



Introducing the Long Term Plan 2024 – 2034

Our draft 10 year Long Term Plan (2024–2034) is now open for community feedback. Our plan for the next ten years has not changed much since the last LTP in 2021 as we continue to focus on our core infrastructure assets as well as prioritise investments in catching up with our roading and footpath programmes.

Due to factors largely outside of our control, the cost for delivering core services has increased significantly. This is a national problem with over two thirds of Councils across the country showing rates rises of 14% or higher.

Although we have continued with our no frills approach to the budgets, we have also been realistic with our proposed rate rises. We are making sure we are staying on top of our asset management and not kicking the can down the road for later.

The overall proposed rates increase for 2024/25 is 14.5%. Our average rate across the district is \$3,378.98. Expected overall rates increase across the ten years of the draft LTP average 4.91%.

What do we want your specific feedback on?

We are asking for your thoughts on four key issues we have identified, but we welcome general feedback on anything included in the draft LTP.

- 1 Increased Footpath Improvements:** Should we increase investment in footpath renewals to get the job done? Or maintain investment at current levels and achieve less improvements.
- 2 Council Support for The Whale Trail:** Should we provide financial support to The Whale Trail? Should we provide a smaller portion of financial support to The Whale Trail? Or should we not support The Whale Trail at all?
- 3 Reduce The Differential On The General Rate For Rural And Semi-Rural Properties:** Should we reduce the general rate differential for rural/semi-rural to 80%? Or should we keep the general rate differential to 90% for rural and semi-rural properties?
- 4 Rural Recycling Services:** Should we keep rural recycling and all rate payers fund them? Keep rural recycling & rural rate payers fund them? End rural recycling centres?

Your opinion and feedback matters!

How Does It Work?

