Submitted on Monday, 1 June 2015 - 7:45pm Submitted by anonymous user: [118.93.224.24] Submitted values are:

--Submitter Details--

Name of Submitter: Marise Rozing Organisation: Featherston United AFC

Rate Payer Type: Urban

Age:

Ethnicity: Featherston

Do you want to receive the "Stakeholder Update" email from SWDC?

No

--Submission Hearings--

I/We would like to speak to our submission: No

Speaking Preference:

## --Rates Affordability--

Do you support increased Fees and Charges (i.e. higher dog registration) as opposed to a general rates increase? : Yes Do you agree with the proposed overall average general rates increase for the next 10 years? : Disagree If not what general rates increase do you support? 0% Other:

--Development Initiatives--

Do you support the following initiatives?

- Coastal Reserve Development
- Cycle trails
- --Overall Level of Service (LoS)--

With regard to LoS, should we: Increase LoS

--Sewerage--

In what timeframe should irrigation to land be completed? 25

Years

Other:

--Roading--

Should road maintenance service levels be: Reduced

Seal extensions: No extension

Where do you think seal extensions should be done?

--Footpaths--

Do you support the establishment of rural footpaths (lime

walkways) through rural rates? Yes If yes, how should they be prioritised?

--Pensioner (Community) Housing--Do you consider Pensioner Housing part of our core business: Yes

--Digital Services--Which digital services do you think are a priority for the Wairarapa: Mobile black spots

--Have Your Say-Strategies and Policies:
Time for your say, if you would like to comment or propose something different now is the time:
Upload submission:

http://www.swdc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/webform/Submission%20to%20long%20Term%20Plan\_1.doc

Upload additional information:

http://www.swdc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/webform/card%20reserve%20pic\_0.jpg

The results of this submission may be viewed at: <a href="http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/576/submission/466">http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/576/submission/466</a>

Submission to the South Wairarapa District Council Long Term Plan 2015-2025 from representatives of the Featherston United AFC (football) who were present at a meeting held on 15 May 2015 to discuss this.

Our Football club is going form strength to strength with youth registration currently at 8 teams encompassing 62 players. We are thrilled with the grounds and also the relationships that we are building with Capital Football, City care and the SWDC. We have also received lots of positive feedback about our club and pitch from visiting clubs, however a few minor points have been raised.

We utalise Card Reserve (Randolf Park) for training weekly from May to September on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays with games held there most Saturdays.

Our main concern is to seek assurance that that we have continued use of the football fields and clubrooms at Card Reserve for an indefinite period.

We request the following points be reviewed and works be actioned as soon as possible:

Tidy up shelter belts along the North Eastern Boundary (Underhill Rd.) Trim the lower branches and remove all the scrub. (Please see photo)

Install rubbish bins at various locations around the park – especially the entrance to the football fields.

Provide off road parking. This is especially significant on Festival Days (home games) where cars park all along the berms on both sides of the road resulting in hazards for drivers and pedestrians. Include drainage and curbing in the car park.

Maintain fences – In fact removing farm style fences and replacing them with bollards (as at Soliders' Memorial Park in Greytown) would greatly improve aesthetics and lessen the need for constant fence maintenance. Please note a section is falling down in front of the clubrooms.

Increase and maintain turf management; mowing, weed control, thatching etc.

Thank you on behalf of the Featherton United AFC Junior Football Club for reviewing our submission.

Marise Rozing
President and parent



## **SWDC LTP Submission**

Name: Chris Miller and Catherine Holley – Urban Ratepayers

Yes, we would like to receive stakeholder emails from SWDC.

Tes, we would like to receive stakeholder chialis from Swoe.
We do <b>not</b> wish to speak to our submission.
Rates Affordability  Do you agree with the proposed overall average rates increase for the next 10 years, enabling the proposed expenditure outlined in this document?
□Agree ⊠ Disagree
It's pretty hard to agree with the premise outlined here. To agree, implies agreeing with the proposed expenditure – and in our case we don't, for (as will be obvious in our responses below) we don't always agree with the options proposed by Council.
If not, what general rates increase do you support?
□0% □5% ⊠Other
Sewerage In what timeframe should irrigation to land be completed?
□35 Years □25 years ⊠Other
We feel strongly about sorting out our sewerage <i>as soon as possible</i> . Option 1 aligns closest with our preference, that is, to spend the money early and reduce the timescale to 5 years.
Roading Should Road maintenance service levels be:
Seal Extensions  ⊠No extensions □1km Extension □2km Extension
Where do you think seal extensions should be done?
Footpaths  Do you support the establishments of rural footpaths (lime walkways) through rural rates?

If yes how should they be prioritised?

□No

⊠Yes

We assume prioritisation would involve a balance of use (e.g. how often they would be used), safety (e.g. routes to and from schools, narrow or heavily-used roads), connectivity (e.g. creating a sensible network) and possibly other factors (e.g. not where livestock might damage it and so on.)

Pensioner (Community) Housing Do you consider Pensioner Housing part of our core business?
⊠Yes □No
As the abridged version of the Consultation Document from SWDC notes they do not fund the pensioner housing from rates and furthermore they 'do a good job'. Our experience of 'community housing' businesses operating social housing in Featherston has been pretty dire. If the choice is between, 'doing a good job' and the poor track record of what we know to be the only community housing outfit operating presently in the Wairarapa, then we'd be foolish to want to see that changed.
Levels of Service (LoS)  ⊠Maintain □Increase □Reduce
Support of Proposed Initiatives  ⊠Increased Fees and Charges as opposed to general rates increase
For the fees and charges as listed on page 27, we support that these activities are funded by way of increases rather than through general rates increases.
⊠Coastal Reserve Development
We support the implementation of the plans so we agree with option 1.
⊠Cycle trails
We agree with implementing the cycle strategy (option 1); however, we would love to know more detail about the \$30,000 per km spend, as it seems excessive. We'd also like to see Featherston (and its town centre) being included more in the cycle network (e.g. with a link on through to Greytown)
☐ Waihinga Centre
We note that throughout the consultation document many of the items have financial details about their impact on rates and/or their cost (e.g. \$ per km); however, there is nothing mentioned about full costs regarding the Waihinga Centre. There is a chart featuring a dramatic spike in the cost of amenities for 2017 (p.25) and one assumes that the Waihinga Centre may be the culprit but there isn't enough detail to know. It might be the Featherston Town Centre instead, for example. It'd be great to have more detail and information around what appears to be such a large spend on a single initiative.
☐Gliding initiative
While we think this might be a great idea, we don't think supporting niche sports is core business for the council.
☐ Featherston town square

While we applaud Council for its efforts to revive and rejuvenate the area after so many years lying unused, we have reservations that the square as proposed is the best option for solving the issues regarding the town's centre.

## ⊠Work with tangata whenua

We support the Council working in partnership with iwi to seek the best outcomes for the region for all parties involved.

# Which digital services do you think are a priority to for the Wairarapa?

☐ Urban Ultra-fast broadband
☐ Improved rural broadband
☐ Mobile black spots

## Why?

We think these services are important to Wairarapa residents and businesses (and who wouldn't want the best broadband and best mobile coverage they could get?) and while we support Council's endeavours to improve the region's digital services with central government, we don't believe that Council should be committing rates money to this initiative.

## Other comments

Over the next 10 years, we would like to see improvements to the way Council consults with the community on its major initiatives. Our experience over the last few years has caused us to question the effectiveness of the current submission/feedback processes.

For example, in the case of the Featherston town square/Menz shed proposal, the first call for feedback contained a single, confusingly worded option. It then invited submitters in an open question to provide other options themselves. The results were then tallied up and treated as a 'ballot' in order to support the one explicitly stated option. Ultimately, more were 'against' than 'for'; however, if the 'against' votes were reinterpreted as being for different options, then the tally could be made to show that there was support for Council's option. This feels like a case of retrofitting the stats to back a predetermined course of action (the Waihinga Centre is a good example here too). It would have been better to have made it clearer to feedback submitters how their answers were going to be used. I doubt many would see requesting general feedback early on in a process as being the same as voting on a one-time binding referendum – which feels like what has happened here.

We suspect a similar scenario has played out with the latest round of calls for feedback on the town square design. Having submitted feedback that stated not being in favour of the Town square, it was somehow interpreted as being in support of the square and 'tallied' as such.

Furthermore, if the feedback is going to be tallied and acted upon in this way, it seems there are risks associated with relying on such a small number of responses. On the last feedback tally, there were 26 respondents in the YES column. 26 out of approximately 2300 residents is just over 1%. We should be aiming for better participation than this.

Submitted on Monday, 1 June 2015 - 8:32pm Submitted by anonymous user: [203.109.223.69] Submitted values are:

## --Submitter Details--

Name of Submitter: Robyn & Alistair Ramsden

Rate Payer Type: Urban

Age: 35-44

Ethnicity: New Zealander's

Do you want to receive the "Stakeholder Update" email from SWDC?

No

#### --Submission Hearings--

I/We would like to speak to our submission: No

Speaking Preference:

## --Rates Affordability--

Do you support increased Fees and Charges (i.e. higher dog registration) as opposed to a general rates increase? : Yes Do you agree with the proposed overall average general rates increase for the next 10 years? : Disagree If not what general rates increase do you support? Other Other: Needs to be fair to urban ratepayers

--Development Initiatives--

Do you support the following initiatives?

- Coastal Reserve Development
- Cycle trails

## --Overall Level of Service (LoS)--

With regard to LoS, should we: Increase LoS

## --Sewerage--

In what timeframe should irrigation to land be completed? Other Other: do it in under 20 years.

## --Roading--

Should road maintenance service levels be: Maintained

Seal extensions: No extension

Where do you think seal extensions should be done? Cape Palliser Road. It keeps getting washed out during storm events. Time to have a road somewhere higher.

--Footpaths--

Do you support the establishment of rural footpaths (lime walkways) through rural rates? Yes If yes, how should they be prioritised? A safe walkway/cycle path from Featherston to South Featherston. A safe walkway/cycle path from Featherston to the War Memorial.

## --Pensioner (Community) Housing--

Do you consider Pensioner Housing part of our core business: Yes

#### -- Digital Services--

Which digital services do you think are a priority for the Wairarapa: Improved rural broadband

## --Have Your Say--

Strategies and Policies:

Water should be paid for those who use it. Rural charges for water should match those for urban uses. Users of high water volumes need to pay for it.

Glad to see waste water is a priority. You need to move it along faster. Bring in some National or International experts and get it sorted quickly.

Footpaths. This needs to be based on number of ratepayers per town. It needs to be equitable not necessarily equal across all three town. Some places in Featherston need footpaths as there are none, people are walking their children on the road to get to school. This is not good enough.

Garden maintenance. The Library and Information centre gardens look lovely. The area between Daniell St and the Railway line is over grown and unsafe. It needs to be tided up and maintained properly.

Cycle Trail. Yes please. But it actually needs to come into central Featherston before going out towards Greytown.

Time for your say, if you would like to comment or propose something different now is the time:

Digital Broadband service in Featherston are okay, not great, but the work. Push the broadband out to the rural areas. Get great broadband for our schools so our children can use it for learning about the world.

Drop the Waihinga Centre. I think it won't get used as much as you think it will.

Continue to work with Tangata Whenua. They have a greater insight and knowledge of the land and its people than you think. Put Fluoride in our water. It's effective, it's cheep and it will improve the dental health of the population across the board, young and old, rich and poor.

Upload submission:

Submitted on Monday, 1 June 2015 - 8:35pm Submitted by anonymous user: [203.109.223.67] Submitted values are:

## --Submitter Details--

Name of Submitter: Ken Ryan and Nina Kyle Organisation: Greytown Campground

Address:

Rate Payer Type: Rural

Age: 35-44 Ethnicity:

Do you want to receive the "Stakeholder Update" email from SWDC?

Yes

#### --Submission Hearings--

I/We would like to speak to our submission: No

Speaking Preference:

#### --Rates Affordability--

Do you support increased Fees and Charges (i.e. higher dog registration) as opposed to a general rates increase? : Yes Do you agree with the proposed overall average general rates increase for the next 10 years? : Agree If not what general rates increase do you support? Other:

## -- Development Initiatives--

Do you support the following initiatives?

- Coastal Reserve Development
- Cycle trails

## --Overall Level of Service (LoS)--

With regard to LoS, should we: Maintain the current LoS

#### --Sewerage--

In what timeframe should irrigation to land be completed? 25

Years

Other:

## --Roading--

Should road maintenance service levels be: Maintained

Seal extensions: No extension

Where do you think seal extensions should be done?

--Footpaths--

Do you support the establishment of rural footpaths (lime walkways) through rural rates? No If yes, how should they be prioritised?

--Pensioner (Community) Housing--

Do you consider Pensioner Housing part of our core business: Yes

--Digital Services--

Which digital services do you think are a priority for the Wairarapa: Mobile black spots

--Have Your Say--

Strategies and Policies:

Time for your say, if you would like to comment or propose something different now is the time:

Greytown Campground, situated in Soldiers Memorial Park, Greytown, provides a valuable recreational area to both locals and tourists alike. The sealed road within Soldiers Memorial Park that provides access to both the campground and the Greytown Tennis Club requires resealing and we would request that maintenance of this small road be included in the Long Term Plan.

Upload submission:

Upload additional information:

The results of this submission may be viewed at: <a href="http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/576/submission/468">http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/576/submission/468</a>

Submitted on Monday, 1 June 2015 - 11:10pm Submitted by anonymous user: [210.246.48.97] Submitted values are:

#### --Submitter Details--

Name of Submitter: Alan Maxwell

Organisation: Anglican Youth Development Coordinator

Address:

Rate Payer Type: Urban

Age: 35-44

Ethnicity: NZ Maori

Do you want to receive the "Stakeholder Update" email from SWDC?

No

## --Submission Hearings--

I/We would like to speak to our submission: Yes

Speaking Preference: June 11th am

#### --Rates Affordability--

Do you support increased Fees and Charges (i.e. higher dog registration) as opposed to a general rates increase? : Yes Do you agree with the proposed overall average general rates increase for the next 10 years? : Agree If not what general rates increase do you support? Other:

## -- Development Initiatives--

Do you support the following initiatives?

- Coastal Reserve Development
- Cycle trails

## --Overall Level of Service (LoS)--

With regard to LoS, should we: Maintain the current LoS

#### --Sewerage--

In what timeframe should irrigation to land be completed? 25

Years

Other:

## --Roading--

Should road maintenance service levels be: Maintained

Seal extensions: No extension

Where do you think seal extensions should be done? No real view

on this subject, sufficient at present.

#### --Footpaths--

Do you support the establishment of rural footpaths (lime walkways) through rural rates? Yes
If yes, how should they be prioritised? Have no real view on this subject, not a high priority.

## --Pensioner (Community) Housing--

Do you consider Pensioner Housing part of our core business: No

## -- Digital Services--

Which digital services do you think are a priority for the Wairarapa:

- Urban ultra fast broadband
- Improved rural broadband

## --Have Your Say--

Strategies and Policies:

Time for your say, if you would like to comment or propose something different now is the time:

I've recently started youth programs in the SW region in Featherston & Martinborough. I purchased a property on Fox Street, Featherston very close to the skate park and have connected with many youth there who participate in the local program.

This submission is mainly regarding the area of the skate park and the views that have been shared by the youth that frequent the park regularly and their opinions of what is needed to enhance what is already there.

First I would like to state that, since moving to Fox St I've noticed that this facility it is very heavily used and as such demonstrates that there is a demand for such a site.

I've spoken to parents while at the park and most of them think a smaller, fenced in one would be of great benefit for the children 6 yrs and under - since they simply do not have the skills or awareness to share the current one with the older, more advanced users and there have been collisions as a result.

The youth I've spoken to thought it would be a great idea to close the road off (Birdwood St) that splits the two land areas, and construct a fenced in area with a wall that has a B-ball hoop mounted, a soccer goal & tennis net painted approx 15m x 20 so groups could play multiple half court sized games for those who don't scooter or skate, and were also very keen to have a spine for the more advanced. They also said that more lighting and a camera would help with security.

There are over 170 12-17 year olds in Featherston and another 170+ 5yr - 11 year olds, I have no doubt further development of the facility would be well utilized. I think of the play area in

Pahiatua since its' revamp, my kids always want to stop there and last time I spoke to a shop owner across the street and he commented on just how much his business has benefited with the increase in people stopping.

I look forward to speaking at the hearings.

Regards Alan Maxwell Youth Development Coordinator

Upload submission:
Upload additional information:

The results of this submission may be viewed at: <a href="http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/576/submission/469">http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/576/submission/469</a>

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2015

## South Wairarapa District Council (SWDC)

## **Draft Long Term Plan 2015/25**

Greg Rzesniowiecki, TPP Action gregfullmoon013@gmail.com

mob. 02102431632

Johni Rutene IWI representitive for Ngati kahungunu ki Wairarapa

170 High Street South Carterton

johnithebarber@gmail.com

## **SWDC Long Term Plan**

By email: ltp@swdc.govt.nz

**Mayor Adrienne Staples** 

Subject: Council acknowledge risk from full implementation of Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) and its implications for Long Term Plan estimates.

Greetings South Wairarapa District Council,

Dear Mayor, Councillors and Staff,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Long Term Plan (LTP) Consultation. We would like to speak to our paper at a Council Meeting set down for these hearings.

Our contribution draws attention to an issue facing the Wairarapa region, and New Zealand as a whole, consideration of which is vitally important for the protection of our environment and regional assets for us and future generations.

## 1. Background

We acknowledge that Council is working on its LTP on a project basis and as such Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) might be an uneasy fit or inclusion. Nevertheless TPP's impacts are likely significant, when one considers the 10 year timeline of Council's Plan and the

likely life of TPP. We ask Council to represent our concerns in respect to TPP and its implications for South Wairarapa District Council's (SWDC) assets, operations and especially the interests of the residents who comprise Council's constituency.

To date the TPP policy solution has been adopted by a number of local government authorities<sup>1</sup>.

## 2. Our Request

We ask that SWDC adopt the TPP policy solution as a mechanism to convey SWDC concern for a quality outcome from the TPP negotiations (appendix A).

We are of a strong view that the implications of any TPP settlement will have costly implications<sup>2</sup> for individuals in the Wairarapa region. SWDC is not responsible for decisions on the TPP, however it has a responsibility to represent the community's interests and views to national government. The community desires that government, at both a local and national level, protect our sovereign rights, including the maintenance of a quality environment, ensuring positive public health outcomes and to improve economic sustainability for all.

We will highlight and give some examples of risk to the SWDC LTP projections and to our district, posed by the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) and particularly to the Wairarapap region's marketing of its agricultural produce.

Notwithstanding the secrecy of the negotiations, we have some appreciation of their content from the publicly available information (leaks, background documents, extrapolation from other bilateral FTAs and the earlier defeated Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI)<sup>3</sup> and Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (*ACTA*)<sup>4</sup> etc. We also have the parallel TISA and TTIP negotiations to consider, as well as the just concluded NZ Korea FTA, the World Trade

<sup>1</sup> TPP policy solution formula (several councils have made amendments to it, mostly clause 12) has been adopted by 10 Councils: Auckland, Nelson, Tasman, Christchurch, Dunedin, Wellington, Hutt, Upper Hutt, Kapiti Coast and most recently on the 28th April Palmerston North City Council. Greater Wellington Regional, Horizons Regional, Horowhenua Distict and Wanganui District Councils have adopted divers formulas requesting Central Government negotiate TPP in the NZ pubic and national interest.

<sup>2</sup> Bilcon suit against Canada under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA): http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2015/03/20/bilcon-seeks-us300m-afte\_n\_6911412.html

<sup>3</sup> MAI see here: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multilateral Agreement on Investment

<sup>4</sup> ACTA see here: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anti-Counterfeiting\_Trade\_Agreement

Organisation's Government Procurement Agreement (WTO GPA), and the USA Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) Bill currently before the USA Senate, for specific guidance. As with opposition to MAI in the late 1990s and ACTA, individuals and their communities in other TPP partner nations are seeking the support of their local Councils and Provinces (Canada) to ensure a positive outcome<sup>5</sup>.

Our request is positive, in that it costs Council nothing, and is fiscally responsible, as our TPP policy solution adopts a precautionary and risk adverse attitude. It offers a sustainable and resilient strategy, whilst maintaining and building local capacity and capability, to cope with future events and trends<sup>6</sup>. Council and National sovereignty is critical to good governance on behalf of the New Zealand constituency.

## 3. The 12 Point TPP Policy Solution (appendix A)

The TPP policy solution was developed by Auckland City Council in 2012, in order to provide a policy that protects the public interest. It is logical that SWDC support this resolution as have many other Councils around the country.

We ask that this public interest TPP policy solution is included in South Wairarapa District Council's LTP 2015/25 in order to protect the intent of the policy framework. We further recommend its adoption by Council as policy. We request that Council conveys this to Central Government.

<sup>5</sup> USA, Canadian, and Australian cities have adopted various policy stances in opposition to TPP. A number of USA Cities have adopted attitudes of opposition including Seattle:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/stan-sorscher/seattle-city-councilvote b 6981186.html?utm source=Alertblogger&utm medium=email&utm campaign=Email%2BNotifications
The full list to date of USA
Cities in opposition to TPP: http://www.occupy.com/article/how-us-cities-are-fighting-back-against-tppand-fast-track Canada has 50 Cities adopt anti Canadian European Trade and Investment Agreement
(CETA) policies notable their opposition to local procurement and ISDS:
.http://canadians.org/action/2012/CETA-resolution.html
The Canadian Province of Newfoundland and
Labrador has pulled out of CETA considerations over a dispute with the Canadian Government over
minimum fishing requirements: http://www.thetelegram.com/News/Local/2015-01-20/article4013143/Province-pulls-out-of-trade-negotiations/1
Australia has several cities including Sydney City
Council who have adopted policies opposing aspects of TPP including in respect to Local Government
procurement.

<sup>6</sup> Colin Campbell-Hunt is an emeritus professor in the Otago Business School makes plain that TNCs seek to protect their 'stranded assets.' Fossil fuel assets are a particular concern as TNCs seek to transform resources into products and commodities despite the need to move to renewable energy sources: <a href="http://www.odt.co.nz/lifestyle/magazine/337346/partners-past">http://www.odt.co.nz/lifestyle/magazine/337346/partners-past</a>

The TPP policy solution seeks a quality outcome for all interests in the New Zealand economy. The 12 points of the proposed policy seek better access for our exporters as well as protection of our domestic market in respect to the price we pay for goods and services. It protects domestic producers who market produce using points of difference or regional branding. It says that Pharmac must be maintained as an effective vehicle for the bulk purchase of medicines on behalf of all.

## 4. Our Concerns with TPPA

The TPP is an international agreement whose concern is trade, and also investment, services, government procurement, and State owned Enterprises<sup>7</sup>. It is being negotiated by governments; however Transnational Corporation (TNC) interests hold enormous sway<sup>8</sup> and appear to be driving the USA negotiating position. Similarly large trade interests appear to be driving the New Zealand negotiating agenda. Our Fonterra was insistent on Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) being included in the NZ China FTA negotiated in 2008 as well as the most recently negotiated NZ Korea FTA. Some of these governments appear to be giving more importance to the interests of large international companies than to the interests of the people and the environment in the partner nations<sup>9</sup>.

We say South Wairarapa District Council's endorsement of the TPP policy solution provides some reassurance, in written form and for the long term, of the matters and concerns we hold dear for our communities and New Zealand.

If negotiations are concluded and New Zealand becomes a signatory, Central Government will be obliged to pass legislation which can override local government concerns (despite the Minister's reassurances). This is no false alarm as Central Government has already displayed a willingness to override the wishes of the multitudes who opposed <sup>10</sup> the removal

<sup>7</sup> TPP Broad Outlines document available from the MFAT website: <a href="http://beehive.govt.nz/sites/all/files/TPP\_broad\_outlines%20.pdf">http://beehive.govt.nz/sites/all/files/TPP\_broad\_outlines%20.pdf</a>

<sup>8</sup> US Trade (USTR) boards are dominated by TNCs and US domestic corporation interests. The following link is from 2009 and so some of the nominees may have changed: http://keionline.org/blogs/2009/03/13/who-are-cleared-advisors

<sup>9</sup> New Zealand has apparently agreed to a 20 year extension on Intellectual Property rights, see this report from LIANZA the NZ libraries association: <a href="http://www.lianza.org.nz/our-work/projects/extension-copyright-under-tppa">http://www.lianza.org.nz/our-work/projects/extension-copyright-under-tppa</a>

<sup>10</sup> LGNZ, most Councils, most civic groups and the Human Rights Commission all opposed the removal of the four well beings from the LGA 2002 in the 2012 review. By way of example from Tauranga's Mayor

of the 4 well-beings from the Purposes of the Local Government Act 2002 purposes in the 2012 review.

Whilst it is valid for SWDC to state that this is a Central Government issue it is also appropriate for SWDC to arrive at an attitude on behalf of its community. It has done this courageously and strongly previously through opposition to the psychoactive substances bill and its effects in our communities.

## **4.1 TPP Institutionalises Corporate Rule**

TPP's adjustments to our domestic laws and arrangements once 'institutionalised' will have a major impact on the ability of the SWDC to make decisions on environmental and local business matters. Minister Groser states there will be further impacts in future generations of TPP.

We note that several Council Regions have declared themselves, 'GMO free zones' and protecting our unique marketing advantages such as local produce under the 'Pure New Zealand' brand<sup>11</sup>. These policies, supported by the community, are under attack from a number of sources<sup>13</sup>. This will be made more difficult to maintain under TPP's requirement that food products be considered substantially the same, or equivalent<sup>14</sup>,

Crosby opposes removal of 4 Well - beings: <a href="http://www.sunlive.co.nz/news/30940-defending-four-wellbeings.html">http://www.sunlive.co.nz/news/30940-defending-four-wellbeings.html</a> The Government ignored these concerns. The Government is currently attacking the institution of local government and environmental integrity with its review of the RMA, under the ruse of making housing more affordable. We acknowledge that Mayor Yule must take the Minister at face value however we wonder how many Regional Councils or LGNZ were consulted in relation to the alterations to government procurement through the World Trade Organisation's Government Procurement Agreement (WTO GPA)? Here local government is affected.

- 11 It is evident that Central Government opposes the local Hawkes Bay Pure non GMO branding: <a href="http://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/article.cfm?c">http://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/article.cfm?c</a> id=1503462&objectid=11311504
- 12 It is also notable the forces arrayed against Hastings District Council's decision on behalf of it's community in this regard with opposition from Federated Farmers organisation despite the local farmers support for this wise initiative: <a href="http://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/article.cfm?c\_id=1503462&objectid=11079383">http://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/article.cfm?c\_id=1503462&objectid=11079383</a> It is of concern that Federated Farmers William Rolleston addresses the upcoming LGNZ Conference in Rotorua, whilst his organisation is attacking similar GMO Free zones adopted by Northland Councils.
- 13 Scion took action against Bay of Plenty Regional Council, however the Court found that Council was within it's rights to regulate on a precautionary basis against GMOs: <a href="http://www.organicnz.org.nz/node/819">http://www.organicnz.org.nz/node/819</a>
- 14 Text from USA Trade Promotion Authority Bill; clause 3 'Trade in Agriculture' subclause (I) developing, strengthening, and clarifying rules to eliminate practices that unfairly decrease United States market access opportunities or distort agricultural markets to the detriment of the United States, and ensuring that such rules are subject to efficient, timely, and effective dispute settlement, including— (ii) unjustified trade restrictions or commercial requirements, such as labelling, that affect new technologies, including

whether grown conventionally, organically or genetically modified crops. This arises as TPP eliminates so-called discriminatory practices, such as country of origin labelling.

## **4.2 Investor State Dispute Settlement**

We know from looking at existing international agreements, and from information leaks on the TPP, that the Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) process will be available under the TPP<sup>15</sup>. Minister Groser has confirmed this and the US Trade Promotion Authority requires ISDS, which enables companies to take governments bodies to court in private off shore tribunals, suing for large sums in compensation if they believe that government decisions have affected their investments. The definition of 'investment' is very broad and includes loss of expected profit if government regulations such as environmental protection measures, have reduced the company's expected income. We strongly believe that at local government level, it is essential to be in the conversation about this, with central government.

## 4.2.1 ISDS Examples

We provide details below of some of the ISDS cases that have recently been actioned against governments in South America, as reported by the Institute for Policy Studies (IPS). IPS notes that transnational corporations are increasingly turning to international arbitration tribunals to resolve disputes over natural resource rights. Marietje Schaake<sup>16</sup>, Member of the European Parliament, reports that in 2000, there were ten new ISDS cases internationally while in 2013, there were more than fifty. There are currently 294 pending ISDS cases. Bill Rosenberg, economist with the CTU, reported in his paper on Local Government and TPP<sup>17</sup> that:

"Local or state government decisions have been the subject of successful claims. For example the US Metalclad Corporation sued Mexico after a local government (of a Mexican

bio technology; See link for full TPA Bill: <a href="www.finance.senate.gov/download/?id=FEC41212-F7AF-4A6D-BF83-978401999DAF">www.finance.senate.gov/download/?id=FEC41212-F7AF-4A6D-BF83-978401999DAF</a> from this US Senate Committee on Finance link: <a href="http://www.finance.senate.gov/newsroom/chairman/release/?id=7701eb50-a0ef-4257-bfc1-b06efe725b8c">http://www.finance.senate.gov/newsroom/chairman/release/?id=7701eb50-a0ef-4257-bfc1-b06efe725b8c</a>

<sup>15</sup> Only Australia has reserved its position in respect to ISDS in TPP. We know this from the 20th January dated leaked copy of the TPP Investment chapter gained through the agency of Wikileaks.

<sup>16</sup> Information on past and current cases can be found here: <a href="http://www.marietjeschaake.eu/2014/11/isds-whats-going-on/">http://www.marietjeschaake.eu/2014/11/isds-whats-going-on/</a>

<sup>17 &#</sup>x27;Local Government and TPP' paper by Bill Rosenbeg is attached as separate document to email.

state) refused to grant a permit for a toxic waste facility. Local citizens had petitioned their government to deny the permit, fearing it would pollute their water supply. Metalclad won more than US\$15 million. Ecuador terminated a contract with Occidental Petroleum after the US company violated the terms of a contract with the government. The company won US\$2.3 billion dollars even though Occidental admitted violating the contract. French multinational Veolia, which operates Auckland's passenger rail network under the name Transdev, and runs local government water services in Papakura, and refuse services through its Onyx subsidiary, recently brought a case against the government of Egypt for at least 82 million Euros, challenging a decision to raise the monthly minimum wage and make other labour reforms. Cases have challenged court decisions, and one of the most common themes has been mining companies challenging environmental protections, while others have included challenges to governments trying to retrieve the situation after privatisations went wrong."

The provision of services is another area that would be affected by the TPP, and Bill Rosenberg continues:

"Overseas located or owned services suppliers such as in construction, retail, refuse disposal, facilities management, transport operators, private health or private education, will be subject to further protections. Rules prevent quantitative restrictions or bans on their activities (such as preventing big box retailers from getting approval in certain localities) and prevent preference for local suppliers. They have a bias towards light-handed regulation in areas like technical standards and licensing." And

"A leak of the Investment Chapter of the TPPA shows the definition of investment will apply to a very broad range of corporate activities. These include Public-Private Partnership (PPP) contracts and concessions, intellectual property, property development rights, environmental and planning licences and permits, and local government bonds. The rules will include an end to preference for local investors, restrictions on investor performance requirements such as use of local materials, and protections against new regulations that significantly impact on value or profits."

## 4.2.3 Future Environmental Risks

Council will be aware that Energy and Resources Minister Simon Bridges announced the award of 15 new oil and gas exploration permits on the 9th December, as a result of Block Offer 2014. In their 2013 Submission on the Block Offer, the Dunedin City Council notes that "the local area takes on many of the costs and risks associated with oil and gas exploration but is not then guaranteed any direct benefits". Concern is also expressed over protection of the natural environment and the suitability of the risk modelling that has been used. At least one of the companies awarded a permit, Chevron, is currently involved in an ISDS dispute. Chevron have also been prosecuted over environmental damage in Ecuador and have refused to pay the compensation ordered by the domestic courts – seeking comfort in the ISDS jurisdiction to overthrow the domestic Court Order..

If New Zealand becomes part of the TPP, our relationship with the large energy, resource extraction and mining companies will become even more one-sided. They will have increased power to demand concessions and refuse to abide by environmental controls and will have the ability to sue local governments that stand in their way.

Here are some examples of ISDS cases that have taken place over resource extraction. They have been facilitated by trade agreements, such as the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), between the countries concerned. One of the effects of such cases is to discourage other governments from taking similar action to protect the environment.

Pacific Rim Cayman LLC (now owned by Oceania Gold) v. El Salvador (Gold mining )n June 2009,

Canadian mining company Pacific Rim Cayman LLC (Pacific Rim) sued the state of El Salvador under CAFTA for \$77 million, after the Ministry of the Environment of that country denied the company extraction permits for its "El Dorado" gold mine. The permits were denied on environmental and public health grounds.

Maersk Oil and Anadarko v. Algeria (Oil)

In July 2009, the Danish firm Maersk Oil filed an ICSID claim against the government of Algeria over a windfall profits tax on oil.

Renco Group Inc. v. Peru (Mining)

On April 7, 2011, Renco Group Inc. filed a claim with UNCITRAL against the Peruvian government on behalf of itself and its subsidiary, Doe Run Peru. The U.S. corporation is asking for \$800 million in damages after the Peruvian government revoked Doe Run's operating license for the La Oroya smelter in July 2010. The Peruvian government charges that since its takeover of the smelter in 1997, Doe Run has failed to comply with an environmental clean-up program (Programa de Adecuación y Manejo Ambiental, or PAMA), continuing to make La Oroya one of the most polluted sites in the world.

Bear Creek Mining Corporation v. Peru (Mining)

The Bear Creek Mining Corporation has threatened to sue the government of Peru for cancelling the company's authorization to own the Santa Ana mining project in June of 2011.

Crystallex v. Venezuela (Goldmining)

On March 9, 2011, the Crystallex International Corporation filed an arbitration claim under ICSID against the government of Venezuela. In September 2002, the Canadian corporation received exclusive rights to explore and develop the Las Cristinas properties, which is thought to be one of the largest gold deposits in Latin America. However, on February 3, 2011, the Venezuelan government cancelled its contract with Crystallex due to Crystallex's inactivity in progressing with the project within the previous year. In response, Crystallex filed a claim against Venezuela, seeking compensation of more than \$3.8 billion<sup>18</sup>.

## 4.3 Intellectual Property

LIANZA the New Zealand Libraries Association identifies that the New Zealand negotiators have already conceded an extension of copyright from the current life of the author + 50 years by a further 20 years<sup>19</sup>. This will have an effect on all New Zealand consumers and their Councils who operate community libraries, as well as increase costs for Councils in their general operation.

<sup>18</sup> More details on these cases and more can be seen at: <a href="http://www.itsourfuture.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/Mining\_for\_Profits\_November\_2011\_FINAL-22.pdf">http://www.itsourfuture.org.nz/mvestor-state-dispute-settlement/</a>
From this link: <a href="http://www.itsourfuture.org.nz/investor-state-dispute-settlement/">http://www.itsourfuture.org.nz/investor-state-dispute-settlement/</a>

<sup>19</sup> LIANZA article on copyright extension: <a href="http://www.lianza.org.nz/our-work/projects/extension-copyright-under-tppa">http://www.lianza.org.nz/our-work/projects/extension-copyright-under-tppa</a>

## 5. Summary

It is our belief that South Wairarapa District Council has a responsibility to do what it can to ensure that national government supports our rights, our community's unique characteristics and our environmental quality during TPP negotiations.

We ask that SWDC adopt the TPP policy solution as a mechanism to convey SWDC concern for a quality outcome from the TPP negotiations (appendix A).

The TPP resolution was written and adopted by Auckland City Council in 2012, in order to provide a policy that protects the public interest. It is logical that Council support this resolution. The resolution has now been adopted in full by Nelson City Council, Dunedin City Council, Christchurch City Council (CCC), Tasman District Council, Wellington City Council, Hutt City Council, Upper Hutt City Council, Kapiti Coast District Council and Palmerston North City Council. It has been recommended to LGNZ by several councils including CCC when they carried the full policy formula on the 14th August 2014. The TPP issue is under consideration with a number of Councils at the time of writing.

The entire resolution is important to the future independence of the South Wairarapa District Council and its ability to formulate and carry out policies in the interests of the people and region of Wairarapa.

We respectfully suggest that the SWDC adopts in full the TPP policy solution.

## 6. We wish to present to LTP public hearings

We wish to present in the LTP public hearings we understand that these are likely the 11<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

Thank you for your consideration,

Greg Rzesniowiecki TPP Action, with

Johni Rutene.

## Appendix A

## TPP policy solution - South Wairarapa District Council

That South Wairarapa District Council encourages the Government to conclude negotiations on the Trans-Pacific Partnership and Free Trade Agreements in a way that provides net positive benefits for the Wairarapa Region and New Zealand, that is, provided the Partnership and Agreements achieve the following objectives:

- i. Continues to allow the South Wairarapa District Council and other Councils, if they so choose, to adopt procurement policies that provide for a degree of local preference; to choose whether particular services or facilities are provided in house, by council-controlled organisations (CCOs) or by contracting out; or to require higher health and safety, environmental protection, employment rights and conditions, community participation, animal protection or human rights standards than national or international minimum standards;
- ii. Maintains good diplomatic and trade relations and partnerships for the Wairarapa region and New Zealand with other major trading partners not included in the agreement including with China
- iii. Provides substantially increased access for our agriculture exports, particularly those from the Wairarapa region into the US Market;
- iv. Does not undermine PHARMAC, raise the cost of medical treatments and medicines or threaten public health measures, such as tobacco control;
- v. Does not give overseas investors or suppliers any greater rights than domestic investors and suppliers such as through introducing Investor-State Dispute

- Settlement, or reduce our ability to control overseas investment or finance;
- vi. Does not expand intellectual property rights and enforcement in excess of current law;
- vii. Does not weaken our public services, require privatisation, hinder reversal of privatisations, or increase the commercialization of Government or of South Wairarapa District Council or other local government organisations
- viii. Does not reduce our flexibility to support local economic and industry development and encourage good employment and environmental practices and initiatives like the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs which enable marginalised young people to develop their skills and transition into meaningful employment;
- ix. Contains enforceable labour clauses requiring adherence to core International Labour Organisation conventions and preventing reduction of labour rights for trade or investment advantage;
- x. Contains enforceable environmental clauses preventing reduction of environmental and biosecurity standards for trade or investment advantage;
- xi. Has general exemptions to protect human rights, the environment, the Treaty of Waitangi, and New Zealand's economic and financial stability;
- xii. Has been negotiated with real public consultation including regular public releases of drafts of the text of the agreement, and ratification being conditional on a full social, environmental, and economic impact assessment including public submissions.

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## The impact of the TPPA on local government in New Zealand

Bill Rosenberg, 12 April 2015

Prominent US economist Jeffrey Sachs, despite being a strong supporter of international trade and investment who says he "helped to bring about globalisation", says about agreements such as the TPPA (and the US is simultaneously trying to negotiate a similar one with the European Union) that they "are mostly investor protection agreements, rather than trade agreements...: investor protection of property rights of investors, of prerogatives of investors, of intellectual property of investors, of the regulatory environment of investors, and so forth". In other words the TPPA further shifts the balance between democratic rights and protections for citizens towards increased power for investors.

He says "the kind of globalization that we have right now, which in some ways expands the pie, but does so at high costs to the poor, to many poor, to rising inequality, to more frequent financial crises, and to a growing environmental catastrophe. Nothing that I know of these two treaties would do anything but continue us along that course, perhaps accelerated. These are not 21st century treaties that start out with our goals; these are 20th century treaties continuing to build the flawed globalization that we have underway."

The TPPA has been under negotiation between 12 Pacific rim countries including New Zealand, the US, Australia and Japan since 2008. It is misleading to describe it as a trade agreement because trade is a very small part of it, even though the Government quite deliberately focuses on access for dairy exports to US and Japanese markets. Not so long ago, I heard Trade Minister Tim Groser talking about this to an audience of sympathetic trade officials and business representatives. He said the Government had "front and centre in its agenda" the "internationalisation of the economy", which was much broader than trade, including research and development, foreign investment, import-competing industries and much more – but publicly he would just call it trade because that's what the public understand.

It is increasingly doubtful that New Zealand will get any significant or immediate gains from agricultural access because Japan is clearly not going to zero its tariffs and will impose limits even on what can be exported under the somewhat reduced tariffs it concedes, and Canada and the US are likely to be equally protective.

But more importantly, much, much more is at stake 'behind the border' in the words of its advocates. We understand that only 5 of its 29 chapters are about trade. The rest of it affects Pharmac's effectiveness, the cost of medicines, public health, our ability to support new industries and local suppliers, the freedom of the internet, the ability of whistle blowers and journalists to expose corporate foul play, our environmental standards, our ability to control our financial system, our ability to respond to international financial crises and to manage the exchange rate and overseas investment. Some of its provisions, such as restricting what state-owned enterprises can do, are almost unprecedented in such agreements. It threatens to give corporations much greater influence over both local and central governments and to undermine the public interest role of publicly owned

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Hickey, R. (2014, September 15). Economist Jeffrey Sachs Says NO to TPP and TAFTA Trade Deals. *Huffington Post*. Retrieved from <a href="http://www.huffingtonpost.com/roger-hickey/economist-jeffrey-sachs-s-b-5823918.html">http://www.huffingtonpost.com/roger-hickey/economist-jeffrey-sachs-s-b-5823918.html</a>

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entities which have private competitors like Greater Wellington Council's CentrePort and Greater Wellington Rail, Wellington City Council's Positively Wellington Venues which manages its events and venues, and the jointly owned Wellington Water which provides water and drainage services.

With such deep domestic impacts, agreements like this should no longer be treated like the secret treaties of the reigning monarch but rather with the openness that citizens in a democratic society demand of all legislation. Because their implications are so deep and they are so difficult to change once ratified, these agreements should be treated more like a constitution, with all the serious public debate that would entail, rather than remain the prerogative of Cabinet.

This briefing covers six specific areas of particular concern to local government: investment, intellectual property, government procurement (purchasing), services, state owned enterprises and so-called transparency and regulatory coherence.

#### Investment

A leak of the Investment Chapter of the TPPA shows the definition of investment will apply to a very broad range of corporate activities. These include Public-Private Partnership (PPP) contracts and concessions, property development rights, environmental and planning licences and permits, intellectual property, and local government bonds. The rules will include an end to preference for local investors, restrictions on investor performance requirements such as use of local materials, and protections against new regulations that significantly impact on value or profits.

You may be aware of the so-called Investor-State Dispute Settlement process. This gives investors the power to sue the government directly in private offshore arbitral tribunals, whose panels are usually specialist lawyers who adjudicate in one case and represent clients in another, leading to constant concerns about conflict of interest and other major procedural issues<sup>2</sup>. There has been an exponential increase in the number of such cases, some of which are mounted with the aim of chilling regulatory decisions. A case by Philip Morris tobacco against the Australian government's anti-smoking plain packaging laws for cigarettes under similar provisions in a Hong Kong-Australia agreement is having precisely that effect on New Zealand's adoption of similar measures. The New Zealand government says it is waiting for that case (and another in the World Trade Organisation) to conclude before proceeding with the law change.

Cases cost millions of dollars just to defend, and awards against governments range from tens of millions to billions of dollars. Local, provincial or state government decisions have been the subject of successful claims. A case decided by an arbitral tribunal just in March this year found against Canada in favour of a US company, Bilcon<sup>3</sup>, which wanted to establish an open-pit mine in Nova Scotia that was strongly opposed by the local community because of the effect on local wildlife, commercial fishing and indigenous communities' traditional hunting areas. A panel of environmental experts set up under Canadian law found the project was too damaging to proceed. The majority of the arbitral tribunal (two lawyers) decided that "community core values" could not

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For a detailed critique, see the speech by experienced investment arbitration lawyer, George Kahale at <a href="http://www.aph.gov.au/DocumentStore.ashx?id=dff029f2-594e-48b5-8318-f02adf7b632c">http://www.aph.gov.au/DocumentStore.ashx?id=dff029f2-594e-48b5-8318-f02adf7b632c</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> William Ralph Clayton, William Richard Clayton, Douglas Clayton, Daniel Clayton and Bilcon of Delaware Inc. v. Canada, (UNCITRAL 1976 Rules; PCA Case No. 2009-04). For a summary see <a href="http://action.sierraclub.org/site/DocServer/0999">http://action.sierraclub.org/site/DocServer/0999</a> Trade Bilcon Factsheet 04 low.pdf?docID=17481.

be an "overriding factor" and is now considering the level of "compensation" for Bilcon, which has claimed US\$300 million. The third member of the tribunal strongly disagreed, saying it was "a remarkable step backwards in environmental protection", and that "a chill will be imposed on environmental review panels which will be concerned not to give too much weight to socioeconomic considerations or other considerations of the human environment in case the result is a claim for damages". Note that this involved both the federal government (Canada) and provincial government (Nova Scotia). Canadian central government, having had a number of such findings against it as a result of subnational government actions, is now looking at ways to recover costs from provincial and local governments.

In other examples the US Metalclad corporation sued Mexico after a local government (of a Mexican state) refused to grant a permit for a toxic waste facility. Local citizens had petitioned their government to deny the permit, fearing it would pollute their water supply. Metalclad won more than US\$15 million. Ecuador terminated a contract with Occidental Petroleum after the US company violated the terms of a contract with the government. The company won US\$2.3 billion dollars even though Occidental admitted violating the contract. French multinational Veolia, which operates Auckland's passenger rail network under the name Transdev, and runs local government water services in Papakura, and refuse services through its Onyx subsidiary, recently brought a case against the government of Egypt for at least 82 million Euros, challenging a decision to raise the monthly minimum wage and make other labour reforms. One of the most common themes has been mining companies challenging environmental protections, while others have included challenges to governments trying to retrieve the situation after privatisations went wrong, health related cases such as the Philip Morris one above and challenges as to the treatment by government and courts of pharmaceutical patents and controls on toxic chemicals.

Several countries are now trying to back out of such provisions, the latest being Germany which was burnt by a challenge to its decision to stop nuclear power generation following the Fukushima disaster. Advice to the Australian government from its Productivity Commission, which found many risks and few benefits in such provisions led to successive governments of both colours refusing to accept them – though the Abbott Government is now saying it is willing to accept them if it gets enough of a trade-off. South Africa, after a mining company challenge to its policies advancing people disadvantaged under apartheid, and India are withdrawing from existing agreements and advice to the U.K. government has been similar to that from the Australian Productivity Commission.

So decisions a local government makes in its community's interests on environmental rules, planning decisions, procurement decisions or PPPs could be subject to such challenges and bring pressure from central government to cave in, to save the costs of an expensive defence, even if justified. They could also make recovery from a local government financial default more difficult.

## Intellectual property

This is one of the most crucial chapters of the proposed agreement, and a key one for the US because its huge corporations in Hollywood – think music, games, videos, movies – and the Pharmaceutical industry stand to gain hugely and are very insistent that the agreement cannot be signed without this. Their demands are extensive and complex, and the best known effects are raising the costs of medicines and requiring internet service providers like Yahoo, Actrix or Paradise to take stronger and potentially unfair actions to protect copyright. They are demanding the

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extension of copyright from 50 years to 70 years or longer, longer patents and putting difficulties in the way of much cheaper generic copies of pharmaceuticals once patents expire, raising the cost of medicines.

This will increase the costs of libraries and tertiary institutions such as universities, and reduce the services they can provide. There is a coalition of groups which are concerned about the effects of the TPPA on copyright laws called the Fair Deal coalition (http://fairdeal.net.nz/). It includes Internet New Zealand, innovative software companies such as TradeMe, Consumer New Zealand, and LIANZA, the Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa. LIANZA<sup>4</sup> is concerned about longer copyright durations which will increase the costs of books and other materials, and restrict the right of libraries and others to digitise older material which is invaluable for making it widely accessible, particularly to researchers and for education. They are concerned to maintain current exceptions for fair use for educational and research purposes, and the right to make copies of parts of works for users. They oppose the likely increased protection given to "technological protection measures" (TPMs) like international zoning for videos and DVDs. This would stop librarians from overriding TPMs in order to make material available to their users, despite access being perfectly legal. LIANZA would also oppose a ban on parallel importing that the US was demanding at the outset of the negotiations. Intellectual property rights must be a careful balance between encouraging innovation on the one hand, and the huge public benefit from the widest possible use, reuse and production of innovations. The TPPA is clearly on the side of further limiting their use in the interests of the corporations which own patents, copyright and other protections, tipping these arrangements way out of balance.

## **Government procurement**

If the TPPA's government procurement chapter is similar to other agreements the US is party to, it could:

- Stop local government giving an advantage to local suppliers. For example section 8 of Greater Wellington Council's procurement policy states that if "two proposals are equal then Greater Wellington will choose a local supplier in preference to a more distant supplier". Christchurch City Council has a policy of "Ensuring an active preference within a small financial cost for local firms for the supply of goods and services, based on whole of life costs."
- Prevent local government giving more favourable treatment to small or not-for-profit firms.
- Open to challenge local governments taking into account general environmental conditions above the legal minimum that suppliers must meet, and/or are not directly related to the goods or service, as Greater Wellington does under section 7.2 of its policy, "Supplier environmental practices" 6.

When evaluating the suitability of a supplier consideration will be given as to whether the supplier has:

- a formal, written environmental policy,
- an environmental management system,
- undertaken any noteworthy environmental initiatives,
- performed an environmental audit,
- produced an environmental report or a triple bottom line report,
- made demonstrable efforts to maximise resource efficiency (e.g. water, energy, etc.)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See http://fair<u>deal.net.nz/author/lianza</u>

http://www.ccc.govt.nz/thecouncil/policiesreportsstrategies/policies/groups/councilorganisation/procurementpolicy.aspx

- Open to challenge local governments requiring suppliers to meet conditions above legal requirements such as paying a living wage, or having health and safety practices above minimum legal requirements.
- Prevent local governments boycotting suppliers or products from a rogue TPPA state like the boycotts of apartheid South Africa.

The Government has recently announced it is signing New Zealand up to a similar government procurement agreement under the WTO. Local government is largely excluded from the New Zealand commitments to that deal, but the pressure in the TPPA will be greater to make it inclusive of local government.

#### **Services**

Overseas located or owned services suppliers such as in construction, retail, refuse disposal, facilities management, transport operators, private health or private education, will be subject to further protections. Rules prevent quantitative restrictions or bans on their activities (such as preventing big box retailers from getting approval in certain localities) and prevent preference for local suppliers. They have a bias towards light-handed regulation in areas like technical standards and licensing. The government can negotiate a list of existing regulations that can continue unchanged and subject areas that are carved out altogether, but there will be major problems if any are missed or they need to be tightened.

#### State owned enterprises

This is a virtually new area for these agreements. It is squarely aimed at China despite China not being in the negotiations – a symbol of the global politics that makes the TPPA so important to the US politically. China with its large number of state corporations would find it completely unacceptable but TPPA countries such as Vietnam and Malaysia also have many state owned enterprises themselves. New Zealand could well be collateral damage, and find it hard to return privatised or commercialised organisations to central or local government ownership with a public interest objective. The provision requires competitive neutrality for state-controlled entities (including non-commercial public agencies) which compete with private interests. It means they would have to act commercially rather than with public interest objectives. It is not clear just how far the term "state owned enterprise" will reach: conceptually it could include public hospitals and schools, housing, swimming pools, public internet services and convention centres for example, wherever they compete with the private sector. It could mean they would not be allowed special access to public land, real or implied government guarantees, subsidies or cheaper finance through council-raised borrowing. Much of this is still very unclear, highly controversial and under intensive negotiation, including what exemptions countries might be allowed to have.

Applied to local government ownership of services and LATEs like Greater Wellington Council's CentrePort and Greater Wellington Rail, Wellington City Council's Positively Wellington Venues which manages its events and venues, and the jointly owned Wellington Water which provides water and drainage services, it would reduce the Councils' ability to run them in the greater public interest. Councils which have contracted out such services may find they have limited options if outsourcing fails and they wish to return them to council control.

## **Transparency and Regulatory coherence**

Transparency sounds like motherhood and apple pie. It appears in numerous parts of the agreement and is complemented by a chapter on so-called "regulatory coherence". Ideally corporations would like to have the same rules in every country so that, for example, a tube of toothpaste would be automatically be accepted in New Zealand if it was accepted in Vietnam. This would cover a myriad of regulations that ensure toothpaste is safe such as labelling, food, drug or cosmetic standards, safety and effectiveness regulations, ingredients regulations, testing requirements and approvals processes. If regulatory coherence in that sense was accepted it would mean that the lowest standards would win. The corporations appear to have conceded that that would be unacceptable – at least for now – but it remains the concept that motivates regulatory coherence. Instead, they want more control over the process of regulating. Transparency and regulatory coherence provisions mandate so-called 'best practice' approaches to regulation, based on risk assessment, cost benefit analysis and evidence based decisions that favour light-handed regulation, and make the process of regulation increasingly onerous. There will be extensive obligations for reporting on regulatory decisions, responding to commercial submissions, reviews of decisions, and reviews of existing regulation. The information commercial interests obtain from these processes will provide rich evidence for further political pressure or investor-state disputes.

It says a lot about the TPPA that it is proposing a tsunami of transparency and 'good practice' requirements to help investors and overseas suppliers, but exempts the process of negotiating and agreeing the deal itself from any such processes. Trade Minister Tim Groser says, "Those people who are opposed to the agreement want access to the texts so they can blow it apart". This reveals a telling lack of confidence in the benefits of the proposed deal and the democratic process. Yet US corporations with a vested interest in the TPPA have privileged access to the text, and the proposed deal will give them permanent access to our regulatory processes enabling them to "blow apart" rules that are made by local and central government in the public interest.

There is a great deal for local government, local communities, all of us, to be concerned about.

## Submission to: South Wairarapa District Council 2015/25 Long Plan Consultation

From: Cobblestones Trust

## New item:

Cobblestones Museum is seeking the continuation of an ongoing annual operating grant. The amount sought is \$20,000 per annum for the years 2015 to 2018 and for the amount to be adjusted annually to reflect inflation thereafter.

## **Current status:**

Cobblestones Regional Early Settlers Village Museum now branded as Cobblestones Museum was established more than forty five years ago and its role is to collect, preserve and display objects and material, create and develop exhibitions and events and undertake research associated with the early settlement of the Wairarapa dating back to the arrival of early Maori.

The Cobblestones Trust, which has the governance role, includes appointees from District Councils (including South Wairarapa), Greytown Trust Lands Trust, local service organisations and other appointees.

The museum and village are located on a 2 acre site and the collection includes six Heritage New Zealand, Category 2 listed buildings (with heritage objects stored and displayed within), a new entrance building including exhibition gallery and specialist collection room opened in November 2014, plus a number of other buildings, used for collection storage and service buildings. The museum's collection is extensive.

This collection represents early settlement of the Wairarapa.

#### Recent achievements

The Cobblestones Museums Trust has been on a steady path of improvements to the museum and in the way the collection is managed. A major milestone was achieved in November 2014 with the opening of the new entrance building incorporating a large exhibition gallery and collection room. This was a \$1m project and the Trust successfully raised these funds through a wide range of funders that included a significant number of donations from generous individuals in the community. It received a generous donation of \$20,000 from SWDC for the project.

The Trust, in a submission to the South Wairarapa District Council in 2013 identified the benefits the building would bring and included;

- A new profile to the Museum as an important visitor attraction in the Wairarapa.
- Increase visitor numbers to the museum

- Enable the development of varied and interesting public programme
- Protect a museum collection currently at risk
- Further enhance the opportunities to develop our school and education programmes.

Each of these benefits is now occurring or is under development.

The museum's profile has been raised significantly and visitation has increased dramatically. In the six month period from November through to April when compared to the same period the previous year paid admissions increased by 43%.

Work on the improved management of our collection is underway and we have already housed significant collection objects that were at risk. This collection management task is considerable and will probably take several years to complete.

The museum receives a wide mix of visitors of all ages including many from across the Wairarapa. We are now offering specialist educational programmes led by two former School Principals for school groups. Schools from across the Wairarapa and beyond are now seeing Cobblestones Museum as an excellent "outside the classroom" resource for children. We make a small charge per child.

## **Operational needs**

The museum is open to the public daily during a summer season and five days a week during a winter period from June to August. The museum is staffed by volunteers but there is a need to have some paid staffing to supplement the volunteer efforts. Thousands of hours are recorded by volunteers each year who maintain the buildings and undertake other activities on site.

The operational costs for museum and village are significant and key items for the 2015/16 year are estimated to be are rates \$6,000, ground lease \$2,500 (difference between Greytown Trust Lands lease fee and their grant), insurance \$6,500, energy costs \$4,500, maintenance of buildings and grounds \$12,000, collection management costs \$7,000, marketing \$5,000, telephone and internet, \$2,800, exhibition development \$7,000, wages (grounds and cleaning) \$10,000, Eftpos costs \$1,000, volunteer training and associated administrative costs such as accounting fees and audit \$6,000. These costs total in excess of \$70,000.

This summary takes no account a provision for front desk/reception person to supplement the volunteer input. This year we were able to employ person who was eligible for a WINZ subsidy. There is no guarantee that we can again avail ourselves of this subsidy.

Considerable work is required on our collection and this work is likely to take several years and will require professional museum expertise to train the volunteers who will undertake the bulk of the work.

The Trust has several main funding streams including admission revenue, retail revenue, venue hire, grants (from Councils) and donations that assist with the core operating costs of running the museum. The Friends of Cobblestones undertake an active programme of fund raising events to raise funds usually for building maintenance onsite.

In addition the Trust seeks grants to assist with targeted major capital or maintenance projects. For example, the Donald Wool Shed requires the construction of a new shingle roof plus other associated maintenance costed at around \$50,000. A major fund raising effort is already underway to find the funds for this project. A second project that is planned and urgently needed is new electrical reticulation throughout the whole site and to each of the buildings. This project too has been costed also at \$50,000.

It is essential that the museum continue with the upgrades to interpretative signage for our heritage buildings and their exhibits. We need to continue with the development of new exhibitions to ensure the experience stays fresh and informative and will attract repeat visitation.

## **Community support:**

The museum is currently supported by a very active group of 100 plus friends who undertake maintenance and ground upkeep. In addition more than forty volunteers form the roster to look after the reception and hosting of visitors to the museum. Another group of volunteers is being recruited to work on the collection management. A close working relationship is developing with the Wairarapa Archives; Destination Wairarapa and local accommodation and tourism providers and Te Papa National Services is providing professional support to Cobblestones Museum,

The Cobblestones Trust acknowledges the generous contribution that is made by South Wairarapa District Council each year in the form of an operating grant. We would ask you to note that we have also sought a grant from both Masterton District Council and Carterton District Council.

We seek the continuation of an ongoing operating grant.

We would value the opportunity to speak to the South Wairarapa District Councillors.

Graeme Gray Chairman 0274 804 336 PO Box 9 Greytown 5742 31 May 2015 Hardie Grove Featherston

29 May 2015

South Wairarapa District Council PO Box 6 Martinborough

To whom it may concern

## Ref: Submission to the South Wairarapa District Council 2015 LTP

On the 22 April 2015 I received a letter from the South Wairararpa District Council identifying that there are plans to renew the main sewer line (laterals) in Hardie Grove in the near future. This will be at the property owners expense (coming out of my wallet) of an approx. amount of \$1500 plus.

Please put the following submission to the SWDC 2015 Long Term Plan:

Ollingato

> That the current SWDC Policy stating that all costs associated with laterals or the likes of, being at the cost of the owner of that property, be changed to reflect this cost as part of the SWDC's responsibility.

It should be the responsibility of the SWDC of all laterals, especially if they are in the Council road reserve. These type of costs and repairs should be factored into our rates assessment for the 2015 Long Term Plan. As a rate payer I shouldn't have to pay for this repair, even if your policy states this. Please change the policy.

I will not be able to get to your hearings. However, I DO want you to take this submission seriously as I'm an elderly lady on the pension and I can't afford this repair even if there is a system to pay it off AND I shouldn't be paying this purely out of principle.

Yours sincerely

Alofa Kinzett Featherston Submitted on Tuesday, 2 June 2015 - 9:34am Submitted by anonymous user: [202.20.5.81] Submitted values are:

--Submitter Details--

Name of Submitter: A & J Stevens

Rate Payer Type: Rural

Age: 55-64

Ethnicity: NZ European

Do you want to receive the "Stakeholder Update" email from SWDC?

Yes

--Submission Hearings--

I/We would like to speak to our submission: No

**Speaking Preference:** 

--Rates Affordability--

Do you support increased Fees and Charges (i.e. higher dog registration) as opposed to a general rates increase? : Yes Do you agree with the proposed overall average general rates increase for the next 10 years? : Disagree If not what general rates increase do you support? Other: Re fees and charges, hope rural dogs are exempt from these.

- --Development Initiatives- Do you support the following initiatives? Coastal Reserve
   Development
- --Overall Level of Service (LoS)--With regard to LoS, should we: Maintain the current LoS
- --Sewerage--

In what timeframe should irrigation to land be completed? 35

Years

Other:

--Roading--

Should road maintenance service levels be: Maintained

Seal extensions: No extension

Where do you think seal extensions should be done? Concentrate on

maintaining what you've got.

--Footpaths--

Do you support the establishment of rural footpaths (lime walkways) through rural rates? No If yes, how should they be prioritised?

--Pensioner (Community) Housing--

Do you consider Pensioner Housing part of our core business: No

--Digital Services--

Which digital services do you think are a priority for the Wairarapa: Improved rural broadband

--Have Your Say--

Strategies and Policies:

Time for your say, if you would like to comment or propose something different now is the time:

This form has inappropriate mandatory fields, eg. coastal reserve development and cycle trails - we don't support either of these but you've made it mandatory for all online submitters to support one of these.

Only support sale of reserves if these are not land previously donated by residents.

Upload submission:

Upload additional information:

The results of this submission may be viewed at: <a href="http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/576/submission/470">http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/576/submission/470</a>

Submitted on Tuesday, 2 June 2015 - 9:42am Submitted by anonymous user: [114.134.171.101] Submitted values are:

#### --Submitter Details--

Name of Submitter: Alex Beijen Organisation: 1Geotechnical.co.nz

Rate Payer Type: Rural

Age: 45-54 Ethnicity: na

Do you want to receive the "Stakeholder Update" email from SWDC?

Yes

#### --Submission Hearings--

I/We would like to speak to our submission: No

Speaking Preference:

#### --Rates Affordability--

Do you support increased Fees and Charges (i.e. higher dog registration) as opposed to a general rates increase? : No Do you agree with the proposed overall average general rates increase for the next 10 years? : Disagree If not what general rates increase do you support? Other:

#### -- Development Initiatives--

Do you support the following initiatives? Cycle trails

#### --Overall Level of Service (LoS)--

With regard to LoS, should we: Maintain the current LoS

#### --Sewerage--

In what timeframe should irrigation to land be completed? Other Other:

#### --Roading--

Should road maintenance service levels be: Increased

Seal extensions: 2km extension

Where do you think seal extensions should be done? Of continuing and increasing concern is the Council's unwillingness to consider the sealing of the northern part of

Shooting Butts Road.

This has been raised a number of times to no avail.

There are 2 main areas of concern with the status quo are:

1 The increased pedestrian traffic due to the establishment and promotion of the Rapaki Walk, as well as the evolving of Shooting Butts Road as a dog walking circuit, has meant vehicles and

trucks travelling down here pose a danger to said pedestrians and walkers due to the dust, spraying stones and inability to emergency brake on the loose surface

2 As the council allows more buildings built on the road, specifically the Martinborough Estate, there is more impact of billowing dust and potential pollution harm to residents. (dust is pollution)

As Martinborough becomes busier, I have noticed an increasing usage and 'ownership' of the road by non-residents of Shooting Butts Rd.

I have assisted with car accidents as tourists hit shingle and slide off the road, have been abused by cyclists for driving at 50km/h in a 100km/h zone, have nearly hit people as they appear from a dip in the road and I have been unable to brake on the shingle.

This stretch of road is an accident waiting to happen, and when it does, the Council will be liable, as you have been informed.

#### --Footpaths--

Do you support the establishment of rural footpaths (lime walkways) through rural rates? No If yes, how should they be prioritised?

--Pensioner (Community) Housing--

Do you consider Pensioner Housing part of our core business: No

-- Digital Services --

Which digital services do you think are a priority for the Wairarapa: Improved rural broadband

--Have Your Say--

Strategies and Policies:

Time for your say, if you would like to comment or propose something different now is the time:

I am unable to speak at the proposed times - I did not notice an evening option.

Your forced questionnaire as to opinions is fundamentally flawed as there are no options for not sure, and you cannot submit this form without supporting coastal reserves or cycle trails. ????? This is a very amateur attempt at an LTP consultation, Im afraid Upload submission:

Upload additional information:

The results of this submission may be viewed at: http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/576/submission/471



Sport Wellington Level 2, 223 Thorndon Quay PO Box 24 148, Manners St, Wellington, New Zealand T. 64 4 380 2070 F. 64 4 801 8976 www.sportwellington.org.nz

# **Submission to South Wairarapa District Council Draft Long Term Plan 2015-25**

#### Introduction

Sport Wellington would like to thank South Wairarapa District Council for the opportunity to provide feedback on the 2015-2025 Long Term Plan.

Sport Wellington would like to thank the South Wairarapa District Council officers and Councillors for the significant expertise, experience and wider industry networks which enable the Council to be able to make effective and good practice decisions. Sport Wellington values SWDCs continued commitment to the ongoing development of the partnership with Sport Wellington Wairarapa.

This submission reflects an ongoing acknowledgement of SWDC's current investment and highlights a number of important initiatives and facilities currently in development that rely on continued investment from key providers in the sport sector. Sport Wellington stresses the value of sport and recreation and the impact this can have on an economy to be smarter, more sustainable and more creative.

Sport Wellington would like to speak to this submission.

#### **Sport Wellington**

Sport Wellington is the independent organisation for sport and physical recreation covering the Greater Wellington Regional Council area – working alongside the eight local authorities.

VISION: Everyone in the greater Wellington region has a life-long involvement in sport & active recreation.

**PURPOSE:** To provide Sport & Recreational sector leadership that enables people in the region to have:

- opportunities to participate whatever their needs
- motivation for sustained and regular participation
- meaningful experiences at all levels

**VALUES:** SPORT - Service, Passion, Openness, Respect and Teamwork

#### **STRATEGIC OUTCOMES:**

- 1. A region of sport school-age kids (5 17)
- 2. A region excellent at achieving and celebrating success

- 3. Young adults (18-34) with a future of life-long positive sport and active recreation habits
- 4. A sustainable sport and recreation system for the entire region
- 5. Innovative opportunities to participate in response to changing lifestyles and macro trends

#### Value of Sport and Recreation to the Wellington Region

The residents of the Wellington region are passionate about sport; whether playing, supporting or volunteering, sport plays a significant role in the lives of residents of the Wellington region. Over 80% of residents from the Wellington region participate in at least one sport or recreation activity per week. This means that on any given week you are guaranteed to come across one of the 390,000 residents taking advantage of the regions sporting and recreation opportunities. Only 9.7% of the Wellington region population is inactive which is the second lowest in the country behind Waikato and sets us up to be the "world's most active region".

Sport in the region is about more than trophies in the cabinet. Sport builds and strengthens communities and cultural connectedness. It contributes to our pride and identity in being from the Wellington region. It keeps us healthy and reduces our risk of disease. It is a valuable part of our economy. Research has shown there are numerous benefits in increasing community participation in sport and active recreation including:

- Creating a strong and inclusive city
- Builds peoples connection to the outdoors and the environment
- Building community connectedness, pride and belonging
- Reduced anti-social behaviour within communities
- Improved health and well-being for all participants
- Contributing to economic growth<sup>2</sup>

More importantly, every day we see examples of sport and active recreation improving the lives of residents in Porirua City and the Greater Wellington region.

The Sport Wellington Green Prescription programme epitomises the value sport and active recreation can bring to communities. Through mentoring support and discounted entry into sporting facilities, such as local pools, the programmes holistic approach means that the impact is far greater than the targeted individual. Pete Smith, for example, was inspired to lose 140kg after seeing his brother complete a Green Prescription Healthy Lifestyle programme. Pete's own weight loss journey culminated in a walk to raise money for charity that saw 100 family and friends come out to support him.

Sports clubs promote qualities such as fairness, self-control, courage, and persistence, and interpersonal concepts of treating others and being treated fairly, maintaining self-control if dealing with others, and respect for both authority and opponents. These qualities contribute to the development of good citizens and a life skill that outlasts competition days. Educators place high value on youth who play sport, often

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 2007/08 Active NZ survey

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The value added by the sport and recreation sector in Wellington is \$378 Million (1.4% of regional GDP). This includes the value added by income from employment in sport and recreation occupations, the value added by investment in sport and recreation education, and the value added by local council expenditure on new facilities.

selecting them as school leaders as they "have the self-discipline and organisational skills required to drive and organise a Head Student team and ensure deadlines are met." 3

With continued support from SWDC, sport and active recreation can play a vital role in creating vibrant, connected communities in the Wellington region.

#### Sport Wellington SWDC Partnership

Sport Wellington Wairarapa is committed to delivering services and support to the greater Wairarapa region and this is made possible by the continued support from South Wairarapa District Council. SWDC currently provides \$5,000 of funding which enables Sport Wellington to support a number of schools, clubs and RSO's to increase their organisational capability and grow participation numbers in the region.

Sport Wellington is committed to sports development in the Wairarapa region and this is enabled by having a satellite office in the Wairarapa Sports House. The Sports House, located in Masterton houses up to five staff, including a Regional Development Manager, Community Sport Advisor and Community Sports Coordinators, all with a focus on growing capability and participation in the Wairarapa region. This facility also provides office space and shared services to Wairarapa Cricket, Wairarapa Tennis and the Masterton Primary Schools Association.

For this facility to continue to be a success in the region, Sport Wellington is requesting an additional \$2500 in funding support per annum from the SWDC. The Wairarapa Sports House currently runs at a deficit and will continue to do so even if the above request is approved. This additional support will continue to allow Sport Wellington to provide sport and active recreation assistance to those in the region. Through the staff based at the Sports House we have provided support services to both Primary and Secondary schools in the Masterton region, while also assisting with a number of regional sporting organisations and clubs.

#### A Regional Strategy for Sport and Recreation

The Wellington Region is made up of 470,000 residents who are represented by; four city councils, four district councils and one regional council. These nine Councils are involved in the advocacy and delivery of Sport and Recreation across the region. The region is also supported by 87 Regional Sports Organisations, 1100 sports clubs and 75,000 Sport Volunteers who all contribute to 390,000 people participating in sport and recreation each week.

Currently there is no criterion showing how effectively and efficiently sport and active recreation is being delivered to the region's communities, whether that provision is appropriate and what is the return on investment of public money.

A regional strategy for sport and recreation will allow clarity and transparency around future planning and investment by creating a clear future vision for the region and a identifying what the needs are at community, district and regional level. This will empower funders to be able to prioritise investment by weighing up the needs of communities and groups against the priorities at a regional level in order to make informed and evidence based decisions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Comments from Principals from Kapiti College Tony Kane, Naenae College John Russell and Richard Campbell former Principal of Paraparaumu College to Swim Wellington CEO Mark Berge.

Work completed over the past 12 months with the 9 Councils in the region and Regional Sport Organisations have identified strong support for a regional Sport and Recreation strategy that contributes to the following themes:

- 1. **Great places and spaces:** To create a sustainable sporting community with quality fit for purpose facilities that provide for optimal sport and recreation programs and activities to promote health and wellbeing.
- 2. **Active and healthy communities:** To grow participation in sport and recreation within the region and lead the way in becoming New Zealand's most active, healthy, sport and recreation region.
- 3. **Thriving sport and recreation industry:** To build capacity and quality of Councils, sports organisations, clubs, educational institutions and businesses to deliver a more sustainable and competitive sporting industry.

A coordinated regional approach to sport and recreation will help ensure everyone in the greater Wellington Region has the opportunity for life-long involvement in sport and recreation.

Sport Wellington would like to acknowledge the collaborative work being done by the Regional Sports Organisation in the Wellington region<sup>4</sup>.

As representatives of the Wellington sports sector this group has identified that sport in the region face a number of common challenges and opportunities that would benefit from taking a collaborative approach. This group has come together under the leadership of Sport Wellington to form a strategic view around sport in the region and to collectively support, promote and advocate for the ongoing development of organised and informal sport and sports organisations in the Wellington region.

#### **Council Support for a Regional Strategy**

A regional sport and recreation strategy will require effective prioritisation in decision making both within and across councils and within and across Regional Sports Organisation and other stakeholders a role which will require independent and informed facilitation. Sport Wellington holds a position of independence in the Wellington regions sport sector. This enables Sport Wellington to use knowledge and expertise to positively influence, advocate and mentor positive change in the Wellington region.

Sport Wellington through a substantial Sport NZ investment over three years has committed resources to enabling the development of a regional sport and recreation strategy that will provide numerous benefits to the region.

Sport Wellington would like to acknowledge the continued support South Wairarapa District Council Officers and Councillors have displayed for the development of a regional sport and recreation strategy. We would also like to note that for the benefits to be sustained long term and for continued independent facilitation to

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This group is made up of Sport Wellington 15 targeted sports. These consist of 7 previously Sport NZ nationally targeted sports and 7 new Sport NZ nationally targeted sports. Further to this Sport Wellington has identified 1 additional regionally targeted sport.

be achieved, Sport Wellington will look to the nine Councils in the region for financial support to allow Sport Wellington to continue to:

- use its professionalism expertise and objectiveness act as a facilitator to work with and communicate council(s) priorities and plans with Regional Sports Organisations, community funders and other key stakeholders
- work with the region's sports organisations to develop a collective regional approach to facility development needs and challenges in a logical and principled manner
- Work with key stakeholders to identify key regional and local facilities development requirements and take a key role in objectively prioritising regional and local facility development needs
- Ensure the resources of Sport NZ and community funders is utilised in the best interests of the region to ensure everyone in the region has the opportunity to have a life-long involvement in sport and active recreation.

Sport Wellington would like to use the opportunity of the long term planning process to signal to Council that in order for this project to succeed we will require a financial contribution from councils. Sport Wellington requests that budget provision be set aside to implement and administer a Regional Strategy to ensure the benefits are sustained long term.

This project is currently funded by an annual Sport NZ contribution through until May 2017. After this date Sport Wellington will look for Councils to collectively match the current annual Sport NZ contribution based on a population percentage share calculation. Based on this calculation we would estimate SWDCs annual contribution will be \$1,500. Sport Wellington acknowledges that the 9 Councils across the region vary in size and their capacity to invest in such a project however our current rational for future investment does not go beyond population distribution.

This is a first estimate and Sport Wellington will endeavour to identify opportunities for investment from other key stakeholders who will benefit from the implementation of a Regional Strategy for Sport and active recreation. For example potential investments from health and or education may influence the level of contribution we ask from Councils.

#### **Project Opportunities**

As the Regional Sports Trust for the greater Wellington region, Sport Wellington is part of the wider RST network. Within Sport Wellington and the wider RST network there is considerable expertise which can be overlooked by councils. Too often we see consultants engaged to carry out project work on behalf of local authorities whose first contact is then with the RST to gather the information required.

It is recognised that Sport Wellington may not be a suitable organisation to undertake all project work in the sport sector. However we do believe that through using the wider collective of RSTs we can provide Council with cost effective project work of a high standard, tapping into examples of best practice from across the Country, in a more cost effective manner that will save rate payer funds. Examples of the work Sport Wellington has been involved in include the development of the Wairarapa Facilities Plan and in providing Porirua City Council a series of reports providing advice on community recreation investment.

We therefore request consideration be given to utilising the services of Sport Wellington and its network for contracted project work relating to the sport and recreation sector, we are happy to provide Council with more information on the breadth of our expertise so that appropriate opportunities can be identified.

#### South Wairarapa District Council 2015-25 Long Term Plan

The following submission responds directly to some of the specific questions outlined in the *Consultation document: Building our future.* 

#### **Draft Long-Term Plan**

Sport Wellington would like to firstly thank the Council for the on-going provision and upkeep of sport fields, pools, recreation centres and walking/cycling tracks throughout the district. Sport Wellington acknowledges SWDC's current significant funding into the, Aquatic Facilities, Recreation Centres, Sport fields, Golf Courses and the Synthetic Sport fields. We emphasise the value this funding adds to both South Wairarapa and the region and stress the importance of continuing to invest in the upgrades and renewals of these important sport and recreational facilities and programmes.

#### 1. Expanding Cycle Routes and Recreational Trails

Sport Wellington **supports** investment in developing on-road, off-road and rural cycling networks that will allow for safer, faster and more reliable journeys with a particular focus on encouraging a greater uptake of cycling.

In the 2013/14 Active NZ survey Walking and Cycling $^5$  were two of the top three most popular activities that adults take part in with 60% and 24.8% of adults across NZ taking part in these activities. The 2011 Young Persons Survey followed a similar trend with walking and cycling being the third and fourth most popular activities with 26.1% and 22.1% of young people in the Wellington region taking part in these activities 1+ times per week.

Research shows that cycling has many potential benefits, both for communities and individuals. Cycling can play a critical role in promoting mobility, creating healthy lifestyles, reducing traffic congestion and emissions, saving money and generating economic activity however a lack of safe and reliable transport routes can become a barrier to participation in cycling activities. Increasing safer opportunities for people to cycle not only reducing congestion, but also encourages active communities that can benefit from a number of health advantages from cycling.

Sport Wellington notes that across the region plans for cycling features strongly in Local Authority plans with Greater Wellington, Wellington City, Hutt City, Upper Hutt and Kapiti Coast supporting the development of cycleway and walkways. Cycling NZ has recently developed a draft Community Cycling Strategy and Sport Wellington sees this as an opportunity for increased collaboration as Cycling NZ explicitly mentions Councils and Regional Sports Trusts as key members.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Includes Cycling and Mountain Biking

Sport Wellington notes that SWDC are intending on developing a district cycle strategy and we encourage Council to take into account the wider Wairarapa and Wellington regional context. We encourage Council to consider how the region could work with Cycling NZ to further develop and implement the NZ Community Cycling Strategy to enable the region to be a premier cycling destination.

#### 2. Maintaining Sports Facilities

Sport Wellington reinforces the value of maintaining sport and recreation assets over the whole of its life. Upholding a good quality customer experience not only maintains high participation rates but also encourages further participation and allows for increasing demand. If renewals and upgrades are forgone for other investment areas, South Wairarapa will lose the momentum it has gained with the development of current quality facilities, e.g. the three council owned season pools. This will result in a significant increase in future investment requirements.

Sport Wellington strongly supports the development of multi-purpose facilities. We wish to emphasise that while a multi-purpose facility can be a good practice approach, partnering and collaboration from clubs and organisation, including collaborative administration, coaching development and resource sharing, will help optimise investment and help enable increased participation.

<u>Sport Wellington notes SWDC's intention to maintain user charges at current levels for some sports fields</u> and facilities:

Sport Wellington strongly supports Councils intention to not make any significant changes to user charges. Increased charges for sports fields and facility hire can have the effect of making sport and recreation less affordable and result in less people participating in sport through clubs and organised events.

The most significant barrier to getting people involved in sport and active recreation is the cost of participation. Whilst cost is an accepted part of sport participation there are opportunities to improve the way cost is considered:

- Ratepayers don't always see the boundaries between different cities and districts; for many
  ratepayers, their sport and recreation pursuits see them using multiple parts of the Wellington
  region, the cost of indoor facilities, swimming pools and sports field varies widely across the region.
  Uniformity of user charges, peak and off peak times and commercial and community groups will help
  remove barriers to participation and enable sports organisations to have improved interactions with
  Councils.
- All people in the region should have the opportunity to participate in sport and active recreation.
   This may mean taking a more targeted, participant focused approach to remove barriers for non-participants. Sharing of learnings from innovative pilots such as Hutt City Councils Northeast

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Pathway project<sup>6</sup> will help ensure all residents have equal opportunity to participate at rates that reflect their ability to pay.

• Whilst user chargers to pools, indoor courts and sports fields have steadily increased over the past five years entry into many libraries, galleries and museums remains free. All of these community facilities provide significant benefits to the quality of life and wellbeing of residents yet there is a significant barrier placed on sport and active recreation activities.

Sport Wellington strongly advocates that the council continues to monitors the impact of user charges on participation levels to help ensure barriers to participation that negatively impact on the wellbeing of residents are minimised.

#### Conclusion

Sport Wellington would like to conclude its submission by acknowledging the great work being done by the South Wairarapa District Council and the significant expertise, experience and wider industry networks which enables South Wairarapa District Council to be able to make effective and good practice decisions.

Sport Wellington values SWDCs continued commitment to the ongoing development of the partnership with Sport Wellington. Over the last 12 months there have been a number of achievements registered because of this commitment to the partnership and because of the strong relationships across all levels in both organisations.

#### **Phil Gibbons**

Chief Executive Officer

**Sport Wellington** 

28 May 2015

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> This project enables youth from Council high deprivation communities greater access to sport and active recreation activities through a number of initiatives. E.g. providing a free bus service and free pool entry to children from identified low decile schools.



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# **Submission to South Wairarapa District Council Draft Long Term Plan 2015-25**

#### Introduction

Sport Wellington would like to present the following submission on behalf of targeted<sup>1</sup> Wellington Regional Sport Organisations (RSOs). We would like to thank South Wairarapa District Council (SWDC) for the opportunity to provide feedback on the 2015-2025 Long Term Plan.

This submission reflects an ongoing acknowledgement of SWDC's current investment and highlights a number of important initiatives and facilities currently in development that rely on continued investment from key providers in the sport sector. Wellington RSOs stress the value of sport and recreation and the impact this can have on an economy to be smarter, more sustainable and more creative.

Sport Wellington in conjunction with Regional Sports Organisations would like to speak to this submission.

The following organisations contributed to the development of this submission:

- Athletics Wellington
- Basketball NZ
- Bowls NZ
- Capital Football
- Capital and Wellington Hockey Association
- Cricket Wellington
- GymSports NZ
- Netball Central

- Tennis Central
- Triathlon NZ
- Wairarapa Bush Rugby
- Wairarapa Cricket
- Wellington Golf
- Wellington Rugby
- Wellington Rugby League
- Wellington Swimming

These organisations represent over 500 clubs and over 100,000 affiliated club members in the Wellington Region.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> These consist of 7 previously Sport NZ nationally targeted sports and 7 new Sport NZ nationally targeted sports. In addition to this Sport Wellington has identified 1 additional regionally targeted sport.

#### **Mobilised Sector Voice**

Sport Wellington is presenting this submission on behalf of Wellington RSOs identified above.

As representatives of the Wellington sports sector this group has identified that sport in the region face a number of common challenges and opportunities that would benefit from a collaborative approach. This group has come together under the leadership of Sport Wellington to form a strategic view around sport in the region and to collectively support, promote and advocate for the ongoing development of organised and informal sport and sports organisations in the Wellington region.

Over the past several months this group has mobilised to pool their knowledge of the challenges and needs of sport in the region. The intent of this group is to, where possible; take a co-operative approach to planning, investment and confirming region agreed priorities.

The group would like to propose that Council explore opportunities to strengthen the partnership between SWDC and RSOs through this group of targeted sports in the first instance. This relationship needs to move beyond "a snapshot" approach into an ongoing working relationship that involves sport organisations in the process of developing SWDCs policies and plans in regards to sport and active recreation.

#### **Key Priorities of the Sector**

The RSOs have undertaken work to determine what the key challenges are for sport in the region. Of the nine key common themes that have been identified we would like to acknowledge three key challenges, which would be best addressed in collaboration with Council. These three themes are:

- 1. Lack of a regional strategy to enable regionally decision making, investment and planning
- 2. Access, need and provision for sport facilities
- 3. Understanding from Local Authorities around what their role is in terms of professional and community sport

#### **Regional Synergy**

The Wellington region is made up of 470,000 residents who are represented by; four city councils, four district councils and one regional council. These nine Councils are involved in the advocacy and delivery of sport and active recreation across the region. The region is also supported by 87 RSOs, 1100 sports clubs and 75,000 Sport Volunteers who all contribute to 390,000 people participating in sport and active recreation each week.

While there are differences in areas of focus across the region there are common priorities in regards to increased participation, improved sporting success and optimised investment. Given the interests we all share as sport sector stakeholders there is an opportunity to create greater levels of motivation, wider opportunities and meaningful sport and active recreation experiences for the region.

Local Government plays a significant role in the provision of sport and recreation. It is one of the few stakeholders that have the ability to set parameters and provide platforms for communities, organisations and individuals to be able to make positive choices. Consequently local government is recognised as a key leader in improved collaboration across the sports sector.

Currently there is no criterion showing how effectively and efficiently sport and active recreation is being delivered to the region's communities, whether that provision is appropriate and what is the return on investment of public money. A regional approach to sport and active recreation will lead to a significant number of benefits to a wide range of stakeholder including:

- Improved and more transparent investment decisions, synergies and a holistic approach to sport and active recreation
- Increased opportunities for SWDC to understand sport and recreation sector needs and challenges
- More consistent approach to interactions with sporting organisations by council
- More consistent voice and leverage when dealing with central government and other stakeholders
- Consistent region-wide standard of performance and service
- Increased customer satisfaction (because they don't want to see boundaries between different organisations)
- Better targeting to at risk groups and innovative opportunities to participate
- A region excellent at achieving and celebrating success
- A sustainable sport and recreation system for the entire region
- Ability for Local government to use their return on investment to finance other activities

A regional strategy will allow clarity and transparency around future planning and investment by creating a clear future vision for the region and identifying what the needs are at community, district and regional level. This will enable funders to be able to prioritise investment by weighing up the needs of communities and groups against the priorities at a regional level in order to make informed and evidence based decisions.

Work completed over the past 12 months with the nine councils in the region and Regional Sport Organisations have identified strong support for a Regional Sport and Recreation Strategy and commitment to the development of a draft framework that will help ensure the region has great places and spaces, active and healthy communities and a thriving sport and recreation industry.

#### **Need and Access to Facilities**

Many national and RSOs are focused on building the strength of their clubs and community delivery systems to make them more robust, capable and flexible to the changing needs of their current and potential members.

Some sports in the Wellington region are facing significant participation growth, as an example over the past 5 years Capital Football has experienced 30% growth in total number of participants playing football and futsal. Some of these sports are already facing shortages of available playing fields and facilities as a result of increased demand for access to their activities. An undersupply of good facilities can have a significant impact on the ability of sports organisations and clubs to provide sporting opportunities for the Wairarapa community. Establishing a clearer understanding of need both at a regional and city level will improve how investment decisions are made.

The most significant barrier to getting all of the regions residents involved in sport and active recreation is the cost of participation. This is a barrier that must be mitigated as part of the considerations before decisions are taken to increase a cost that will ultimately result in preventing people from participating. A

significant number of people in our community are already struggling to access the facilities that enable them and the community to benefit from the advantages of being active and participating in sport and the positive indirect influence it has on the social fabric of the community.

To help remove barriers, some sports are now offering subsidised competitions to cater for participants in deprived communities, this approach involves sports absorbing increased costs to make participation in their sport more affordable i.e. Wellington Hockey Association are offering a subsidised summer hockey programme in the Porirua region later this year.

Affordability of provision and access to facilities is fundamental to getting more people to participate in sport and active recreation.

#### Professional / Community Balance

The growing professional nature of sport is creating unique challenges for community sport in the Wellington region. The region is home to 5 sporting franchises; Wellington Saints (Basketball), Hurricanes (Rugby), Wellington Phoenix (Football), Central Pulse (Netball) and the Wellington Firebirds (Cricket). These franchises are well known and ingrained into the culture of the Wellington region.

In the Wellington region the facilities used by professional sports are not exclusively professional sport facilities. ASB centre in Wellington is the training ground for the Pulse but also a community indoor facility. The Wellington Regional Stadium is the home ground for the Hurricanes but also home to the Wellington Stadium Sports Festival attended by over 600 school children. The Hutt Recreation ground is home to the Hutt Old Boys rugby football club but also hosted the Phoenix for three Major League Football games early in 2015. It is commendable that the region maximises the use of its regional, national and international standard facilities in this way however this does have implications for community sport.

In an environment where sports sponsorship is harder to come by professional sports are increasingly looking for support from territorial authorities and community funders. This made even more complicated in New Zealand's sport market where back office staff are often shared between franchises and community sport business units. An example of this where Wellington Rugby is contracted by the Hurricanes to manage the day-to-day running of the Hurricanes franchise including administration, public relations, marketing and event management. This places both RSOs and TLAs in a position where they are being asked to support the conflicting investment needs of community and professional sport.

This has brought dilemmas in terms of balance; what to fund, who to fund and how to fund to achieve the best results at professional and community sport levels. Determining the appropriate division of funding between professional and community sport and between sport and active recreation is no easy task.

RSOs acknowledge that success for the regions sporting franchises has the potential to positively impact community sport (and vice versa). RSOs also acknowledge that Councils have a role to play supporting the Wellington regions franchises. Increased clarity and transparency from Council will enable community sport to better understand what opportunities are available to them and plan accordingly ensuring facility use is maximised and sport continues to have a positive impact on the region.

#### Value of Sport and Active Recreation to the Wellington Region

The residents of the Wellington region are passionate about sport; whether playing, supporting or volunteering, sport plays a significant role in the lives of residents of the Wellington region. Over 80% of residents from the Wellington region participate in at least one sport or recreation activity per week. This means that on any given week you are guaranteed to come across one of the 390,000 residents taking advantage of the regions sporting and recreation opportunities. Only 9.7% of the Wellington region population is inactive which is the second lowest in the country behind Waikato and sets us up to be the "world's most active region".

Sport in the region is about more than trophies in the cabinet. Sport builds and strengthens communities and cultural connectedness. It contributes to our pride and identity in being from the Wellington region. It keeps us healthy and reduces our risk of disease. It is a valuable part of our economy. Research has shown there are numerous benefits in increasing community participation in sport and active recreation including:

- Creating a strong and inclusive city
- Builds peoples connection to the outdoors and the environment
- Building community connectedness, pride and belonging
- Reduced anti-social behaviour within communities
- Improved health and well-being for all participants
- Contributing to economic growth<sup>3</sup>

More importantly, every day we see examples of sport and active recreation improving the lives of residents in South Wairarapa and the Greater Wellington region.

The Sport Wellington Green Prescription programme epitomises the value sport and active recreation can bring to communities. Through mentoring support and discounted entry into sporting facilities, such as local pools, the programmes holistic approach means that the impact is far greater than the targeted individual. Pete Smith, for example, was inspired to lose 140kg after seeing his brother complete a Green Prescription Healthy Lifestyle programme. Pete's own weight loss journey culminated in a walk to raise money for charity that saw 100 family and friends come out to support him.

Sports clubs promote qualities such as fairness, self-control, courage, and persistence, and interpersonal concepts of treating others and being treated fairly, maintaining self-control if dealing with others, and respect for both authority and opponents. These qualities contribute to the development of good citizens and a life skill that outlasts competition days. Educators place high value on youth who play sport, often selecting them as school leaders as they "have the self-discipline and organisational skills required to drive and organise a Head Student team and ensure deadlines are met."

With continued support from SWDC, sport and active recreation can play a vital role in creating vibrant, connected communities in the Wellington region.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 2007/08 Active NZ survey

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The value added by the sport and recreation sector in Wellington is \$378 Million (1.4% of regional GDP). This includes the value added by income from employment in sport and recreation occupations, the value added by investment in sport and recreation education, and the value added by local council expenditure on new facilities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Comments from Principals from Kapiti College Tony Kane, Naenae College John Russell and Richard Campbell former Principal of Paraparaumu College to Swim Wellington CEO Mark Berge.

The following submission responds directly to some of the specific questions outlined in the *Consultation document: Building our future.* 

#### Draft Long-Term Plan

Wellington RSOs would like to firstly thank the council for the on-going provision and upkeep of sport fields, pools, recreation centres and walking/cycling tracks throughout the district. Wellington RSOs acknowledges SWDC's current significant funding into the aquatic facilities, recreation centres, sport fields and the artificial sport fields. We emphasise the value this funding adds to both South Wairarapa and the region and stress the importance of continuing to invest in the upgrades and renewals of these important sport and recreational facilities and programmes.

1. Upgrading, developing and maintenance of sports facilities including swimming pools, cycleways and walkways, and community spaces.

Wellington RSOs strongly supports upgrading sports facilities where need has been demonstrated.

Capacity and demand should be taken into account when prioritising investment into sport facilities and should be supplemented by a robust framework. The Sport NZ Facility Strategy provides six key principles; Sustainability, Partnering and Collaboration, Integration, Future Proofing and Accessibility which should be considered when making decisions around sports facility investment.

Wellington RSOs would expect Council to be able to clearly demonstrate evidence that sport and active recreation facility developments/upgrades are affordable and sustainable. Wellington RSOs would also expect that the facilities will be able to be operated, maintained, and renewed long term without negatively impacting on the affordability of the facilities to the community.

Wellington RSOs reinforces the value of maintaining sport and recreation assets over the whole of its life. Upholding a good quality customer experience not only maintains high participation rates but also encourages further participation and allows for increasing demand. If renewals and upgrades are forgone for other investment areas, South Wairarapa will lose the momentum it has gained with the development of current quality facilities. This will result in a significant increase in future investment requirements.

RSOs **note** SWDC's intention to maintain user charges at existing levels for the majority of sports fields and aquatic facilities:

Wellington RSOs would like to congratulate SWDC on the decision to retain the current user charges for sports field and aquatic facilities.

The most significant barrier to getting people involved in sport and active recreation is the cost of participation. Whilst cost is an accepted part of sport participation, there are opportunities to improve the way cost is considered:

- Ratepayers don't always see the boundaries between different cities and districts; for many
  ratepayers, their sport and recreation pursuits see them using multiple parts of the Wellington
  region. The cost of indoor facilities, swimming pools and sports field varies widely across the region.
  Uniformity of user charges, peak and off peak times, and commercial and community groups will
  help remove barriers to participation and enable sports organisations to have improved interactions
  with Councils.
- All people in the region should have the opportunity to participate in sport and active recreation. This may mean taking a more targeted, participant focused approach to remove barriers for non-participants. Sport Wellington would like to congratulate SWDC on the innovative and proactive approach they are taking by targeting specific low participation communities. The Northeast Pathway project is one example of how council are helping to ensure all residents have equal opportunity to participate at rates that reflect their ability to pay.
- Whilst user charges to pools, indoor courts and sports fields have steadily increased over the past
  five years while entry into many libraries, galleries and museums remains free. All of these
  community facilities provide significant benefits to the quality of life and wellbeing of residents yet
  there is a significant barrier placed on sport and active recreation activities.

Wellington RSOs strongly advocates that the council monitors the impact of user charges on participation levels to ensure all residents have the opportunity to realise the significant benefits sport and active recreation can bring.

#### Conclusion

Wellington RSOs values SWDCs ongoing commitment to the provision of sport and recreation facilities and opportunities in South Wairarapa. Wellington RSOs across the region have expressed a keen interest in participating in an ongoing dialogue to help ensure sport and recreation continues to play a key role in the lives of South Wairarapa's residents. There is a real commitment to proactively work together to address the challenges facing sport in the region so that ensure everyone in the region has the opportunity for a life-long involvement in sport and recreation and the numerous benefits this brings.

**Phil Gibbons** 

Chief Executive Officer
Sport Wellington

On Behalf of Wellington Region Sport Organisation

28 May 2015



2 June 2015

Chief Executive Officer South Wairarapa District Council Martinborough

#### Submission on South Wairarapa District Council LTP 2015

We would like to make the following submissions on the Council's Annual Plan:

- Waste water we have submitted separately on this and we support 100% discharge to land as soon as possible (Option 1). Fresh water and clean waterways are key to a great living environment and make the South Wairarapa a more attractive place to visit.
- We support the on-going investigations and research into sustainable irrigation
  projects in the Wairarapa valley and appreciate being kept informed. We ask that the
  Council, prior to giving consideration to investing in, or publicly expressing support
  for proceeding with, such projects, undertakes independent economic investigations
  to support objective decision-making, and obtains a clear mandate from the
  community (which involves well-informed community consultation).
- We strongly support the Cycle Strategy Option 1 to continue to develop the cycle trails at \$30,000 per km. We also support the Martinborough Community Board submission to review speed limits and develop a vineyard cycle trail connecting the winery hotspots of Huangarua, Puruatanga and Martins Road safely with the Golf Course and Martinborough centre. The trail will be of great benefit to local residents and visitors, providing a safe trail for exercise, dog walking and winery tourism.
- We strongly support the WAIConnect broadband initiative and will help wherever we can. Faster broadband and greater coverage will improve productivity and make our town a more attractive place to live and do business.
- We support the provision of Commercially Zoned land being kept for the uses outlined in the District Plan. We do not support changes in the limited Commercially Zoned land so that it can be re-designated as residential. Commercial land should provide economic benefit to the town for the future.
- We support the ongoing funding of Destination Wairarapa. International and domestic tourism is an important contributor to Martinborough community's wellbeing.
- Please continue to involve the Business Association in consultation on the preparation of Reserves Management & Development Plans (such as the Square Management Plan and Town Hall). Well-developed and managed community

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twitter martinboroughba
facebook martinborough-business-association



- facilities are essential to support a vibrant business sector, which relies on a healthy and happy community and visitors to the area.
- We support the ongoing work with the Greater Wellington Regional Land Transport Plan to reinstate the bus service between Featherston and Martinborough. We also support the suggestion that provision is made to transport bicycles on the weekend train service. We are very concerned about the loss of the Sunday bus service between Featherston and Martinborough. We believe that the loss of this service is having a negative impact on weekend tourism in Martinborough.

Thanks for the opportunity to submit. We DO wish to be heard, but we are happy to answer any questions.

Regards

Frank Cornelissen Chairman, Martinborough Business Association

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Enviroschools

# Submission to: Carterton and South Wairarapa District Councils' Draft Long Term Plans 2015 -2025

Name: Enviroschools Te Upoko o te Ika a Māui Contact person: Karyn Burgess, Regional Coordinator Phone: 021 133 2569 Email: Karyn.burgess@gw.govt.nz

We support coordination of community grants between councils and would like to speak to the combined council hearing.

#### Requesting sufficient funds to keep pace with the rest of the region

Enviroschools Te Upoko o te Ika a Māui requests:

- Increased funding to a combined total of \$20,000 pa between the Carterton and South
  Wairarapa District Councils (the councils) to be able to keep pace with the development of
  the Enviroschools network in the rest of the region, and
- Recognition of the councils' support for the Enviroschools Programme in the council Long Term Plans (LTPs)

# The Enviroschools Programme contributes to council visions and community outcomes

Enviroschools (www.enviroschools.org.nz) is a nationwide action-based education programme where young people plan, design and implement sustainability projects and become catalysts for change in their communities. Schools explore theme areas including waste minimisation, water and energy conservation, biodiversity and ecological building. An example of the kind of activity and action that takes place is included in the attached case study from St Mary's School in Carterton and

in the attached report from the 2014 school year.

Small councils such as Carterton and South Wairarapa rely on working collaboratively with community groups and organisations like Enviroschools to be able to provide services for the community. A partnership with Enviroschools is a natural fit, with the core objectives of the Enviroschools Programme (empowering students as leaders and creating sustainable, resilient communities) aligning closely with the visions and community outcomes of both



councils. For example, Carterton District Council's Draft LTP places priority on community engagement and connection, and South Wairarapa District Council's Draft LTP includes a focus on kaitiakitanga and the intergenerational lifecycle of our land.

We have evidence that the Enviroschools Programme is successful. Some highlights of a national survey carried out in 2014 are included in a separate submission from Toimata Foundation

(previously called The Enviroschools Foundation) and a report on results (currently at press) will be available to all regional partners.

There is also strong community enthusiasm for the programme. This was shown recently when South Featherston School made the commitment to register as an Enviroschool after much encouragement from parents.

#### Achievements of the Enviroschools Programme locally

The Carterton and South Wairarapa district councils are part of a partner network of 51 councils nationally, including all councils in the Wellington region. Since 2005, the local network in Carterton and South Wairarapa has grown from supporting just a couple of schools to a much stronger network of 13 schools participating in networking activities, with 10 of those registered with the Enviroschools Programme and committed to ongoing sustainability journeys. Of those schools we now have 5 schools that have reflected at the Bronze stage, two at the Silver stage and Greytown School is a Green-Gold Enviroschool.

# Infrastructure to support implementation of the Enviroschools Programme

Enviroschools achieves these outcomes through a partnership approach which relies on balanced investment at a range of levels.

<u>Programme development</u> takes place nationally coordinated by Toimata Foundation through funding from sources such as Government (MfE), sponsorship and philanthropic trusts.

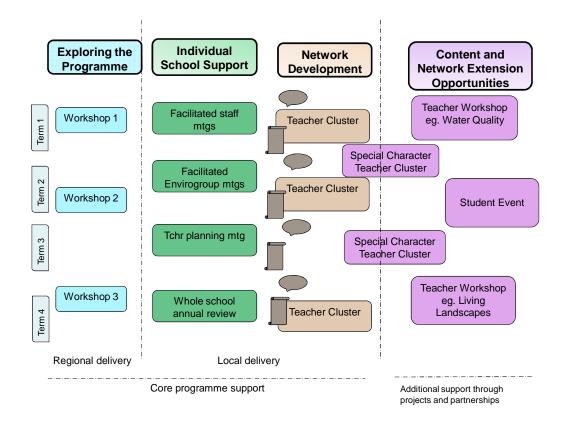
<u>Programme support</u> is provided regionally and locally with Regional Councils generally providing funding for coordination and territorial authorities (TAs) providing funding for facilitators to work directly with schools.

<u>Direct Programme implementation</u> happens in the schools themselves. With support from a facilitator, schools source their own funds to implement projects. There is a significant time investment from schools. They also release teachers from their budgets and at times provide management units for teachers to lead the programme in the school. They also input directly into programme development by sharing their experiences of what works with other schools.

This structure and the sharing and support nature of the approach means that what comes in from other funding sources makes a difference to the return on investment for all partners in the network. In this region all the territorial authorities are contributing. Increasing support from Greater Wellington Regional Council over the past two years has also meant that the regional structure is strong.

#### Where territorial authority funding fits

Figure 1 below outlines the elements of programme support that have been shown over time to be effective in assisting schools to move forward with their journey.



Core programme support, essential to the provision of the network in the region, involves:

- a series of workshops run each year for teacher leaders of the programme to explore the nature of the programme and how it might work best in their individual schools (these are operated and funded regionally, in this case funding is from the Regional Council)
- individually facilitated support for each school engaged with the programme to plan their approach, select projects, take action and reflect on progress made over time (available specifically for registered Enviroschools and funded locally through TAs)
- networking development where information is shared throughout the network via newsletters, ongoing individual and group communication from the facilitator and through structured opportunities for teachers to share ideas in clusters (available to all schools and also funded locally through TAs and Trusts)

The aspect that we request funding from Territorial authorities is the second two bullet points, the local delivery arm of core programme support.

The importance of additional content and networking opportunities (shown to the right hand side of the diagram) are becoming increasingly clear, particularly in the Wairarapa where there are relatively few other Environmental Education providers. Enviroschools in this region is working

towards making sure that these opportunities are available to schools through applying for additional grants and working in partnership with other organisations.

#### Budget required to keep pace locally

2014/15 funding (\$9000 pa from South Wairarapa and \$5,500 pa from Carterton) was not sufficient to provide core support at the level we know is required for genuine progress and to keep pace with what schools in other parts of the region are receiving. During the 2014/15 financial year we were able to supplement funding from South Wairarapa and Carterton councils with a temporary grant from Trust House and a contribution from an Enviroschools Regional Capacity Building fund. These are not continuing in 2015/16.

To keep pace with other parts of the region \$20,000 of local funds would be needed to cover the local delivery of core programme support. This is similar to Masterton District where there is a similar sized network operating. In Masterton last year, the District Council provided \$17,500 with an additional \$3000 contributed by the Lands Trust Masterton.

We have begun discussions with Greytown Lands Trust to see whether they would consider contributing the Greytown portion of the funding here. We would ask for \$2000 (1/10<sup>th</sup> of the cost of running the programme since one of the ten schools involved are in Greytown). While there is some chance of success we are not confident as they have indicated they need to see a direct flow of support to Greytown School.

#### **Some funding options:** Grey = current request

Option	Cost to the councils pa	Level of support	Implications
Progressive Council funding	\$30,000	Core and extension support	Progressive level of support is available to the schools without Enviroschools needing to apply for additional funds
Keeping pace if Greytown Lands Trust doesn't contribute	\$20,000 pa	Core support secure	Solid support base for schools. Any additional funding sought can be used for extension opportunities
Keeping pace if Greytown Lands Trust contributes	\$18,000 pa	Core support secure	Core support level for schools relies on additional funding being secured from Greytown Lands Trust
Minimally scaled back (if Greytown Lands Trust contributes)	*\$14,500 pa	Individual support for schools will be slightly below the core support required to keep pace with other regions	Relies on additional funding being secured from Greytown Lands Trust, some risk of dissatisfaction
Scaled back	*\$14,500 pa	Scaling back individual support and network development	Real risk of reduced success in programme, inability to engage with all schools, potential dissatisfaction

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While we could still operate the programme under the current budget of \$14,500 pa, this would require scaling back delivery from what evidence shows is necessary to achieve good outcomes. There are significant risks associated with this, in particular dissatisfaction and reduced energy in the network.

Key budgets areas councils source their funding from:

- Community Development
- Solid Waste management

#### Conclusion

In conclusion, there is real value to the councils in increasing their investment in this long term programme with a proven track record and we would really like to work with you to ensure more great results from this programme in the community.

# Enviroschools Case Study - Carterton District Students at St Mary's School are empowered to make change



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## **Noticing**

As part of the Enviroschools Programme, Aroha, a class of year o-1 students at St Mary's School Carterton, were learning about things they liked and things they did not like in their school environment. They noticed that people put rubbish down the drains in the playground. This didn't seem quite right.

## Investigating

The class read 'Abigale the Happy Whale', a picture book by Peter Farrelly, and learned that rubbish going down the drain goes straight to the sea where the sea creatures live and can make the creatures sick. Like Abigale in the story, the students from Aroha wanted to come up with a solution to stop people putting rubbish down the drain and polluting the sea.

They thought of covering the drains so that the rubbish couldn't get down the drains. They realised that that wasn't such a great idea because it would stop the rain water going down the drains as well. Rain water needs to go somewhere and that's why the drains were there. Aroha brainstormed how they could make other people in the school notice the drains and maybe that would help them to be more careful with their rubbish.

They decided that painting sea creatures on the concrete around the drains, in bright colours, might make people stop and think before they put rubbish down the drain!

Before the students could start the job of painting, they needed to know what others thought of the idea. They asked the other classes in the school and almost all students liked the class' idea. They also wrote to the Board of Trustees. The Board thought it was a wonderful idea and permission was happily granted.



"Mmmm. I wonder what happens to rubbish and water that goes down the drains."



## **Taking Action**

So the class set to work. Designs were drawn up and voted on, and paint colours decided on.



Look at our results!

## Reflecting on change

It is hoped that in the future the other drains in their school can be painted as well!

Aroha think their drains look great but they have noticed that the cleaner still pours soapy water straight down the drains and this can make sea creatures sick too! Aue! They have realised that they may need to do some more education to go with their paintings.

The Enviroschools team want to help out and are piloting a project that will potentially see drains all over the region painted to highlight what happens at the other end of the drain and ensure that there is an education package for the students and the community to go with it.



St Mary's School has been an Enviroschool since 2007. There have been many projects discussed, designed, dreamed about and many ideas have been followed through with. St Mary's has created vegetable beds, recycled, composted, designed and redeveloped their toilet block, and so much more.

In 2014 St Mary's School whole school topic was 'Our People, Our Place'. Each class researched and decided on an action to enhance our school environment. One class designed a native bird fence, another set about designing an orchard and this is when the drains were painted. During 2014 we also became a Bronze Enviroschool. We still have many ideas, modifications of existing enhancements, and lots of talking and caring for our environment to do. Every little bit helps!



### 2014 School Year

#### Report on Enviroschools Wellington service delivery for Carterton and South Wairarapa District Councils

Enviroschools Wellington

**Vision:** For all schools and ECE centres in the region to making progress towards an ongoing integrated approach to education for sustainability. **Enviroschools Contribution:** To provide a framework and support network that advances us towards this vision.

#### **Summary of Network Participation:**

Participation	Schools			Representing
		Carterton	South Wairarapa	
Registered Enviroschools - receiving in-depth support on an ongoing sustainability journey	9 60%	Carterton School Gladstone School South End School St Mary's Schools	Featherston Greytown Pirinoa St Teresa's Tuturumuri	1216 students and their families
Connected to the network  - in contact with us or with sustainability providers we are in contact with eg. Friends, Te Aho Tū Roa Kura, schools actively engaged in other programmes	4 30%		South Featherston School (registered as an Enviroschool in 2015) Martinborough Kahutara Kuranui College	
Total Reach	13 90%			
Not connected to the network at this stage	2 10%	Ponatahi Christian School Dalefield School		

**GWRC's Brett Cockeram shares his** 

knowledge of Galaxiids

#### **Summary of Network Activity**

#### **Network Highlights:**

**Fish Migration 22 May 2014, Uhi Manuka Carter's Reserve, Carterton.** Six Wairarapa Enviroschools (including 3 from Carterton and South Wairarapa Districts) came to Carter's Reserve to learn about New Zealand's endangered native fish. They were supported by experts from the Greater Wellington Regional Council, Department of Conservation and the local marae, Te Hurunui o Rangi. The students' mission was to experience what it means to be citizen scientists. They were tasked with taking their learning away to share with others and to use in their own local communities.

The focus was on the 'famous five' species of native fish called galaxiids. Galaxiids have a complicated lifecycle which includes migration between the sea and freshwater. Many will be familiar with their juvenile form, when they can all be caught as whitebait. Working with real scientists, the students got to learn about some important aspects of the job and their passion for our native species.

Matariki Event South Featherston - August 2014. Approximately 60 South Wairarapa Enviroschool school students from Martinborough, St Teresa's and Greytown gathered in Featherston to enjoy hands-on science, kitemaking, games and story-telling. Students examined the cultural and environmental significance of neighbouring Lake Wairarapa and its wetlands. They saw how plants purify water and learnt how important Kahaki (fresh water mussels) are as water purifiers and as a food source to people who lived around the lake. Children heard about how Māori made kites from the natural materials, one example being Nukupewapewa, a Wairarapa chief, who used a kite to lower a warrior into an enemy pa and open the gates. Students constructed their own kites from natural materials.

Pirinoa School, St Mary's School and South End School celebrated becoming Bronze Enviroschools.

**Enviroschools Census** In November 2014, The Enviroschools Foundation carried out a National Census of activity in Enviroschools across the country. A report sharing the results of this for regional partners is currently at press (1.6.15).



Natalie Childs Year 5, St Teresa's School

## Key activity within individual registered Enviroschools:

Enviroschool	Areas of sustainability included in curriculum	Active action projects related to sustainability	Reflection stage
Carterton School	- native fish learning and learning about the local history and waterways - native area of the school	-Waste reduction and recycling, gardening and active travel practices embedded Strong links with Hurunuiorangi Marae Planting in the along the Mangatarere Stream Native area planting in the school	Student empowerment strong student groups. Preparing to reflect at Silver.
St. Mary's School	-waste in particular plastic, and - storm water	- Murals and beautification projects	Recognised as a Bronze Enviroschool.
-garden programmes for students and the planning and realisation of a 'thinking garden'		<ul> <li>Murals and beautification projects.</li> <li>Planting at Mangatarere Stream.</li> <li>Developing links with Hurunuiorangi Marae.</li> </ul>	Recognised as a Bronze Enviroschool.
Gladstone School	Education for Sustainability embedded in curriculum	<ul><li>Developing links with Hurunuiorangi Marae.</li><li>Recycling and waste min processes embedded.</li></ul>	Preparing to reflect at Green- Gold
Greytown School  - waste reduction and recycling - environmental science - senior classes planning various action projects through environmental literacy.		-Waste audit - Embedded recycling, - garden project - Strong links with Papawai Marae.	Retained Green-Gold status. Work at Green-Gold stage - providing leadership for other schools.
Featherston School	Garden programmes for students.	-Embedded waste and recycling procedures.	Working at Bronze stage
St. Teresa's School	Garden programmes for students.	<ul> <li>Planting around Wairarapa Moana</li> <li>Embedded waste and recycling procedures.</li> <li>Developing strong relationships with Te Wakaiti marae.</li> </ul>	Working at Bronze stage

Pirinoa School	<ul> <li>Soil</li> <li>Planning for school orchard and the school paddock</li> </ul>	1 1 1 1 <b>1</b>	Embedded waste recycling, garden. beach clean-ups, planting and restoration of penguin habitat.	Confirmed as a Bronze Enviroschool.
Tuturumuri School	-Garden programmes	-	Embedded waste and recycling procedures.	

# Submission to Draft Long Term Plan South Wairarapa and Carterton <sup>95</sup> District Councils 2015-25

Name: Toimata Foundation Contact person: Kristen Price, Operations Manager

Postal Address: PO Box 4445, Hamilton, 3247 Physical Address: Lockwood House, 293 Grey Street, Hamilton

Phone: 07 959 7321 Email: kristen.price@toimata.org.nz We do NOT wish to speak to this submission

## Requesting increased support for the Enviroschools Programme to keep pace with growth in the region

We would like to acknowledge South Wairarapa and Carterton District Councils for supporting young people in your region to be part of the Enviroschools network since 2005.

The Enviroschools Programme is a nationwide action-based education programme where young people plan, design and implement sustainability projects and become catalysts for change in their communities. Enviroschools was originally developed in the late 1990's by councils in Waikato as a non-regulatory tool and has now been adopted by 51 councils, including most of the larger councils and two-thirds of the total sector.

The programme is managed nationally by Toimata Foundation (a charitable trust). During April 2015 the name of our organisation changed from The Enviroschools Foundation to Toimata Foundation. The two programmes currently supported by the Foundation, Te Aho Tū Roa and Enviroschools, are retaining their current names, logos and identities. We wrote to the Mayor/Chair and Chief Executive of all our partner councils on the 20<sup>th</sup> April with more information about this change.

Toimata Foundation has funding from the Ministry for the Environment and works closely with the Department of Conservation. Regional implementation of Enviroschools is through partnerships with Local Government and other community agencies. This multi-sector collaboration has enabled nearly 1,000 schools and early childhood education (ECE) centres to now be involved – representing 30% of the school sector and 5% of the large early childhood sector. Locally, 10 of South Wairarapa and Carterton schools are part of the Enviroschools network.

This submission encourages the councils to increase their support for Enviroschools to enable schools in the districts to receive the same level of support that other partner agencies in the region are providing, based on clear evidence of what schools need to achieve outcomes over time.

#### Highlights from recent programme evaluation

Toimata Foundation has been working with a team of external evaluators to quantify the actions undertaken and record the beneficial outcomes of the programme observed by schools and ECE participating in Enviroschools. In late 2014 a nationwide survey of all Enviroschools was conducted as part of the evaluation process. The survey is very robust, with a 73% response rate and highlights include:

- Wide participation Schools were equally able to participate in the Enviroschools Programme across all deciles, sectors and regions.
- All age groups (early childhood, primary and secondary) are taking environmental action across a
  wide variety of areas including waste, water, biodiversity, food production, energy and ecobuilding.
- Community collaboration- Enviroschools fosters significant community collaboration, creating leadership pathways for students and real connections to families, outside agencies and communities.
- Zero Waste Almost all Enviroschools (100%)<sup>1</sup> are taking a range of actions to reduce waste.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Due to rounding - of 688 schools surveyed, 686 are taking actions to reduce waste.

- Food production Most Enviroschools (97%) are growing and harvesting produce from their gardens/trees for cooking, selling and gifting.
- Biodiversity projects are well developed, with clear links to community 96% of respondents had biodiversity projects with 86,859 trees planted in 2014 (86% of which were native trees).
- Successful water projects Three quarters of Enviroschools (75%) are undertaking a range of actions for water quality and conservation, including 19,264 meters of riparian planting in 2014.
- Tackling energy usage Just over two-thirds of Enviroschools (69%) are involved in energy projects, including actions for sustainable transport (47%) and energy conservation actions (34%).
- Enviroschools is contributing to a range of other outcomes including citizenship, health, cultural understanding, motivated learners and community participation.
- Depth of practice is related to the extent of outcomes Results showed that the depth of practice increases with the length of time a school or ECE centre is involved in Enviroschools. Nearly two thirds of participating schools/centres (62%) report 'quite well developed' or 'deep embedded' practice. Further, the survey results show a clear link between depth of practice and the extent to which the programme is contributing to outcomes. This reinforces the value of the long-term approach of the Enviroschools Programme.

"The strength of Enviroschools lies in the collaborations and multiple relationships that have been established and continue to be nurtured through its model of facilitated, networked and distributed leadership, engaging communities, schools and other stakeholders in action aimed at creating sustainable communities." The evaluators, Kinnect Group

#### Conclusion

The Enviroschools Programme has a proven track record of being an effective approach for engaging schools and communities in environmental and social action.

With the backbone support of Toimata Foundation, and a network of councils around the country, the programme catalyses learning and action among thousands of young people, their families and communities from early childhood to secondary school. By connecting and coordinating resources and people, openly building and sharing knowledge across communities, widespread action is enabled on a broad scale.

As a funder, the partnership with Enviroschools provides South Wairarapa and Carterton District Councils with multiple points of leverage across the community, extending the possible impact of its funding beyond what might be expected with a more traditional approach.





PO Box 444, Masterton, New Zealand Ph:(06) 370 6263 email:davidp@mstn.govt.nz web:nzballoons.co.nz

Our Objectives : promote the economic development of the Wairarapa region, and engender community pride in the residents of the Wairarapa.

\_\_\_\_\_

#### **Grant Application to the Wairarapa District Councils**

18<sup>th</sup> May 2015

**Dear Mayors and Councillors** 

The Wairarapa Balloon Society is intending to hold the Wairarapa Balloon Festival in early March 2016 – tentative dates are 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> March. We are again seeking the support of the three Wairarapa District Councils to help us stage this now iconic event in our region.

Hot air balloons and the Wairarapa are a natural partnership — we have a wide open valley, unrestricted air space and usually favourable weather. Locals and visitors will be thrilled by the colourful, early morning spectacle of multiple hot-air balloons drifting across our skies or the burner parade lighting up our main streets of balloons glowing to an orchestrated soundtrack at the night glow.

With the exception of the night glow, all aspects of the event are free to the public, making it accessible to everyone. Children and families love the event and they are a key focus in our planning for 2016. We aim for the Balloon Festival to be a feel-good, family fun event that attracts people into our region.

In 2014 we focused our efforts on ensuring we had local support to continue with the event. Our finances were at a low ebb following the wash-out of the 2014 night glow. The message we had back from the Wairarapa business community was that we must not lose the event. We needed to re-build and re-focus in 2015 with a view to it being sustainable into the future.

We ran a successful event in March 2015. We brought a special shape balloon from the USA (Pegleg Pete) and built our marketing around that shape. We also promoted the flying skills and competitive aspects of the sport of hot-air ballooning. We have added several new committee members, including local business people. For 2015, we raised over 20% of our funding from the local business community with a series of sponsorship packages. This sponsorship helped us run a financial surplus to replace the loss made in 2014.

We employ an expert balloonmeister, Martyn Stacey from Christchurch. Martyn works closely with the Civil Aviation Authority. He is in charge of the overall flying programme, safety, regulation of certifications to fly and the competition aspects of the event. Martyn is current president of BANZ – the Balloon Association of New Zealand.

The event continues to rely on a base level of funding from the local Councils and charitable trusts. We believe the positive national profile we generate through national TV and print media coverage is invaluable for our region. We aim to promote the Wairarapa as a quality domestic

tourism destination. The ability of social media to boost the profile of the region is also well recognised and was again proven in 2015 with extensive coverage through this medium. We will continue to work with Destination Wairarapa to assist with promotion of the 2016 event.

We recognise that ballooning is highly weather-dependent - there are risks around flying in unfavourable weather and we remain very safety conscious. We try very hard not to disappoint the public. We have a proven track record of managing the event's budget within the funding available.

We have yet to set budgets for our 2016 event, but we anticipate more balloons will attend than this year (at least 25). We are committed to the balloon festival remaining an iconic and key feature of the Wairarapa and greater Wellington region's event calendar and trust the Councils will continue to support us.

Thank you for considering our application.

Yours faithfully

#### **Jonathan Hooker**

Chairman

Wairarapa Balloon Society inc.





#### LONG TERM PLAN SUBMISSION

2<sup>nd</sup> June 2015

The Wairarapa Healthy Homes (WHH) steering committee is a broad-based community initiative that was established in 2004. Since then we have assisted the installation of energy efficient, retrofit measures into over 2,220 Wairarapa homes (up until April 2015).

Warmer, drier homes provide real benefits to people living in those homes and to the wider community.

The project has leveraged off funding from the Energy Efficiency & Conservation Authority (EECA's) grant schemes. The EECA schemes have required a community funding component, which WHH has raised and coordinated. The EECA and WHH subsidies have enabled the retrofit measures to benefit those who need them most in our community.

The community subsidy has always targeted homes that have met criteria, which include residents with health needs and/or low income. The Government's policy currently targets people who fit those criteria. The level of community funding and a subsidy contributed by our service provider, has allowed the retrofitting of the homes to be done at no cost to the resident. We again seek the support of the Wairarapa Councils to assist with the community funding component of the project in the 2015/16 year.

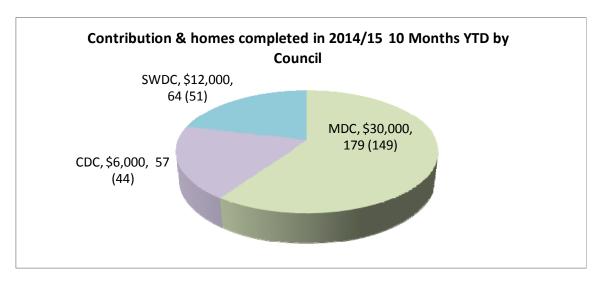
Energy efficiency retrofits involve installing measures such as insulation (ceiling & under-floor), weather proofing and hot water cylinder wraps into homes to make them warmer, drier, healthier and less costly to heat. The project has targeted the homes of people most in need and has utilised referrals from social agencies – ie individuals and families who will receive the most benefit. The local community funding aspect is essential in assisting those families who are less able to be able to afford to pay for the measures.

The WHH steering group is chaired by Mr Bob Francis (former chairman of the Wairarapa DHB) and includes representatives from the three Wairarapa Councils, DHB staff, Work & Income NZ staff, Trust House's housing division and Terra Lana t/a EnergySmart (the contractor who delivers the retrofit work).

The WHH steering committee expected to contribute \$100,000 from our community towards the Government's revised EECA 'Warm Up New Zealand: Heat Smart' scheme this year. EECA accepted an ambitious programme of 400 homes in the Wairarapa for the 2014/15 year, all of which were to be done free to the home-owner/occupier. The WHH subsidy was fixed at \$250 per home. The average cost of the work per home was estimated at \$3,328.

300 homes have been completed and received the EECA & WHH subsidy at 10 months through the year (compared to 244 over 12 months last year). The WHH funding remains on track to be fully spent by the 30 June 2015.

The graph below shows the grant funding from the three Councils and the numbers of homes insulated (full prior year in brackets).



The success of EECA's delivery of their Warm Up NZ programme in its first two years has meant, for the third year they have less funding available than expected. In negotiation with EnergySmart, EECA have proposed a reduction in the subsidy rate they pay (to 50%) and less homes in the programme. The Government has yet to announce (through the budget) what future funding will be allocated to EECA to continue the programme beyond June 2016.

The need to insulate houses in the Wairarapa still exists. Work done by MSD has shown there are still some 3,300 homes yet to be retrofitted that could be eligible under the EECA criteria of *low income and/or health needs*. Community funding remains as a requirement to gain access to the EECA subsidy.

In 2015/16 WHH intend subsidising \$575 (incl GST) to each of 174 home-owners in the Wairarapa who qualify – that will require \$100,000 from our community. We will request a greater share of funding from the Wairarapa DHB than they provided this year. Charitable trust grant funding will also be applied for, to make up the balance of funding needed.

The three Wairarapa Councils are asked to again include a grant to the Wairarapa Healthy Homes programme in your 2015/16 budgets. We request:

Masterton District Council	\$30,000
Carterton District Council	\$ 6,000
South Wairarapa District Council	\$12,000.

		excl GST
174 homes (CSC & health needs), WHH subsidy of \$575	\$	87,000
Wairarapa DHB		20,000
Trust House Foundation		20,000
Masterton DC		30,000
Sth Wairarapa DC		12,000
Carterton DC		6,000
Projected carried forward from 2014/15	-	1,000
	\$	87,000

We appreciate the support the Councils have given for this very successful community project over the last eleven years.

Should you have any queries or require further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

#### Mr R. C. (Bob) Francis

Chairman of Wairarapa Healthy Homes Project Steering Group



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2 June 2015

South Wairarapa District Council PO Box 6 Martinborough 5741

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on the South Wairarapa District Council Draft Long Term Plan 2015 -2025.

Council and Regional Public Health have a common agenda – working with communities where they live, work and play to improve and protect their quality of life. Regional Public Health (RPH) wants to work with Council to make our common goal achievable and easier for our communities. By finding mutual points of interest and working together we can be more efficient, reduce the burden of engagement on our communities and be more effective in our policy implementation. A collaborative approach will also facilitate smarter use of each agencies finite resources.

This submission provides a public health perspective and information for Council to consider in their planning decisions. South Wairarapa District Council's (SWDC) policy and planning are an integral part to the health and wellbeing of our communities.

We recognise that this is the first round of the new LTP consultation documents and congratulate you on summarizing a large amount of important information into a short document. We hope to reflect this process with a concise submission. To achieve this we have selected two priority areas RPH would like to progress with Council during 2015-2025: Smokefree NZ 2025 and reducing obesity through healthy food policies.

We would appreciate the opportunity to make an oral submission and we will be pleased to provide further information or clarification on any of the points raised in our submission. The contact point is:

Kiri Waldegrave

Senior Public Health Advisor

Email: kiri.waldegrave@huttvalleydhb.org.nz

Phone: 04 570 9130

**Yours Sincerely** 

Dr Jill McKenzie Peter Gush

Medical Officer of Health Service Manager

#### How this document is structured:

- A. An overview of Regional Public Health.
- B. General comments on the Long Term Plan (LTP).
- C. Responses to your specific questions.
- D. RPH priorities on improving the wellbeing of our shared communities by working towards a Smokefree NZ 2025 and reducing and preventing obesity.

#### A. WHO WE ARE - Regional Public Health

Regional Public Health (RPH) is a regional service based at Hutt Valley District Health Board and serving the greater Wellington region. Our business is public health action - working to improve the health and wellbeing of our population and to reduce health disparities. We aim to work with others to promote and protect good health, prevent disease, and improve quality of life across the population. We are funded mainly by the Ministry of Health but also have contracts with District Health Boards and other agencies to deliver specific services.

We have a particular focus on children, Māori and Pacific populations. Our staff include a range of occupations comprising: medical officers of health, public health advisors, public health analysts, health protection officers, vision and hearing technicians and public health nurses.

#### **B. GENERAL COMMENTS ON YOUR LONG TERM PLAN**

RPH respects and acknowledges that SWDC decisions have a significant impact on health. We see this through appropriate management of infrastructure (e.g. water and sewage) and creating environments that support wellbeing through reducing the exposure to tobacco, facilitating access to healthy food and promoting urban design that encourages physical activity. This is the basis for making a submission on your Long Term Plan (LTP).

RPH supports SWDC outcomes to have a healthy and economically secure community. RPH outcomes are also centred on healthy communities, families and people. It is important to ensure equity across the community, where social and economic opportunities are accessible to all; this allows for greater resilience to external pressures and fosters a sense of place among the community. RPH would like to work closely with Council, in partnership, to ensure that these outcomes are equitably achieved.

We commend Council for highlighting the potential changing environment for tangata whenua post Treaty of Waitangi settlement and how this may change the working relationship with tangata whenua. We support Council's plan to assess opportunities, roles and initiatives to foster iwi and community empowerment, this will ensure greater partnership and co-governance. There are successful examples of co-governance structures for the management of areas of significance for tangata whenua, such as the Porirua Harbour and Catchment Strategy. We congratulate Council on your intention to keep the community updated as more information becomes available around the Treaty settlement process.

We also note in the LTP Council's progress made on some projects since the last LTP (for example, the Waihinga Centre and Featherston Town Square). We commend Council for bringing to the attention of the community other projects that maybe of interest but do no yet require formal consultation. This signals the value that Council places on having input from an informed community.

Community outcomes are difficult and complex to measure. RPH commends Council for noting the uncertainties and challenges that South Wairarapa faces in the long term; specifically New Zealand's changing demographic trends of increases in the number of older people. Council has noted that the median age of the population of the region will rise to 50.1 years by 2043. It will be important that Council align decisions on infrastructure management with this trend to ensure resilience and ease of use in the long term.

RPH supports the district wide strategy for waste water treatment. We commend Council's aspirational plan for 100% discharge to land. We note that this is currently in the planning phase and suggest Council ensure current timeframes are seen as the upper limit for planned implementation. We recognise the challenges raised by a small community rating base, but an integrated strategy as noted in the LTP at least secures the option of summer discharges to land in the medium term for the three municipal waste water plants.

We think that a way to work towards improving quality of life for residents is for councils to incorporate a 'Health in All Policies' approach. This doesn't mean 'doing health policy'; rather, it means looking at the impact of policies, planning and decisions across-the-board on the health and wellbeing of our shared communities. An example of a 'Health in All Policies' (HiAP) approach has been undertaken by Christchurch City Council, with a focus on improved quality of life and how this can be achieved via actions from policy decisions. The HiAP approach incorporates problem solving by integrating health, wellbeing and equity into the planning, implementation and evaluation cycle. It seeks to maximise conversations between council and community, and problem solving with evidence to support action. Furthermore, it has an evaluation framework to assess the effectiveness of projects.

RPH has been learning from our public health colleagues in Christchurch about this approach. We are willing to explore such an approach if it is of interest to Council.

RPH can assist SWDC with public health policy advice on request. We have skilled staff who can participate in or provide advice on policy/planning development and implementation processes.

#### **Fluoride**

Community Water Fluoridation

It is likely that there will be submitters to the LTP who are opposed to community water fluoridation. RPH supports the use of community water fluoridation, based on national and international scientific research. Research from Australia has shown that fluoridation of water supplies serving

communities of over 1000 people has a net economic benefit, with avoidance of unnecessary dental treatments especially general anaesthetics in children.<sup>1</sup>

Wairarapa District Health Board (WDHB) covers the SWDC geographic area and therefore, for consistency in advice, we have included WDHB's position on community water fluoridation.

"The Wairarapa District Health Board endorses community water fluoridation as an effective public health measure contributing to the maintenance of oral health, prevention of tooth decay and reduction in health inequalities. Community water fluoridation is a low cost measure that benefits people of all ages with natural teeth and has proven over the last 65 years to be very safe. Local drinking-water supplies that are already fluoridated should remain so. Where technically feasible, where local supplies are not fluoridated, local authorities are encouraged to implement water fluoridation programmes as soon as possible to improve the oral health of their communities."

RPH can continue to provide Council with the latest scientific research and work alongside Council staff to ensure clarification is provided to the community on water fluoridation issues.

#### C. IN RESPONSE TO YOUR SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

#### Rates affordability

Do you agree with the proposed overall average rates increase for the next 10 years, enabling the proposed expenditure outlined in this document?

No comment.

If no what general rates increase do you support?

No comment.

1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Cost effectiveness of extending the coverage of water supply fluoridation for the prevention of dental caries in Australia. Community Dent Oral Epidemiol 2012; 40: 369-76.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> http://www.huttvalleydhb.org.nz/content/64ba1cff-c2a3-4af5-b0cb-32fc215cee03.cmr

#### Sewerage

In what time frame should irrigation to land be completed? 35 years/ 25 years/ other

RPH would like to reiterate that wastewater management is a priority and would support SWDC implementing irrigation to land as soon as practicable.

#### **Roading**

Should road maintenance service levels be: Maintained/reduced/increased

No comment.

#### **Seal extensions**

No extension/1 km extension/2 km extension

No comment.

Where do you think the seal extension should be done?

No comment.

#### **Footpaths**

Do you support the establishment of rural footpaths (lime walkways) through rural rates?

Yes.

If yes how should they be prioritized?

We support option 2. This allows for integrated planning with cycling, which will be a more efficient approach.

#### Pensioner (Community) Housing

Do you consider Pensioner Housing part of our core business?

No comment

#### Levels of Service (LoS)

Maintain the current LoS/Increase LoS/reduce LoS

No comment

Do you support the following INIATIVES? Increased Fees and Charges as opposed to general rates increase

No comment

#### **Coastal Reserve Development**

RPH supports Council's development of Coastal Reserve Plans. Such plans recognise the contribution of open spaces to the social, cultural, economic and environmental wellbeing of people.

#### **Cycle Trails**

RPH supports the development of a cycle strategy in 2015/16. As Council has highlighted walking and cycling has health benefits, is easy on the environment and provides greater connectivity.

In the development of a cycle strategy Council could link this to support for bike in schools programmes. The combined effect of infrastructure planning and cycling promotion would result in children learning bicycle safety and then having the confidence to use cycle routes that have connections from their home to school. Cycling for children encourages physical activity and improved understanding of the benefits of physical activity that contributes to reducing obesity.

#### Which digital services do you think are a priority for the Wairarapa?

Urban Ultra fast broadband/ Improved rural broadband/ mobile black spots

No comment.

#### **Strategies and Policies**

If you have any views on these please comment. If you would like to comment or propose something different now is your chance.

Specific comments are provided in the following section.

#### D. RPH PRIORITIES

RPH wants to support SWDC in planning for environments that reduce exposure to tobacco and facilitate access to healthy food and increased opportunities for physical activity.

#### **SMOKEFREE 2025**

RPH congratulates SWDC for the progress you have made in this space already, for example through your smokefree environment policy which covers all facilities controlled by the council. We see this as a key step towards achieving the Smokefree 2025 goal and normalising smokefree environments.

#### What are the public health issues?

Tobacco smoking kills approximately 5000 New Zealanders every year. Smoking is the main cause of lung cancer and is a significant contributory cause to many other cancers and chronic diseases.

Our public health advisors (tobacco) work in many areas including enforcement of the Smokefree Environments Act, supporting smokefree policies and better help for smokers to quit - all of which support the Government's goal of a Smokefree New Zealand by 2025.

#### Our goals are:

- Creating environments that normalises being smokefree.
- More smokefree environments.
- Fewer young people and children start smoking.
- More smokers quit.

#### RPH can work with Council to demonstrate leadership in achieving Smokefree NZ 2025 by:

- 1. Helping Council in the development of a licence scheme for tobacco retailers (thus facilitating reducing the sales to young people and minors).
- 2. Encouraging Council and workplaces to provide smoking cessation workshops for staff.
- 3. Working with Council to develop smokefree policy and clauses for Council sponsored or affiliated events.
- 4. Working with Council on providing smokefree rental accommodation.

RPH has a range of smokefree resources and health information available, including banners for loan free of charge. Please contact us if you would like support for your smokefree community event.

#### **REDUCING AND PREVENTING OBESITY**

RPH recognises and supports SWDC's previous work on supporting increased physical activity, for example supporting the development of cycleways and pedestrian walkways. We would like to continue to support SWDC with strategies to increase physical activity, such as providing input into the Cycle Strategy.

RPH recommends SWDC now gives focus to the next level of intervention, to create an environment that supports easy access to healthy, affordable food in communities where people live, learn, work and play. SWDC has an opportunity to show leadership in identifying and implementing strategies that support and promote healthy food provision in communities, Council owned premises, vending machines, catering and sponsored events.

#### What are the public health issues?

Childhood obesity is one of the most serious public health challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Having good food choices and opportunities for physical activity is imperative. The Prime Minister's chief science advisor, Sir Peter Gluckman, recently stated in a World Health Organisation report on ending childhood obesity:

"There is an understandable tendency to see obesity as a problem for the health sector, but preventing childhood obesity demands the coordinated contributions of government ministries and institutions responsible for policies on education, food, agriculture, commerce and industry, finance/revenue, sport and recreation, media and communication, environmental and urban planning, transport and social affairs."

By next year, it is projected that excessive body weight will overtake tobacco use as the leading risk to health, making obesity a significant issue for New Zealand<sup>4</sup>. International research recognises the close relationship between healthier populations and economic prosperity, arguing that healthy populations stimulate economic growth, lower health care costs, lure new businesses and create jobs<sup>5</sup>.

#### What role does the Council have in reducing and preventing obesity via healthy food policy?

SWDC is fortunate to have productive land within in its region. The area is known for its horticulture and agriculture, and this offers unique opportunities to partner with local schools and community groups to share knowledge about growing and producing fresh healthy food. RPH would welcome the opportunity to work with Council or support Council working on such projects.

<sup>4</sup> Briefing to incoming health minister 2014 <a href="http://www.health.govt.nz/publication/briefing-incoming-minister-health-2014">http://www.health.govt.nz/publication/briefing-incoming-minister-health-2014</a>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> WHO interim report of the commission on ending childhood obesity. World Health Organization 2015, p.23 http://www.who.int/end-childhood-obesity/commission-ending-childhood-obesity-interim-report.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Reeve,B., Ashe,M., Farias, R., Gostin, L.. State and Municipal Innovations in Obesity Policy: Why Localities Remain a Necessary Laboratory for Innovation. American Journal of Public Health: 105.3 (March 2015): 442-450.

A further range of opportunities are available to SWDC to contribute to affordable, healthy food access, as well as the reduction and prevention of obesity. These opportunities could include supporting/promoting:

- community gardens and markets
- opportunities for cooking and nutrition literacy
- food policy for council owned facilities and events
- implementing good urban design principles (e.g. Featherston Town Square)

Policy and environmental change have been identified as the foundation of obesity prevention in an environment that promotes eating too much and moving too little<sup>6789</sup>. Food policy is a cost effective and sustainable tool to support a healthy nutrition culture. An example of this this is provided within the Healthy Together Victoria's *Achievement Programme*<sup>10</sup>, and by an increasing number of District Health Boards and some councils. Within our region, Hutt City Council has been designated as a site for the Healthy Families NZ initiative, which is based on the Healthy Together Victoria model. This provides a local case for how healthy nutrition (in addition to focussing on other risk factors for poor health) can be implemented, utilising cross sector engagement with central government, local government and District Health Boards.

RPH would like to work alongside SWDC to support and prioritise strategies that impact the food environment and the significant and unequal burden of nutrition related diseases in the Wairarapa region.

<sup>7</sup> Harvard School of Public Health<sup>. The</sup> Obesity Prevention Source <u>www.hsph.harvard.edu/obesity-prevention-source/</u> (accessed 2 June 2012)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Egger G, Swinburn B. An "ecological" approach to the obesity pandemic. BMJ 1997;315: 477-80.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Haby M, Vos T, Carter R et al. A new approach to assessing the health benefit from obesity interventions in children and adolescents: the assessing cost-effectiveness in obesity project. Int J Obes 2006;30:1463-75.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Vos T, Carter R, Barendregt J et al. Assessing Cost Effectiveness in Prevention (ACE Prevention): Final Report. Brisbane: University of Queensland and Melbourne: Deakin University; 2010.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>http://www.achievementprogram.healthytogether.vic.gov.au/downloads/Accessible\_PDFs/Workplace/Benchmarks/Heal thy\_Eating\_Benchmarks\_WP.pdf

Submitted on Tuesday, 2 June 2015 - 12:29pm Submitted by anonymous user: [210.86.70.88] Submitted values are:

#### --Submitter Details--

Name of Submitter: Greytown Sport and Leisure Society

Organisation: Address: Po Box 106 GREYTOWN

Phone: (027)7304999

Email:

Rate Payer Type: Urban

Age: Ethnicity:

Do you want to receive the "Stakeholder Update" email from SWDC?

Yes

#### --Submission Hearings--

I/We would like to speak to our submission: Yes

Speaking Preference: June 11th am

#### --Rates Affordability--

Do you support increased Fees and Charges (i.e. higher dog registration) as opposed to a general rates increase? : Yes Do you agree with the proposed overall average general rates increase for the next 10 years? : Agree If not what general rates increase do you support? Other:

--Development Initiatives--

Do you support the following initiatives?

- Coastal Reserve Development
- Cycle trails

#### --Overall Level of Service (LoS)--

With regard to LoS, should we: Increase LoS

#### --Sewerage--

In what timeframe should irrigation to land be completed? 25

Years

Other:

#### --Roading--

Should road maintenance service levels be: Increased

Seal extensions: 2km extension

Where do you think seal extensions should be done?

--Footpaths--

Do you support the establishment of rural footpaths (lime walkways) through rural rates? Yes If yes, how should they be prioritised?

--Pensioner (Community) Housing--

Do you consider Pensioner Housing part of our core business: No

-- Digital Services --

Which digital services do you think are a priority for the Wairarapa:

--Have Your Say--

Strategies and Policies:

Time for your say, if you would like to comment or propose something different now is the time:

Upload submission:

Upload additional information:

The results of this submission may be viewed at: <a href="http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/576/submission/472">http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/576/submission/472</a>



# SUBMISSION TO THE 2015-2025 SWDC LONG TERM PLAN GREYTOWN SOLDIERS MEMORIAL PARK

99

#### 1. Introduction

1.1 This submission, on behalf of the Greytown Sport and Leisure Society members and park users, refers to the Amenities section of the SWDC Draft LTP – 2015-2025. Firstly, it addresses projects proposed by Council, and then outlines a range of proposed projects to enhance existing facilities at Soldiers Memorial Park over, and beyond, the term of the LTP.

#### 2. Projects for 2015/16

- 2.1 The Society is heartened to see a commitment to "Establish a Soldiers Memorial Park Development Plan". \*\*
- 2.2 The Society on behalf of the users Greytown Swimming Club, local & district residents and visitors, congratulates Council on the recent Pool up-grades these have been favourably commented upon.
- 2.3 However, we are unsure whether the proposed 2015/16 project "Complete Pool Upgrades" includes other identified projects for the Soldiers Memorial Park Pool.
- 2.4 Similarly the Society is unsure what Council proposes by way of a "Youth focused facility in Greytown", and we are very interested in discussing further with the Council what support role the Society might be able to play.

#### 3. Projects for 2016/17 and Beyond

- 3.1 We note there are no specific sporting/recreational projects outlined for the balance of the draft LTP. However, we understand that council staff and personnel from City Care have been giving consideration to a number of projects covering both Operating and Capital Expenditure relating to both grounds and buildings within the park complex. Many of those projects may be similar to those identified below.
- 3.2 As part of their future planning a number of the Society's member clubs, as significant users of the Park, have taken a long term view of their development needs in relation to the Park. They have therefore identified a wide range of 'projects', many of which may be considered aspirational, but which would enhance the utility of the Park well beyond the 10 year timeframe of the 2015-2025 LTP.

#### 4. Soldiers Memorial Park- Clubs' Long Term Future Planning

#### 4.1 Cricket

- 1) Mobile covers for the cricket pitch
- Soil core sampling of the pitch and outfield to identify turf management strategies.
- 3) Provision of pop-up watering facilities for the pitch block and full outfield coverage.

- 4) Re-mediation of the current net facilities, including new wire cages and new turf in main net area and bowlers' run-up.
- 5) Provision of batters sight screens for the north and south sides of the pitch boundary.
- 6) Provision of a new outdoor storage shed to house equipment for either summer and winter codes so no shared facilities are needed.
- 7) Installing main light's to provide for day/night games this will also assist football to host such games.

#### 4.2 Tennis

- 1) Re-asphalting of courts within next ten years
- Installation of night lights to provide for more use of the courts during shorter days

#### 4.3 Pavilion

- 1) New carpet in the pavilion.
- 2) Upgrade of the current changing room facilities to include fixing the internal walls, painting/decorating etc.
- 3) Re-roofing of the main pavilion or alternatively repainting of the roof.

#### 4.4 Swimming

Greytown Swim Club priorities for development of the current Greytown Pool as follows:

- 1) Shorten pool to 25m to bring it in line with all other competition pools around the country and internationally.
- 2) Install starting blocks at one end of the pool
- 3) Ensure black lines/marking on the pool are maintained and clearly visible
- 4) Install ladders that are either removal (or do not protrude into the swimming lanes) to ensure ALL lanes can be used fairly for competition.
- 5) Upgrade the current facilities to include BBQ area, drinking fountain/drinks available for purchase – generally making the facility a more familyfriendly environment
- 6) Upgrade the changing rooms

Ideally the Greytown Sport and Leisure Society and the Greytown Swim Club would like to see an indoor aquatic facility in the South Wairarapa (to serve all the South Wairarapa towns and integrated with developments in Carterton) that is available to the whole community year round.

The Greytown Swimming Club doesn't believe covering the Greytown Pool to achieve this is a realistic option. The initial capital cost of such a project, combined with the ongoing operating costs are likely to make it unfeasible.

In an ideal world, the Greytown Swim Club would like to see the "Memorial Baths" retained and modernised (without losing their historical integrity & significance) so all the benefits of an outdoor facility can be enjoyed over the summer but also see a purpose-built indoor facility developed in the South

Wairarapa (to include Carterton) which can be utilised by all sectors of the community year round.

#### 4.5 Football

- 1) Provision of a new outdoor storage shed to house equipment for either summer and winter codes so no shared facilities are needed.
- 2) Installing main light's to provide for day/night games this will also assist football to host such games.

(See Cricket Points - 6&7; and Pavilion notes)

#### **4.6 RSA**

Memorial Wall – including re-siting of refurbished Gun.

#### 5. Improved Coordination of Park Development

- 5.1 Some of the 'projects' outlined may be considered or classified as Maintenance. Other work might be classified as Refurbishment/Remediation. These can be contrasted with 'significant projects' such as the provision of lighting systems to enable greater utilisation of the facility.
- 5.2 The Society would like to continue to contribute to coordinated and effective planning amongst Park users by building on its work with the Council in facilitating Park User Group meetings.
- 5.3 An annual schedule of meetings needs to be set at the beginning of each financial year and coordinated with the Council's planning processes.
- 5.4 There should also be a shared Council and Community process to:
  - 1) Develop a maintenance and development plan for the Park;
  - 2) Prioritise expenditure in relation to the Park; and
  - 3) Promote better understanding of Council and Community work on the maintenance and development of the Park.

#### 6. Pavilion Management

- 6.1 The Society is frustrated that the most recent initiative to clarify the management arrangements for the Pavilion have stalled. This is a saga that began in the early 1990's.
- 6.2 In order to make progress with this issue, the Society would like to engage in a dialogue with Council, whereby the Society might play a more hands on role in the day to day management of this wonderful facility on behalf of user clubs and the community. This has been previously discussed and agreed between the various parties. A suitable contract or MOU could help expedite this, and help provide greater certainty of guardianship for this important community asset for all parties.

#### 7. Presentation of Submission to Council

7.1 The Society would like to be heard on Wednesday or Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> /11 <sup>th</sup> June.
Paul Southey
Chairman
Greytown Sport and Leisure Society
+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++

## **SUBMISSION**



TELEPHONE 0800 327 646 | WEBSITE WWW.FEDFARM.ORG.NZ

To: South Wairarapa District Council

Submission on: Proposed Longterm Plan 2015-2025

Date: 2 June 2015

From: JAMIE FALLOON

**PRESIDENT** 

Wairarapa Federated Farmers

M 027 490 7390

E jamiefalloon@xtra.co.nz

Address for Service: Elizabeth McGruddy

SENIOR POLICY ADVISOR

Federated Farmers of New Zealand

PO Box 715

**WELLINGTON 6140** 

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#### INTRODUCTION

Federated Farmers welcomes the opportunity to comment on the South Wairarapa District Council's proposed Longterm Plan.

Rates and other local government fees and costs make up a significant portion of farm business expenses. As a result, Federated Farmers is keenly interested in the transparency of rate setting and the overall cost of local government to agriculture. Of particular interest to Federated Farmers are those activities which deliver value to the rural rate payers of the South Wairarapa District.

Federated Farmers wishes to be heard in support of its submission: **our preferred hearing time** is afternoon 10 June, preferably from around 3pm.

#### **GENERAL**

We commend council on good use of plain language. Unfortunately the typeface on the Consultation document is too tiny to read, especially the tables.

#### PROPOSED RATES INCREASES

Federated Farmers notes Councils' intent to hold increases to within 2% above the Local Government cost index; with the forecast average rates increase of 2.9%.

We note that MDC hold the purse strings a little tighter – their intent is to hold increases to within 1% of the LG cost index: we commend this approach to SWDC.

We note that \$120k expenditure is equivalent to a 1% rate increase: we commend council for putting this number on the table – it certainly helps sharpen focus. Coincidentally, this is approximately the sum proposed for seal extensions, and we return to this point below.

We acknowledge that council generally seeks to maintain existing services; and that the major drivers for rates increases are urban infrastructure, principally wastewater systems.

Our particular interest is the rating impact for farming properties: peering at the table suggests that:

- UAGC is going down by 10%
- UAC rural is going up 35.9%; but that
- The indicative impact on rural properties is rates dropping by 8-11%.

While we generally welcome forecast rates decreases, we strongly recommend a higher level of transparent information, both in the summary and in the supporting documents. For example:

- Number of rateable properties and proportion urban/commercial or farming/lifestyle
  - The supporting papers suggest there may be just around 500 farming properties in the district (350 pastoral, 100 horticulture) plus lifestyle properties
- Value of rateable properties and proportion from each ratepayer group
  - Both land value (currently used as the basis for the general rate) and capital value

- Total rate take and proportions from each main ratepayer group
  - Total rate take is around \$12m, forecast to increase to \$15.5m over the next ten years
  - The proportion from rural ratepayers looks to be around 30% (?) based on the rural general rate raising \$3.3m plus UAGC/Amenities (\$0.3m?) plus targetted rates
- Total costs and major services delivered for each main ratepayer group
  - Roading is the single biggest cost for the district (around 50%); presumably a higher proportion (?) of rural costs/services (which would usefully be broken down to sealed and unsealed a point we return to below)

Over the years, Federated Farmers have consistently requested transparent information from council to assist constructive feedback and discussion. Our request is especially pointed this year in light of possible amalgamations, inevitably involving consideration of new rating policies.

#### **RATING POLICY**

Firstly, re the UAGC:

- In previous years, we have commended SWDC for good use of the UAGC
- This year, it appears to have decreased, but it is not obvious by how much or why?
- The supporting papers note it is not more than 30%, but do not clearly state what it is?

Secondly, re the general rate:

- SWDC uses land value as the basis for the general rate
- Council has earlier undertaken an exercise identifying that the ratio of land to capital value was inconsistent across the district, ie, that movement to CV would result in 35% of ratepayers having a decrease, while 65% would increase
- For the present, council propose retaining land value.

Acknowledging the uncertainties around upcoming amalgamations, we support council maintaining the status quo.

That said; it will be important that this analysis come up on the table as part of any amalgamation discussions. In the interim, we request councils advice as to whether farming rates would generally increase or decrease in a shift to capital value?

#### **RATES REMISSION POLICIES**

We recommend that the rates remission policy be extended to provide for remission of UAGC and Reserves/Civic amenities charges for both contiguous and **non-contiguous** rating units.

#### **ROADING**

We commend council for providing a breakdown of the roading network:

- Rural 90%: 330km sealed, 270km unsealed
- Urban 10%: 50km sealed, 0.5km unsealed

We strongly recommend that council also present the proposed works programme, broken down by rural and urban.

The total works programme – capex and opex – looks to be around \$2.7m on average pa, ie, a significant proportion of rural rates but information is not presented to show what proportion of the expenditure is in fact on rural roads:

- Routine maintenance (average \$1.7m pa) is the biggest cost item; followed by
- Re-sealing (average \$0.6m pa), with provision made for re-sealing around 20 km/pa; followed by
- Metalling for unsealed roads (\$0.3m pa), all of which are rural.

In previous submissions, we have suggested consideration be given to the 'bang for buck" in maintaining gravel roads to a reasonable standard. To assist that discussion, we request:

- Firstly, that the proposed works programme be broken down to rural and urban
- Secondly, that average cost/km be presented for routine maintenance (urban/rural, sealed/unsealed) and ditto for re-sealing and metalling (currently the only average cost presented is for seal extensions).

Turning now to seal extensions: council propose that provision be made for 1km pa:

- This work is not subsidised by NZTA and would be fully funded from rates
- The unit cost is around \$120k/km; budget provision is made for a total of \$1.6m over the next ten years (average \$160k/pa)
- The driver is apparently that "rural subdivisions and urban sprawl create pressure for seal extensions"
- We note that council subdivision policies include the ability to seek financial contributions, including for roading
- Our reading is that council apparently propose that seal extensions be fully funded from rural rates?

We briefly make the point that these points were trawled from five different places in the supporting documents; ideally they'd be in one place to assist consideration and feedback.

More importantly, we seek council's clarification: are the proposed seal extensions on the urban fringe, and does council propose that these will be fully funded by rural ratepayers?

A final query: we understand the three local councils have a shared contract with Fulton-Hogan: we would appreciate council's assessment of any changes or improvements in cost structure or service levels.

#### **DOG CONTROL**

Council propose that dog control operations be self-funding; and to that end, council propose changes to the cost structure to raise an additional \$34k in revenue.

The supporting papers make the point that, for dog control, the urban community receive a higher benefit than the rural community: following that through – is Council able to provide a cost breakdown for rural and urban dogs?

#### **BROADBAND**

We support the Wai-Connect initiative. In regards to priorities, we suggest the following:

- Addressing mobile blackspots
- Improving rural broadband services
- Expanding ultrafast in urban areas

#### CONCLUSION

Wairarapa Federated Farmers thanks Council for the opportunity to provide feedback. Recapping key points and recommendations:

- Rating analysis: provide rating/service data broken down by each of the major ratepayer groups urban residential, commercial, rural lifestyle, farming.
- General rate: advise implications for farm sector of shift to CV
- Rates remission: extend to include non-contiguous properties
- **Roading analysis:** provide data breaking down proposed works into rural and urban, provide average costs for maintenance/resealing/metalling
- **Seal extension:** clarify the works proposed and who is paying

#### FEDERATED FARMERS OF NEW ZEALAND

Federated Farmers of New Zealand is a primary sector membership organisation representing farming families and rural businesses throughout New Zealand. The economic importance of the agricultural sector to New Zealand's economy is well recognised. Its direct and indirect contribution to New Zealand's economy is about 15% and land-based primary sector exports comprise about 70% of New Zealand's total exports. Any regulation or additional cost which affects farm businesses also has the potential to impact on the New Zealand economy.

#### **Submission Ends**

Submission to the South Wairarapa District Council Long Term Plan 2015-2025 from representatives of the Card Reserve user groups who were present at a meeting held on 14 May 2015.

Card Reserve is extensively used by Featherston and south Wairarapa sports groups, and sports such as football are growing. Featherston junior football now has teams in every grade, as well as adult teams. This year Featherston is the base for the combined Featherston/Greytown JAB rugby, while Featherston athletics make use of the sports fields in summer. The artificial surface is used for tennis, hockey and netball, and the stadium is busy with badminton, roller-skating and gymnastics as well as the youth programme's Ki-O-Rahi. The user groups believe Featherston has excellent facilities at Card Reserve and would like to see better utilisation of them by south Wairarapa sporting groups.

The Card Reserve users request that the following work be done under the Long Term Plan to enhance the usability of Card Reserve for all users :

- 1. Proper maintenance of the grass sports fields including rolling, spraying, re-sowing and other renewal works as required. The sports fields have historically been excellent; they are well-drained and can be used in winter when other sports fields become boggy, but they are in need of proper ongoing maintenance.
- 2. Remove the trees on Underhill Road beside the artificial turf to enable light and air to reach the turf. Install a proper kerb and drainage here and allow for off-road parking.
- 3. As parking is a big issue for major events, and even regular Saturday sport, consider turning the space between Underhill Road and the stadium into an additional car park. This could initially be done with base-course, and asphalted at a later stage.
- 4. Trim both sides of the remaining trees along Underhill Road, particularly along the road-side to facilitate improved parking.
- 5. Repair the existing grandstands on the east side of the stadium and look at providing additional seating for spectators.
- 6. Make alterations to the stadium so that access can be provided to the toilets directly from the exterior of the building. This will enable sports teams to use the toilets during Saturday sports without needing full stadium access.

Janine Price – roller-skating
Marise Rozing – junior football
Angie Smith – gymnastics
Garry Thomas – Featherston Community Board
Terry West – junior football
Liz Mellish – Card Reserve Artificial Stadium Trust
Janice Chappell – badminton, tennis
Rhonda Jones – Featherston Beautification Group
Laraine Kerr - Card Reserve Artificial Surface Trust, tennis, netball, senior football
Jan Thurston – Featherston Beautification Group
Mike van Woerkom – Card Reserve Artificial Surface Trust
Ron Hughes – athletics, rugby
Jan Stephen – Featherston Beautification Group

Submitted on Tuesday, 2 June 2015 - 1:31pm Submitted by anonymous user: [118.93.241.152] Submitted values are:

--Submitter Details--

Name of Submitter: Siv B. Fjaerestad

Rate Payer Type: Urban

Age: 35-44

Ethnicity: Norwegian

Do you want to receive the "Stakeholder Update" email from SWDC?

Yes

--Submission Hearings--

I/We would like to speak to our submission: No

Speaking Preference:

#### --Rates Affordability--

Do you support increased Fees and Charges (i.e. higher dog registration) as opposed to a general rates increase? : Yes Do you agree with the proposed overall average general rates increase for the next 10 years? : Disagree If not what general rates increase do you support? Other:

-- Development Initiatives--

Do you support the following initiatives?

- Coastal Reserve Development
- Cycle trails
- --Overall Level of Service (LoS)--

With regard to LoS, should we: Maintain the current LoS

--Sewerage--

In what timeframe should irrigation to land be completed? 35

Years

Other:

--Roading--

Should road maintenance service levels be: Maintained

Seal extensions: No extension

Where do you think seal extensions should be done?

--Footpaths--

Do you support the establishment of rural footpaths (lime

walkways) through rural rates? No If yes, how should they be prioritised?

- --Pensioner (Community) Housing--Do you consider Pensioner Housing part of our core business: No
- --Digital Services--Which digital services do you think are a priority for the Wairarapa:
- --Have Your Say--Strategies and Policies: Time for your say, if you would like to comment or propose something different now is the time: Please refer to uploaded submission. Upload submission:

http://www.swdc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/webform/Submission%20to%20LTP%20Siv%20B.%20Fj aerestad 0.pdf

Upload additional information:

The results of this submission may be viewed at: <a href="http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/576/submission/473">http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/576/submission/473</a>

#### **SUBMISSION TO LTP 2015-2025**

Area 1: Traffic safety and safe pedestrian connections between key facilities in the community.

I agree with the proposed objective "To actively develop a safe, inclusive and cohesive community by: d1. Making South Wairarapa a safe place for its residents, and d2. Promoting South Wairarapa as a good place in which to live."

I find that it is difficult to understand whether or not the LAND TRANSPORT (ROADING AND FOOTPATHS) section seek to provide any real benefits to pedestrians and cyclists. However, I agree that "The land transport goal is:

- a) To improve transport options.
- b) To plan, provide and maintain a roading network for the safe, comfortable and convenient movement of people and goods.

The Council"s principal objectives are:

- a) To achieve defined standards of customer service.
- b) To protect the health and safety of the community."<sup>2</sup>

I agree that "Roading is a vital element to enable social and economic development"<sup>3</sup>, and that "consideration needs to be given to sustainability of maintaining roads over the long term." <sup>4</sup> I understand that seal extensions may be a priority in some areas, but I am not familiar with any areas that need this.

I agree that "more people will be walking and cycling in the future." I think it is imperative that development of the district's walkways and cycle ways will continue and be supplemented by further facilities that *ensure* improved safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

A lot of families are moving to, or currently live in Featherston, and this should be treated as an asset in the development of our community and when developing our infrastructure. We want this town to be a safe and good place to live, for all of our people, especially our children. We also have an ageing population, and seniors who already experience a great deal of isolation deserve to live in a place where they can access amenities such as doctor, supermarket and cafes safely and easily.

I propose that changes are made to the central thoroughfare roads and town centre to make the town safer for pedestrians, especially children and families, to facilitate improved and safe access to services such as doctors, pharmacy, supermarket, day care and schools, and to generally increase road and driver safety.

The proposed changes are:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> P 52, ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> P 65, LAND TRANSPORT (ROADING AND FOOTPATHS) 3. THE ACTIVITY GOAL AND PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVES http://www.swdc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/LTP2015\_2025\_2Significant%20Activities.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> P 40, http://www.swdc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/LTP2015\_2025\_6Infrastructure%20Strategy%20Draft.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> P 40, http://www.swdc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/LTP2015\_2025\_6Infrastructure%20Strategy%20Draft.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> P 48, http://www.swdc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/LTP2015\_2025\_6Infrastructure%20Strategy%20Draft.pdf

- Improved fencing around the playpark between Birdwood St, Fox St, Clifford Square and Tai Crescent: building a taller fence with adequate safety mechnisms on the gates will stop children from running onto the roads, parking areas, or attempt to cross the roads to get to the skate park or the Clifford Square mini railway.
- Lights and/or pedestrian crossing and raised pedestrian islands at Bethune/Wakefield St, Fitzherbert, or possibly linking into Revans St with a roundabout. Any raised pedestrian islands need to have sufficient space for a buggy.
- road safety improvements such as lowered speed zone, speed bumps, islands, or similar, on Fitzherbert St, between Daniell St and Lyon St intersections to encourage drivers to slow down and be aware of pedestrians. With 3 entry/exit ways into the new supermarket car park, additional on-road parking, and drivers often not looking adequately or also being affected by weather conditions, this is a dangerous area for kids walking on the pedestrian crossings and on the footpaths, after day care or
- 50k/hr speed limit moved further away from town to ensure that drivers slow down before they arrive in town, and to achieve improved safety around Bethune/Wakefield/Fitzherbert St/Revans St
- Create a more pedestrian focused area of town which would provide safe connections between key community facilities and infrastructure such as play park, skate park, schools, daycares, pharmacy, and supermarket.

I hope that some of the above proposed improvements can be taken into consideration by the new town square plan. All of the above proposed improvements would also encourage more visitors to stop and visit shops and other facilities in Featherston.

#### Area 2: Waste water management

I am glad that the Council is taking the wastewater management very seriously. However, I do not agree to your decision to not include floating wetlands, trickling filters and High Treatment plants. You state: "It is apparent that 2020 currently discharge to land is by far the best option. The benefit of this approach is that if technology emerges in the future that provides a better result the land can be sold." <sup>6</sup> This statement and decision seems to be based solely on the possibility of improved future technologies, and the fact that you can make money back on selling land. It does not provide any findings into your various trials with the above mentioned processes, nor costings, nor a future forecast of how the processes would perform.

Floating wetlands, trickling filters and High Treatment plants are processes that are proven to be sucessful as well as affortable and sustainable. I request that your reasons for chosing to not include these methods are clarified, and that you either rethink and look at how you can incorporate processes such as floating wetlands, trickling filters and High Treatment plants, in the current plan, or that you are able to provide in much greater detail, including expected costings of both options, why you chose to not use these processes. The plan promises to look ahead to the future, and there is no excuse for not looking ahead to how waste water management can incorporate these solutions that are proven to work.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> http://www.swdc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/LTP2015\_2025%20SWDC-LTPCDFINAL\_0.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> P 82-84, WASTE WATER (SEWERAGE) http://www.swdc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/LTP2015\_2025\_2Significant%20Activities.pdf

#### Background/detail examples of unsafe traffic solutions:

The area between Western Lake Road on SH2 and Fitzherbert Street and Revans Street junction is very unsafe for pedestrians. There is nowhere safe to cross. This area also has bad visibility for drivers. When coming from Bethune or Wakefield Streets, parked cars at the small car parking area off Fitzherbert (next to the Royal hotal) and plantings next to this parking area, offer very poor visibility for traffic coming from both Fitzherbert and Revans.

Families with young children, seniors, commuters and school children all frequently the roads in that area. The school bus picks up and lets off a number of school kids at the Kia Ora Dairy every weekday, and many of these cross the road between Fitzherbert, Wakefield and Bethune. SH2/Fitzherbert Street forks into Fitzherbert and Revans. Hence, for any pedestrian coming from Bethune, Brandon, Western Lake Rd, and surrounding area, there is no natural or easy route to get to the town centre. These pedestrians are forced to either continue down Revans and cross at Daniel/Revans St. I have opted to do this, but again this intersection also sees lots of traffic between 8am-9am in the morning, and similarly, after school and work hours, and again has no pedestrian crossing. The alternative, and most preferred place to cross (judging by someone who frequently passes by this area on my way to work/daycare/home) seems to be at Fitzherbert/Bethune/Wakefield Street intersection, which is only meters away from Revans & Fitzherbert St intersection, effectively making this a 6 roads intersection. By crossing here, pedestrians get to the shops, pharmacy, bus stop, a lot faster. If crossing with small children, a buggy, or if the pedestrian has trouble walking, this is a particularly dangerous place to cross; the area is heavily trafficated, people do not feel compelled to slow down, and there is poor visibility.

For these reasons there needs to be a proper intersection with lights at Bethune/Wakefield/Fitzherbert and Revans Streets, or a pedestrian with raised pedestrian islands crossing at or close to this intersection, as well as slower speed zone. By moving the 50k/hr speedzone further away from the town centre; we can ensure that cars and large vehicles slow down before they get to the town centre of Featherston, be more aware of pedestrian crossings, and make the roads safer for our community. This would also make people slow down and be more inclined to stop and visit our town.

When I pick up my children from Bell street, and need to go to the shop, I have to walk on the Fitzherbert St footpath between Lyon/Birdwood St and the Supervalue. Due to its new carpark layout my children have to walk on a footpath with three driveways. This seems very unsafe, and I hope that alternative walk ways or safety measures are put in place.

Furthermore, when crossing the pedestrian crossing near the Supervalue on Fitzherbert St, many cars don't stop or slow down in spite of small children, buggies and adults standing on the footpath ready to cross, or even already being on the pedestrian crossing. At least twice I have had to pull back my buggy or child from the pedestrian crossing as a car has not stopped. Council needs to take action to ensure that drivers slow down around this area, and prevent serious accidents.

## 02 JUN 2015

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#### SHARE YOUR VIEW ON THE FUTURE

Feedback must be received by 4pm Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2015. Please read the consultation document before providing your feedback. Email LTP@swdc.govt.nz In Person Drop form to your local library or By Post Fold and affix a stamp Council Office Martinborough Fax (06) 306 9373 On Line: www.swdc.govt.nz Your name and feedback will be public documents. All other personal details will remain private. First Name: Postal Address: Please tick one box for each question. Ratepayer: Urban Rural Commercial Non rate payer Age: Ethnicity: Yes I want to receive the "Stakeholder Update" email from SWDC Yes I/We would like to speak to our submission Organisation: (Only if authorised to submit on behalf of organisation, one per organisation) Speaking Preference: June 10<sup>th</sup> am June 10<sup>th</sup> pm June 11th am Rates Affordability Levels of Service (LoS) Do you agree with the proposed overall average rates increase for the next 10 Maintain the current LoS Increase LoS years, enabling the proposed expenditure outlined in this document? Reduce LoS Do you support the following proposed INITIATIVES? Agree Disagree (Tick as many as you like): If not what general rates increase do you support? increased Fees and Charges as opposed to general rates increase V 5% 0 % Other\_ Coastal Reserve Development Sewerage Cycle trails in what timeframe should irrigation to land be completed? Which DIGITAL SERVICES do you think are a priority to for the Wairarapa? 35 Years 25 Years 10 Other Urban Ultra-fast broadband Improved rural broadband Roading Mobile black spots Should Road maintenance service levels be: Why? Maintained Reduced Increased Seal Extensions Strategies and Policies No extension 1km Extension 2km Extension If you have any views on these please comment below: Where do you think seal extensions should be done? Footpaths If you would like to comment or propose something different now is your Do you support the establishment of rural footpaths (lime walkways) through chance. rural rates? If yes how should they be prioritised? Pensioner (Community) Housing Do you consider Pensioner Housing part of our core business? Yes (Continue on another sheet if required)



12 May 2015

Adrienne Staples Mayor South Wairarapa District Council P O Box 6 Martinborough 5741



Dear Adrienne,

Re: Future of Wairarapa Workforce Development Trust

As you are aware, the Wairarapa Workforce Development Trust has been actively engaged in workforce and youth development activities across the region since 2004. In this time, we believe that we have made a valuable contribution to the region's wellbeing.

In recent years, the Trustees have been questioning the place of the Trust in the economic and community development landscape in this region. After some analysis of our current position and the likely future, we have reluctantly decided that there is no ongoing role for the Trust and have therefore decided to wind the Trust up.

The Trustees recognise the importance of the two remaining activities that the Trust is involved with and have therefore made the following arrangements which are subject to the agreement of your Council, along with that of the other two Wairarapa Council's.

We would like to see the Wairarapa Apprentice and Industry Trainee Graduations be taken over by Masterton District Council (on behalf of all Wairarapa Council's) and in recognition of this, the Trust would like to gift to MDC all IP related to the Graduations as well as \$8000 to support this activity.

We would like a commitment from the 3 Council's to maintain the graduations for two more years, including 2015.

The Trust also owns a trailer and a set of event partitions which are used by community events. We would also like to gift these assets to MDC for the use of the community.

We have asked MDC to reply to this letter with your collective agreement to these arrangements and I will ensure that the funds are transferred along with the physical assets.

In addition to these arrangements with the Council's, the Trust is also involved in Future Me. These will continue to be organised by Wairarapa REAP and the region's Career and Transition teachers. The Trust has gifted the remainder of our funds to Wairarapa REAP to continue this work.

On behalf of the Wairarapa Workforce Development Trust I would like to thank you and SWDC for supporting our activities over the years. Without your support we would not have been able to achieve what we have.

Yours sincerely,

Geoff Copps Chairperson

#### SUBMISSION - SWDC LONG TERM PLAN - 2015-2025

#### The Submitters wish to be heard.

Your Worship & Councillors

This submission, on behalf of the attached list of rural and urban Greytown residents and ratepayers, seeks to address concerns regarding the current operation of the eight (8) Moroa Water Race (MWR) channels through the Greytown urban and rural areas;

- Their compliance & partnership going forward with the Greater Wellington Regional Council proposals for improved waterways.
- Their effectiveness in regard to current & future urban drainage and storm water needs.
- The general effectiveness of the system and how it is delivered to the public.

Councillors will be aware that the primary function of the MWR system is to provide rural properties, both west and east of the Greytown urban area, with stock-water. A secondary function of these eight (8) channels comprises the Greytown urban drainage system.

This submission requests that Council commit to the three following requests through their implementation within the 2015-2025 Long Term Plan -

- 1. That a comprehensive review of the Moroa Water Race system be undertaken focusing on;
  - a) the relevance & functionality of the system's existing design today and into the future; its general purpose, operating and maintenance principles, and management
  - b) the purpose, relevance and effectiveness of the existing Bylaw and Code of Practice.

The identification of future potential from the MWR rural components is desirable and will likely come in partnership with the use of more efficient and technologically advanced systems. It is important that guidelines be developed to enable consideration of any such initiatives whilst ensuring the protection of a significant and valuable historical resource.

There is a need for review of the Moroa Water Races By-law, and its effective public communication to all stakeholders. The proposed (2013/14) combined Moroa & Longwood Water Races By-law could be utilised as a framework for such review.

Both within the urban and rural areas the current by-law is often observed to be ignored. This appears to arise from ignorance of the by-law, or uncertainty of property owners as to their maintenance responsibilities. Consideration should be given to the costs to residents to meet their obligations and responsibilities all the while being mindful of any associated personal safety issues that may arise.

2/...

2. That SWDC proceed with urgency to implement the 1997 Greytown Storm-water Management Plan as it currently exists, whilst commencing a review of this plan and its recommendations in line with all concerns highlighted in this submission.

Submitters are concerned about the potential for significant urban property damage due to the increasing frequency of the system components (public and private) failing to deal with significant water flows in times of moderate or greater rainfall. (Attachments 1 & 2)

Numerous submitters have expressed frustration regarding the lack of communication from Council and its' contractors; the acknowledgement of, and response to complaints; the advising of rural users of any scheduled flow adjustments and shut downs, and the lack of expedient responses or feedback when required.

3. That SWDC acknowledge the wider community interest in these systems and establishes a 'Moroa Water Race and Greytown Urban Drainage Liaison Group' representative of both rural and urban residents to assist Council in the implementation of both of the above requests.

There are concerns that urban infill and 'rural fringe' developments' have exacerbated existing drainage problems and will continue to do so in the future, especially the awareness of their obligations from new rural land owners/residents.

Water quality issues are currently a very topical concern and of course very important. Submitters have concerns that water quality tests should be undertaken both west and east of the town as part of continuing system performance and maintenance management to identify and provide accurate information accordingly.

Thank you for hearing this submission.

Mike Gray \*

On behalf of rural and urban residents/ratepayers (Attachment 3) who have signified their support of this submission.

16 Udy Street GREYTOWN 304-9376 027-857-2508

01/06/2015

### GREYTOWN RURAL & URBAN RESIDENTS SUPPORTIVE OF THE ATTACHED SUBMISSION.

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1/6/2015









