

DECISION REPORT



STRATFORD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

File Ref 01080

TO: District Mayor and Councillors

FROM: Chief Executive

DATE: 7 May 2009

SUBJECT: LTCCP DECISION MAKING PROCESS

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to provide the decision making process for the 2009-19 Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP).

2. **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Decisions need to be made in relation to the 2009-19 Long Term Council Community Plan.

3. **BACKGROUND**

3.1 The Council adopted a draft LTCCP as a statement of proposal for consultation. This statement of proposal contained an opinion from the Auditor-General.

3.2 A special consultative procedure has been carried out as per Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Subsection (1)(j) of that clause states that, except as otherwise provided by Part VII of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, every meeting at which submissions are heard or at which the local authority deliberates on the proposal is open to the public.

Subsection (1)(k) makes all written submissions on the proposal available to the public. This has been done via the usual mechanisms, including all being available on the Council website.

Subsection (3) states a local authority can request or consider, before making a decision, comment or advice from an officer of the local authority or any other person in respect of the proposal or any submission or both.

3.3 The final LTCCP must be adopted prior to 30 June 2009.

The final LTCCP must contain a report from the Auditor-General. This report may be in the form of confirmation or amendment of the report that was included in the draft document. Therefore, this further auditing process looks at the decisions now to be made by Council and forms an opinion on whether the revised plan still complies with the matters in Section 94 and Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2002.

4. **CONSULTATIVE PROCESS**

4.1 **Public Consultation**

This report is to progress a public consultation process.

4.2 **Maori Consultation**

This report is to progress a public consultation process that included consultation with Maori.

5. **RISK ANALYSIS**

Please refer to the Consequence and Impact Guidelines at the front of the reports in this agenda.

5.1 The risks associated with this process depend upon the decisions being made. Any significant variance from the draft LTCCP increases the risk of a challenge to the decision on the basis of a lack of consultation on that decision.

6. **DECISION MAKING PROCESS**

Category	Factors to Consider
Direction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is there a strong link to Council's strategic direction, LTCCP/District Plan.• Is there a strong link to identified community outcomes.
Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do we have complete data on the proposal(s).• Do we have reasonably reliable data on the proposals.• What assumptions have had to be built in.
Significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Significance policy.• Whether this affects a strategic asset.
Choices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What options or choices are available.• Are the choices fully costed.• What interdependencies exist.• What are the disadvantages and advantages of each option?• Any legal/policy issues.
Prioritisation & Trade-off	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Impact on funding and debt levels.• Council's capacity to deliver.• Contractor capacity to deliver.• Consequence of deferral.• Impact on community (four well beings).
Specify nature of decision required	

6.1 **Direction**

The direction of the decisions to be made is relevant to the direction within the LTCCP, community outcomes and other planning documents.

6.2 **Data**

Written submissions total 196.

These include comment upon a wide variety of topics. Most topics are relevant to the LTCCP. Some topics are not relevant to the LTCCP, but are important topics, and therefore should be addressed. The appropriate way to do this is to refer the submission to the Matters Outstanding list. These will then be addressed through officer reports to a future meeting.

Issues raised that impact the LTCCP and therefore require decision include:

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Page Numbers</u>
Amalgamation	161
Assumptions - Inflation	1
Assumptions - Farm Payout	2
Assumptions - Interest Rates	3
Capital - Miranda Street Building roof	7
Capital - Skate Park improvements	299
District Plan Review funding	17
Investment Policy	16
Water Treatment	71, Various
Farm and Aerodrome land	Various
Road Improvement - Seal and Forestry	8, Various
Swimming Pool upgrade	Various
Funding Policy - Fees and Charges - Sports and Signs	Various
Level of the UAGC	125
Level of Debt	12, 203
Emissions Trading Scheme	Various
Information Centre Activity mode of delivery	17, 402
Community Grants Pool level	218, 251
Health Centre Loan	188, 413
Vision	187, 208, 236, 266, 411
Holiday Park	Various
Roads beyond Peg	393, 405
Bypass of Broadway	158, 183
Level of Service - Opunake Rd	199
Level of Service - Opening Cemetery Gates	186
Level of Service - Surveys	206
Economic Savings – Roading – Emergency	11
Economic Savings - Other	12

Issues raised that could be referred to Matters Outstanding include:

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Page Numbers</u>
Schools in YES	126
Whangamomona Bridge	186
Transfer Station Bins	172
Bylaw on Building and Sections Appearance	196
Water conservation through building requirements	213
Disability parking	238, 419

Issues discussed in the draft LTCCP that have received no submissions, but require decisions include:

<u>Issue</u>	<u>LTCCP Page</u>
Broadway Verandahs	110
Broadway Street Cleaning	170
Regan St Kerb & Channel	172
Street Lighting	171
Stillborn Monuments	123
Everite Pipe Replacement	193

Two additional consultant reports on the state of the existing swimming pool complex are attached.

6.3 **Significance**

The policy on significance could come into play if Council starts exploring options or making decisions that were not explored in the draft LTCCP.

6.4 **Choices**

For each matter, Council must make a decision on which option is going to be progressed in the final LTCCP.

6.5 **Prioritisation & Trade-off**

There is no doubt that decisions on various options will require prioritisation and trade-off to ensure a final LTCCP that is sustainable for the community.

6.6 **Specify Nature of Decision Required**

For each matter, Council must make a decision on which option is going to be progressed in the final LTCCP. Each decision requires a recommended reason justifying that decision.

6.7 **Sustainability**

“Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”.

Elected members will need to ensure that their decisions ensure a final LTCCP that is sustainable for the community.

7. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

7.1 THAT the LTCCP does not contain any proposal to amalgamate with any neighbouring authorities.

7.2 THAT the LTCCP contains the revised assumptions on inflation.

7.3 THAT the LTCCP contains the revised assumptions on dairy payout levels.

7.4 THAT the LTCCP contains the revised assumptions on interest rates.

7.5 THAT the LTCCP contains the revised capital work on the Miranda Street building roof.

- 7.6 THAT the LTCCP does not contain capital provision of \$80,000 (approx.) for improvements to the skate park.
- 7.7 THAT the LTCCP contains the additional funding for the District Plan Review.
- 7.8 THAT the LTCCP contains the revised investment policy on interest utilisation from the Loan Financing Reserve.
- 7.9 THAT the LTCCP contains the revised works programme for the water treatment system as outlined in the consultants report.
- 7.10 THAT the LTCCP contains the no provision to sell the farm within the next three years, and states that the idea will be consulted upon again in the 2012 LTCCP.
- 7.11 THAT the LTCCP contains provision for continuation of seal extension for the next three years, and rates funding for road improvements in years four to ten, the needs to be determined by further information.
- 7.12 THAT the LTCCP contains option number X for the swimming pool.
- 7.13 THAT the LTCCP contains confirms the Funding Policy and Fees for Sports Fields / alters the Funding Policy and Fees for Sports Fields to....
- 7.14 THAT the LTCCP contains the fee for Signs.
- 7.15 THAT the LTCCP contains the mix of funding between UAGC, General, and Targeted rates and Loans as per the draft Funding Policy.
- 7.16 THAT the LTCCP contains the provision of meeting Council's commitments for the Emissions Trading Scheme, and supports any initiative to reduce these commitments.
- 7.17 THAT the LTCCP contains provision for the Information Centre activity to be delivered by contract, noting that any contract will only be entered into on a sustainable basis.
- 7.18 THAT the LTCCP contains provision for the Community Grants Pool to be \$18,000 as provided in the draft LTCCP.
- 7.19 THAT the LTCCP contains provision for the Health Centre loan as provided in the draft LTCCP.
- 7.20 THAT the LTCCP contains provision for the Vision as provided in the draft LTCCP, with the addition of a comment on the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs.
- 7.21 THAT the LTCCP contains provision for the sale of the Holiday Park as provided in the 2006 LTCCP and the draft 2009 LTCCP.
- 7.22 THAT the LTCCP contains provision for the maintenance of roads and roads beyond pegs as provided in the draft LTCCP, and that a report is prepared on the rationale and location of the peg for consideration leading up to the preparation of the 2012 LTCCP.
- 7.23 THAT the LTCCP contains no provision for a bypass of central Broadway.

- 7.24 THAT the submission on Opunake Rd and Beaconsfield Rd level of service be investigated as part of the Rooding Asset Plan review for the 2012 LTCCP.
- 7.25 THAT the level of service for the opening of the cemetery gates remains unchanged.
- 7.26 THAT the level of service measures that require surveys to gather data remain unchanged.
- 7.27 THAT the LTCCP contains the economic measure of reduction of the emergency rooding budget expenditure line by \$100,000.
- 7.28 THAT the LTCCP contains the economic measures of XXX and YYYY.
- 7.29 THAT the submissions on the Young Enterprise Scheme, Whangamomona Bridge, Transfer Station Bins, a bylaw on building appearance, water conservation through building requirements, and Disability Parking be referred to the Matters Outstanding list for further consideration. The submitters on these items are to be informed when there matter is further considered.
- 7.30 THAT the LTCCP contains no provision for the funding of replacement verandah's on Broadway.
- 7.31 THAT the LTCCP contains no provision for a change in level of service for Street Cleaning.
- 7.32 THAT the LTCCP contains provision for Regan Street Kerb and Channel in 2010/11, still subject to external funding.
- 7.33 THAT the LTCCP contains no provision for a change in level of service for Street Lighting.
- 7.34 THAT the LTCCP contains no provision for a change in level of service for Stillborn Monuments.
- 7.35 THAT the LTCCP contains no provision for a change in level of service for Everite Pipe Replacement Programme.

Recommended Reasons

1. Amalgamation will bring about a loss of local democracy and governance without any significant savings or improvements in level of service.
2. The LTCCP should use the latest industry projections for inflation assumptions.
3. The LTCCP should use the latest industry projections for dairy payout levels.
4. The LTCCP should use the latest industry projections on interest rates.
5. The Miranda St building roof requires replacement.
6. ?
7. The rolling review of District Plan requires funding.
8. The change in policy utilises available funds.
9. The consultants report on water options provides a necessary and achievable plan forward.
10. The market is not right at present to sell.

11. ?
12. ?
13. ?
14. A charge is required for signs
15. The Revenue and Financing Policy is considered the most equitable division of funding requirements.
16. The Council must obey the law, but can seek changes to the law.
17. A sustainable contract will deliver value to the ratepayer whilst retaining level of service.
18. ?
19. Health is very high in the community outcomes.
20. Employment is very high in the community outcomes.
21. The community continue to support previous decisions.
22. A full review of peg location is warranted.
23. A bypass is not economically viable.
24. A review of level of service is required before a decision can be made.
25. Very minimal support for an increase in level of service.
26. Surveys are a low cost technique to measure level of service.
27. A reduction in this budget line is a low risk item that helps respond to current economic circumstances.
28. ?
29. These matters are important, but do not impact the LTCCP, and can be dealt with through an alternative process.
30. The verandah's are private property and no support has been demonstrated for a replacement programme via targeted rates.
31. No support has been shown for a change in level of service.
32. The delay of one year is due to external funding opportunities.
33. No support has been shown for a change in level of service.
34. No support has been shown for a change in level of service.
35. No support has been shown for a change in level of service.



7/5/09

M R Freeman
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
DJC:

DATE