that rates are the last option as a funding source. User pays, external funding, and debt will be sourced wherever these are more appropriate. Due to the timing of when NZTA provide their Funding Assistance Rates (FAR) for roading works vs when we needed to develop our budgets for the LTP legislative requirements, we have had to make an assumption on the level of funding we will receive from NZTA. Based on previous experience we have assumed that approximately 80% of the proposed relevant works will be funded at 51%. Should the actual funding be less than this then we would need to either reduce the proposed scope of works or look to self-fund the difference subject to council approval. Any proposed approach will depend on the level of funding gap magnitude.

The draft LTP 2024-2034 confirms the direction of the last (the LTP 2021-2031), except that – due to high inflation on costs that particularly impact the local government sector – it now costs around 20% more to provide similar levels of service as before. Significant cost drivers include materials and contract prices for roads, the cost to renew pipes, pumps and water-wastewater infrastructure, insurance premiums, audit fees, and more stringent legislative compliance requirements particularly in relation to drinking water.

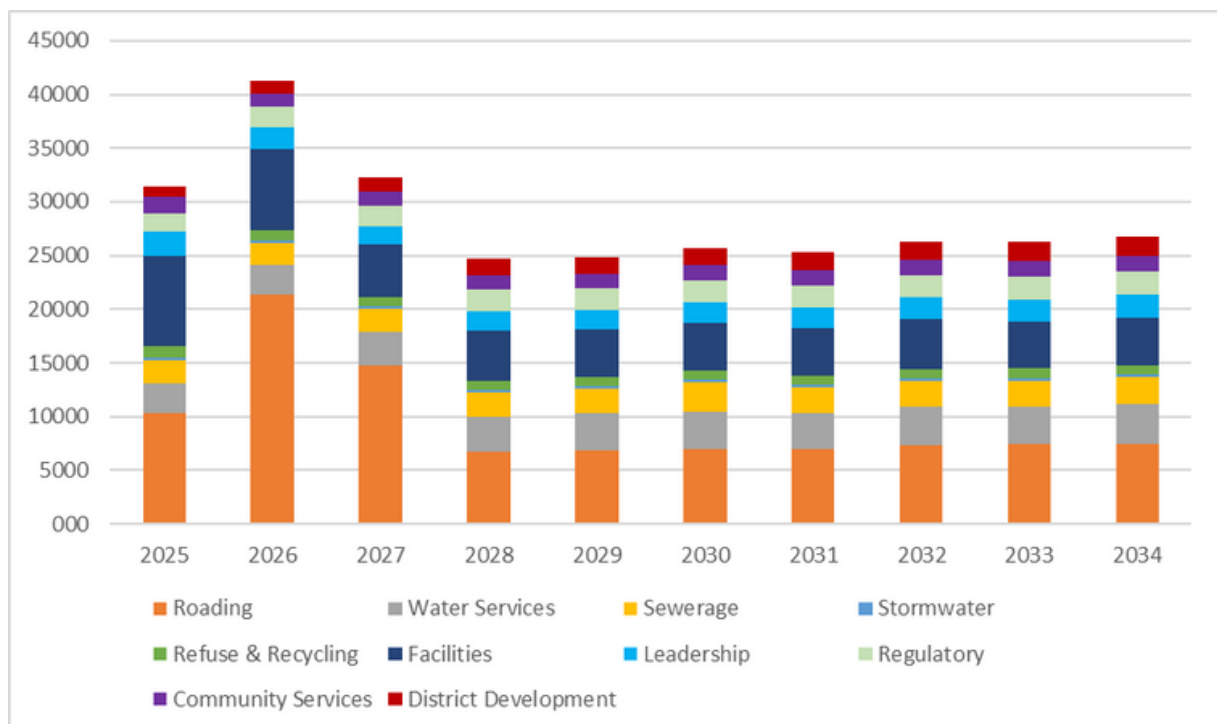
The overall direction of this Financial Strategy is to face up to the true cost of the Council's activities and services, and to meet those costs prudently and according to factors such as the lifespan of assets, availability of external funds, and appropriateness of user fees & charges.

The Financial Strategy has the following overall financial boundaries:

- External borrowings are capped at \$15 million,
- Our annual loan interest expense will be no more than 10% of total revenue (and likely to be less than 5% in reality),
- Rates increases are capped at no more than 15% in year one, 10% in years two to four, and the Local Government Cost Index (LGCI) + 3% thereafter.
- Rates income does not exceed \$12.5 million per annum in years one to three, \$14.5 million in years four to six, \$15.0 million in years seven to nine, and \$15.5 million in year ten. The reason for the stepped approach is to reflect that the LTP is reviewed every three years, and to provide for known funding requirements and growth expectations within each of those three-year periods.

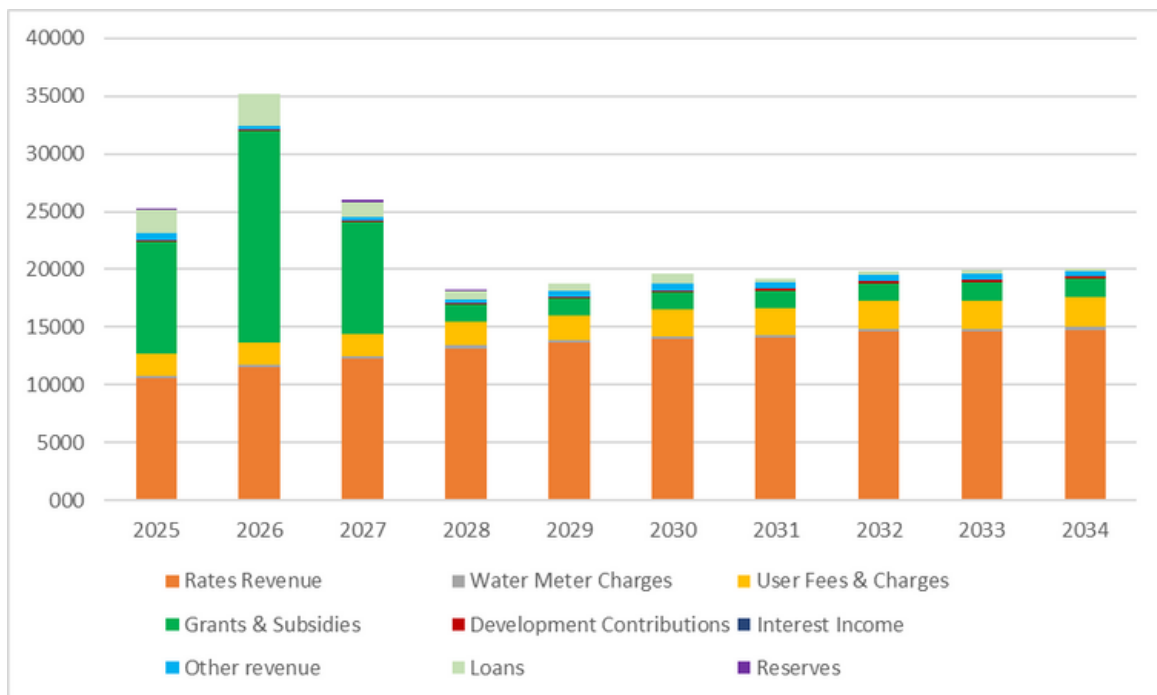
Where the money goes

Here's where the money will be spent (operating and capital) in the next 10 years.



Where the money comes from

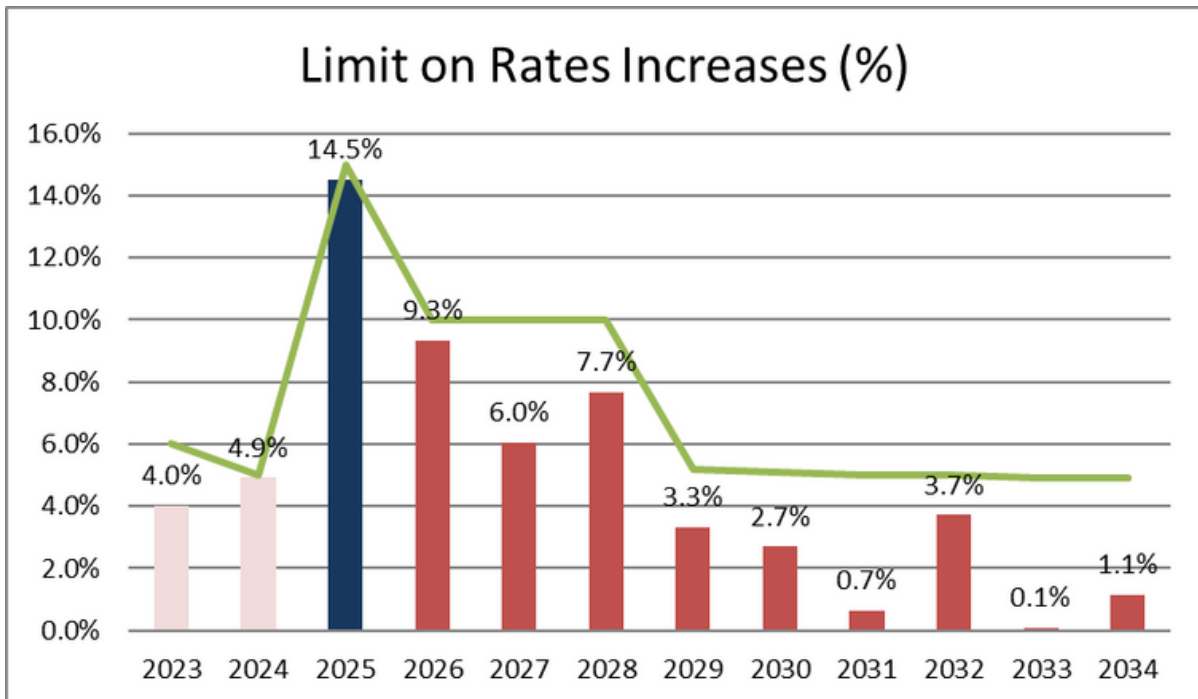
Grants and subsidies are a large portion of our revenue for the first three years, for projects such as the Wakatu Quay development, Waiau-toa Clarence Bridge and Infrastructure Acceleration Fund Project. (i.e. the Vicarage Views and Ocean Ridge Urban Expansion).



Limits on Rates and Debt

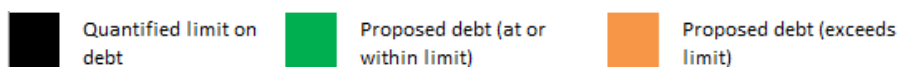
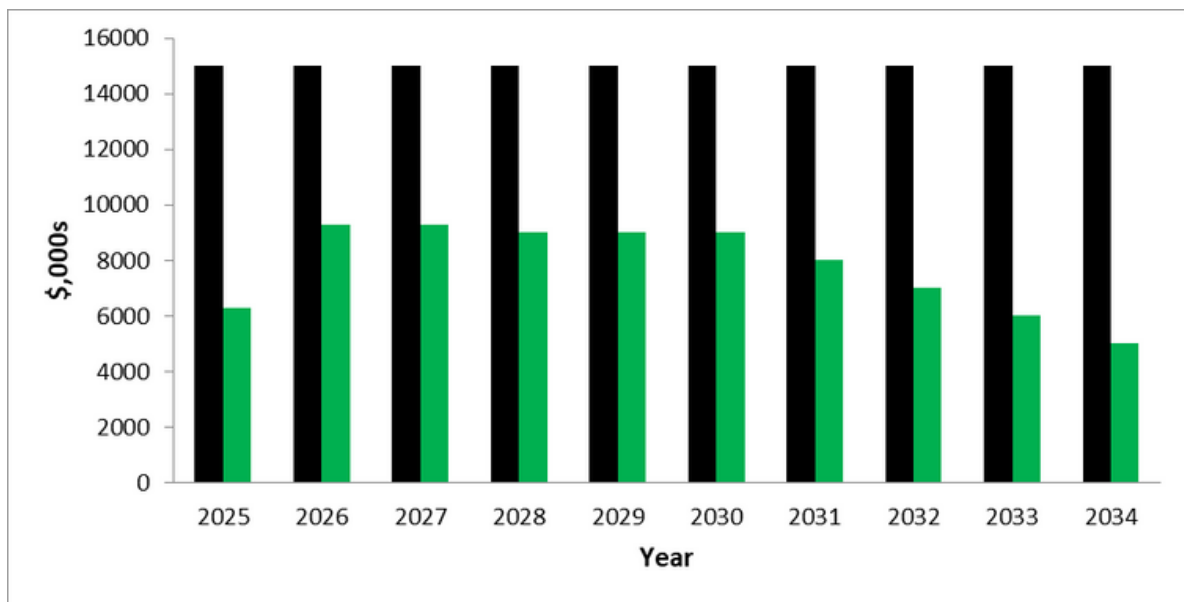
Our Financial Strategy says we will face up to the true cost of delivering services, and in times where we have identified that the cost associated with service delivery has increased around 20% in the last two years, this is a real challenge.

We've had to make a step change in our rates requirement, with a limit on total rates for 2025 to be no more than a 15% increase over the 2024 year. We have limited the rates increase in years 2-4 to 10% and LGCI + 3% per year thereafter.



Limit on total borrowing

The Council has a self-imposed limit on borrowing of no more than \$15 million. We don't anticipate our actual borrowing to exceed \$9.3 million during the next ten years, which leaves us plenty of room to respond to unforeseen events. This is a fantastic position to be in after the impacts of the 2016 Earthquake.

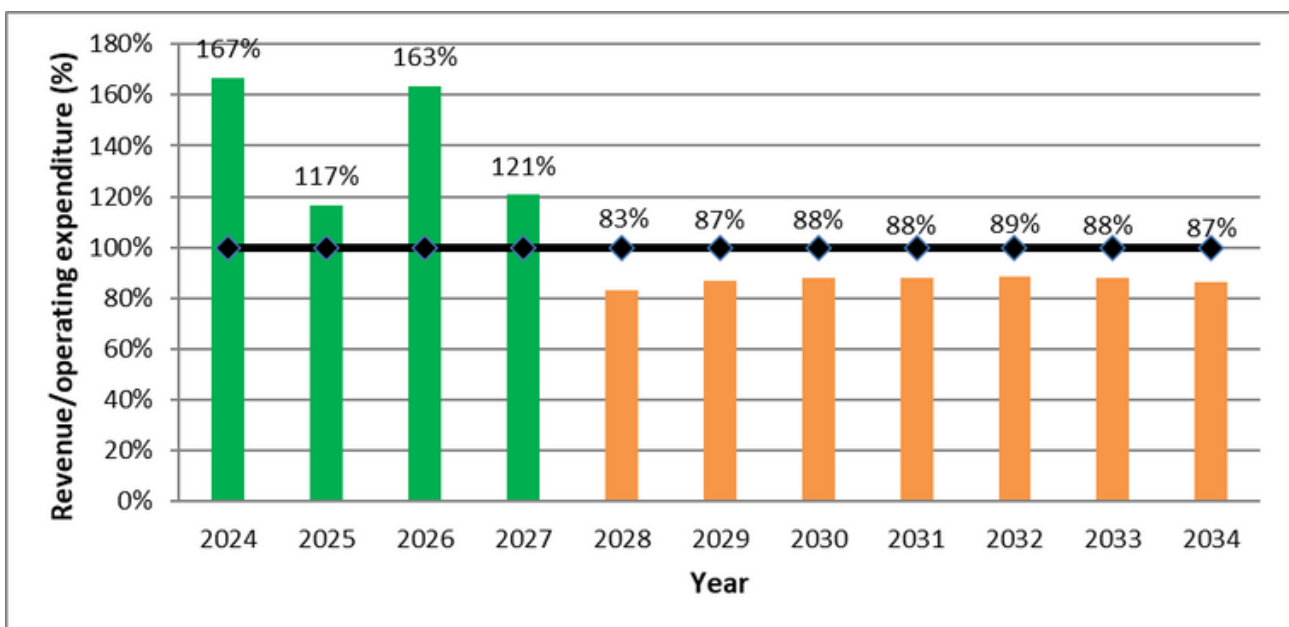


Unbalanced budget and non-funding of depreciation

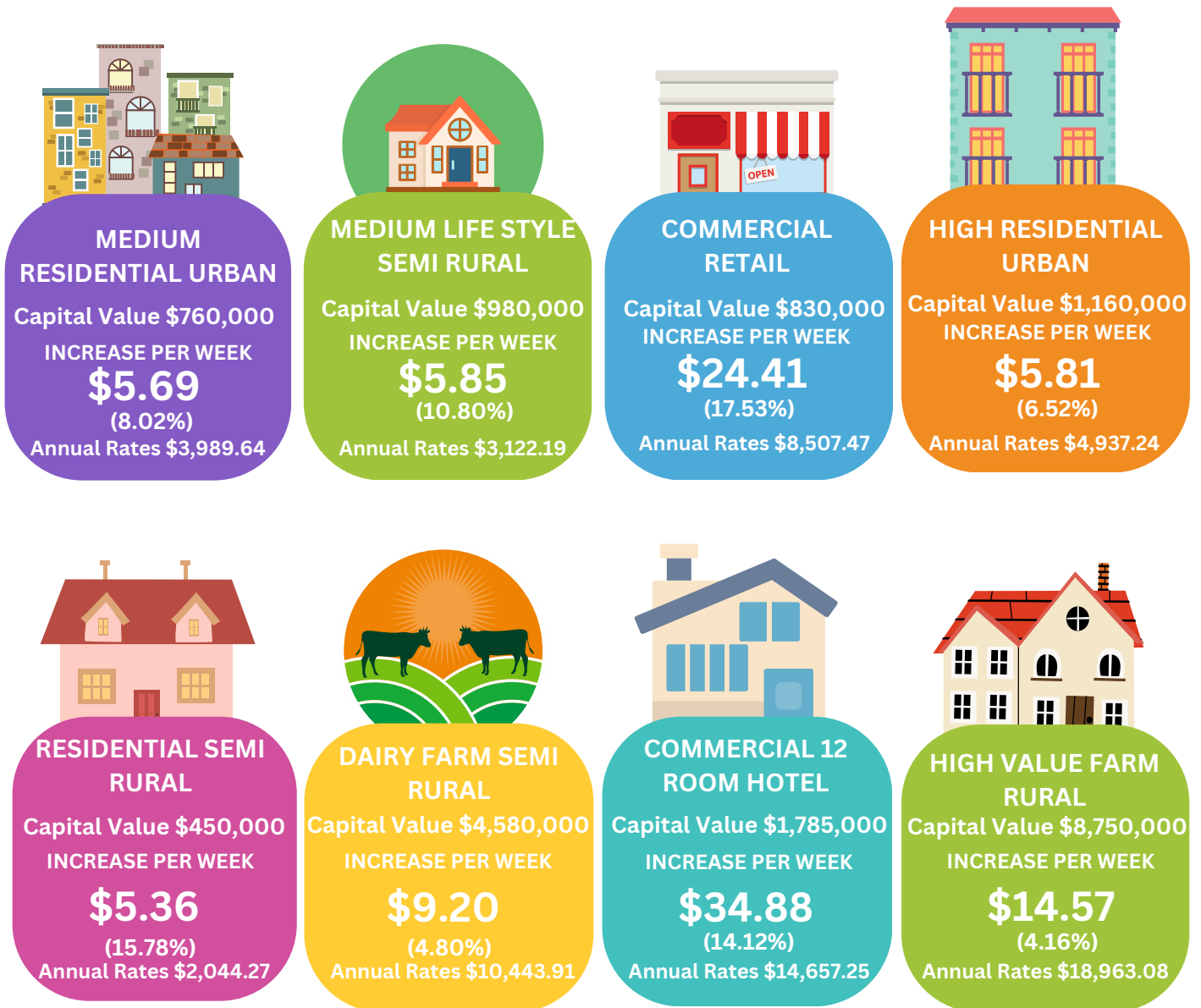
The first three years of this LTP show we expect to generate operating surpluses, but that we are planning for operating deficits for the remainder of the ten years. This is because, once the incoming grants and subsidies for roading, Wakatu Quay, and other capital projects have been applied, the deficits in the remaining years relate to depreciation. The Council has made the conscious and informed decision not to fully fund depreciation.

With such low levels of capital renewal work required within the next ten years (and no major work until 2050), to require rates to cover depreciation would result in the Council accumulating significant cash reserves from unspent rates. Instead, those future renewals could be funded by loans when they are needed, and rates would then cover the loan and interest costs over time and only once the ratepaying community gets the benefit of the renewed assets. Further, it is conceivable that external grants or subsidies could become available in the future such as occurred with the government stimulus packages and changes in criteria for funding roads and footpaths from the NZTA (Waka Kotahi).

The Council considers it is prudent and sustainable, therefore, to provide for these operating deficits in years 2028 to 2034 due to the decision not to fully fund depreciation. This is referred to as an unbalanced budget because revenue does not cover all operating expenses.



What this means for you and your rates in 2024/2025?



These figures are examples only – based on theoretical properties with a capital value exactly as per the examples. The increases are from 1st July 2024 to 30th June 2025. The examples do include water rates for urban properties, but they do not include rural water rates where they apply to rural or semi-rural properties (because charges vary depending on water supply and the number of water units on each property).

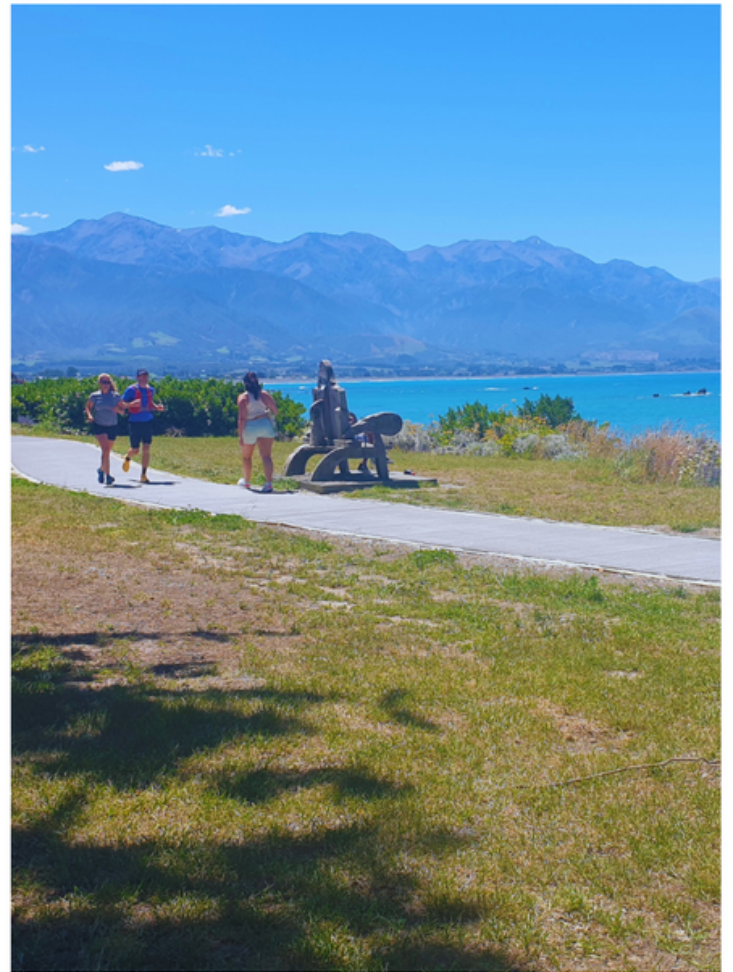
Important notice (Audit)

Recent changes to legislation, in response to the rapidly changing government policies relating to three-waters reform and also to assist those local authorities recovering from Cyclone Gabrielle, have enabled local authorities to opt not to have their consultation document fully audited, to delay adopting their LTP until after 30 June, and other options.

The Council has opted not to have this consultation document fully audited. The financial statements, significant assumptions underlying the statements, rates impacts, and other information has been prepared by Council staff, some of which has been peer reviewed, and auditors have been given opportunity to check and substantiate the financial and performance information in this consultation document. Auditors have not, however, been asked to provide an auditors report that would have given an independent opinion on whether the financial and performance information provides a fair or accurate representation of the matters proposed for inclusion in the Long-term Plan.

The Long-term Plan itself will be fully audited and will contain an Independent Auditors Report.







Councillor Lisa Bond
Phone: 021 149 2109
Email: lisa.bond@kaikoura.govt.nz



Councillor John Diver
Email: John.Diver@kaikoura.govt.nz



Councillor Tony Blunt
Phone: 03 319 5568
Email: tony.blunt@kaikoura.govt.nz



Deputy Mayor Julie Howden
Phone: 0275 432 559
Email: julie.howden@kaikoura.govt.nz

YOUR ELECTED MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

THE FINAL DECISION MAKERS



Mayor Craig Mackle
Phone: 0274 375 640
Email: Mayor@kaikoura.govt.nz



Councillor Kevin Heays
Email: Kevin.Heays@kaikoura.govt.nz



Councillor Robby Roche
Phone: 027 534 9557
Email: Robby.Roche@kaikoura.govt.nz



Councillor Vicki Gulleford
Phone: 027 564 8407
Email: Vicki.Gulleford@kaikoura.govt.nz



KAIKŌURA
DISTRICT COUNCIL

73

Consultation Schedule

**Consultation on
key
consultation
topics opens**

28th March 2024

**Consultation
closes on**

30th April 2024

**Council
hearings take
place on**

15th May 2024

**Council
confirms long-
term plan on**

26th June 2024

**Long-term plan
is in place from**

1st July 2024

Tell Us What You Think? Key Dates

Come along and talk
to us, find out more!

- 1 Council Chambers
drop-in session
10th April @ 6pm
- 2 Kekerengu
Community Hall
Drop-in session
11th April @ 7pm
- 3 Takahanga Marae
session
14th April @ 11am
- 4 Inland Road
Community drop-in
session at the Collie
Club
17th April @ 6pm
Mt Ferneaux Farm, 1299 Inland
Road, Highway 70.

**Help Move Kaikōura
Forward by giving us
your feedback and
HAVING YOUR SAY!**

Go to
kaikoura.govt.nz/have-your-say

We need your feedback by
5pm Tuesday 30th April



KAIKŌURA
DISTRICT COUNCIL

THANK YOU FOR
HELPING US

***MOVE KAIKŌURA
FORWARD***

All feedback must be received by 5pm, Tuesday 30th April



www.kaikoura.govt.nz



96 West End Kaikōura 7300



KaikouraDistrictCouncil