



GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ
Taupō District Council

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT FOR THE
LONG-TERM PLAN
2021-31



**SHAPING
OUR FUTURE.**

TAUPŌ DISTRICT LONG-TERM PLAN 2021-2031

 **OUR PLAN.
OUR TAUPŌ DISTRICT.**

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**OUR PLAN.
OUR TAUPŌ
DISTRICT.**



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

When we developed our last 10-year plan we included several ambitious projects with a vision of being the most prosperous and liveable district in the North Island by 2022. However, following the global pandemic of COVID-19, we have had to rethink some of those plans and reprioritise some of our projects and activities in an attempt to balance what we can afford with ensuring the Taupō District remains a great place to live.

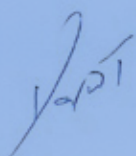
To help guide the development of this Long-term Plan, we set some new strategic goals that would not only service our community well today, but also for many years to come. They are:

- Growing resilient economies
- Enhancing healthy and sustainable environments, and;
- Enabling connected and safe communities.

Our draft plan requires a major investment in our core infrastructure, particularly in the three waters area. The Government's starting intention is to reform local government's three waters services into a small number of multi-regional entities with a bottom line of public ownership. The exact size, shape and design of these entities is still being worked through so we are required to keep planning for the future to ensure our communities receive safe, clean, drinking water and the environment is protected.

As a result, we have had to review our debt levels to cater for the increase in costs and also attempt to balance the 'nice to haves' with the 'must dos' to ensure the district is well set up for the future and keeping rates increases modest. We have had to make some hard decisions and remove some key projects that we had previously signalled, or push them out beyond the life of this plan to be reconsidered in the future. Others have been put on hold while we seek your feedback as part of this consultation document.

Please take the time to have your say.



David Trewavas
Mayor



Gareth Green
Chief Executive

TE TIRITI O WAITANGI

Kei te hāngai tika atu Te Kaunihera a Rohe o Taupō ki ngā ture o Te Tiriti o Waitangi me te mau mōhio ko te honongatahi te pūtake o Te Tiriti. E ai ki tēnei kia mahi tahi tātou ki runga i te whakapono me te ngākaunui ki te whakamana i tēnei hononga. Kei te mōhio mātou he rerekē ngā takohanga kei waenganui i te Karauna hei kawenga ma te Kaunihera a Rohe o Taupō.

Ka hāngai tika atu Te Kaunihera a Rohe o Taupō ki ngā mātāpono mo te honotahi (ki te mahi tahi i tenei whakakotahitanga) kia uru tahi (te Māori ki ngā mahi a te Kaunihera), te tiaki (te whakatakoto i ngā tikanga me te tiaki i ngā tāonga o te iwi Māori) ki roto i a mātou whakaritenga mahi, ngā manahau me te whakatakoto kaupapa.

Ka mahitahi Te Kaunihera a Rohe o Taupō ki te iwi, me ngā hapū ki te whakamana i te ture mo ngā whakataunga o Te Tiriti me ētehi atu kaupapa ka puta mai i ēnei mahi.

Kei te mau uara Te Kaunihera a Rohe o Taupō mo to mātou hononga ki te iwi Māori kei roto i to tātou rohe. He roa ake te wā e pirihai pēnei, ka mau pono mātou ki te whakarei me te atawhaitia ki roto i ā mātou mahi me ngā wā ka hui tahi mātou ki ngā hapū, me te iwi Māori.

Ki te mau mārō o tātou honotahi, ka taea te Kaunihera ki te tukutuku ngā hua ki runga ake o ērā ka taea te tuku me ko te Kaunihera anahe.

E rua ngā rēanga e tika ana ki o mātou hononga ki te iwi: ko te rangatira ki te rangatira, me te āpiha ki te āpiha. Ka mau hoki tēnei tikanga ki roto i ngā mahi katoa, kia whakawarea te iwi me ngā hapū i mua i te tīmatatanga o te mahi mo te whakatakoto kaupapa, ehara kei waenganui, kei te mutunga rānei o aua mahi.

Taupō District Council is committed to meeting its statutory Tiriti O Waitangi obligations and acknowledges partnership as the basis of Te Tiriti. This requires both parties to treat and work with each other in good faith and show good will to reflect the partnership relationship. We acknowledge these responsibilities are distinct from the Crown's Treaty obligations and lie within a Taupō District Council context.

Taupō District Council will give effect to the principles of partnership (the duty to act in good faith in the nature of a partnership), participation (of Māori in council processes), protection (the duty to actively protect the rights and interests of Māori) in our services, activities and planning work.

Taupō District Council will work in partnership with iwi and hapū to give effect to Treaty Settlement legislation and any provisions that result from these.

Taupō District Council values our relationships with Māori in our district. We have long standing relationships that we commit to enhance and foster in our day to day business; and when we engage hapū, iwi, Māori. Strong strategic partnerships can help the council to deliver outcomes that exceed what it can deliver alone.

Council relationships with our iwi partners operates at two levels: rangatira ki te rangatira (chief-to-chief) and officer-to-officer. This also includes our engagement processes, we will engage iwi partners in the early stages of projects and planning processes, rather than during or near the end of the mahi.

WHY WE WANT YOU TO HAVE YOUR SAY!

Every three years we seek feedback on our draft Long-term Plan that outlines the services, key projects and initiatives we plan on delivering for our community.

This document outlines some of the key issues we want your feedback on. It's just as important to let us know the things you support as well as the things you don't as what you tell us will guide our future decision making.

You can have your say in the following ways:

- taupo.govt.nz/ltp
- Email 10yearplan@taupo.govt.nz
- Call into your nearest council office

What happens with my feedback?

When you make a submission you will be given the option on whether you want to present your view to the Council in person. If you do, we will book a time for you to attend a public meeting which will be held from May 4 to May 6. You will be given up to five minutes to present your submission and answer any questions. Hearings in Turangi and Mangakino will be arranged if there are enough people wanting to present. Alternatively, you could choose to present your view to the Council electronically e.g. video call. Please let us know if you would prefer to present in this way.

All submissions will be considered by Council regardless of whether you want to be heard or not. Final decisions will be made in May and the Long-term Plan 2021-31 will be adopted at the end of June. Please note – all submissions will be made available to the public via the Council website, including your personal details.

Submissions and hearings for the Lake Taupō Protection Project will be slightly different. There will be joint hearings on this topic with Waikato Regional Council on Monday May 17. Any submissions we receive on this issue will also be shared with WRC.

Find out more ways to have your say by heading to taupo.govt.nz.

How can I find out more?

This consultation document has been prepared using a number of documents as supporting information. These documents can be found at taupo.govt.nz.

WE ARE SEEKING YOUR FEEDBACK ON FOUR ISSUES:

1

FUNDING OF COUNCIL WATER SUPPLIES (PAGE 08)

2

LEASING OR OWNING A COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION
BUILDING (PAGE 14)

3

TAUPŌ MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY (PAGE 18)

4

LAKE TAUPŌ PROTECTION PROJECT (PAGE 20)

ISSUE ONE

FUNDING OF COUNCIL WATER SUPPLIES

THE DECISION

The best way to fund council water supplies.

THE ISSUE IN BRIEF

In order to upgrade all of our council-owned water supplies across the district to meet the Drinking Water Standards of New Zealand, we will need to invest \$21.5 million across the life of our Long-term Plan. Our current funding model requires the users of those schemes to pay the costs

associated with them. That raises some affordability issues into the future as some schemes with few ratepayers connected to them will require a multi-million dollar investment, pushing the annual cost into the thousands of dollars.

OUR PREFERRED OPTION

To fully fund water supply activities across all ratepayers connected to a council water supply to ensure everyone connected to a council supply has access to clean, safe, drinking water. Do you agree?

BACKGROUND

Providing safe, clean drinking water to our communities is reliant on us running and maintaining 18 different schemes around the district. Up until now, the ratepayers connected to those schemes have been the ones to pay the cost of maintenance, upgrades and supply.

However, with new legislation requiring us to comply with Drinking Water Standards of New Zealand, the cost of upgrades means some of those smaller schemes need to have a lot of work done to ensure we can supply them with water that will meet the Ministry of Health requirements into the future.

We have already upgraded the Taupō, Turangi, Mangakino and Atiamuri schemes and the upgrade of the Kinloch

scheme is about to get underway. However, we also need to upgrade the 13 other schemes and some of that work has big dollar figures attached to them.

In order to make sure everyone connected to a council supply can access safe, clean, drinking water, we are proposing the cost of providing water to all are spread across all ratepayers. It is the same model we apply to sharing the cost of wastewater.

It would also provide some equity in terms of how water rates are calculated as currently most of the urban schemes are charged at a targeted rate while most rural ones are based on land value.

PREFERRED
OPTION

OPTION 1

Full district-wide funding of water

This option would see the same fixed charged targeted rate for all customers connected to all of Council's water schemes. This is how wastewater is currently funded in the Taupō District – all ratepayers who are connected to a Council wastewater scheme pay the same fixed charged targeted rate, no matter which wastewater scheme that they are connected to.

Ratepayers who are connected to a scheme and paying a land value based scheme would now instead pay the targeted rate. For those who have water meters installed, it will not change

how much they pay. Instead it depends how and when you pay it. This change would mean that you would now pay less on your rates invoice, however you will pay more through your water meter bills.

Water meters would need to be installed at both Whakamoenga Point and Waihaha. Currently these schemes are paying land value based rates, however there is high water use on both schemes due to the large lot sizes and therefore meters are required to ensure users pay appropriate rates.

✓ ADVANTAGES

- The communities of Atiamuri, Hatepe, Motuoapa, Whakamaru, River Road and Whakarua would have a decrease in the amount of fixed targeted rate that they pay.

✗ DISADVANTAGES

- A new rating approach that ratepayers may not be familiar with.
- The communities of Turangi, Omori, Whareroa and Taupō will have an increase in the amount of fixed targeted rate that they pay, however the communities of Omori and Whareroa will benefit from a move to district-wide funding in the long-term due to lower ongoing costs.

\$ COSTS

- This option would have no impact on Council debt.

👤 LEVELS OF SERVICE

- There would be no impact on levels of service.

2021/22

The fixed charged targeted rate for all customers connected to all of Council's schemes would be \$532.26

OPTION 2

Each water scheme separately funded

This option would see our current funding model continue. This means that each scheme would continue to be separately funded i.e. all costs associated with each scheme would be funded by the ratepayers who are connected to the scheme.

✓ ADVANTAGES

- Ratepayers are familiar with this approach.
- Ratepayer equity - the ratepayers that use the scheme pay for the scheme.

✗ DISADVANTAGES

- There will be significant increases to the fixed targeted rate for ratepayers connected to some schemes which will make water rates unaffordable for some customers.
- Some schemes are on land value based rating system which is not the fairest system of charging rates. This is because people on land value based rating systems pay water rates on the value of their land, rather than the amount of water that they are using.

\$ COSTS

- This option would have no impact on Council debt.

👤 LEVELS OF SERVICE

- There would be no impacts on levels of service.



COST

FIXED CHARGE TARGETED RATE

Water Supply Rate Taupō	\$500.69
Water Supply Rate Kinloch	\$780.25
Water Supply Rate Turangi Township/Tokaanu	\$450.92
Water Supply Rate Motuoapa	\$624.34
Water Supply Rate Hatepe	\$899.21
Water Supply Rate Mangakino Township	\$572.37
Water Supply Rate Omori/Kuratau/Pukawa	\$396.77
Water Supply Rate Whareroa	\$543.12
Water Supply Rate Whakamaru	\$1,268.69
Water Supply Rate Atiamuri	\$1,074.44
Water Supply Rate River Road	\$1,008.00

LAND VALUE BASED TARGETED RATE (AVERAGE RATE)

Water Supply Rate Whakamoenga Point	\$1,343.56
Water Supply Rate Tirohanga	\$3,285.74
Water Supply Rate Whakaroa	\$1,927.14
Water Supply Rate Rakaunui Road	\$2,742.05
Water Supply Rate Waihaha	\$4,158.18
Water Supply Rate Bonshaw Park	\$1,632.23
Water Supply Rate Centennial Drive (untreated)	\$21,162.32

OPTION 3

Full district-wide funding excluding Tirohanga and Waihaha

This option would see all schemes except for Waihaha and Tirohanga move to a district-wide fixed charge targeted rate. Tirohanga and Waihaha would continue to be on a land based value rate, as per the status quo.

Tirohanga and Waihaha are considered to be rural schemes under the Drinking Water Standards of New Zealand, this could be a legitimate reason for keeping them separate.

- Water meters would need to be installed at Whakamoenga Point under this option because of the large lot sizes and corresponding water use on the scheme.
- Tirohanga and Waihaha remain the same land value rate as per the status quo.

✓ ADVANTAGES

- The communities of Atiamuri, Hatepe, Motuoapa, Whakamaru, River Road and Whakaroa would have a decrease in the amount of fixed targeted rate that they pay.

✗ DISADVANTAGES

- Would be a new rating approach that ratepayers may not be familiar.
- The communities of Turangi, Omori, Whareroa and Taupō will have an increase in the amount of fixed targeted rate that they pay, however the communities of Omori and Whareroa will benefit from a move to district-wide funding in the long-term.
- Treats Waihaha and Tirohanga communities differently from the rest of the district.

\$ COSTS

- This option would have no impact on Council debt.

👤 LEVELS OF SERVICE

- There would be no impacts on levels of service.



COST

2021/22

The fixed charged targeted rate for all customers connected to all of Council's schemes would be \$532.26. (except Waihaha and Tirohanga)

2021/22

Waihaha \$4158.18

2021/22

Tirohanga \$3285.74



COMPARISON OF SEPARATE SCHEMES (THE STATUS QUO) VS A DISTRICT WIDE TARGETED RATE

Rate Description	No of Ratepayers	Land Rate	Status Quo	District Wide Rate	Difference	% change	Comments
Fixed Charge Targeted Rate							
Water Supply Rate Taupō	13,062		\$500.69	\$532.26	\$31.57	6.3%	
Water Supply Rate Kinloch	1,325		\$780.25	\$532.26	-\$247.99	-31.8%	
Water Supply Rate Turangi Township/Tokaanu	2,419		\$450.92	\$532.26	\$81.34	18.0%	
Water Supply Rate Motuoapa	482		\$624.34	\$532.26	-\$92.08	-14.7%	
Water Supply Rate Hatepe	107		\$899.21	\$532.26	-\$366.95	-40.8%	
Water Supply Rate Mangakino Township	766		\$572.37	\$532.26	-\$40.11	-7.0%	
Water Supply Rate Omori/Kuratau/Pukawa	1,244		\$396.77	\$532.26	\$135.49	34.1%	
Water Supply Rate Whareroa	198		\$543.12	\$532.26	-\$10.86	-2.0%	
Water Supply Rate Whakamaru	77		\$1,268.69	\$532.26	-\$736.43	-58.0%	
Water Supply Rate Atiamuri	75		\$1,074.44	\$532.26	-\$542.18	-50.5%	
Water Supply Rate River Road	69		\$1,008.00	\$532.26	-\$475.74	-47.2%	
	19,824						
Land Value based Targeted Rate							
Water Supply Rate Whakamoenga Point	53	0.0017109	\$1,343.56	\$532.26	-\$811.30	-60.4%	
Water Supply Rate Tirohanga	106	0.0017436	\$3,285.74	\$532.26	-\$2,753.48	-83.8%	
Water Supply Rate Whakaroa	67	0.0017853	\$1,927.14	\$532.26	-\$1,394.88	-72.4%	
Water Supply Rate Rakaunui Road	70	0.0025589	\$2,742.05	\$532.26	-\$2,209.79	-80.6%	
Water Supply Rate Waihaha	31	0.0030979	\$4,158.18	\$532.26	-\$3,625.92	-87.2%	
Water Supply Rate Bonshaw Park	69	0.0038002	\$1,632.23	\$532.26	-\$1,099.97	-67.4%	
Water Supply Rate Centennial Drive (untreated)	5	0.0048705	\$21,162.32	\$532.26	-\$20,630.06	-97.5%	
	401						
	20,225						





ARTIST IMPRESSION ONLY

ISSUE TWO

A FUTURE FOR THE COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

THE DECISION

Whether to lease or own a building to house council staff.

THE ISSUE IN BRIEF

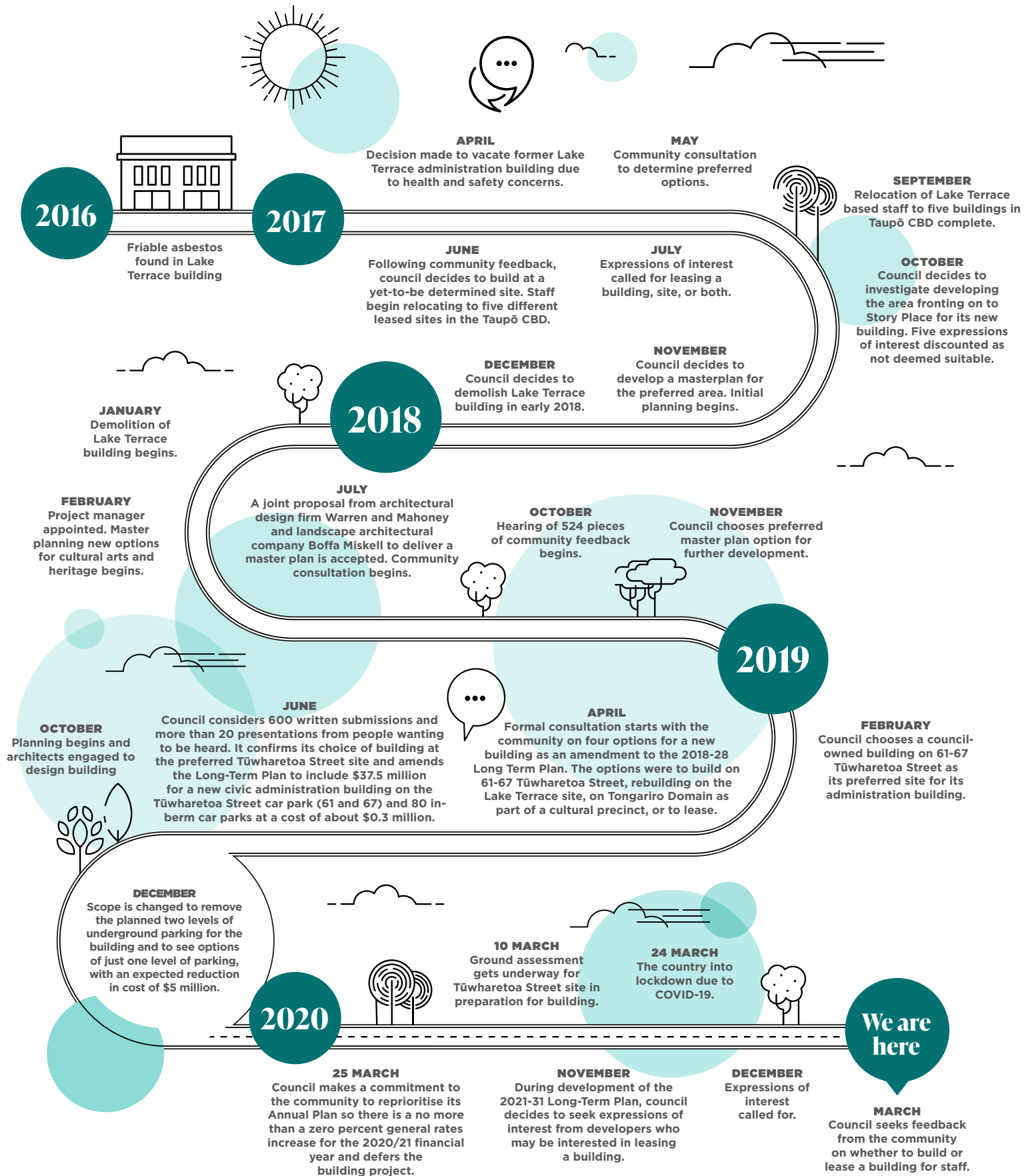
Before COVID-19, following lots of consultation with the community, the decision was made to build a council building on the carpark at 61-67 Tūwharetoa Street. However, when the pandemic hit, the plans were deferred

due to cost and wanting to keep rates down for our community. Now, we want to know whether you think we should carry on with our plans to build or seek a lease arrangement instead.

OUR PREFERRED OPTION

To lease a building. Do you agree?

THE JOURNEY SO FAR



OPTION 1

Lease a building



While the location and design of a suitable building for the Council's requirements would be a matter of negotiation between a developer/property owner and the Council, the design principles and functional requirements would still be the same.

✓ ADVANTAGES	✗ DISADVANTAGES	\$ COSTS	👥 LEVELS OF SERVICE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flexibility if council structure changes in the future. Adds vibrancy to the town centre. It would mean Council can use 61 and 67 Tūwharetoa Street for carparking or other purposes in the future if needed. Development risk (time and cost overruns) sits with the landlord, not council. Can provide certainty of annual leasing costs for the period of the lease agreement. No maintenance cost for Council. No increase in external borrowing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council is likely to be required to enter into a long-term lease. A 'mid lease review' could result in significant lease increases. Council does not have as much control over the timing for construction. Council does not own an asset at the end of the lease period. We may not find a willing landlord. Cost of fit out. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The annual lease cost for a Council administration building would be about \$850 thousand. Lease cost will be about four to five per cent of the cost of the construction to the developer. The annual lease cost would be funded through rates. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There would be no impacts on levels of service.

AVERAGE COST PER RATEPAYER

2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31
0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$45.15	\$53.46	\$53.76	\$54.41	\$55.15	\$55.88	\$56.60

OPTION 2

Own a building on the Tūwharetoa Street car park (61 and 67)



The council administration building would be at least 2500m², in line with what was proposed during the Amendment of the Long-term Plan in June 2019. Timing would see the construction begin in approximately year two (2022/23).

✓ ADVANTAGES	✗ DISADVANTAGES	\$ COSTS	👥 LEVELS OF SERVICE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council owns the building and retains the asset in the long-term. Adds vibrancy to the town centre. Council controls the site and timing of the development. Flexibility if council structure changes in the future. Convenient location for the public. Prominent location with views that showcase the district's natural environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It would mean council couldn't use the land for carparking or other purposes in the future. Development risk (time and cost overruns) sits with Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> About \$33.4 million. Funded by debt. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There would be no impacts on levels of service.

AVERAGE COST PER RATEPAYER

2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31
\$0.54	\$14.74	\$56.33	\$82.54	\$78.26	\$74.77	\$73.59	\$72.48	\$70.84	\$69.41



ENSURING RESILIENCE

One of the key threads of our vision ‘To be the most prosperous and liveable district in the North Island by 2022’ is resilience.

In our daily work that means our plans, infrastructure, and work programmes are designed to ensure we are prepared to withstand or recover quickly from disasters and/or difficult situations. It also means we will be flexible and respond quickly to change.

One of the most important roles we play in the community is managing emergencies through Civil Defence. Given the natural hazardscape in our district, the likelihood of our

district being affected by earthquakes, volcanoes, floods and other natural events is very high and our current emergency operations centre is small and not fit for purpose.

We want to include a fit-for-purpose emergency operations centre in our building plans. This is required to be of a certain standard by law, referred to as IL4 (importance level), as it will be considered a post-disaster facility. We believe that it makes sense to design the entire building to IL4 standard. This will mean we can continue to function to manage the response, help with recovery, and carry out our business as usual activities. It will allow us to respond to our utmost potential at a time when our communities need us the most.

ISSUE THREE

TAUPŌ MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY BUILDING

THE DECISION

Whether or not to include a new Taupō Museum and Art Gallery in this Long-term Plan.

THE ISSUE IN BRIEF

When we amended the 2018-28 Long-term Plan to include a new building for council staff, we also asked the community whether or not they supported the building of a new museum.

While the majority of the submitters were not in support of a new museum, the council recognised there was an opportunity to attract funding from external parties and

to offer greater ongoing protection for the district's heritage items. However, it has been recognised post-COVID those opportunities are likely to be rare and therefore it is proposed not to include a new museum in this Long-term Plan. It is intended to continue to seek external funding opportunities and to include a new museum in future plans if successful.

OUR PREFERRED OPTION

Not to include the construction of a new museum and art gallery in this Long-term Plan. Do you agree?

PREFERRED
OPTION

THE STATUS
QUO

OPTION 1

Do not construct a new museum and art gallery

This option would see the Taupō Museum and Art Gallery continue to operate in its existing building and be appropriately maintained.

✓ ADVANTAGES

- Does not significantly increase debt.
- The current museum can continue to operate to an acceptable level.

✗ DISADVANTAGES

- The on-going protection, care and display of the district's heritage is limited.
- Ngāti Tūwharetoa are dispossessed from having the opportunity to see their own history that is held by other institutions.
- Lack of access to resources such as archives, photographs, paintings and other collections.

\$ COSTS

- No capital cost for this option.

👤 LEVELS OF SERVICE

- This option would see no change in levels of service.

OPTION 2

Construct a new museum and art gallery

This option would see a new Taupō Museum and Art Gallery constructed at a yet to be determined location on the Tongario Domain. We anticipate the new museum would be of a similar design and scale as shown in the Cultural Precinct masterplan that was undertaken prior to the Amendment of the Long-term Plan in 2019. This can be found on Council's

website - taupo.govt.nz. The funding (about \$21.6 million), of which approximately one third will be funded by Council debt (about \$7.2 million), would be included in the years 2023/24 - 2024/25. No external funding for the remaining two thirds has yet been secured.

✓ ADVANTAGES

- The on-going protection, care and display of the district's heritage is increased.
- Ngāti Tūwharetoa have the opportunity to see the return and display of their taonga.
- Increases access to resources such as archives, photographs, paintings and other collections.
- Potential for an increase in visitor numbers due to a new museum.

✗ DISADVANTAGES

- The capital cost will increase debt levels.
- If external funding sources do not eventuate, the construction of the museum will not commence. Other funding sources may include central government, grants, philanthropists etc.

\$ COSTS

- About \$22.6m million, of which approximately one third will be funded by debt (about \$7.5 million) and two thirds funded by other funding sources.

👤 LEVELS OF SERVICE

- There would be an increased level of service, as the new museum and art gallery would see an enhanced experience for museum visitors and collections held, etc.

📊 AVERAGE COST PER RATEPAYER

2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31
\$0.07	\$3.11	\$20.49	\$34.66	\$33.97	\$33.48	\$33.52	\$33.61	\$33.59	\$33.66

ISSUE FOUR

THE FUTURE OF THE LAKE TAUPŌ PROTECTION PROJECT

THE DECISION

The delivery for the Lake Taupō Protection Project.

THE ISSUE IN BRIEF

In the early 2000s, Taupō District Council, Waikato Regional Council and the Crown established the Lake Taupō Protection Project to reduce the amount of nitrogen entering Lake Taupō.

This was achieved by establishing the Lake Taupō Protection Trust, who entered into nitrogen reduction agreements with landowners to reduce the amount of nitrogen that they were

discharging. The Lake Taupō Protection Project, overseen by the two Councils, Tūwharetoa Maori Trust Board and the Crown, had a limited life with the current arrangements ceasing in 2020. However, the agreements entered into with landowners have a 999 year life. A decision is now required on who should oversee these agreements into the future, and how they should be funded.

OUR PREFERRED OPTION

The governance functions should be undertaken by a joint committee, made up of members from Taupō District Council, Waikato Regional Council, Tūwharetoa Maori Trust Board and the Crown. The Lake Taupō Protection Trust will continue to have oversight of the agreements. This is the status quo. Do you agree?

ALIGNMENT WITH WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL

As the trust is currently a Council controlled organisation, jointly owned by Taupō District Council and Waikato Regional Council, Waikato Regional Council are also consulting on this topic in their Long-term Plan 2021-31 consultation document. Waikato Regional Council will be consulting on their Long-term Plan over the period 1 April to 30 April 2021.

It is proposed that going forward the project would be jointly funded by Waikato Regional Council and Taupō District Council.

The content on this topic in the Taupō District Council consultation document will be similar to the content in the Waikato Regional Council consultation document. However, it will not be exactly the same. It is planned that Waikato Regional Council, Taupō District Council and the Crown will come together for joint hearings and deliberations (where the decisions are made) on this topic. Hearings are set down for 17 May 2021 in the Taupō District Council Chambers.



PREFERRED
OPTION

OPTION 1

Governance undertaken by the Lake Taupō Protection Project Joint Committee and oversight of the agreements undertaken by the Lake Taupō Protection Trust

This option would have the Lake Taupō Protection Project Joint Committee oversee the Lake Taupō Protection Project. The committee would meet at least four times a year and would have two representatives from each of the following organisations: Taupō District Council, Waikato Regional Council, Tūwharetoa Maori Trust Board and the Crown.

The Lake Taupō Protection Trust would continue to have oversight of the agreements and would be responsible for ensuring that landowners uphold what they have committed to in the contracts.

✓ ADVANTAGES

- This arrangement has worked well in the past.
- Keeps options open should the partners wish to extend the focus of the trust or should changes need to be made to address new circumstances.
- There is the ability to widen the scope of the trust to be responsible for other water quality improvement activities, such as managing phosphorus etc.
- The Trust has a charitable status. This means that it does not have to pay income tax.
The rules which describe which trusts are able to receive a charitable status have now changed. This means that if the Lake Taupō Protection Trust were to be wound up and a new entity were to be established in the future, the new entity would be unlikely to receive a charitable status.
- The Lake Taupō Protection Trust has established relationships with landowners in the Lake Taupō catchment.

✗ DISADVANTAGES

- This option is more expensive than the lowest cost option. The higher cost is a result of costs associated with running a trust, such as trustee and audit costs.

\$ COSTS

- On average this option would cost Taupō District Council \$252,129 per annum. The total cost of this project would be funded 66% by Taupō District Council and 34% by Waikato Regional Council.
- This option would have no impact on Council debt.

👤 LEVELS OF SERVICE

- This option would see no change in levels of service.

OPTION 2

Governance undertaken by the Lake Taupō Protection Project Joint Committee and management of the contracts undertaken by a partner organisation (Taupō District Council or Waikato Regional Council).

This option would have the Lake Taupō Protection Project Joint Committee oversee the Lake Taupō Protection Project. The committee would meet at least four times a year and would have two representatives from each of the following organisations: Taupō District Council, Waikato Regional Council, Tūwharetoa Maori Trust Board and the Crown.

Taupō District Council or Waikato Regional Council take over the management of the contracts. They would be responsible for ensuring that landowners uphold what they have committed to in the contracts.

✓ ADVANTAGES

- This is the least expensive option.

✗ DISADVANTAGES

- The partner organisations are not currently administering nitrogen reduction agreements.
- The partner organisations do not have established relationships with landowners relating to the nitrogen reduction agreement.

\$ COSTS

- On average, this option would cost Taupō District Council \$127,000 per annum. The total cost of this project would be funded 50% by Taupō District Council and 50% by Waikato Regional Council.
- This option would have no impact on Council debt.

👤 LEVELS OF SERVICE

- This option would see no change in levels of service.

NOTE

There is a background report for this topic which assesses the options. The report is titled Section 17A review for the Lake Taupō Protection Project and can be viewed on Council's website.

FYI

(FOR YOUR INFORMATION)

A new Turangi Recreation Activity Centre

We're currently looking at our options around building a new Turangi Recreation Activity Centre.

THE ISSUE IN BRIEF

As Turangi and the southern end of Lake Taupō become increasingly popular for people to live and holiday, there has been a growing awareness there is not an indoor space with the capacity to host large events or to bring the community together.

Before the last council election, the Turangi community expressed a desire to start upgrading community assets for all Taupō District residents to enjoy. This project aims to create a focal point for the town by having a place where people could gather to socialise and enjoy sporting opportunities. This idea was further advanced by the newly elected Turangi Tongariro Community Board and plans got underway to build a modern, multi-purpose space that could adapt to cater for the use of the wider community. While the design and what is included in the centre is yet to be

confirmed, it is proposed to include two indoor basketball/netball courts, meeting rooms, and community spaces that could be scaled for different size groups. The aim is to regenerate and create vibrancy in the town centre, provide activities for youth, as well as increasing the potential to attract more events and boost economic development opportunities. There may also be an opportunity to rationalise the number of council buildings in the town.

Ideally, we'd like to build a recreation activity centre in Turangi. We aren't at the stage yet where we have detailed costs for this project, however, we would like to know what you think about this idea. We would be expecting a cost of approximately \$15.9 million which would be funded by debt. These costs are currently included in the financial model as it is Council's intention to construct this centre.

Further community engagement will be undertaken at some future point.

The future of Waiora House

We're currently looking at whether or not to replace the main building of Waiora House.

THE ISSUE IN BRIEF

Before it was demolished with some urgency following the discovery of friable asbestos and fire damage in 2019, the former Taupō maternity hospital on the corner of Spa Road and Kaimanawa Street, was the home of a wide range of social service agencies.

The Council-owned building was managed by a trust, funded through a community grant, and used for offices, workspaces, clinics, meeting rooms and storage facilities.

The tenants were moved to several different alternative location around the CBD and the council has been paying the lease costs since the demolition.

The Council recognises there are many benefits of having our social service agencies together to create a 'one stop' approach and prior to COVID-19 had formally resolved to replace the building.

It is our intention to construct a new main building. We aren't at the stage yet where we have detailed costs for this project, but expect it to cost approximately \$5.9 million, and we would like to know your thoughts around whether we should construct a new main building.

Further community engagement will be undertaken at some future point.

Three Waters Reform

In July 2020, the Government launched the Three Waters Reform Programme - a three-year programme to reform local government three waters (wastewater, stormwater and drinking water) service delivery arrangements.

The Government's starting intention is to reform local government's three waters services into a small number of multi-regional entities with a bottom line of public ownership. The exact size, shape and design of these entities is still being worked through.

At the end of last year, we signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government to take part in the first stage of these reforms and explore these future service delivery options for three waters. As part of this, we secured up to \$8.3 million in funding to maintain and improve three waters infrastructure.

We are expecting the Government's decision by the middle of this year. Once those decisions have been made, we will consult with you about the way forward for our district. This will be separate to this Long-term Plan and is expected to be undertaken in late 2021. For councils that participate in the reforms, transfer of responsibilities and assets is likely to occur from 2023/24 onwards.

Of course, our community still needs three waters services regardless of any decision that is made. That is why we have included three waters in this Long-term Plan.

For more information on the Government reforms, you can head to www.dia.govt.nz/three-waters-reform-programme.

Managing our Critical Assets

Our Asset Management Plans define critical assets as "Those assets with a high consequence of failure. They are often found as part of a network, in which, for example, their failure would compromise the performance of the entire network." Copies of our Asset Management Plans for Water, Wastewater, Stormwater, Transport, Solid Waste, Property Assets and Parks and Recreation Assets can be found at www.taupo.govt.nz.

We consider our critical assets to include assets such as the water and wastewater treatment plants for our larger towns, significant public buildings and key transport networks, including bridges.

The failure of our critical assets is a key area of risk for Council. Our asset management plans contain sections on

critical assets. This section identifies the events that may disrupt our assets, and the adequacy of the controls that we have in place.

We have undertaken some work to understand our water and wastewater assets. For our water network assets we have focused on improving our knowledge of our network data including data cleansing, confidence rating, critically and condition assessment to enable us to develop a robust renewals strategy for the next Long-term Plan period. For our wastewater networks we are well into a programme of condition assessment of the network which will enable us to forecast our renewal programme more accurately. Our systems to record our required data will become more sophisticated over time.

Climate change

Scientific data shows that the globe is warming and this is starting to impact on the climate. As the atmosphere warms, it can hold more moisture. While sea level rise isn't a major concern for the Taupō District (at least from a direct impact standpoint), we need to be acutely aware of what the other impacts might be. Climate change has the potential to have significant impacts for local government, especially on our infrastructure. It may also impact tourism which could affect the local economy. Impacts are likely to include:

- Warmer winters. People are likely to enjoy the benefits of warmer winters with fewer frosts. This may have an impact on winter tourism.
- Hotter summers. This will bring increase water demand. This will impact our drinking water supplies. Hotter summers may also damage elements of transport infrastructure, causing damaged roads, with disruption and repair costs. It may also result in increased algal blooms in Lake Taupō, which may have impacts for our local economy and require additional treatment for our drinking water.
- Flooding: We are likely to experience more frequent, intense winter rainfalls. These are expected to increase the likelihood of rivers flooding which will impact our bridges and culvert. We may also experience flooding if our stormwater networks are overwhelmed.
- River flows: are likely to be lower in summer and higher in winter. Lower river flows in summer will raise water temperatures and aggravate water quality problems

(eg, through increased algae growth). This may require additional treatment methods at our drinking water treatment plants.

We have started to develop an action plan to look at reducing the emissions that Council generates and also reduce the impacts of climate change on Taupō District Council. Council has already undertaken some action to account for the impacts of climate change, including:

- Implementing a plan change to the District Plan in relation to flood hazards associated with some major rivers and Lake Taupō, which took account of climate change and introduced rules for development in affected areas;
- Introducing electric vehicles to the Council vehicle fleet.

The Long-term Plan also accounts for climate change across many relevant activities, including for example:

- Investigating the possibility of a gas flare at the Broadlands Road Landfill;
- Overland flow path investigations to assess the impacts of more significant rainfalls on stormwater assets;
- Cyanotoxin (toxins from algal blooms in water) treatment upgrades to necessary water treatment plants.

Council will keep up to date with emerging climate change research, modelling and legislative changes and adapt its response accordingly.

Delivering our Capital Programme

Council has committed to a significant capital programme to deliver the required infrastructure at the appropriate times and places across the district. There is a significant step up in capital expenditure from the 2020/21 budget to the 2021/22 budget of 59% (\$22.9m). Of this, there is a 45% increase in renewals (\$6.3m), and a 67% increase in budget for new capital projects relating to growth and increased levels of service (\$16.6m). Refer to the graph on page 32 to see the Capital programme over the next ten years. To ensure that Council is able to deliver the capital programme, Council has invested in programmes and training to improve the deliverability of the projects that we deliver. This has included:

- Undertaking a review of the organisation to ensure resources (including staff) are allocated appropriately.
- Adopted a project methodology and trained staff in the methodology.
- Invested time at the outset to understand the full scope of our projects to improve our efficiency of execution.
- Prioritised our project portfolio against our strategic objectives to ensure we're delivering the right projects at the right time.
- Reviewing the way that we procure projects. Where appropriate, and in line with our procurement policy, we bundle projects of a similar nature, similar location or similar work type or across a number of years together in one contract. This helps to increase efficiency and reduce costs.

There is however a high level of uncertainty associated with this.

ASSUMPTIONS

- Council's investment (as outlined above) in project management methodology and the establishment of a project management office (PMO) will greatly assist in delivering our capital programme
- The consultant and contractor market will gear-up to be able to meet the demands of increased infrastructure spending locally and in the region.

RISKS

- Council will not be able to present projects to the market in time for them to be delivered as planned. The mitigation for this is the work Council has undertaken above.
- The consultant and contractor market will not be able to deliver on our planned project timelines. Mitigations include early contractor involvement, Supplier panels, bundling of contracts.
- The implication of this is that the projects would be moved out to a later date when contractors and consultants become available.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- If projects are delayed loans may not need to be drawn down as planned which will reduce Councils overall debt and reduce interest costs in the short term.

IMPACT ON LEVELS OF SERVICE

- There is a risk the community won't get the levels of service we expect to deliver. For example, if a renewals project is affected, it increases the risk that there could be a decline in levels of service along with possible asset failures.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR AREA?

TURANGI

1. TURANGI RECREATION ACTIVITY CENTRE
2. TURANGI WASTEWATER DISPOSAL SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT
3. TURANGI WATER TREATMENT IMPROVEMENTS

TAUPŌ

1. WAIORA HOUSE
2. OWEN DELANY PARK UPGRADES
3. TAUPŌ WASTEWATER SOUTHERN TRUNK MAIN UPGRADE

KINLOCH

1. KINLOCH EASTERN TOILET
2. KINLOCH DRINKING WATER UPGRADE
3. WHANGAMATA ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

MANGAKINO

1. BASKETBALL COURT
2. MANGAKINO STREETS UPGRADE PROGRAMME
3. MANGAKINO WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE

RURAL

1. RURAL ROAD SEAL EXTENSIONS
2. RIVER ROAD FOOTPATH



MANGAKINO

KINLOCH

TAUPŌ

LAKE TAUPŌ

TURANGI

FINANCIAL STRATEGY

The strategy continues the focus Council set in previous Long-term Plans on prudently managing our investments and borrowings, keeping rates affordable and sustainable and looking after the assets we have while maintaining levels of service.

To read our full Financial Strategy visit taupo.govt.nz.

KEEPING RATES AFFORDABLE AND SUSTAINABLE

It is always a balancing act between meeting the wants and needs of our communities whilst keeping rates affordable and sustainable. This strategy has been prepared with this at the forefront of our thinking.

RATES

To help achieve what we think is a good balance we have set the following limits on rates:

- Total rates revenue must not exceed 80% of operating revenues
- Rate increases may not exceed the forecast Local Government Cost Index (LGCI) +2.5%

Prospective average rates increases



Council will slightly breach the rates limit in years 1 & 2 of this LTP, partially as a result of the 0% rates increase in 2020/21 and partial as a result of the large capital programme in years 1 & 2 of this plan.

In our last Long-term Plan, we had set the limit on rates increases at LGCI +1.5%. We increased this by 1% to LGCI +2.5% as we are proposing a significant capital infrastructure programme.

The financial strategy outlines the Council's financial vision for the next 10 years and the impacts on rates, debt, levels of service and investments. It will guide the Council's future funding decisions and, along with the Infrastructure Strategy, informs the capital and operational spending for the Long-term Plan 2021-31. It identifies the challenges that we want to respond to with our financial goals.

Council has recently been upgraded to an AA+ credit rating from Standard & Poors (S&P). This is reflective of Council's strong financial management and budgetary performance. Council's strategy is to retain its AA+ rating by ensuring that it operates in a financially prudent manner and stays within the limits imposed within this financial strategy.

LOOKING AFTER THE ASSETS WE HAVE WHILE MAINTAINING LEVELS OF SERVICE

A key strand of Councils financial strategy for many years has been to look after the assets that we have whilst maintaining levels of service. Council will maintain its existing levels of service. Council will achieve this by continuing its investment in condition assessment programmes for its assets and also by continuing its investment in robust asset management systems that capture the full the information about the assets to enable Council to plan asset renewal programmes and provide for the funding of those renewals as outlined in the asset management plans. Due to the ongoing condition assessment programmes over the last three years we now better understand the condition of our assets which has resulted in a more accurate and increased renewals programme. The focus on increasing the knowledge of the condition of Council’s assets will continue in this strategy along with an increased delivery programme.

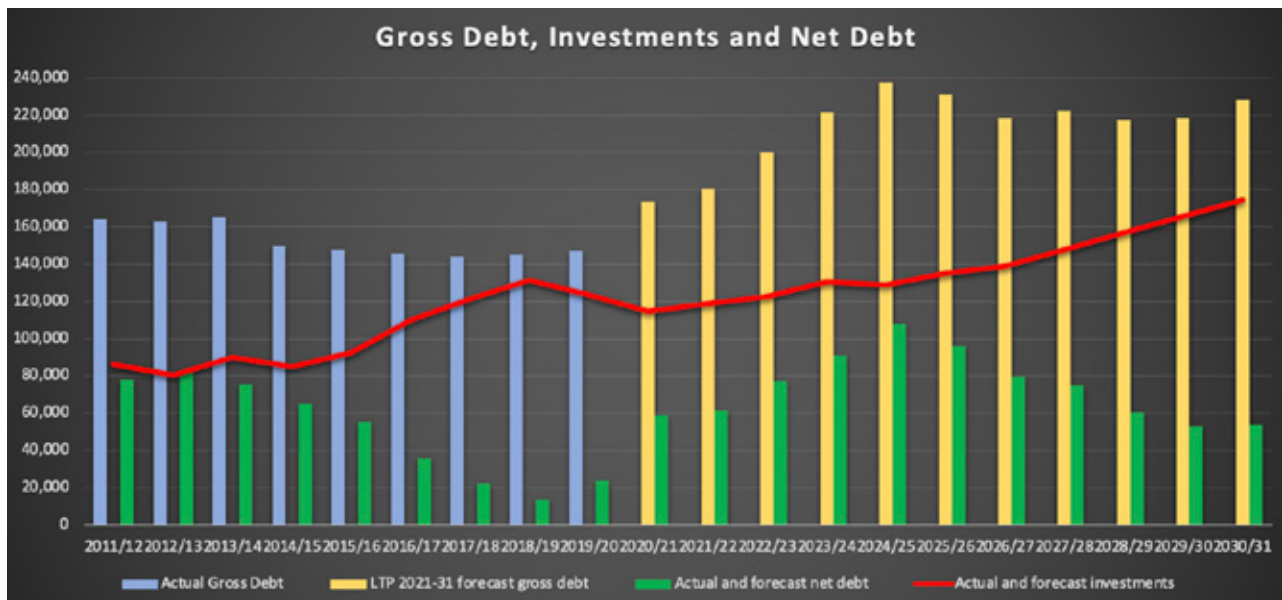
PRUDENT MANAGEMENT OF OUR INVESTMENTS AND BORROWINGS

This strategy maintains Councils current prudent and conservative approach to the management of its investments and borrowings to ensure that todays and future generations of ratepayers share both the benefits and the costs of Council services.

As a result of strong growth in the district and an increasing regulatory framework, particularly around water and wastewater Council has had to investment more in core infrastructure in order to keep pace with this growth and provide for future anticipated growth.

The impact of this can be seen in a significantly increased capital programme (including renewals) to service both this growth but also the increased regulatory framework for water and wastewater services.

To fund this Council will need to borrow more and this is reflected in a growing debt balance in this strategy. Accordingly, Council has revised its debt to revenue limit from 200% of operating revenues to 225% of operating revenue to accommodate this need. Council still considers debt to be the most appropriate funding tool for long life intergenerational assets. Council is confident that it continues to take a prudent and sustainable approach to its finances in a way that promotes the current and future interests of the community. One of the ways that Council manages this is to ensure that it maintains its AA+ credit rating from Standard and Poors.



INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY

Council owns much of the essential infrastructure that we use every day, managing \$1.2 billion of infrastructure and other assets. This includes streets, pipes for water, stormwater and wastewater, community facilities like libraries and pools, and much more. Our Infrastructure Strategy sets out how we intend to manage and maintain these over the next 30 years. Our key goals are to:

- Have infrastructure that is in good condition and meets the levels of service required by the community.
- Be supplying enough safe drinking water to residents connected to Council’s reticulated drinking water supplies.
- Have a healthy environment.
- Understand the condition of all assets so renewals are able to be accurately forecasted to maintain assets at the required level of service.
- Recognise and respond to the potential increase/decrease in demand on infrastructure from population growth/decline in the district and parts of the district.
- Recognise the changing demographics (in particular an aging population) across the district and respond to the required changes in the provision of services following fair and equitable decision-making processes for all communities.
- Understand the implications of our high non-resident population and peak holiday population and recognise that this makes us different to other districts and how this impact on the provision of services.
- Have infrastructure that is financially sustainable.

The decisions we make to help us achieve these goals will be influenced by a number of things including population and demographic change; the need to protect the health of our communities and our environment; the need to maintain or renew infrastructure and its resilience; and ensuring we are providing for the Māori world view.

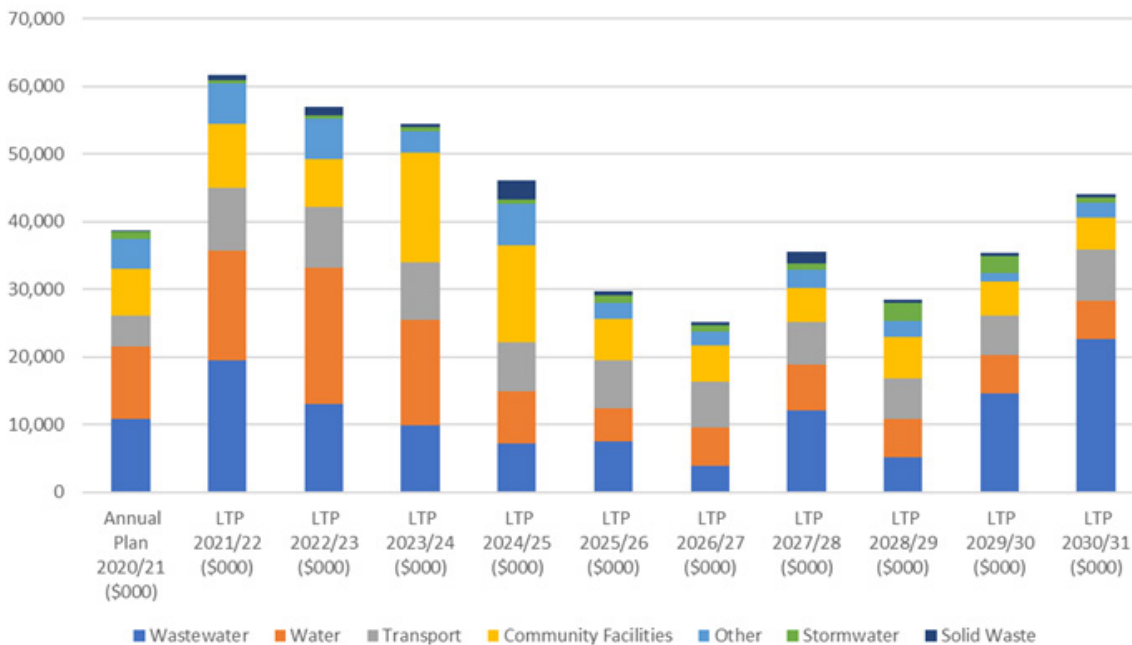
Our Infrastructure Strategy indicates that we will need to spend approximately \$191 million renewing the district’s infrastructure over the next 10 years. We have made provision for this within our Financial Strategy and Long-term plan. Our Financial Strategy provides capacity for council to invest in upgrading and funding new assets.

There is a fine line between balancing wants and needs with affordability and sustainability, as well as working within our Financial Strategy. As a result, our Infrastructure Strategy prioritises capital spend on infrastructure upgrades for drinking water and wastewater to meet legislation and consent requirements, along with place-making projects that drive a prosperous community.

To read our full Infrastructure Strategy visit taupo.govt.nz/ltp.

Our capital expenditure by activity over the next 10 years

Capital expenditure by activity





CHANGES TO POLICIES/ FEES AND CHARGES

FEES AND CHARGES 2021/22

Taupō District Council is required to prepare fees and charges for activities. Usually Council adopts fees and charges annually. This time, Council is preparing to adopt the fees and charges for the three-year period 2021 to 2024. This will mean that for the following three years, we will only consult on the fees and charges that require an annual consultation, or where changes in circumstances require a change to fees or charges.

Proposed changes

Most fees and charges have been increased by inflation (2%) as directed by Council's Financial Strategy. There are some exceptions to this, such as fees which are set by legislation.

We recommend you view the full fees and charges schedule, which you can find at taupo.govt.nz.

DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY

Taupō District Council has a development contribution policy that aims to recover the cost of infrastructure projects required to service growth, from the new growth community when they develop and buy their sections, rather than the existing community.

Charges are based on the identification of projects that increase capacity to support growth and to support the creation of reserves in new growth areas. Costs associated with renewal components, increased service levels, and for capacity to service growth that has already occurred are excluded. The costs associated with increasing capacity to support community growth are then charged to the development of new sections and passed on to the new community.

Charges have increased substantially in the 2021 Development Contributions Policy. These are driven by a number of large projects that are required to support growth and a revised charging approach to drive better reserve development.

The policy out for consultation sets out the new charges, the areas where they apply, and growth projects driving the costs.

RATES REMISSIONS AND POSTPONEMENT POLICIES

Council is required to have rates remissions and postponement policies. Each policy outlines the objectives, conditions, and criteria specific to that policy including the information that must be provided when an application is made. Council currently has nine rates remission and postponement policies:

1. Rates Remission for Lake Taupō Lakebed, Crown owned Hydro Lakes lakebeds (with easements to carry out the electricity generation business)
2. Rates Remission for Community, Sporting and Other Organisations
3. Rates Postponement for Extreme Financial Hardship
4. Remission of Rates Penalty
5. Rates Remission and Postponement on Māori Freehold Land
6. Remission of General Rates for Council Owned Utilities
7. Water Rates Remission Attributable to Water Leaks
8. Natural Disasters Rates Remission
9. Waitahanui - fixed charge targeted water rate remission policy.

REVENUE AND FINANCING POLICY

This policy sets out who pays for the activities that Council undertakes on behalf of the community and how these activities will be funded. Our funding policies are determined having consideration of who benefits, intergenerational equity, who contributes to the need for the activity, distinct funding and the overall impact of the method of funding. The Revenue and Financing Policy should be read in conjunction with the s101(3) considerations report available at taupo.govt.nz

RATES FOR DIFFERENT PROPERTY TYPES

The tables below show examples of the rates for a range of rating valuations for residential properties in Taupō, Turangi, Mangakino, and Kinloch as well as for industrial, commercial, and rural properties based on our preferred options.

Examples of rates per type of property

Residential properties - Taupō

Capital Value	UAGC	General Rates	Water Rates	Sewage Rate	Refuse Rate	Taupō Town Centre	Turangi Community Board	Total Proposed Rates 2021/22	Total Rates 2020/21	\$ Change	% Change
410,000	250	1,023	532	778	63	0	0	2,646	2,451	195	7.4%
585,000	250	1,459	532	778	63	0	0	3,082	2,851	231	7.5%
730,000	250	1,821	532	778	63	0	0	3,444	3,183	261	7.6%
1,000,000	250	2,494	532	778	63	0	0	4,118	3,801	316	7.7%

Residential properties - Turangi

Capital Value	UAGC	General Rates	Water Rates	Sewage Rate	Refuse Rate	Taupō Town Centre	Turangi Community Board	Total Proposed Rates 2021/22	Total Rates 2020/21	\$ Change	% Change
272,000	250	678	532	778	63	0	17	2,319	2,036	283	12.2%
302,000	250	753	532	778	63	0	17	2,394	2,105	289	12.1%
334,000	250	833	532	778	63	0	17	2,474	2,178	296	12.0%
610,000	250	1,521	532	778	63	0	17	3,162	2,810	352	11.1%

Residential properties - Mangakino

Capital Value	UAGC	General Rates	Water Rates	Sewage Rate	Refuse Rate	Taupō Town Centre	Turangi Community Board	Total Proposed Rates 2021/22	Total Rates 2020/21	\$ Change	% Change
225,000	250	561	532	778	63	0	0	2,185	2,050	135	6.2%
282,000	250	703	532	778	63	0	0	2,327	2,180	147	6.3%
333,000	250	831	532	778	63	0	0	2,454	2,297	157	6.4%
460,000	250	1,147	532	778	63	0	0	2,771	2,588	183	6.6%

RATES FOR DIFFERENT PROPERTY TYPES

The tables below show examples of the rates for a range of rating valuations for residential properties in Taupō, Turangi, Mangakino, and Kinloch as well as for industrial, commercial, and rural properties based on our preferred options.

Residential properties - Kinloch

Capital Value	UAGC	General Rates	Water Rates	Sewage Rate	Refuse Rate	Taupō Town Centre	Turangi Community Board	Total Proposed Rates 2021/22	Total Rates 2020/21	\$ Change	% Change
425,000	250	1,060	532	778	63	0	0	2,683	2,595	89	3.3%
655,000	250	1,634	532	778	63	0	0	3,257	3,121	136	4.2%
750,000	250	1,871	532	778	63	0	0	3,494	3,338	156	4.5%
1,010,000	250	2,519	532	778	63	0	0	4,142	3,933	209	5.0%

Industrial Commercial properties

Capital Value	UAGC	General Rates	Water Rates	Sewage Rate	Refuse Rate	Taupō Town Centre	Turangi Community Board	Total Proposed Rates 2021/22	Total Rates 2020/21	\$ Change	% Change
585,000	250	2,626	532	778	126	0	0	4,313	3,972	341	7.9%
930,000	250	4,175	532	778	126	367	0	6,228	5,758	470	7.5%
1,465,000	250	6,577	532	1,167	126	367	0	9,019	9,043	-23	-0.3%
3,450,000	250	15,488	532	1,167	126	367	0	17,930	17,219	711	4.0%

Rural properties

Capital Value	UAGC	General Rates	Water Rates	Sewage Rate	Refuse Rate	Taupō Town Centre	Turangi Community Board	Total Proposed Rates 2021/22	Total Rates 2020/21	\$ Change	% Change
835,000	250	2,083	0	0	63	0	0	2,396	2,210	185	7.7%
1,330,000	250	3,317	0	0	63	0	0	3,630	3,343	287	7.9%
5,950,000	250	14,840	0	0	63	0	0	15,153	13,916	1,237	8.2%
9,140,000	1,000	22,796	0	0	252	0	0	24,048	22,114	1,934	8.0%



SUBMISSION FORM

HOW TO MAKE A SUBMISSION

You can make an online submission by going to taupo.govt.nz or you may complete the form below. Submissions open on Monday 15 March and close on 16 April, 2021, 5pm.

Please note that your submission (including any personal information supplied) will be made available to the councillors and the public.

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS TO BE POSTED TO:

The Chief Executive Officer
Taupō District Council
Private Bag 2005
Taupō 3352
Freepost No. 112497 Fax 07 378 0118

Submissions can also be emailed: 10yearplan@taupo.govt.nz
Hearings have been set down for May 4 to May 6. Hearings in Turangi and Mangakino will be arranged if there are sufficient numbers.

If you have indicated that you wish to present your comments in person, you will be contacted after the submission period has closed to arrange a date/time. You will be given up to five minutes in which to present your submission and answer questions. Please make your written comments as complete as possible and use the hearing time to highlight the most important aspects of your submission.

Have your say now



TAUPO



LONG-TERM PLAN 2021-31 SUBMISSION FORM

YOUR DETAILS

NAME _____

POSTAL ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____ BEST DAYTIME CONTACT NUMBER _____

Submitters are advised that the information supplied in written submissions may contain personal information within the meaning of the Privacy Act 2020. By taking part in this public submission process, submitters have agreed to any personal information (including names and contact details) which is contained in their submission being made available to the public as part of the consultation and decision making process. All information collected will be held by Taupō District Council. Submitters have the right to access and correct personal information. Submissions will be published on the council's website as part of the public process.

ORGANISATION

If you are completing this submission on behalf of others please name the organisation

PRESENTATION

Would you like to present your submission in person, at the hearing? **YES** **NO**

If 'Yes' where would you prefer to be heard? **TAUPŌ** **TURANGI** **MANGAKINO** **VIDEO LINK**

SUBMISSION

Please provide your feedback on the Consultation Document for the Long-term Plan 2021 – 31. Tell us the things you support, or what you don't, to help guide our future decision making.

ISSUE ONE - FUNDING OF COUNCIL WATER SUPPLIES

AGREE **DISAGREE**

OPTION ONE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OPTION TWO	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OPTION THREE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

ISSUE THREE - A NEW TAUPŌ MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY BUILDING

AGREE **DISAGREE**

OPTION ONE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OPTION TWO	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

ISSUE TWO - A FUTURE FOR THE COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

OPTION ONE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OPTION TWO	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

ISSUE FOUR - THE FUTURE OF THE LAKE TAUPŌ PROTECTION PROJECT

OPTION ONE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OPTION TWO	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Would you like to present your submission on this issue at a hearing? **YES** **NO**

DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER COMMENTS

To the reader:

**Independent auditor's report on Taupō District Council's
consultation document for its proposed 2021-31 Long-term Plan**

I am the Auditor-General's appointed auditor for Taupō District Council (the Council). The Local Government Act 2002 (the Act) requires the Council to prepare a consultation document when developing its long-term plan. Section 93C of the Act sets out the content requirements of the consultation document and requires an audit report on the consultation document. I have done the work for this report using the staff and resources of Audit New Zealand. We completed our report on 9 March 2021.

Opinion

In our opinion:

- the consultation document provides an effective basis for public participation in the Council's decisions about the proposed content of its 2021-31 long-term plan, because it:
 - fairly represents the matters proposed for inclusion in the long-term plan; and
 - identifies and explains the main issues and choices facing the Council and district, and the consequences of those choices; and
- the information and assumptions underlying the information in the consultation document are reasonable.

Emphasis of matters

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to the following disclosures in the consultation document.

Uncertainty over three waters reforms

Page 25 outlines the Government's intention to make three waters reform decisions during 2021. The effect that the reforms may have on three waters services provided is currently uncertain because no decisions have been made. The consultation document was prepared as if these services will continue to be provided by the Council, but future decisions may result in significant changes, which would affect the information on which the consultation document has been based. Council expects further consultation with the community will be required once there is greater certainty with respect to the proposals.

Uncertainty over the delivery of the capital programme

Page 26 outlines the significant increase (59%) in the Council's capital expenditure compared to their 2020/21 budget. While the Council has invested in programmes and training to improve the deliverability of its capital programme, there is a high level of uncertainty that the consultant and contractor market will be able to deliver on the planned project timelines. If a project is affected by this, it could result in a decline in levels of service along with possible asset failures.

Basis of opinion

We carried out our work in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (New Zealand) 3000 (Revised): Assurance Engagements Other Than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information. In meeting the requirements of this standard, we took into account particular elements of the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards and the International Standard on Assurance Engagements 3400: The Examination of Prospective Financial Information that were consistent with those requirements.

We assessed the evidence the Council has to support the information and disclosures in the consultation document. To select appropriate procedures, we assessed the risk of material misstatement and the Council's systems and processes applying to the preparation of the consultation document.

We did not evaluate the security and controls over the publication of the consultation document.

Responsibilities of the Council and auditor

The Council is responsible for:

- meeting all legal requirements relating to its procedures, decisions, consultation, disclosures, and other actions associated with preparing and publishing the consultation document and long-term plan, whether in printed or electronic form;
- having systems and processes in place to provide the supporting information and analysis the Council needs to be able to prepare a consultation document and long-term plan that meet the purposes set out in the Act; and
- ensuring that any forecast financial information being presented has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.

We are responsible for reporting on the consultation document, as required by section 93C of the Act. We do not express an opinion on the merits of any policy content of the consultation document.

Independence and quality control

We have complied with the Auditor-General's:

- independence and other ethical requirements, which incorporate the independence and ethical requirements of Professional and Ethical Standard 1 issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board; and
- quality control requirements, which incorporate the quality control requirements of Professional and Ethical Standard 3 (Amended) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

In addition to this audit and our report on the Council's 2020/21 annual report and our report on the disclosure requirements, we have carried out engagements in the areas of we have performed a limited assurance engagement related to the District Council's debenture trust deed, and assurance engagements in relation to the new headquarters building and the Quantum project, which are compatible with those independence requirements. Other than these engagements we have no relationship with or interests in the Council or any of its subsidiaries and controlled entities.



Leon Pieterse
Audit New Zealand
On behalf of the Auditor-General, Tauranga, New Zealand

SHAPING OUR FUTURE.

TAUPŌ DISTRICT LONG-TERM PLAN 2021-2031