



**Submission by Fab Feathy Community-led Development Group to
South Wairarapa District Council –
2018/2028 Long Term Plan (LTP) Consultation Document**

1. Introduction

The following is a submission from the Fab Feathy Community-led Development Project Group (Fab Feathy) to the South Wairarapa District Council (SWDC) regarding the 2018/2028 Long Term Plan (LTP) Consultation Document.

This submission looks at how Our Future Featherston: 1.0 Community Plan aligns with the proposed key initiatives in the LTP. The five core aspirations identified in the Our Future Featherston: 1.0 community plan aligns with SWDC’s LTP key initiatives:

Featherston Community’s Five core aspirations	SWDC LTP Key initiatives
‘Community’ is nurtured in Featherston, we have fun together, we are connected, resilient and self-sustaining	Support for local sporting groups.
Featherston is a destination town known for: Its artisans. Being a vibrant hub of creativity. Being connected to beautiful natural surroundings	Increasing infrastructure for visitors to the district.
Featherston values and takes care to conserve, protect, restore and revitalise our natural environment	Reducing the amount of waste being sent to landfills. Improving water conservation for the district.
Featherston has the infrastructure needed to support creators, innovators, and businesses to invest in setting up here	Economic development and promoting and enhancing our district.
Featherston has the amenities, services, and infrastructure to be a great ‘liveable’ town from cradle to grave	Enhancing the lives of the younger people who live in our district.

This submission takes the key principles of community-led development in Featherston, and links these to the four pillars that have formed the basis for decisions on what to include and what to exclude from the LTP, with a particular emphasis on the “Best and healthiest community partnerships pillar”.

This submission proposes to work together with SWDC to consult with the Featherston community on any community development project , including the proposed further spatial planning and key support to youth as well as other areas of the community groups that can most benefit from sustainable growth.

We believe that Our Future Featherston: 1.0 Community Plan provides a vehicle for the ongoing building of community partnerships for Featherston and the South Wairarapa, and providing the best care and use of our natural resources, assets and infrastructure through a structured, co-ordinated and supported process that represents the Featherston community’s aspirations for its future.

Our Future Featherston: 1.0 Community Plan.

A community plan provides a framework for positive mandated action by both the people and organisations within the community. It is also a reference document for government agencies, social and community sector providers seeking to contribute to the wellbeing of residents, and potentially for people considering moving to or investing in Featherston.

Our Future Featherston: 1.0 Community Plan outlines the shared visions of the Featherston Community in 2017 and practical actions to work towards achieving those visions in the future. The great community response to, and participation in, Fab Feathy’s activities to gather input from the community, give us confidence that this plan, broadly, represents the views and has the mandate of the Featherston community.

We present the Our Future Featherston 1.0 Community Plan (attached) as the core vehicle for enabling positive community-led development in Featherston, and as a living consultation document in its own right. We propose that SWDC and the LTP takes this document into consideration when working together with the Featherston community to develop and achieve key future initiatives, as listed in LTP.

Fab Feathy, through community-led development, and the partnership with DIA, is resourcing the community to achieve its community plan, which in turn fosters and maintains a proactive community, and builds proud identity and voice for the Featherston community, as identified in the LTP.

We want the South Wairarapa District Council to invest into the established processes of community-led development in Featherston, to support the work done by the community, and work together to sustain the resourcing of community-led development into the future. Specifically, between 2018-2022 Fab Feathy would like to see a more active participation of SWDC staff attending forums like South Wairarapa Community Network, and meeting regularly with Fab Feathy Facilitator/s and/or representatives.

We also propose that SWDC takes steps to work together with Fab Feathy to support community led development in Featherston to be sustainable over the duration of the LTP, even after the initial first five years of support from DIA. In this submission, Fab Feathy looks to the SWDC to consider ongoing funding support to staff or other aspects relating to community led development over the latter part of the LTP, from 2023 onwards.

2. Background

The Fab Feathy Community-Led Development Project group was formed as a result of discussion at a public meeting hosted by the Featherston Community Network in October 2016.

The task that we set ourselves was to hear as many locals, from all different backgrounds and perspectives, as possible to develop a community plan; a plan that could be used as a basis for working together and seeking outside support to achieve shared community goals/visions. This is what community-led development is all about – the process of working together to create and achieve community-owned goals.

What is driving this mahi? Many communities come together in times of crisis, however, this not the case for Featherston. Featherston is a great community to live in with a strong tradition of individuals and groups leading the work needed to achieve the changes they want to see in town. Fab Feathy was inspired by the prospect of what we might achieve if all this fantastic community-mindedness was brought together and focused on shared community aspirations.

This is not to say that we don't have significant challenges here. The 2013 Census revealed that we have comparatively high rates of deprivation in town, we have work to do to restore and look after our natural environment for future generations, our residents predominately need to leave town to earn a living, and there are some barriers to investment in town. Fab Feathy has not glossed over these challenges, however, we deliberately adopted a strengths-based attitude in our approach.

Overwhelmingly, throughout the process to develop this plan, Featherston people commented that our town is a great place in which to live, and on the potential Featherston has. Ultimately, what we want as a community is to fully realise the potential we can see Featherston is bursting with while retaining and enhancing what makes our town distinctive and great.

Community-Led Development in Featherston

We have a wonderful tradition of community-led development in Featherston. The Fab Feathy project is about continuing this tradition, building on what is happening now and working together to create the future that the Featherston community wants.

Featherston has recently been selected for a five year community-led development programme partnership with DIA. Fab Feathy is facilitating this work on behalf of the Featherston community. We are working with the community to gather together local ideas and aspirations for our community and to support the community to shape these into community-led actions and outcomes. We do this through our community plan, and through resourcing the community to support the continuation of community-led development in Featherston.

Five Core Principles of community-led development:

1. Shared local visions drive action and change
2. Using existing strengths and assets
3. Many people and groups working together
4. Building diverse and collaborative local leadership
5. Adaptive planning and action informed by outcomes

We propose that all these core principles of community-led development are key strategies to achieving your “Best and healthiest community partnerships pillar”.



The Featherston community is very excited about the opportunity that comes with partnering with DIA for community-led development.

The community identified that adequately resourced “coordination” as being fundamental to working together, and in partnership with others, towards the five aspirations outlined in its community plan Our Future Featherston.

To maximise on the opportunity the community is requesting funding from DIA to support community-based coordination for the full five-year period of the partnership agreement.

We are currently hiring Community-led Development Facilitator/s who will

- strengthen and establish relationships within the community and with stakeholders
- promote and increase the profile of the partnership and community-led development
- set-up processes and accountability/reporting systems;
- get community-led initiatives up and running.

We know from the experience of other communities that having paid dedicated resources to facilitate connections and communications and to broker, develop and maintain key relationships can accelerate progress and provide the level of consistency critical to maintaining community engagement and effort over the long term.

To further support this process, which benefits both CLDP in Featherston, and supports the outcomes as identified in the LTP, this submission seeks future attendance by SWDC in community forums and networks, regular meetings with Fab Feathy, and the consideration of ongoing funding support to community led development staff.

3. Conclusion

This submission encourages the Council to consult the Our Future Featherston: 1.0 Community Plan and engage with the community as the first step in any community development project or plan, including the proposed further spatial planning and key support to community groups that can most benefit from supported sustainable growth.

We look forward to seeing the South Wairarapa District Council investing into the established processes of community-led development in Featherston, to support the work done by the community, and work together to sustain the resourcing of community-led development into the future.

Fab Feathy looks forward to working in partnership with the Council in relation to any community development project or plan. We believe that a community-led development approach will result in better outcomes for both the Featherston community and the Council.

Fab Feathy.

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<http://featherstoncommunity.org.nz/category/fab-feathy>



OUR FUTURE FEATHERSTON: 1.0

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What is a community plan?

A community plan provides a framework for positive mandated action by both the people and organisations within the community. It is also a reference document for government agencies, social and community sector providers seeking to contribute to the wellbeing of residents, and potentially for people considering moving to or investing in Featherston.

This plan outlines the shared visions of the Featherston Community in 2017 and practical actions to work towards achieving those visions. The great community response to, and participation in, Fab Feathy's activities to gather input from the community, give us confidence that this plan, broadly, represents the views and has the mandate of the Featherston community.

Whose plan is it?

The 'Our Future Featherston 1.0' plan belongs to the community of Featherston; it is a 'living document' and it will continue to be adapted and refined to suit community purposes, passions, aspirations, and learnings.

Fab Feathy's role was to facilitate a process to gather input from the community, to identify shared aspirations and to synthesise the results into this community plan.

How will this plan be used?

Aside from supporting community action within Featherston, this plan is intended to be used as the basis for funding or other formal applications for external support for the Featherston Community to achieve the actions outlined here.

Who will make it happen; when will it happen?

The actions outlined in this plan will need to be purposefully initiated to avoid this plan gathering dust while sitting on a shelf. This will require many people and groups within the community working together. The pace of progress will be dictated by the resources we have within the community and by the level and intensity of support/funding we gain from stakeholders and other external parties.

Table of contents

The plan on a page – executive summary

Snapshot of Featherston

Section one: how this plan was developed

Getting started

Activities undertaken to gather community input

Section two: community vision and aspirations

Themes from the community feedback

One vision, five community aspirations

Section three: proposed actions

Where to from here

Working together

Working with others

Potential actions by aspiration

Aspiration one (community)

Aspiration two (destination)

Aspiration three (environment)

Aspiration four (business development)

Aspiration five (amenities)

Dealing with bumps and roadblocks

Acknowledgment of contributions and support

Appendices

Plan development timeline

Ideas collation by theme



The plan on a page – where to next?

In 2017 the Fab Feathy Community-Led Development Project asked the Featherston community, why do you choose to live here, what do you love about Featherston and what do you want for future Featherston? Fab Feathy were blown away by the fantastic community response and support for going after community-owned goals in Featherston.

People overwhelmingly commented that Featherston is: a great place in which to live; has a great community filled with many diverse, interesting, talented, caring and community-minded people; and is bursting with potential.

Out of the community response Fab Feathy developed an interim vision statement, and identified five shared community aspirations based on fifteen themes that come through in the community response.

OUR COMMUNITY VISION				
As a community, we want to fully realise the potential we can see Featherston is bursting with <i>while</i> retaining and enhancing what makes our town and community distinctive and great.				
OUR COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS				
'Community' is nurtured in Featherston, we have fun together, we are connected, resilient and self-sustaining	Featherston is a destination town known for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Its artisans • Being a vibrant hub of creativity, • Being connected to beautiful natural surroundings 	Featherston values and takes care to conserve, protect, restore and revitalise our natural environment	Featherston has the infrastructure needed to support creators, innovators, and businesses to invest in setting up here	Featherston has the amenities, services, and infrastructure to be a great 'liveable' town from cradle to grave

This plan outlines some next steps to set ourselves up for working together and with others to achieve the identified community aspirations.

We propose to take a **multiple actions approach** as it **creates many and varied opportunities** for people to follow their interests and contribute and means we can make progress on a number of fronts at the same time. We anticipate that this approach will **keep people engaged and involved** and enable us to continually **build momentum** as we go.

Proposed immediate next steps are for Fab Feathy to evolve into a **central coordinating group** to **facilitate communications and connections** across the community and groups undertaking specific actions; including hosting a **community meeting every three months** to discuss progress.

The plan is for **action groups** to form around **specific projects or focus areas**. Actions groups, with the support of the central coordinating group, will coordinate effort, resources, and people towards achieving the specific project (and dissolve when the "action" is completed).

Actions are already underway to lay the foundation for working together towards our aspirations.

Community members are working on **two tools - stakeholder mapping and a "skills and interests" register** - to support the planning and accessing community-based resources on specific projects.

Fab Feathy is working to bring-in resources by **submitting a request to partner with the Department of Internal Affairs in its Community-Led Development Programme**. The community has identified that having a **paid resource to coordinate** and have an overview of the plan **is critical to keeping community engagement and momentum**. A key task for the coordinating group will be to find funding for such a resource.

The next step for the **wider community** is to **decide which specific "actions"** they want to be involved with; decisions to be facilitated through the planned three-monthly community meetings.

Snapshot of Featherston

Featherston is one of three small towns in South Wairarapa, located 64 km from Wellington, 13 km from Greytown and 17 km from Martinborough. It had a population of 2253 at the time of the last census in 2013.

Nestled beneath the bush-clad Rimutaka range, this picturesque village is known as the gateway to the Wairarapa, being the first town encountered by people entering the province from the south. It served the farming community in its early days and was the site of New Zealand’s largest military camp during the two world wars. It is now attractive to young families, commuters and retirees, with affordable housing, a railway station in the middle of town with just an hour’s travel to Wellington, a strong sense of community, and an abundance of sporting and recreational opportunities.

Featherston is well served by a range of amenities, including a supermarket, a dairy, specialty shops, cafes and eateries, a weekly produce market, a library, three primary schools, churches, health and welfare facilities and a pharmacy, a fire brigade, a community centre, a service station, a sports stadium and grounds, parks, a miniature railway, and swimming baths.

With several second hand bookshops, Featherston hosted New Zealand’s first annual Booktown festival in 2015. It is joining more than 20 other Booktowns around the world, developed in villages of historic interest or scenic beauty since 1961.

Featherston is also a hub for cyclists wanting to ride the nearby Rimutaka cycle trail, and people keen to explore Wairarapa Moana, the spectacular coastlines of Cape Palliser and the Rimutaka and Aorangi forest Parks. There’s a visitor centre, and tourist accommodation ranging from hotels, motels and bed and breakfasts, to camping areas.

The town’s military and rail histories are celebrated with two museums and a grand assortment of restored historic homes. The centrepiece of community activity today is the recently restored Anzac Hall, built in 1916 by the local settlers as a club for the soldiers based at the military camp – “to save them from the 'pitfalls' of the towns and cities”. Part of the former camp is now a Garden of Remembrance, for the 48 Japanese Second World War prisoners and one guard killed there in an incident in 1943.

Challenges faced by the Featherston today include limited employment opportunities and activities for young people; the disconnection between the township and the nearby Wairarapa Moana, which is needing restoration after decades of degradation; the delay in getting ultrafast broadband which will inhibit business investment and innovation, and the disrepair of some buildings in the main street. With more people commuting to work in Wellington from the Wairarapa, there’s also a need to improve train services to avoid overcrowding and delays.

On a positive note, there is considerable talent and entrepreneurial drive within the community, and a willingness to work together to overcome these challenges. This is evidenced by a rapid growth in



confidence in Featherston, with many new businesses establishing in the township, the range of activities and events hosted by community groups, and the growing appeal of Featherston to young families and retirees. Efforts are underway to improve the health of Wairarapa Moana by the managing iwi authorities, landowners and volunteers.

Harnessing this community energy to its full capacity, with support from local and central government, investors and funding providers, will strengthen Featherston's position as one of the most liveable small towns in New Zealand, and a drawcard for local and international visitors alike.

By the numbers, some official stats for Featherston from the 2013 Census

On census day 2013:

- The **median age** of people living in Featherston was 43.4 years with 18.3 per cent aged 65 years and over, and 18.8 per cent aged under 15 years.
- The most common **ethnicity** of people usually residing in Featherston was European 88 per cent (compared to 74 per cent nationally); followed by Māori at 18.4 per cent (compared to 14.9 per cent across New Zealand). Note that the Census allows individuals to identify with multiple ethnicity groups.
- **One-family households** made up 60.4 per cent of all households in Featherston with an average size of 2.2 people.
 - Couples with children accounted for 32.9 per cent of all families
 - 45.9 per cent were couples without children
 - 20.8 per cent were one parent with children families.
- On census day, 68.7 per cent of households in Featherston **owned their home** (compared to 64.8 per cent nationally).
- A **formal qualification** was held by 70.3 per cent of Featherston people aged 15 years or over, with 14.5 per cent holding a bachelor's degree or higher as their highest qualification.
- **Unemployment** was at 10.5 per cent (compared to 7.1 per cent nationally)
- The most common **occupational group** in Featherston was 'professionals'.
- The **median income** was \$23,900. There were 44 per cent earning \$20,000 or less annually and 21.0 per cent earning more than \$50,000.
- Most people **travelled to work** in a car, truck or van (56.3 per cent) followed by train (19.1 per cent) and driving a company car, truck or van (10.2 per cent).
- There were 140 **business locations** in Featherston and 520 paid employees.
- On census day 62.5 per cent of homes in Featherston had **access to the internet** (compared to 72.8 per cent nationally).
- Featherston had the highest **Social Deprivation Index** score (1060) in the South Wairarapa, the score was higher than the national mean score and Featherston sat in the ninth decile for the country (meaning social deprivation is high relative to other communities across New Zealand).

Section one: how this plan was developed



Getting started

The Our Future Featherston 1.0 Community Plan, is the synthesis of the feedback gathered, by the Fab Feathy Community-Led Development Project Group, from the Featherston community between November 2016 and May 2017.

Where did Fab Feathy come from?

The Featherston Community Network (a local network of community and social sector representatives that meets regularly) heard about a new approach by the Department of Internal Affairs to support selected communities across New Zealand to achieve shared community aspirations.

At the September 2016 Featherston Community Network meeting, members were excited to learn that communities like Featherston could apply to be selected for up to five years of intensive support to achieve community-led development initiatives. The Network resolved to host a public meeting to test the waters about setting up project group in Featherston in order to make an application.



A public meeting, hosted by the Network and publicised by word of mouth, was held a couple of weeks later in October 2016. Around 25 Featherston community members attended the meeting, at which the Fab Feathy Community-Led Project Group was formed. Members are all locals who love Featherston and are all involved in community-focused activities in some capacity.

Meanwhile, Hapaitia (a Wairarapa-wide cross-sector group with a community-led resilience focus) had secured 'Working Together More' funding from the Ministry of Social Development to engage Inspiring Communities (a community-led development consultancy) to facilitate community conversations about setting up a community hub in Featherston.

On hearing of the Fab Feathy project, Hapaitia decided to transfer to it the Inspiring Communities support.

Fab Feathy has led and facilitated all the engagement with the Featherston community to develop this community plan, with support and mentoring from Megan Courtney, consultant with Inspiring Communities.

The work of Fab Feathy has been voluntary - aside from a small contract for the equivalent of two-and-a-half (i.e. 100 hours) full-time weeks work to analyse and synthesise the material gathered from the community.

Fab Feathy had its first meeting at the end of October 2016. While members were bursting with their own ideas for future Featherston, the first point of business was to hear from as many local people, from a diverse range of circumstances, as possible.

It was decided that activities to gather feedback from the community should be promoted as widely as possible. This included via the Featherston Phoenix (a free monthly community newsletter delivered to residents' letterboxes) and a project page on the Featherston Community Centre website.

Posters advertising community engagement activities were put up around town in high traffic areas; Facebook posts and event invites were placed on key Featherston community pages; events flyers were distributed to every letterbox in town; and flyers promoting the surveys were handed out to our commuters at the train station.

An overview of the activities undertaken by Fab Feathy to hear from the Featherston Community follows. A timeline showing the month by month progress of the process is provided in the appendices.

Activities undertaken to gather community input

Three main methods to gather feedback were: noticeboards and suggestions boxes; a survey; and two community 'get-togethers'.

Noticeboards and suggestion boxes

Noticeboards and suggestion boxes were set up in various locations

between November 2016 and February 2017.

Community members were encouraged to suggest what they wanted for future

Featherston on

a piece of paper and post them on either a noticeboard or in a suggestion box.



Locations were chosen for:

- high traffic – supermarket, library, train station, community centre, and
- where people typically waited – medical centre, cafes and takeaways.

A stall at the supermarket was also set up during a weekend in December.

At the community pot-luck dinner a selection of the suggestions gathered to date were displayed and people were encouraged to add more. 450 ideas were collected in total.



Our Future Featherston Survey

An 'Our Future Featherston Survey' was conducted over March and April 2017. Community members completed the survey online (via survey monkey) or in paper form published in the Featherston Phoenix (delivered to every letterbox in town) and available at the Featherston Library and the community centre. Drop-boxes for completed surveys were located at the library and community centre.

The survey sought responses to eight questions, using a combination of selected preferred answers and written responses:

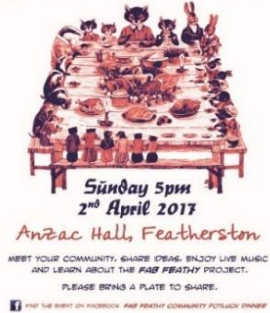
- **Why do you choose to live in Featherston?** (select preferred options & option to write response)
- **How proud are you to live in Featherston?** (select preferred option)
- **What are the top three things you like the most about Featherston?** (select preferred options & option to write response)
- **What are your hopes or aspirations for Featherston? What is your vision for our town?** (written response)
- **What are the top five things you would most like to see developed in Featherston?** (select preferred options & option to write response)
- **What is the one thing that you would want in Featherston that doesn't exist at the moment?** (written response)
- **What groups, projects or initiatives are you involved with that might link to the Fab Feathy project?** (written response)
- **Would you like to be kept up-to-date with the Fab Feathy project? If yes, please provide contact details and we will add you to our database.** (written response)

A total of 205 surveys were completed – this represents 11.2 per cent of our adult population (aged over 15 years). We now have 158 people on the Fab Feathy database list.

Community pot-luck dinner & ideas gathering session

Fab Feathy hosted a community pot-luck dinner on Sunday 2 April 2017. Community members were invited along to hear more about the Fab Feathy

Community Potluck Dinner



Project, to share their thoughts, and connect with other community members.

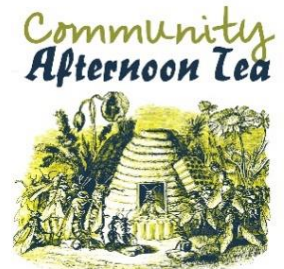
200 adults and 50 children attended. There was an opportunity to read the suggestions already gathered by Fab Feathy and add their own. Tables were set up with white paper

table cloths and pens. People were encouraged to talk to others at their table about their aspirations for future Featherston and to record these conversations on the table cloths.

Fab Feathy members gave an overview of the project and answered questions. The night was a huge success with people still talking about it weeks later. Many came forward on the night to offer their talent or time to community-led development in Featherston.

Community Afternoon tea & workshop

Fab Feathy hosted, and Megan from Inspiring Communities facilitated, a community afternoon tea and workshop discussion on 28 May 2017.



A thematic summary of the 450 ideas and the 205 completed surveys was presented to the 50 people who braved particularly horrible weather to attend. Good on them for coming out on such a bad day!

The participants workshopped questions about priorities, and how to organise ourselves and our resources to achieve the identified community aspirations. The group discussed potential next steps to feed into the development of the community plan.



Section two: community vision and aspirations



All the community feedback gathered was sorted into the 15 theme areas listed on the following pages. A more detailed summary of many of the ideas and suggestions from the surveys and suggestion boxes is recorded in the appendices, for future inspiration and reference.

Main street

We want the public face of town to be tidied up to better reflect the vibrancy of our town. We want a 'public face' we can be proud of.

We want unique artisanal businesses and a range of affordable shops.

We want a more unified main street from one end to the other. We want it to be safe for pedestrians. We want people to want to stop and spend money in town.

We want the squircle to be bustling with people and activities (markets, performance)

Young People

We want to make sure that our young people:

- are proud to come from Featherston
- have opportunities in town to discover, develop, and use/share their skills and talents
- have options for 'things to do' for fun, recreation, hobbies, and interests
- can earn their first income and gain work experience in town
- have opportunities to hang out with/interact with other generations in town
- understand the contribution they can make to our community and have their contributions recognised when they make them
- know that we value and support them and we have their backs
- are confident and resilient and know where to get help if they need it

Employment, income and business development

We want the infrastructure needed to attract and support creators, innovators and businesses to invest in setting up here.

Cycle and walking trails

We want to revitalise/improve what we have now and develop new safe and accessible walking and cycle trails for locals and for visitors to use, catering for a wide range of abilities.

The potential to develop tourism and improving connections between the town and nearby environmental assets were key threads in this theme.

Swimming pool complex improvements

We want to make better use of what we already have – and we have some "think big" ideas for developing an all year round facility.

Liveable amenities, services and infrastructure

We want Council to engage better with the community.

We want the amenities, services and infrastructure that ensure a great standard of living right across our diverse community.

Natural surroundings, including Wairarapa Moana

We want to protect, restore, and enhance our surrounding outstanding natural environment.

More public art	<p>We want more public art projects. Public art makes for an interesting environment for locals and may bring more visitors to town. It is perhaps a means of revitalising the public facing parts of town that are in need of a spruce up.</p> <p>We also want to support and encourage our local artists and attract more artists to live here.</p>
Destination Featherston	<p>We want people to stop and enjoy their stay.</p> <p>We want to be the destination not just the gateway. We want to develop the potential we can see in town and make the most of our unique character, attributes and surroundings.</p> <p>We want to both complement and distinguish our town from what is on offer in the rest of the region.</p>
Better housing and healthcare for elderly	<p>We want appropriate housing, facilities and services to allow our elderly people to stay in town; to avoid the stress, upset and upheaval of having to leave town if residential care is necessary.</p>
Community	<p>We want to get together to have fun and enjoy each other's company. We want a programme of free events/activities for locals aimed at building & celebrating community (not tourism focused).</p> <p>We want our community to be connected and cohesive, we want collaboration and sharing. We want to celebrate and utilise the talents and skills we have in town.</p>
History and heritage	<p>We want to see our heritage buildings revitalised, used, and preserved. We see potential for tourism based around our unique heritage.</p>
Waste not want not	<p>We want to reduce waste and our impact on the environment by sharing and exchanging, recycling, repurposing, reusing, upcycling materials and resources. "Think big" aspiration to be the Upcycling/Recycling/Recovery Centre of the Wairarapa.</p>
Food and gardening	<p>We want to grow, exchange, share food locally. We don't want our abundant produce to go to waste when someone else in town could use it.</p> <p>We want to attract initiatives that will provide locals with affordable fruit and veges.</p> <p>We want to stay in town to eat out.</p>
Children and childcare	<p>We want our children to be safe and to have access to good quality affordable age appropriate child care, operating in hours that suit working/studying parents/caregivers.</p> <p>We want a range of kid-friendly activities for fun, sport, art, culture and recreation.</p> <p>We want our kids to have world-class education that supports them to build confidence and resilience.</p>

One vision, five community aspirations

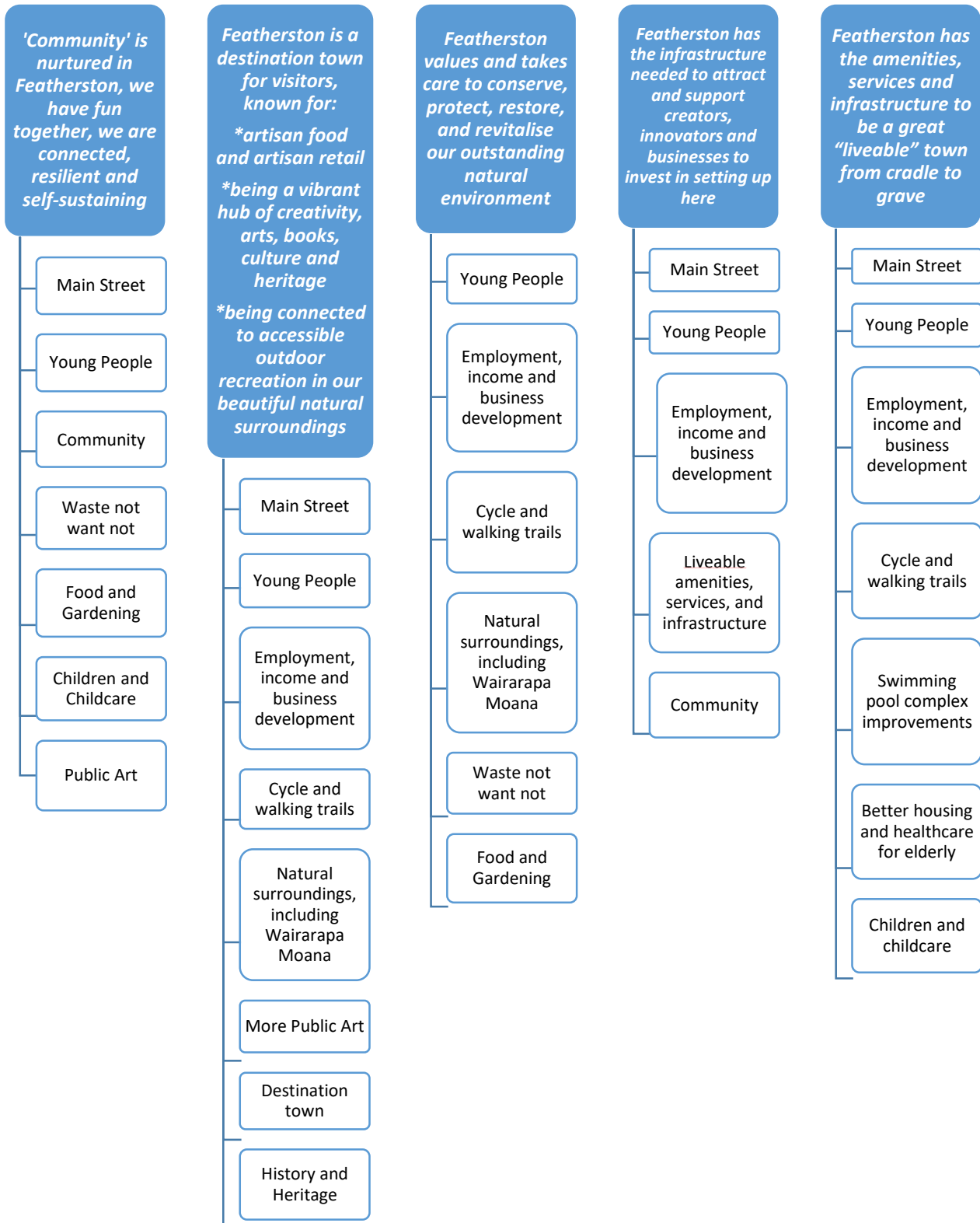
People overwhelmingly commented that Featherston is: a great place in which to live; has a great community filled with many diverse, interesting, talented, caring and community-minded people; and is bursting with potential.

Our Vision

As a community, we want to fully realise the potential we can see Featherston is bursting with *while* retaining and enhancing what makes our town and community distinctive and great.

Our aspirations

Five community aspirations were developed from the 15 theme areas. The following demonstrates which theme area links with each aspiration.



Section three: proposed actions



Where to from here?

The Featherston Community has some ambitious goals. We recognise that to fully achieve our vision and aspirations, it will take many community members and groups working together with external stakeholders, partners and experts over the long term.

Featherston has a tradition of community members coming together and taking action to achieve the change they want in town. The process to develop this plan has confirmed that there is support within the Featherston community to continue this tradition through using a community-led development approach to make the change we want to happen.

When asked what was exciting about a community-led development approach common responses from community members were:

- There is so much people talent in Featherston and so much willingness to give.
- We can draw on our strengths from within.
- Coming from Featherston for Featherston.
- Make it work for ourselves rather than getting Council/others to do it.
- Ownership.
- More likely to get something that the Community wants and needs.
- Capitalise on the potential the community can see here.

We acknowledge that some of the ideas and aspirations identified in the community engagement process to develop this plan are happening, or will happen without the impetus of a community-led development process.

Taking a community-led development approach, however, is about the community driving, shaping and making change for ourselves; it is about being in the driver's seat rather than having things done to us or for us.

Community conversations about the next steps actions tended towards setting ourselves up to support multiple actions being progressed at once, as opposed to tackling one project at a time.

This multiple actions approach creates many and varied opportunities for people to follow their interests and make a contribution and means we can make progress on a number of fronts at the same time. We anticipate that this approach will keep people engaged and involved and enable us to continually build momentum as we go.



Working together

The proposed framework for working together to take action, involves establishing new processes to enable us to stay connected, coordinated, collaborative, resourced, and focused while working towards achieving the vision and aspirations outlined in this plan.

Connected

We recognise the importance of staying connected to encourage and support a range of actions under the aegis of the community-led development approach.

We want to come together regularly to check-in with each other; to build trust and working relationships with each other; to hear about progress on actions; to celebrate successes; to problem solve together; to workshop next steps.

Quarterly (i.e. once every three months) community meetings will be established; facilitated by the central coordinating group at parent/commuter/worker friendly times. The meetings, open to anyone, will be informal and inclusive. Meetings will be promoted via email to the database, posters, through articles in the Phoenix, Facebook events and word of mouth.

Coordinated

We recognise the importance of central coordination where we plan to undertake multiple actions involving multiple community members/others. Central coordination minimises the risk of duplication and provides oversight of the “whole”, allowing action groups to focus on coordinating projects.

We propose to organise ourselves to achieve our aspirations by having one central coordinating group overseeing all the combined efforts and facilitating communications and connections within the community on actions. Action groups will form around specific projects or focus areas and will coordinate effort, resources, people towards achieving the specific project (and then dissolve when the “action” is completed).

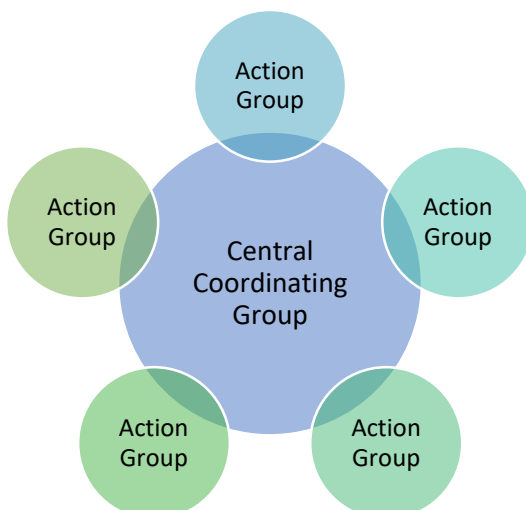
The community has suggested that the Fab Feathy Community-Led Project Group evolve to become the central coordinating group in implementing this community plan. The central coordinating group will be a single point to collate and communicate information about the community-led development activities in Featherston.

Collaborative

We recognise the importance of working collaboratively; drawing on the range of people, assets and resources we have in town and building relationships with those with the resources or influence to support us to achieve our aspirations.

The community proposes a “working-bee” model where each Action Group invites the community and appropriate others to get involved in activities towards achieving projects. Action groups will identify, recruit and coordinate community members/volunteers and stakeholders relevant to their project.

The central coordinating group will support collaboration by working with action groups to socialise this plan and individual Action Group objectives with the many groups, organisations, institutions and activities already focused on development in Featherston.



Resourced

We recognise the importance of getting things done to build momentum and support from within and from outside of the community. Getting things done means maximising available resources.

We will develop a 'skills and interests' community-asset register to record what skills, time, resources community members/groups might be willing to contribute to community-led development activities in Featherston.

The central coordinating group will make funding applications for some paid coordination time. We know from the experience of other communities that having a paid dedicated resource to support the central coordinating group to facilitate connections and communications, and to broker, develop and maintain key relationships can accelerate progress and provide the level of consistency critical to maintaining community engagement and effort over the long term.

Action groups, supported by the central coordinating group, will apply for project costs that cannot be resourced from within the community.

Focused

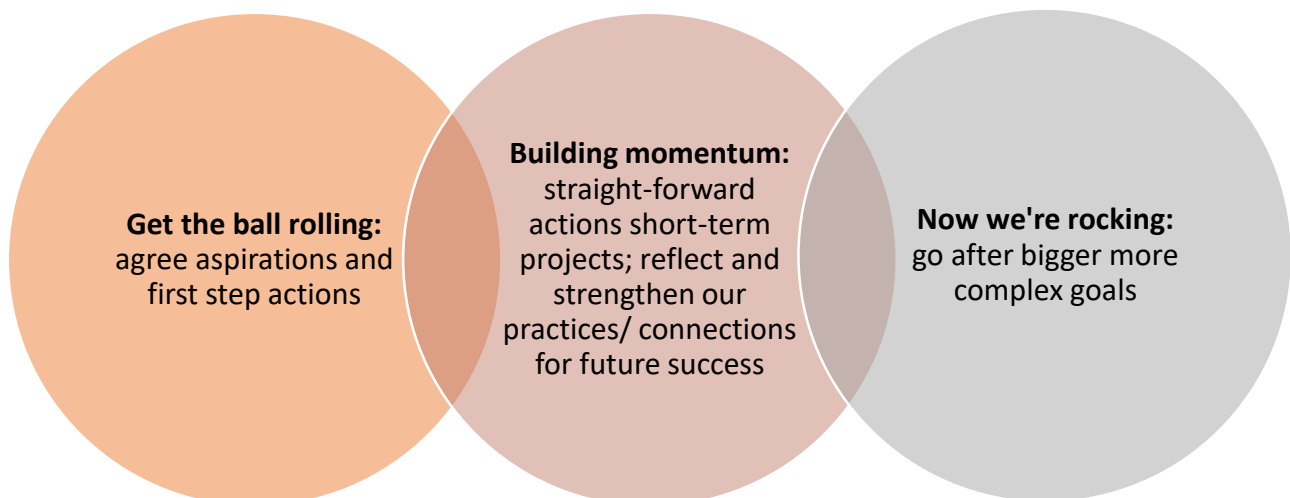
We recognise the importance of remaining focused on our bigger picture to ensure we are putting our efforts into processes and activities that take us closer to achieving our aspirations. We will ensure that we can connect and describe how the actions we propose to take will move us towards our community aspirations.

We will review progress at each quarterly meeting. We will discuss and record what was successful and what didn't go to plan and the reasons why at each quarterly meeting. We will adapt and refine our processes and the community plan as we learn what works to get things done in Featherston.

We intend to learn how to work together best by getting on with straight-forward short-term projects, reviewing how these go, incorporating that learning into our next projects, and building towards going after bigger more complex projects.

What actions?

The specific actions that we make a start on will depend initially on the interests and passions of the people who come to the initial meetings and form action groups. We have collected plenty of great ideas for specific actions. It will be up to the people at the initial community meetings to discuss and decide which ones to pursue first.



Working with others

Who are the people, groups, organisations, funders, NGOs, local and central government agencies etc. that might have a stake in working together with the community towards a specific action or community-owned goal? How do we work with them?

We will need to work with “stakeholders” to achieve our goals. Stakeholders may be people or groups within the community or those outside of the community. They are people who have an interest in action the community decides to tackle; such as those currently working in areas that relating to the identified community aspirations.

Stakeholders will have differing levels of influence or potential contributions to make to each project or action the community decides to tackle. Each will fall somewhere on a spectrum; from being absolutely core to the project being successful, to those needing to be kept in the loop but not directly involved.

Mapping who is doing what in Featherston

A Featherston community member is mapping who is doing what in Featherston. We also collected a wealth of information via the Survey, about what groups, projects, initiatives Featherston people are involved with.

Combined, these two resources will assist the central coordinating group and action groups to identify potential stakeholders when planning projects or actions.



When considering actions, we will need to look at how we can connect with the work already being done in Featherston and identify opportunities for collaboration and partnership.

The second step is to talk to stakeholders...

Once stakeholders have been identified the next step would be to make contact and start talking about what we want to achieve, and the possibilities for working together.

While harnessing the wider community’s enthusiasm to achieve its community-owned goals, we do need to be mindful of initiatives and work already underway.

We don’t want to reinvent the wheel, or duplicate the work being done by others, but rather support, complement and/or build on these efforts.

... and the third step is to identify ways to work together

How could this work in practice?

Some of the actions suggested through the community engagement were focused on doing more of what is already happening.

For example, we received many comments about wanting to keep Featherston First Friday’s going over Summer. First Friday’s are well organised fun and free events that bring the community together one evening each month in Summer.

The idea would be to approach the organisers and ask how this process/the wider community might support these events to continue, **with no expectation or demand of more involvement than is wanted by the current organisers:**

- it may be that the organisers could do with some help to put up posters around town; or
- they might want help with finding funding; or
- they might want more people on the First Friday organising group;
- it might be that they don’t have anything specific that they want help with.

The “skills and interests” register will be a useful tool to assist action groups and coordinating group to describe the ways in which community members could support work already underway when talking to stakeholders.

Getting new things going

Even where an action group seeks to start something new it is still important to identify the connections the project has with other things happening around town.

Some potential actions under each aspiration

As a starter, to support further community conversations about specific actions to make a start on, we have taken a few of the great ideas the community provided and plotted them in immediate, short, medium and long term timeframes for each aspiration. The specific actions that are eventually undertaken will depend on the passions, interest, and resourcing within our community.

Community is nurtured in Featherston, we have fun together, we are connected, resilient and self-sustaining

Keep doing

Support the organisers of **First Fridays** to continue organising fabulous free events in Summer

Submit a request for **partnership** with the Department of Internal Affairs Community-Led Development Programme

Develop a **community skills and interests register**

Continue participation and involvement in **implementing this plan**

Do soon

One or two **community pot-luck dinners** over autumn/winter/spring when First Fridays are not running – with a focus on bringing generations together and bringing new residents and long-time residents together

Establish **community awards** to celebrate our local heroes and achievements (ensuring we celebrate our children and young person's contributions)

Community project to create **themed family friendly town walks**; with book, history/heritage, stories/traditions of tangata whenua themes

Work towards

Develop efficient **one-stop community information sharing/exchange** mechanism

Collective established to coordinate **surplus food swap, community growing** of produce for food bank/sharing

Annual community events on **Neighbours' Day**

Think Big

Self-sustaining social enterprise that **provides our young people with their first job and work experience** in partnership with the Wairarapa Whanau Trust youth activities based at Boundary Road

Potential actions cont.

Featherston is a destination town for visitors, known for:

- * artisan food and artisan retail
- * being a vibrant hub of creativiity, arts, books, culture and heritage
- * being connected to accessible outdoor recreation in our beautiful natural surroundings

Keep doing	Support Booktown, Christmas Market, Fell Engine & Heritage Complex, Mini-Fell Festival Buy local to sustain local artisans and businesses
Do soon	Support local artists to apply for Creative Arts funding to undertake public art projects in town Advocate for more public transport on weekends Establish an artisan festival – perhaps to coincide with Booktown
Work towards	Better connecting cycle and pathways between town with natural surroundings , cycle trail Upgrade public amenities for visitors , in particular with cyclists and walkers in mind (toilets, showers, secure cycle storage) for visitors Website to promote tourism in Featherston Featherston information centre becoming an iSite Digital recording of our oral, photographic and written history
Think Big	Public Art programme which seeks to link one end of the main street with the other end , address issues with unoccupied buildings, and take advantage of our abundant natural resource – the wind

Potential actions cont.

Featherston values and takes care to conserve, protect, restore and revitalise our natural environment

Keep doing Support the **Wairarapa Moana – Community Restoration/Featherston Youth Programme’s** collaboration with the Wairarapa Moana Wetlands Project on the youth conservation programme, planting and restoring wetlands to continue
Support the work of groups like **Boomerang Bags** to reduce plastic bag use in town

Do soon **Build-a-bicycle** and bicycle repair and maintenance workshops
Establish a **swap-a-market** – swap-a-crop, exchange food, wood, compost, furniture
Set up a **library of things** – tools etc

Work towards Implement the **concepts** developed by the Vic Uni landscape architect students
Plant natives along open **storm water** streams and plant rain gardens

Think Big **Restore** Wairarapa Moana
Predator free reserve on “One Tree Hill”
Solar/Wind powered town
Become the **recycling/upcycling centre** for Wairarapa; a **community enterprise** that provides jobs for local people

Potential actions cont.

Featherston has the infrastructure needed to support creators, innovators, and businesses to invest in setting up here

Keep doing

Buy local to sustain local businesses

Do soon

Get **good news stories** out about locals being successful creators, innovators, business owners in town – this will promote Featherston and also inspire our young people to see what they can achieve in town

Establish **regular networking events** for local businesses to make useful connections and discuss local issues

Investigate what support for regional economic development exists through local and central government, such as the Wellington Regional Economic Development Agency and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Work towards

Establish **subsidies for businesses start-ups** in town – advocate for this through local government planning processes

Establish a **local economic development network** to plan and drive economic development in town

Establish a shared **co-working space** (hot desks) as an option for commuters to work locally a few days a week

Think Big

Position town as **incubator** for emerging creative, innovative and high tech businesses

Advocate for any new building to locate Council offices to be built in Featherston

Potential actions cont.

Featherston has the amenities, services and infrastructure to be a great 'liveable' town from cradle to grave

'Liveable' is a living conditions / quality of life concept where a range of factors are taken into consideration to rate the 'liveability'. Factors like: cost of living; health care; quality of education; safety/crime; arts, culture, recreation, entertainment options; public transport; access to goods and services; equitable mobility; environment; town design and infrastructure; social inclusion; connectivity; commerce.

Keep doing Support **Meals on Wheels** to continue
Library and AOG **School Holiday Programmes**
Support the **Featherston Community Centre** to thrive and continue to provide a community-owned facility for community-focused activities

Do soon Improve the **fencing** around the **playground**
Work to **slow traffic** through town, around schools and the playground
Establish a **Fruit and Vegetable Cooperative** for supplying affordable produce such as those in the Hutt Valley and Kapiti
Work to **strengthen** the **communication** channels and positive **relationship** with the South Wairarapa **District Council** – work towards establishing a **partnership model** to achieve our community goals
Add to the **school holiday programme** activities offered through AOG and the Library

Work towards Create a **space** to go and/or things to do with kids on a **rainy day**
Upgrade playground equipment
Expand the **Library**, more books, more activities
Upgrade outdoor pool complex; e.g. install BBQs and picnic area, shade sails over toddler's pool
Extend **One Tree Hill track** into adjacent area

Think Big Multi-purpose indoor/outdoor recreation complex with covered, heated **pool and gym**
Appropriate housing stock to accommodate residents' needs across their lifetimes, including establishing a **rest home** in town

Dealing with bumps and roadblocks

<p>Low stakeholder engagement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start with actions where we know stakeholders are supportive, build momentum from successes • Focus on developing strong trust working relationships on a foundation of clear, transparent communication • Ensure that actions complement and enhance, and won't duplicate or compete with, work being done by others • Communicate of purpose and benefits of actions/goals • Publically acknowledge stakeholder role and contributions and include stakeholders in celebration of successes • Good use and identification of expertise and resources to support relationship brokering and building (e.g. online resources and DIA's community advisers) • Work towards securing funding for a paid Coordinator with responsibility to support the community to broker, build and maintain relationships with key stakeholders
<p>Slow or no progress results in the community dis-engaging</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritise regular communications promote progress and successes within the community – including articulating how the small steps lead to the bigger change wanted • Encourage and support many people to take the lead and work together on actions • Work towards securing a dedicated paid coordinator to drive momentum and progress and coordinate volunteer effort – as evidenced as being successful in other communities
<p>Funding, where needed, is not secured (or only partial funding is secured)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify what can be achieved within community assets and resources, plan actions with a view to calling on existing resources first • Plans for self-sufficient, self-sustaining operations over the long-term built into project/action plans (following seed funding from grants etc.) • Be innovative and collaborative in approach to funding (e.g. think creatively about how something can be funded, not necessarily fully funded through one grant source) • Clearly communicate the community benefit in funding proposals and keep identifying, and applying to, a range of funders
<p>Not enough people involved to keep momentum on actions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage people to join-in and work together through positive “word-of-mouth” about the volunteer experience: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ volunteers are well supported by well-organised action and coordinating groups ○ volunteers are acknowledged and the value of their contributions celebrated • Set up a register of volunteers to better target requests for support with available skills • Meetings and or activities are arranged, as much as is possible, for times when people can participate (e.g. parent/worker/commuter-friendly times) • Work towards securing funding for a paid Coordinator to “coordinate” and ensure quality communication with volunteers
<p>Community priorities change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This plan is a living document and the process of implementing it is designed to be flexible and able to be periodically adapted, refined, revised to suit changing circumstances
<p>This plan gathers dust on the shelf</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This plan is a community resource that can be used by community members, community groups or organisations or government agencies working in Featherston, regardless of whether or not its actions are being progressed via a community-led development “project”.

Big thanks to all those that contributed...

This process has been made possible by the contributions of many people, groups, businesses and organisations – all contributions, large or small, have had an impact.

Organisations or individuals that sponsored or funded aspects of our activities

Hapaitia Wairarapa/[Working Together More Fund](#) (funding to engage mentoring and support from [Inspiring Communities](#) to establish a Community-Led Development group and facilitate community-led development conversations and the development of a draft community plan)

[Inspiring Communities](#) – Megan Courtney (donated time and resources in addition to what was funded via Hapaitia/Working Together More)

[Featherston's Own Charitable Trust](#) (donation towards costs of both community meetings)

Supervalu (donated food, vouchers and other supplies for both community meetings);

A local resident (survey costs and community meeting costs)

Wairarapa Community Networks (costs of meeting space for Fab Feathy meetings)

Gusto Café (coffee vouchers);

[Loco Coffee and Books](#) (coffee vouchers);

[Martin the Baker](#) (bread for community pot-luck)

[Colombo Vineyard](#) (wine as thank-you gift for volunteers);

Individuals who donated time, talent and/or resources or helped promote activities:

Tracey Shepherd; Chris Miller; Rebekah Mehrtens; Tiff North; Martine Bijker; Katie Beattie; Jocelyn Konig; Elsa Kelly; Amy Ross; Sue Galbraith; Ant North; Raewyn Rota; Patsy Wooles; Patrick Bleakley, Saali Marks; Denver Grenall, Lee Carter.

Members of Fab Feathy (estimated over 1,000 voluntary hours so far): Kara Pennington; Siv Fjaerestad; Sarah Taylor-Waitere; Mark Shepherd; Alan Maxwell; Phil Dittmer; Liz Mellish.

Community members who completed the 205 surveys and provided the 450 suggestions, the 250 who brought and shared food at the pot-luck dinner, the 50 people who came out on a horrible day to discuss priority theme areas, and the 160 people who have joined the database and indicated they want to participate in this journey going forward. Also, the people who helped set up and clear up ANZAC Hall before and after community meetings.

Supported activities by donating or lending resources, providing printing etc.:

*Regional Public Health Wellington, Wairarapa Office; Connecting Communities Wairarapa; Wairarapa Community Networks; Featherston Community Centre; **Persons/groups who provided PA system and projector and screen**; South Wairarapa District Council; Wairarapa REAP.*

Local businesses and organisations who assisted in promoting the survey, suggestion boxes, noticeboards, and community meetings:

*Lucy Cooper – Arrow FM's [Recooper8 radio show](#); Featherston Community Centre; [Loco Coffee and Books](#); SuperValue; Featherston Medical Centre; Featherston School; Featherston Phoenix; Featherston's Own Shop; Featherston Library; **Ticket Office at the Train Station**; Town and Country Café; Pioneer Bakery; RD1; Featherston Barber; Messines Restaurant and Bar; South Wairarapa Vets; For the Love of Books; Adamson's Service Station; C'est Cheese; Kia Ora Dairy; Thirsty Bottle Store; Industrial; Quirkies Antiques; Featherston Information Centre; Langs Pharmacy; Friday Club at Assembly of God; **(Any other schools?); (any other sports clubs or muay thai etc?).***

Appendices

- I. Plan development timeline
- II. Collation of suggestions and ideas in the 15 theme areas

Plan development timeline ...



Theme one: Main street

We want the public face of town to be tidied up to better reflect the vibrancy of our town. We want a 'public face' we can be proud of.

We want unique artisanal businesses and a range of affordable shops.

We want a more unified main street from one end to the other.

We want it to be safe for pedestrians.

We want people to want to stop and spend money in town.

We want the squircle to be bustling with people and activities (markets, performance, community gatherings).

Some ideas:

- no derelict or run-down buildings on the main street – new partnerships to get things upgraded, make building owners/Council more accountable
- ideally renovate the derelict buildings (retain their character); otherwise, have a community paint bombing session to 'decorate' them OR cover the exterior with ply and then paint a mural showing what the building could/should look like
- shelter over public seats in town square/squircle; finish the seats off and planter boxes in the squircle
- slow traffic, speed camera, add traffic island and pedestrian crossings and pedestrian malls (e.g. on Fox Street by war memorial)
- better landscaping of street frontage
- upgrade/clean footpaths. Replace with brick
- more unified appearance - custom made open flags same theme and colours
- more community input and better town planning into the main street appeal and looks
- no Strip Mall – keep Featherston quirky and unique
- take away existing access to SH53 that would allow more parks near Royal and traffic to park/drive past local businesses
- more covered/sheltered areas for markets, outdoor concerts
- retail development ideas based on VUW School of Design concepts

Theme two: Young people – it takes a village

We want to make sure that our young people:

- ***are proud to come from Featherston***
- ***have opportunities in town to discover, develop, and use/share their skills and talents***
- ***have options for 'things to do' for fun, recreation, hobbies, and interests***
- ***can earn their first income and gain work experience in town***
- ***have opportunities to hang out with/interact with other generations in town***
- ***understand the contribution they can make to our community and have their contributions recognised when they make them***
- ***know that we value and support them and we have their backs***
- ***are confident and resilient and know where to get help if they need it***

Some ideas:

- Support/extend Boundary Road Youth Group (the work Alan Maxwell is leading) to: develop and be sustainable; provide a space for YP to access tools/support they need to keep up with their school work, develop skills and confidence, and plan pathways to their futures
- Support YP to identify and access part-time work. For example, afterschool activities/jobs for children to earn cash – stacking firewood, gardens, lawns, pet feeding
- Strong sports clubs to make sure YP can play for local teams
- Rainy day hang out space
- Video game arcade and/or bowling alley or equivalent space where both young and old can hang out
- Better communication about how to support and get involved in supporting YP in town
- Ask YP to get involved in local projects
- Age appropriate school holiday programmes
- Music workshop for youth and adults
- Computer coding workshop
- Adventure playground for teens and adults
- More jobs/training/work experience for young people -connecting with colleges/tertiary
- Youth friendly activities – teenagers teaching younger children to skateboard or scooter
- Basketball hoops/court
- Bigger skate park; bigger bowl at the skate park

Theme three: Employment, income & business development

Lots of ideas about how the development we want in other 'theme' areas could support job creation and generate income for locals, e.g.:

- bigger better all year round pool = potential jobs
- upcycling centre = create jobs for locals
- destination town, tourism leads to more opportunities for locals to earn income
- new purpose built building for Council and govt services – bring money from council workers into town

Business development, some ideas:

- position town as an incubator of emerging high tech start ups
- create new shared co-working space in empty buildings in the main street (including hot desks, kitchen, meeting facilities etc.) Option for commuter workers to work locally a few days a week
- community-led ultrafast broadband project – we're way down government's priority list. But what could we do if the Council, vineyards, local business, private investors, community got together to create a local plan/fibre network?
- offer fast free broadband within commercial zone
- commercial development around the station (coffee... dog day care)
- Council subsidy to get the shops up & running (start-up fund)
- encouraging/providing incentives for business/retail development
- buy local campaign
- income for locals through supporting our local artisans to set up and sustain businesses here
- opening hours that suit commuters
- speed-dating type event to better connect businesses, community groups and others in town.
- Get a regular market going (some stalls) in the new town squircle area.
- attract investment in more vineyards and vegetable fields for work
- website for Featherston
- promote promote promote Featherston ♡

Theme four: cycle and walking trails

We want to revitalise/improve what we have now and develop new safe and accessible walking and cycle trails for locals and for visitors to use, catering for a wide range of abilities.

The potential to develop tourism and improving connections between the town and nearby environmental assets were key threads in this theme.

Some ideas:

- Amenities to support cycle and outdoor recreation options for locals and visitors –
 - promote what we have
 - secure storage for cycles while riders are in town
 - 'groovy' bike racks
 - visitor showers
 - good signage from train station and to connect town with trails
 - spruced up public toilets
 - hire sport equipment
- Historic markers/sculptures/signs of Māori history in and around Featherston
- More recreational walking tracks in the Hills but close enough to town so we do not need to drive to start them
- Connect tracks and greens spaces to the info centre/squircle
- Develop town street walks: Historic Street; Public Art; based on Books or Heritage
- Walking track to Peace Garden on Messines Way – as designed by Maria Rogers
- Extend One Tree Hill track into adjacent area which is apparently DOC managed.
- Walkway/cycleway to Lake Reserve.
- Dog walking areas. Public tracks around the lake. Dog facilities on trails.
- Renovate Otairua Reserve and redevelop pathway connecting Otairua Reserve with Featherston
- Safer paths for horses down to the Lake
- Developing the proposed mountain bike trail in the Rimutaka hills from 2009/2010
- Bridge at Barr Brown Bush Reserve to have better access to reserve. Boarbush gulley access to Tararua
- More little book exchanges throughout Featherston on a trail/map to be made
- Book related and/or history related walks through Featherston. One idea is a kids walk based on the book "Olwen Twelve Pockets" by Fiona McKay (with her permission of course!) Each station could reveal the contents of a pocket and lead to the next pocket ... and end at a bookshop!

Theme five: Swimming pool complex improvements

The pool complex is a community 'bumping space'; it is a community asset used for play, recreation, exercise.

We want to make better use of what we already have – and we have some “think big” ideas for developing an all year round facility.

Developing the pool/waterpark was a strong theme in the feedback from our kids and young people.

Ideas to make better use of or improvements to the current 'summer season' complex:

- Water slide at pool
- Shade sails
- Toys, play features, blow-up-activities
- BBQ/picnic area including seating – late nights, take a picnic and chill
- Late nights – take a picnic, chill
- Pool cover for toddler pool and have it filled up at least 90% the summer pool time
- Support the Swimming Club's Community Relay event
- Extend the pool hours so more of the community can use it during the week (e.g. commuter/worker friendly hours opening until 7 p.m.)
- Dedicated lane/s to improve safety for people wanting to exercise
- Extend the 'season' – open sooner for longer season
- Make the main pool deeper

Some ideas & comments about developing an all year round modern facility:

- Covered, heated, bigger
- Develop an indoor/outdoor waterpark with slides
- Multi-purpose facility with a gym
- Wave-pool
- Splash pad with musical features and buttons
- Retain the charm of our current outdoor pool
- Avoid steamy, loud echoey indoor environment
- Potential to bring employment with the construction - make employing locals a condition of the construction contract - and with the ongoing operations of the new year round facility.

Theme six: 'Liveable' amenities, services, and infrastructure

We want Council to engage better with the community.

We want the amenities, services and infrastructure that ensure a great standard of living right across our diverse community.

'Liveable' is a living conditions / quality of life concept where a range of factors are taken into consideration to rate the 'liveability'. Factors like: cost of living; health care; quality of education; safety/crime; arts, culture, recreation, entertainment options; public transport; access to goods and services; equitable mobility; environment; town design and infrastructure; social inclusion; connectivity; commerce.

Some ideas:

- cinema
- new street lighting like Greytown
- accessible footpaths w/ramps for wheelchairs & guide strips for blind
- improved public transport – more trains
- make the library bigger
- more support from Council for community development
- improved working relationship with Council
- security cameras and more bike racks at the Train Station
- rain gardens to deal with storm water issues
- free Wi-Fi in main street
- more dining options e.g. wine bars, choice of restaurants other than takeaways
- live music venue; bar with live music, family friendly
- better animal control
- upgrade dog park with ramps, tunnels, jumps and shelter
- modern indoor sports and community gym complex
- linked up sports clubs
- better promotion and utilisation of existing local halls, groups and recreation facilities.
- open hours (library, swimming pool, local gyms) in evenings so commuters can access
- much more visible and responsible police presence
- safe housing for abused partner
- community housing, income-related rents
- respite care
- access to Featherston Community Centre from the Main Street.
- more social service agencies in town, using Community Centre
- Community Network meeting better promoted
- community sports/exercise events; more exercise options & classes; 24 hour gym

Theme seven: Natural surroundings, including Wairarapa Moana

We want to protect, restore, and enhance our surrounding outstanding natural environment.

Some ideas:

- great to see young people getting involved – continue/expand the community work with DOC, GW etc to run youth conservation, biodiversity training programme around Wairarapa Moana restoration
- teaching/learning of conservation and landscape development skills while restoring Wairarapa Moana
- develop career paths for people involved in wetland restoration work
- conservation focused programme around Wairarapa Moana
- campaign to stop chemicals going into the lake (ban Round Up) and the shooting of geese
- clean up the lake water
- implement concepts developed by the Vic Uni landscape architect students
- better use of the Lake. It is unique to the Wairarapa and Featherston is the nearest town. Long term major tree planting and making northern access road along lake; better clearing and replanting
- create conservation jobs – possum trapping
- develop the Wairarapa Moana Reserve
- put the Ruamahunga back in the lake
- increase connections between the town and nearby environmental assets
- upgrade sewage, love for our Wairarapa Moana
- native plants along open storm water streams
- slow down boy racers going down to the Lake
- walking, cycling, horse riding trails around the lake and connecting the lake with town
- look into solar and/or wind power generation that suits our environment

Theme eight: More public art

We want more public art projects. Public art makes for an interesting environment for locals and may bring more visitors to town. It is perhaps a means of revitalising the public facing parts of town that are in need of a spruce up.

We also want to support and encourage our local artists and attract more artists to live here.

Some ideas:

- to be the kinetic art sculpture capital of New Zealand
- to be the wind sculpture capital of New Zealand
- graffiti art murals on buildings
- be a destination on an Art Trail, perhaps starting from Featherston
- more Public Art projects: sculptures; wind sculptures; murals on buildings
- Art gallery – permanent and pop-ups in the empty shops and buildings, this would encourage local talent
- support the Wairarapa Art Sale at Featherston's Community Centre
- historic markers/sculptures/signs of Māori history in and around Featherston
- groovy bikes racks
- performance spaces
- A place where artists can live and work and don't have to be rich or famous
- new artist studios – co working space and studios in one of the old buildings in town centre. Could offer cheap rent, space to sell artists goods. Could act as a small scale art 'start-up' space

Theme nine: Destination Featherston

We want people to stop and enjoy their stay.

***We want to be the destination not just the gateway.
We want to develop the potential we can see in town
and make the most of our unique character,
attributes and surroundings.***

***We want to both complement and distinguish our
town from what is on offer in the rest of the region.***

Some ideas:

- better synergy connection with neighbouring towns; complement/distinguish from what is on offer in the rest of the region
- destination park and/or pool that brings families – have a picnic and BBQ area (coin operated or free)
- Booktown
- support the Christmas market and parade
- more restaurants
- main street development; better parking
- support the retailers, they are the public face
- embrace freedom camping and make Otairua Reserve a site for this!
- promote our artisans, more public art
- concerted campaign to upgrade the town toilets; how come Mboro & Beigetown got new toilets & we get the dunger (no pun intended!)
- Dorset Square to have toilets, showers (coin operated) for cyclists to camp
- better market with more stalls
- music festival at the race course
- steam punk festival
- increase connections between the town and nearby environmental assets
- trains to Cross Creek (Steam) or Western Lake & Café both ends/souvenir shop
- better signage from railway station to Featherston
- build tourism profile, better promotion of and positive publicity about Featherston (website)
- other activities that encourage people to stop e.g. mini golf
- better public transport – especially train services (frequency/timeliness)
- expand the visitor's information centre; longer opening hours, an I-site – we are the gateway to the Wairarapa
- strengthen Sister City relationship with Messines in Belgium; build a model village of Messines in the middle of the mini fell railway

Theme ten: Better housing and healthcare for elderly

We want appropriate housing, facilities and services to allow our elderly people to stay in town; to avoid the stress, upset and upheaval of having to leave town if residential care is necessary.

Some ideas:

- turn Fareham House into rest home
- age concern agency presence
- programmes for older adults
- clean warm affordable housing for old persons
- old folks home
- more pensioner flats
- A rest home for residents
- equitable accessible mobility town planning, footpaths etc.
- allow gold card users all day on Wairarapa public transport
- reinstate Meals on Wheels (tick, done!)

Theme eleven: 'Community' is nurtured

We want to get together to have fun and enjoy each other's company.

We want a programme of free events/activities for locals aimed at building & celebrating community (not tourism focused).

We want our community to be connected and cohesive, we want collaboration and sharing.

We want to celebrate and utilise the talents and skills we have in town.

Some ideas:

- more First Friday Parties
- community movie nights at ANZAC Hall
- more Community Potlucks
- more family based community events where we can get together to meet others and our children can interact.
- thoughtful integration of new residents with old school Feathy
- celebrate Community – community awards
- commuter-friendly community events, activities and groups
- residents' Christmas lights festival - everyone lights up their tree and looks at other houses that are decorated with lights. Light up the tree on one tree hill
- fully connected, all communication channels to cover everyone
- community survey like this one where we are invited to share our ideas/vision
- join up all the different groups that do the same thing – have one overarching committee so that all the groups are pulling in same the direction
- joint funding applications
- create inventory of community skills – retired people have skills they can pass on to others.
- workshops where people share their skills for free
- neighbours helping each other
- strengthen links between neighbours so we see more people chatting in the streets
- support group for people with disabilities
- promote our awesomeness - positive media stories
- database of services, groups
- supportive inclusive integrated community
- supportive of elderly, less social isolation
- social services hub
- more groups using the community-owned Community Centre on Wakefield Street
- violence free town: a place where domestic violence is not tolerated

Theme twelve: History and heritage

We want to see our heritage buildings revitalised, used, and preserved.

We see potential for tourism based around our unique heritage.

Some ideas:

- Celebrate and develop better knowledge of Māori history of the area
- Have both Featherston's official names (Pae Tū mōkai) recognised by the NZ Geographic Board
- Restore heritage buildings on main street
- Development of a permanent project that showcases the role of the military/prison camp and the town during two wars
- Better promotion/more visibility re: the town's history – the train, the army, the camp
 - Develop display and photo boards to bring it into public life
- Profile Anzac Hall – it's a treasure
- More entertainment to get more use of ANZAC Hall
- Digital recording of our oral, photographic and written history
- Develop an historical aspect to Featherston Cemetery

Theme thirteen: Waste not want not

We want to reduce waste and our impact on the environment by sharing and exchanging, recycling, repurposing, reusing, upcycling materials and resources.

“Think big” aspiration to be the Upcycling/Recycling/Recovery Centre of the Wairarapa. A community-enterprise, partnering with Councils in the establishment phase. Creating jobs for locals in the process. Using Raglan and other examples as models for what we can do here.

Some ideas:

- recycling; building materials, green waste into garden mulch
- plastic bag free town – support Boomerang Bags
- exchange hub – wood, compost, furniture etc.
- recycling business for building materials
revitalise old bikes – community build-a-bike workshop
- create a library of ‘things’ – e.g. tools, appliances etc.
- bee friendly town
- recycling bins for civic centre
- have a local rubbish tip – not have to travel to Martinborough

Theme fourteen: Food and gardening

We want to grow, exchange, share food locally. We don't want our abundant produce to go to waste when someone else in town could use it.

We want to attract initiatives that will provide locals with affordable fruit and veges.

We want to stay in town to eat out.

Some ideas:

- to be foodie heaven – attract lots of artisan food businesses
- more choice for eating out, including vegetarian and vegan options
- food supplies at reasonable prices
- vegetable co-op like in the Hutt, Porirua and Kapiti (\$10 for bag of seasonal veges)
- community orchard
- grow the food bank to include food-share, swap-a-crop concept
- community fridge and pantry to share surplus food
- use berms to grow community fruit trees and crops like potatoes
- community gardens are a great idea – better promotion and upkeep of the ones we have now
- community garden koha shed soup kitchen
- swap a crop market
- food collective that helps coordinate the distribution of surplus food – particularly fruit and vegetables
- bee friendly town
- gardening club to exchange ideas and plants
- a recognition of the joy that lots of Featherstonians take in their gardens – small or large. Shows spirit and a degree of contentment, don't you think?

Theme fifteen: Children and childcare

We want our children to be safe and to have access to good quality affordable age appropriate child care, operating in hours that suit working/studying parents/caregivers.

We want a range of kid-friendly activities for fun, sport, art, culture and recreation.

We want our kids to have world-class education that supports them to build confidence and resilience.

Some ideas:

- childcare, after school and before school; care for pre-schoolers and school-age children
- school Holiday programmes. Minecraft; traditional Māori crafts and games
- things to do on a rainy day
- improve toddlers pool
- expand the Library with more books & activities for children, and more space for events
- Book related and/or history related walks through Featherston. One idea is a kids walk based on the book "Olwen Twelve Pockets" by Fiona McKay (with her permission of course!) Each station could reveal the contents of a pocket and lead to the next pocket ... and end at a bookshop!
- fence around the playground
- new playground equipment: baby bucket swing, new wooden fort with easier to use large slide, rocking toys with springs etc.
- baby skate park at the playground
- a bigger playground with trampolines, with duck pond
- a playhouse at the town square & toy box and a toy hospital

GREYTOWN STORMWATER DRAINAGE

SUBMISSION – 2018/2028 SWDC LONG TERM PLAN

The Submitters wish to be heard.

Your Worship & Councillors

PURPOSE:

This submission requests the SWDC to implement the recommendations of Eastern Consulting Engineers in their **“GREYTOWN STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN”** dated **JUNE 1997**.

In particular - Page 8, paragraph 6.3.3 of the report refers:-

“ WE RECOMMEND THAT THE COUNCIL TAKE OVER THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTAINING THE RACE/STORMWATER SYSTEM WITHIN THE TOWN. THIS WILL ENABLE FULL SECTIONS OF DRAINS TO BE MAINTAINED ON A REGULAR BASIS AND THIS WILL GREATLY IMPROVE THE PERFORMANCE OF BOTH THE EXISTING AND UPGRADED SYSTEM.”

2015 LTP SUBMISSION:

In 2015 a three part LTP submission made by a group of Greytown residents REQUESTED SWDC to –

- Part 1. Review the Moroa Water Race system in its entirety
- Part 2. Implement the recommendations of the 1997 Eastern Consulting Report, and
- Part 3. Create an Urban/Rural Liaison Group to assist SWDC. **(A ‘Water Races Users Group’ was the only result from this submission.)**

The SWDC response to this submission is attached as **Appendix 1**.

CURRENT CONTEXT:

This 2018 submission arises from **INCREASING** concerns about instances of localized flooding observed and experienced in the Greytown urban area. **These occur in public areas for which SWDC is responsible for maintenance and have affected private property owners.**

Part 2 of the 2015 submission requested - **“ 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.”**

2/...

-2-

The submitters were, and still are, concerned about the potential for significant urban property damage due to the increasing frequency of the system components failing to deal with significant water flows in times of moderate or greater rainfall.

Submitters also 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

The current submitters are expressing the same concerns.

DEVELOPMENTS SINCE 1997:

Factors exacerbating the potential for flooding include –

- Increased ‘in-fill’
- New sub-divisions in the period 1997- 2018 (**See Appendix 2.**)
- Weather pattern changes bringing larger more prolonged rain events, and
- Lack of an **Integrated Operations and Maintenance Management process.**

Any property owners (including SWDC), through which a channel of the Moroa Water Race (MWR) flows, are currently responsible for maintenance in accordance with the MWR By-law (2007).

The 2015 submitters said - **“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.”** Disposal of the detritus from channels (often dumped by contractors on the berm) is a cost to residents while the personal safety issue also includes children given the significant build-up of weed and silt in each of the eight channels which significantly reduces the capacity of the system to deal with increased flows.

OUTCOMES SOUGHT:

Submitters seek implementation of the Eastern Consulting recommendations to include –

- **THE COUNCIL TAKING OVER THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTAINING THE RACE(S)/STORMWATER SYSTEM WITHIN THE TOWN.**
- regular ON-SITE maintenance monitoring processes by council staff
- programmed investment in the network AS PER THE EASTERN CONSULTING REPORT
- clearly defined time lines for the UP-GRADE INVESTMENT needed.

3/...

SUMMARY:

Expected Benefits of **ADOPTION OF THE 1997 REPORT** will be an improved Greytown Storm-water Drainage Management and Maintenance system through - -

- one party, **SWDC**, being responsible for the MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT of the system
- implementation of identified capital investment in Storm-water Drainage infrastructure
- reduced water infiltration into the Waste-water network
- opportunity to investigate the current functionality of the drainage/urban water race network to future proof surface water control
- identification of possible alternate approaches to the discharge of surface water such as feasibility for complete removal of some races, establishment of piped stormwater in their place as required, possible concentration of current races, or establishment of alternate water movement processes
- a reduction in public frustration and disruption through less 'Nuisance flooding'
- minimisation of risk of substantial property damage arising from a large rain event.

Mike Gray

On behalf of the attached list of Greytown Residents - Appendix 3.

ATTACHMENTS:

Appendix 1. SWDC response to 2015 LTP submission.

Appendix 2. Urban Developments since 1997.

Appendix 3. Residents who support this submission.

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APPENDIX 1.

The SWDC response to the 2015 submission – reads –

‘Council officers are to prioritise work on the Moroa Water Race. Work is to include a review of the bylaw and operational maintenance. Particular attention is to be paid to the maintenance of water races on Council owned land, maintenance of silt collection filters, consideration of requirements of urban ratepayers who have water races through their properties, and consideration of whether diversions are an option.’

APPENDIX 2.

Urban Land Developments since 1997 -

- Numerous - ‘In-Fill’ of existing sections
- Westwood Avenue
- Fresh Choice Development
- Mawson Estate
- Kuratawhiti Estate
- Wood St Subdivision
- Tararua Junction
- Orchard Road Subdivision
- Greytown Development Area

+++++

APPENDIX 3. RESIDENTS WHO SUPPORT THIS SUBMISSION.

Bruce & Josie Farley

Ronette Manning

Jill McDonald

Derek Williams

Ian, Allan & Liz Farley

Ann Rainford

Geoffrey Clark

Thomas & Wendy Gurtner

Warren Woodgyer

Graeme Gray

Lynette & Brian Sugrue

Bryan & Gay Butler

Dave Hayden

+++++

Persons Contacted but Yet to Confirm:

Alisoun Werry

Judy Couling

Liz Bondy

Stan Mangin

Lynley Sutherland

Kevin Armstrong

Ray Stratford

Lorraine & Terry Moloney

+++++

--Submitter Details--

Name: Jack Sheppard

--Ratepayer Details--

Ratepayer: Urban

Organisation:

Do you want to speak to your submission? No

Speaking preference:

--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

If not what general rates increase do you support?

Other:

If you ticked 'disagree' which activity areas do you think we should spend less on?

--Future Growth and Development--

Select your preferred option: Option Two

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Youth Training and Development--

Select your preferred option: Option One

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Promoting and Enhancing our District--

Select your preferred option: Option One

Option Three: Suggested expenditure:

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Infrastructure for Visitors--

Select your preferred option: Option One

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Sports Coordination--

Select your preferred option: Option Two

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Reducing Waste Going to Landfills--

a. Do you support provision of kerbside food waste collections?

Yes

b. Do you support provision of 240 litre wheelie bins for recycling? No

c. Do you support provision of an e-waste service at transfer stations or an advertised collection service scheduled throughout the year? Yes

d. Do you support provision of a recycling/recovery centre at a transfer station? Yes

These ideas are not mutually exclusive, you can support more than one. These ideas are not included in the current rates increase of 5.99% in year one. If you have any views on these ideas please comment below: Costs quoted do not indicate the true value of recycling, reducing and reusing. The benefit to society is far greater than these costs indicate.

--Water Conservation--

Select your preferred option: Option Two

3. What other options would you like Council to investigate to conserve water in our district?

If you have any views on these ideas please comment below:

--Fees and Charges--

Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to fees and charges as outlined on page 14? Do something for Featherston for a change instead of screwing over a town that is more populous (but less fancy) than both Martinborough and Greytown. Y'know, the people.

--Grants--

If you are applying for a grant please complete the grant application form and attach:

--Other Feedback--

Please provide any other comments below: Am absolutely shocked at the mismanagement that has seen Marcus' main drag development shut down. Council needs to be ashamed at this and make amends, or heads have to roll.

Upload File:

Upload Additional File:

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/1029/submission/1046>

--Submitter Details--

Name: Barbara Wilson

--Ratepayer Details--

Ratepayer: Rural

Organisation: Mrs

Do you want to speak to your submission? No

Speaking preference:

--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? Disagree

If not what general rates increase do you support? 3% (inflation only)

Other:

If you ticked 'disagree' which activity areas do you think we should spend less on?

The Featherston cemetery needs money spent on it. The water availability is shocking - not enough taps especially around the older part. Also when the cemetery goes across the road - it needs a chapel or something similar that families/friends who visit can sit down. It needs to be better looked after and the lawns needs to be moved regularly. A number of graves have been damaged. A Friends of the Featherston Cemetery needs to be formed to look after it.

--Future Growth and Development--

Select your preferred option: Option Two

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Youth Training and Development--

Select your preferred option: Option One

If you have any views on this project please comment below: Youth needs to be looked after.

--Promoting and Enhancing our District--

Select your preferred option: Option One

Option Three: Suggested expenditure:

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Infrastructure for Visitors--

Select your preferred option: Option One

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Sports Coordination--

Select your preferred option: Option One

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Reducing Waste Going to Landfills--

a. Do you support provision of kerbside food waste collections?

b. Do you support provision of 240 litre wheelie bins for recycling? Yes

c. Do you support provision of an e-waste service at transfer stations or an advertised collection service scheduled throughout the year? Yes

d. Do you support provision of a recycling/recovery centre at a transfer station? Yes

These ideas are not mutually exclusive, you can support more than one. These ideas are not included in the current rates increase of 5.99% in year one. If you have any views on these ideas please comment below:

--Water Conservation--

Select your preferred option: Option One

3. What other options would you like Council to investigate to conserve water in our district?

If you have any views on these ideas please comment below:

--Fees and Charges--

Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to fees and charges as outlined on page 14?

--Grants--

If you are applying for a grant please complete the grant application form and attach:

--Other Feedback--

Please provide any other comments below:

Upload File:

Upload Additional File:

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/1029/submission/1047>

From: adbewilson@farmside.co.nz [mailto:adbewilson@farmside.co.nz]

Sent: Tuesday, 24 April 2018 4:00 p.m.

To: Suzanne Clark - Committee Secretary <Suzanne.Clark@swdc.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: Long Term Plan

Hi This is my submission -

The need for more water taps. The need for a chapel etc. for people to sit in - no seats except along the railway line side. Friends of the Featherston Cemeteries needs to be formed to look after the cemetery. It looks very untidy - no flowers etc. to bright up the area. At times the lawns are not even mowed. No list those who are buried on the council website. It is very untidy,.

I have sent by email my submission.

Barbara

--Submitter Details--

Name: Taumata Island Dairy Ltd

--Ratepayer Details--

Ratepayer: Rural

Organisation:

Do you want to speak to your submission? No

Speaking preference:

--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

If not what general rates increase do you support?

Other:

If you ticked 'disagree' which activity areas do you think we should spend less on?

--Future Growth and Development--

Select your preferred option: Option One

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Youth Training and Development--

Select your preferred option: Option One

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Promoting and Enhancing our District--

Select your preferred option: Option One

Option Three: Suggested expenditure:

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Infrastructure for Visitors--

Select your preferred option: Option One

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Sports Coordination--

Select your preferred option: Option One

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Reducing Waste Going to Landfills--

a. Do you support provision of kerbside food waste collections?

No

b. Do you support provision of 240 litre wheelie bins for recycling? Yes

c. Do you support provision of an e-waste service at transfer stations or an advertised collection service scheduled throughout the year? No

d. Do you support provision of a recycling/recovery centre at a transfer station? Yes

These ideas are not mutually exclusive, you can support more than one. These ideas are not included in the current rates increase of 5.99% in year one. If you have any views on these ideas please comment below:

--Water Conservation--

Select your preferred option: Option One

3. What other options would you like Council to investigate to conserve water in our district?

If you have any views on these ideas please comment below: Very keen to see the council support further study on water storage for the Wairarapa region. We have a climate which will get drier and hotter over time and we need storage for existing activities let alone for the new potential possibilities for the Wairarapa. I note the boom in horticultural industries for which, if we are to take advantage of them, requires reliable water for crop establishment and to support modern production systems.

--Fees and Charges--

Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to fees and charges as outlined on page 14?

--Grants--

If you are applying for a grant please complete the grant application form and attach:

--Other Feedback--

Please provide any other comments below:

Upload File:

Upload Additional File:

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/1029/submission/1048>

Wairarapa Catchment Communities/Pukaha To Palliser submission on the South Wairarapa District Council Long Term Plan.

In December 2017 a working group of collaborative partners in the development stages of a landscape scale Wairarapa restoration project presented to Council seeking funding to support the development of a new organisation, “Wairarapa Catchment Communities Pukaha to Palliser” (a working title).

This paper is a response to your invitation in December to submit a formal submission to the South Wairarapa District Council Long Term Plan (LTP).

The opportunity:

The Wairarapa Catchment Communities/Pukaha to Palliser (WaiCC/P2P) collaboration is an opportunity to address current and future environmental, economic, social and cultural challenges in the Wairarapa by supporting leadership in local communities, both town and country through facilitation and an aligned agency, community and industry framework.

These priorities are critical to achieving a more resilient Wairarapa. A WaiCC /P2P organisation can be a vehicle to attract opportunities such as Billion Trees, PF2050 Strategy and the Regional Development Fund that otherwise may not be directed at Wairarapa.

Solutions to these challenges need to be inclusive of and owned at community level and supported by aligned and engaged central and local government services, rural industry groups and NGO’s focussed on “making it easier” for the people of Wairarapa to enhance their environment, social, cultural and economic resilience.

The WaiCC/P2P Interim Working Group (IWG) seek support from SWDC via the LTP to form a new organisation that can govern, focus and deliver on these opportunities.

Support sought from the LTP:

The IWG seek funding of **\$25,000 per annum for a 3-year period**, to meet part of the cost of purchasing capacity in the form of a Project Co-ordinator (1 FTE), and a Co-ordination and Facilitation Manager (1 FTE) plus operating costs and support. The balance of these costs are expected to be met by other funders including industry organisations, by application to other Council LTPs, and by in-kind contributions from supporting agencies.

Total support sought from the LTP \$75,000.

Partner Contributions:

WaiCC/P2P is a partnership between rural and urban community groups, Wairarapa iwi, industry groups, central and local government. DOC and GWRC have contributed significant in-kind support to date in the start-up phase for the project and will continue to maintain that as the project develops into an autonomous organisation.

DOC and GWRC have shared equally the cost of a 4-month Community Facilitation contract. The IWG is also seeking contributions from industry. Further in-kind and direct financial support will be expected of partner organisations as WaiCC/P2P develops. The IWG will continue to seek sustained funding sources from various agencies and contestable funding schemes

The proposal:

To support through a 3-year funding period, the design and development of an independent multi partner organisation that will be responsive to the challenges faced by individuals and groups within Wairarapa. “Wairarapa community resilience supported by a healthy, productive environment” is a proposed vision statement.

The establishment of both a reactive and proactive, locally-owned support structure will be a starting point for enabling communities to take ownership of their wellbeing and work towards increased economic, environmental, social and cultural resilience. This will create a more vibrant, healthy and diverse environment and an enriched social and cultural life.

To achieve this organisation and structure initially 2 key roles are envisaged:

1. Project Development (1 FTE, \$100k p.a. x 3 years):

The Project Development role will progress the structure, funding and co-ordinated delivery model. The role will also develop a Wairarapa wide ‘catchment community’ strategy where a mana whenua, rural and urban focus is integrated and alignment with other key structures and programmes is achieved.

The critical outcomes to be delivered through the project development role are;

- The development and implementation of the WaiCC/P2P strategy.
- Securing a mandate to transition WaiCC/P2P to an independent entity.
- Responding to catchment community immediate priorities (e.g.; data management, science monitoring and facilitation needs).
- Integrating mana whenua kaitiakitanga.
- Securing sustainable funding through co-ordinated bids and marketing.
- Establishing co-ordinated service/resource delivery of support agencies.

2. Co-ordination /facilitation (2 x 0.75 FTE’s, one focussed on engagement with mana whenua at marae/hapu level. \$150k p.a. total x 3 years):

The co-ordination and facilitation roles will engage directly with individual catchment communities to respond to both immediate and strategic needs, linking these where necessary. The role is an enabling one that supports the ability of catchment communities and providers to achieve their own goals through training, mentoring and general support and skills development.

Further roles are proposed subsequently:

3. Admin Support (0.5 FTE \$50k p.a. x 3 years).
4. Tech Support/GIS (0.5 FTE \$50k p.a. x 3 years).

The total project cost to purchase capacity and capability over 3 years is estimated at \$1,050,000.

What is Wairarapa Catchment Communities/Pukaha to Palliser?

This concept is built from the joining of two constructs; Wairarapa Catchment Communities and Pukaha to Palliser. Wairarapa Catchment Communities recognises that community resilience underpinned by local knowledge, leadership and ownership is required to build a thriving landscape. Pukaha to Palliser is a vision for a whole Wairarapa landscape connected by thriving biodiversity. The Wai CC/P2P initiative has formed an interim working group (IWG) made up of Wairarapa catchment and environment interest groups, town and country, industry and agencies. Its purpose over the next four months is to establish WaiCC/P2P as an organisation able to more effectively deliver services and resources to the communities of Wairarapa through a clear strategy that aligns with collective impact principles.

The IWG representatives include:

- urban environmental community / NGO groups (3 seats)
- rural community groups (3 seats)
- rural industry groups (2 seats)
- mana whenua (Kahungunu and Rangitāne) (2 seats)
- District Councils (1 seat as determined by the Combined Council)

The IWG has an interim Chair, and DOC and GWRC provide a support role. The IWG are tasked with developing a structure with the central purpose of enabling catchment communities, town and country to achieve their own outcomes over time. This is a long-term vision that recognises the significant investment over decades required to address many of the challenges being identified by catchment communities.

Outcomes:

Wairarapa communities are closely interlinked and interdependent on each other. The development of a Wairarapa catchment community organisation must ensure that the needs of both urban, mana whenua and rural communities are recognised and supported. Outcomes will be derived from the community-determined priorities. To achieve this, it is important that the organisation sits outside of central and local government policy frameworks and is driven from a community needs-based platform.

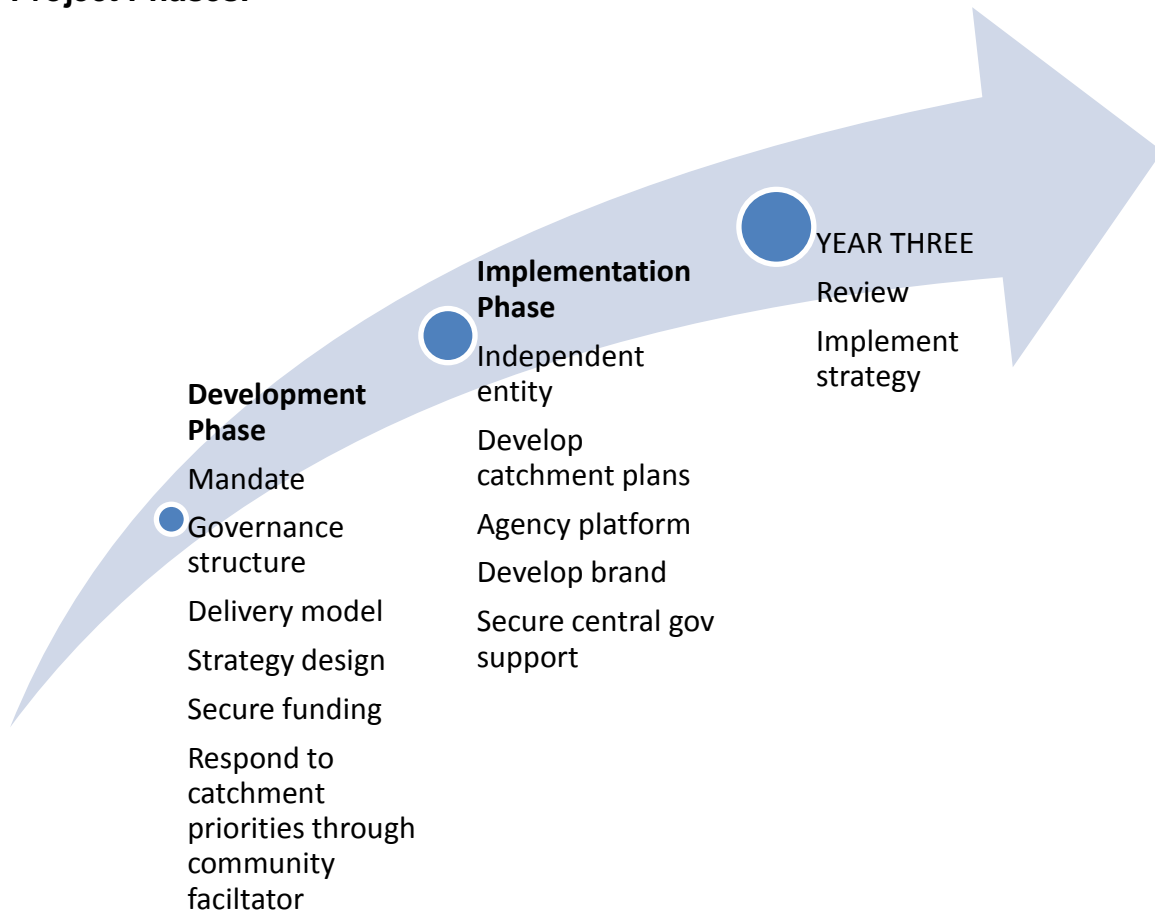
Progress to date:

A questionnaire was developed through members of the original working group and deployed throughout the Wairarapa with emergent catchment communities. The methodology of the questionnaires was through a series of face to face interviews with leaders of the catchment communities by members of the working group. This provided insight as to the needs, drivers, and challenges that community face. This ground-truthed some of the initial thinking that drove the group to form and highlighted the need for a more in depth stocktake of what is currently happening across the Wairarapa.

The working group identified the need to resource a community facilitator, neutral of agencies in the working group, for 4 months to work with community groups to identify priority needs and opportunities. This will inform the design and build phase ensuring that the structure is fit for purpose and can respond effectively to the diverse needs and challenges of our community.

A Wairarapa community facilitator has been employed since late March, funded equally by GWRC and DOC with the total cost of \$25k.

Project Phases:



Timeline 2018:



Context:

The challenge of managing change in the face of rapid and compounding change is exacerbated by Wairarapa's population to land mass ratio. We make up less than 8% of the regional population yet have more than 70% of the land mass under our care. There is no economy of scale here; we must maintain the full range of societal service and infrastructure required throughout the region without the demographic capacity and capability of a larger community. Individuals, families and businesses are all called upon to maintain the economic, social, cultural and environmental fabric of the Wairarapa to a much greater extent than elsewhere. Our population is older and our incomes lower than the rest of the region.

This disparity constrains our ability to respond to the significant legacy issues affecting Wairarapa. In the towns it is managing storm water flows and upgrading degraded pipes and wastewater infrastructure. In the country it is managing land use to limit the flows of nutrients and sediments into water bodies caused by deforestation and historic farming practices. Winter air quality in Masterton is the worst in the region.

Climate change is affecting us. The latest projections predict that within 20 years Wairarapa will be 5% drier and have 30 more hot days per annum. These effects will double again in the following 50 years.

We are passionate about our biodiversity. We want to see our environment thriving with improved water, habitat, birdlife across whole landscapes supported by whole community.

We are the food production and lifestyle/recreation centre for the region. We know we are an important part of the regional economy, but we are challenged to maintain and improve the values that make us, so We want landscapes that are rich in both biodiversity and food production values.

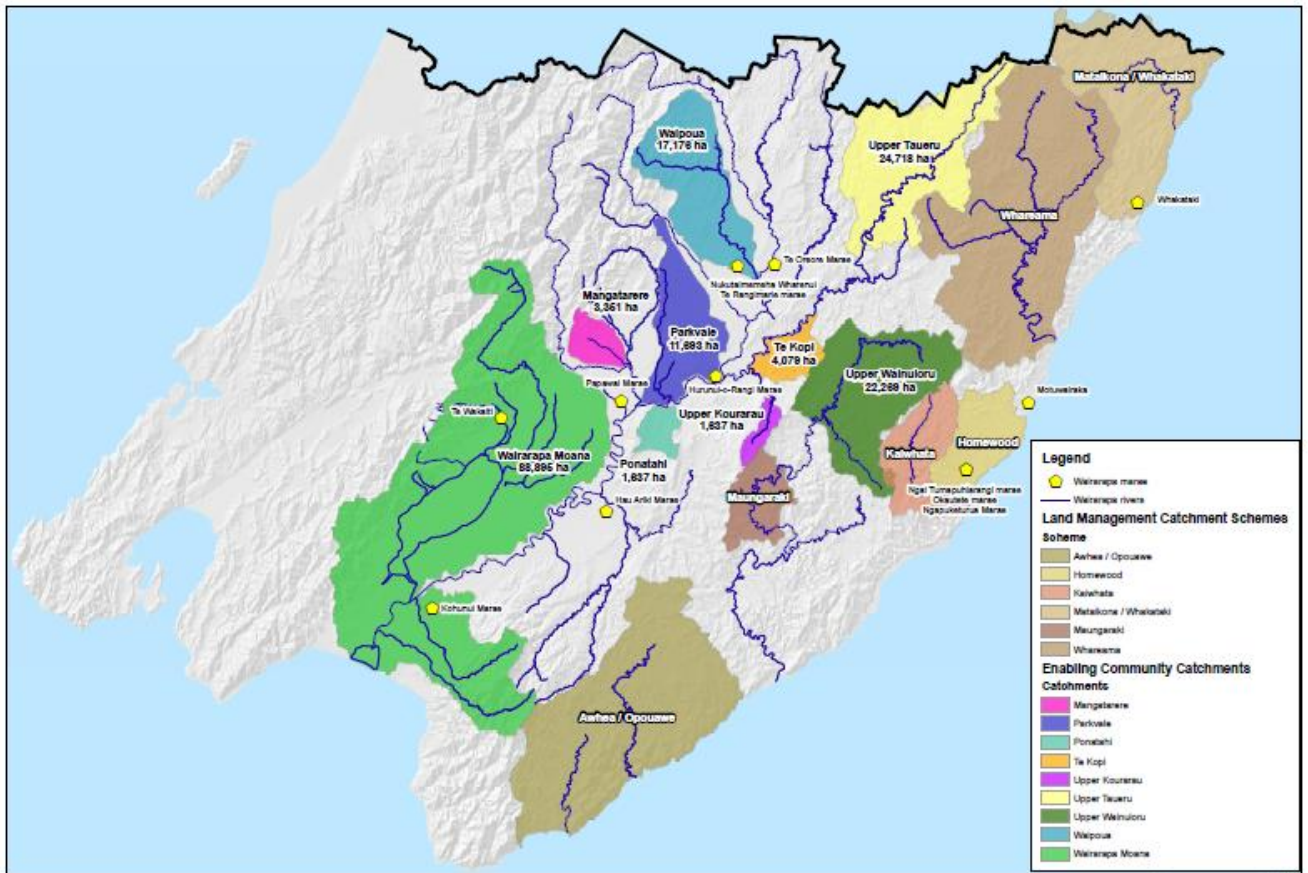
There is more regulation driven by expectations that we will change our behaviour to improve the health of the environment but must sustain our economic viability to achieve these changes.

Giving effect to recent Treaty settlements must be a priority for us as we seek a future of meaningful partnership with mana whenua.

There are also exciting opportunities that we need to access with and on behalf of our communities. The government's Billion Trees is an example of an initiative that has the potential to change our landscape and support our wellbeing in many ways. A co-ordinated delivery mechanism that can build the infrastructure and capability necessary to benefit from this opportunity will require the support of WaiCC P2P and supporting agencies to deliver.

Underpinning all of this is the need to support our communities to live healthy, productive lives. This means strong social and cultural connections, feeling safe and wanting to make Wairarapa a better place to live in

Appendix 1 Catchment Community shapes.



Enabling Community Catchments

Printed: 14/09/2017
1:382,845



South Wairarapa District Council

2018/28 Long Term Plan

Grant Application Form

Email to: ltf@swdc.govt.nz before 4 pm, 23 April 2018

1. ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name of organisation:
Wairarapa Catchment Communities/Pukaha to Palliser (WaiCC/P2P)
Physical address:
C/- Greater Wellington Regional Council 34 Chapel St, Masterton 5810

Postal address:
C/- Greater Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 41
Masterton 5840

Contact Person: Jim O'Malley	Phone No (Day): 027 821 9216
Email: omalleyjim70@gmail	Mobile No: 027 821 9216
	Phone No (After hours): 027 821 9216

When was the organisation formed and what are its aims and objectives?
 The Wairarapa Catchment Communities/Pukaha to Palliser initiative formed in 2017 in response to the need for integrated support to achieve important environmental, social, cultural and economic outcomes at a community level. It is a community owned initiative that is supported by central and local government, industry and manawhenua. Many organisations, both government and industry were working with communities on similar and cross over issues such as pest management, water quality improvements, changing farm practices and community resilience, and that these agencies needed to be better coordinated for this support to be more effective. Making it easier for communities and agencies to work collaboratively to address their priorities will be an important outcome of this initiative.

Total number of members in your organisation?	20
How many full-time equivalent people work in your organisation?	One
How many volunteers work in your	19

organisation?	
Date of last AGM?	Yet to be held
Are you GST registered? No	GST No:

Officers of organisation	
Chair: Bob Francis.	Phone No: 06 3770447
Secretary: TBD	Phone No:
Treasurer: TBD	Phone No:

2. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Specific reason for grant application (e.g. upgrade to facilities/purchase of equipment/one-off event): The IWG seek funding of \$25,000 per annum for a 3-year period, to meet part of the cost of a Project Co-ordinator, and a Co-ordination and Facilitation Manager.

- Project Management – 1 FTE - \$100k (includes operating costs)
- Co-ordination/facilitation/data management – 1.5 FTE - \$150k (includes operating costs)

Further support positions are anticipated, these are outlined in more detail in the proposal section and full submission to the LTP.

Where and when will the activity/event take place or what is the anticipated completion date of the project (please note funds cannot be allocated retrospectively)?

Contract roles will be filled from 1 July 2018. Whilst the long-term objectives of the project will take many years to fully implement in a planned and coordinated manner, funding is sought to start the project by employing contractors, who will empower the communities over time to allow them to implement and achieve their own objectives.

Why should South Wairarapa District Council (SWDC) support this project/event?

The SWDC is one of the largest districts in the Wairarapa and comprises much of the valuable habitats that are found here. This includes Wairarapa Moana and the Aorangi Forest Park. These ecosystems contain much of the regions threatened biodiversity which is under increasing pressure from development and climate change.

SW District contains three out of the regions five main urban areas and one of the projects objectives is to create resilient communities, especially with climate change posing increasing challenges to these communities.

The project can co-jointly assist the SWDC communities to address these concerns and commence to develop solutions.

Who will benefit from these funds and in what way?

These priorities are critical to achieving a more resilient Wairarapa and the benefits of doing this will the rural and urban sectors. A WaiCC /P2P organisation can be a vehicle to attract opportunities such as Billion Trees, PF2050 Strategy and the Regional Development Fund that otherwise may not be directed at Wairarapa. Solutions to these challenges need to be inclusive of and owned at community level and supported by aligned and engaged central and local government

services, rural industry groups and NGO's focussed on "making it easier" for the people of Wairarapa to enhance their environment, social, cultural and economic resilience.

Would you like to speak in support of your application at a meeting of the South Wairarapa District Council? Yes

Submission hearings will be held on 14 & 15 May 2018 at the Council Chambers, Martinborough

3. FINANCIALS

Funding requirements	
Total cost of project	The total cost of the project will be \$1,050,000 over three years . This is a new initiative with a number of projects to be formulated and implemented. This submission is for funding to support establishing a paid team to begin delivering the project.
Your organisation's contribution	<p>WaiCC/P2P is a partnership between rural and urban community groups, Wairarapa iwi, industry groups, central and local government. It is planned to shortly make this an autonomous organisation that raise and hold funds. DOC and GWRC have contributed significant in-kind support to date in the start-up phase for the project and will continue to maintain that as the project develops into an autonomous organisation.</p> <p>WaiCC/P2P are seeking contributions from industry. Further in-kind and direct financial support will be expected of partner organisations as WaiCC/P2P develops. One of the roles of the IWG is to continue to seek sustainable funding sources from various agencies and contestable funding schemes.</p>
Other outside funding (please supply brief details)	DOC and GWRC have shared equally the cost of a 4-month Community Facilitation contract (\$25,000). DOC/GWRC - \$12,500 each. Rural industry – TBD.
Amount applied for in this application	\$25,000 per year for 3-years
Shortfall (please provide brief details of how will balance be found)	<p>\$325,000 per annum, \$975,000 TOTAL.</p> <p>WaiCC/P2P has applied to the 3 Wairarapa District Council LTPs and the GWRC LTP for funding. DOC and GWRC continue to provide in kind support. Further operating support is in consideration by these organisations.</p> <p>WaiCC/P2P will make application to other funding sources</p>

	such MfE, DOC, MPI and private philanthropic funders.
Project income (if applicable), e.g. generated from sales to public	Not yet determined.
Is organisation a registered charity?	No
Have you applied to SWDC for funding before?	No
If yes, when, for what purpose and how much was granted?	

Bank account details	
Name of bank:	To be established
Account name:	
Account No:	

4. Declarations

We agree to comply with requests from an officer or councillor from SWDC for additional information in relation to this application.



Statement to comply with the Provisions of the Privacy Act 1993

The personal information above is collected and will be held by SWDC for the purpose of considering your application for financial assistance. You have the right of access to, and correction of, personal information about you, that we hold.

Authorisation

- I certify that the information provided in this application form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
- I have the authority to make the application on behalf of the organisation.
- I agree that the necessary documentation listed below is attached to this application.
- I confirm that we will complete and return a grant accountability form within two months of the project being completed.
- The organisation will keep receipts and a record of all expenditure for 7 years.
- Any unspent funds will be returned to SWDC.
- All expenditure will be accounted for in the Grant Accountability Form.



<u>Signatory One</u>	<u>Signatory Two</u>
Signed: 	Signed: 
Full name: James Bernard O'Malley	Full name: Bob Francis
Designation:	Designation: Chair
Date: 4 th May 2018	Date: 4 th May 2018

Supporting documentation required for this application	
• Most recent annual accounts including notes and review/audit report.	<input type="radio"/>
• Income and expenditure statement for part year and inaugural minutes (if organisation has been operating for less than 12 months)	<input type="radio"/>

**South Wairarapa District Council
2018/28 Long Term Plan Grant Application**

Conditions of Grant:

Residential eligibility:

- Organisations, Charitable Trusts & Incorporated Societies must currently operate within South Wairarapa or have a broader Wairarapa-wide benefit.

Application forms:

- Will be accepted either in electronic or hard copy form.
- A separate application must be made for each project or event.

Annual grant:

- All applications are considered by the South Wairarapa District Council and awarded at their discretion and on the merits of each project for the greater wellbeing of the South Wairarapa community.
- There is no maximum amount for any one grant, however, the SWDC's resources are limited and funding support is not guaranteed on an on-going basis.
- Applicants will need to re-apply each year for consideration of funding to continue.
- There is a 12-month time limit for uplifting the funds from the date of notification of approval.
- After 12 months, if funds have not been uplifted the grant will be rescinded and a new application must be completed and submitted for consideration.
- Unused funds must be returned to SWDC.

Supporting material:

- Organisations are required to provide copies of their most recent annual report and financial statements that have either been audited or reviewed by a suitably qualified person.
- Within two months of completion of the project or event, applicants are required to send to the SWDC a completed Grant Accountability form.

Payments:

- GST registered applicants must provide a tax invoice to enable the grant to be paid
- Grants will be paid directly into the applicant organisation's designated bank account.
- SWDC may request receipted accounts as evidence of payment in advance of release of this grant.

Please return the completed by 4.00 pm on Monday 23 April 2018 to:

South Wairarapa District Council
 PO Box 6
 Martinborough 5741
 Or email: itp@swdc.govt.nz

--Submitter Details--

Name: A & J Stevens

--Ratepayer Details--

Ratepayer: Rural

Organisation:

Do you want to speak to your submission? No

Speaking preference:

--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?

If not what general rates increase do you support?

Other:

If you ticked 'disagree' which activity areas do you think we should spend less on?

--Future Growth and Development--

Select your preferred option: Option One

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Youth Training and Development--

Select your preferred option: Option Two

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Promoting and Enhancing our District--

Select your preferred option: Option Two

Option Three: Suggested expenditure:

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Infrastructure for Visitors--

Select your preferred option: Option One

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Sports Coordination--

Select your preferred option: Option Two

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Reducing Waste Going to Landfills--

a. Do you support provision of kerbside food waste collections?

No

b. Do you support provision of 240 litre wheelie bins for recycling? No

c. Do you support provision of an e-waste service at transfer stations or an advertised collection service scheduled throughout the year? Yes

d. Do you support provision of a recycling/recovery centre at a transfer station? Yes

These ideas are not mutually exclusive, you can support more than one. These ideas are not included in the current rates increase of 5.99% in year one. If you have any views on these ideas please comment below: Encourage people to compost food waste.

--Water Conservation--

Select your preferred option: Option Two

3. What other options would you like Council to investigate to conserve water in our district?

If you have any views on these ideas please comment below:

--Fees and Charges--

Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to fees and charges as outlined on page 14? We support the proposed changes.

--Grants--

If you are applying for a grant please complete the grant application form and attach:

--Other Feedback--

Please provide any other comments below:

Upload File:

Upload Additional File:

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/1029/submission/1049>

LAND USES AND THEIR MANAGEMENT

THE SUBMITTER WISHES TO BE HEARD

SUBMISSION:

My submission requests SWDC to urgently initiate the process for a review of residential lot sizes 'mandated' by the current Wairarapa Combined Districts Plan.

In particular the minimum residential lot size of 500 square metres is considered to be too big, wasteful of land and a constraint to the development of 'mixed use' developments desirable as part of an enlightened approach to sound urban design.

CONTEXT:

Sound, future, place-making initiatives need to acknowledge the significant changes in demographics of the last two decades. Similarly the affordability of land has exacerbated the difficulties facing two classes of residents.

- Residents wishing to down-size, and
- younger people seeking to establish a home which enables them to make an investment in the locality of their choice – particularly if this also enables them to obtain employment close to home, thus avoiding unnecessary commuting and its costs.

The current trend which forces Greytown residents to move away – principally to Carterton – because of the lack of smaller lots and smaller – two bedroom homes – is socially undesirable. Possible severing of immediate family connections and loss of connections with friends, groups and organisations built up over a lengthy period is not consistent with the principles of sound 'place-making'.

I am aware that a significant number of Greytown residents have 'migrated' to the Carterton District because of this situation.

South Wairarapa district should be the same as Carterton and enable development of housing choices which ensure that such migration is reduced – even eliminated.

Sound local economic development is also impacted by this situation if the creation and availability of a variety of jobs is hindered by a lack of, or age imbalance in available workers.

Graeme Gray

+++++

--Submitter Details--

Name: Chris Hodson

--Ratepayer Details--

Ratepayer: Rural

Organisation:

Do you want to speak to your submission? Yes

Speaking preference: May 15th

--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?

If not what general rates increase do you support?

Other:

If you ticked 'disagree' which activity areas do you think we should spend less on? The issue is not only increase in rates or not, but apportionment of the proceeds of rating, which should concentrate on Council's basic functions.

--Future Growth and Development--

Select your preferred option: Option One

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Youth Training and Development--

Select your preferred option: Option Two

If you have any views on this project please comment below: This is not a primary function of Council

--Promoting and Enhancing our District--

Select your preferred option: Option One

Option Three: Suggested expenditure:

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Infrastructure for Visitors--

Select your preferred option: Option One

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Sports Coordination--

Select your preferred option: Option Two

If you have any views on this project please comment below: This is not a primary function of Council

--Reducing Waste Going to Landfills--

a. Do you support provision of kerbside food waste collections?

b. Do you support provision of 240 litre wheelie bins for recycling?

c. Do you support provision of an e-waste service at transfer stations or an advertised collection service scheduled throughout the year?

d. Do you support provision of a recycling/recovery centre at a transfer station?

These ideas are not mutually exclusive, you can support more than one. These ideas are not included in the current rates increase of 5.99% in year one. If you have any views on these ideas please comment below:

--Water Conservation--

Select your preferred option: Option Two

3. What other options would you like Council to investigate to conserve water in our district?

If you have any views on these ideas please comment below:

--Fees and Charges--

Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to fees and charges as outlined on page 14?

--Grants--

If you are applying for a grant please complete the grant application form and attach:

--Other Feedback--

Please provide any other comments below: There is in the Mayor's letter emphasis on development and improvement, which I support, but in respect of roads there is nowhere any suggestion of improvement, only maintenance. There should be in principle a programme of improvement. Cornering, width above all sealing should be programmed. It should not be hard to prepare a list of roads in need of improvement and an order of priority. This would not only reduce accident rates and save lives but also enhance the lives of all road users. Roading is expensive, particularly in a large council by area, but it is a primary function of Council and one of the few where community and charitable assistance cannot be expected.

Upload File:

Upload Additional File:

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/1029/submission/1051>

--Submitter Details--

Name: HELEN PHILIPPA FORLONG

--Ratepayer Details--

Ratepayer: Rural

Organisation: TARUREKA ESTATE

Do you want to speak to your submission? Yes

Speaking preference: May 14th

--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

If not what general rates increase do you support?

Other:

If you ticked 'disagree' which activity areas do you think we should spend less on?

--Future Growth and Development--

Select your preferred option: Option One

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Youth Training and Development--

Select your preferred option:

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Promoting and Enhancing our District--

Select your preferred option: Option One

Option Three: Suggested expenditure:

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Infrastructure for Visitors--

Select your preferred option: Option One

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Sports Coordination--

Select your preferred option: Option Two

If you have any views on this project please comment below:

--Reducing Waste Going to Landfills--

a. Do you support provision of kerbside food waste collections?

Yes

b. Do you support provision of 240 litre wheelie bins for recycling?

Yes

c. Do you support provision of an e-waste service at transfer stations or an advertised collection service scheduled throughout the year? Yes

d. Do you support provision of a recycling/recovery centre at a transfer station? Yes

These ideas are not mutually exclusive, you can support more than one. These ideas are not included in the current rates increase of 5.99% in year one. If you have any views on these ideas please comment below:

--Water Conservation--

Select your preferred option: Option Two

3. What other options would you like Council to investigate to conserve water in our district? Require all home owners to have their own water tanks and supply these water tanks to households at a reduced price. This water can be used for flushing toilets and watering gardens. Educate households re forms of purifying collected water. We have a very high rainfall in the Wairarapa.

We should all be collecting this water individually.

If you have any views on these ideas please comment below:

--Fees and Charges--

Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to fees and charges as outlined on page 14?

--Grants--

If you are applying for a grant please complete the grant application form and attach:

--Other Feedback--

Please provide any other comments below:

I have been concerned for the last 5 years or so (since the sewerage rates were introduced by the SWDC) that I am being taxed far too much for the number of toilets on my property.

I have a wedding venue which has an average of 30 weddings a year. I have 7 toilets in the wedding venue building itself and 2 toilets in the house which is used for accommodation for the weddings. The guests have access to the toilets in the venue building (The Loft) from 4 pm to midnight one afternoon a week when there is a wedding on (30 times a year). So per annum these 7 toilets are used for 8 hours x 30. The homestead toilets are used for two days so that amounts to 48 hours x 30. The rest of the time these toilets are not used. I also have one toilet in the cottage. The cottage is used as my personal residence.

Do you have a calculation which assesses the rates for toilets

when they are only used occasionally? Just because I have 10 toilets on the property does not mean they are in full-time use and therefore I feel they should not be charged at \$500 per toilet. I am not a cafe or hotel or motel which are often open 7 days a week and which pay the same rate as I do.

According to the calculations above, the toilets in used as follows:

Loft toilets 240 hours a year each
Homestead toilets 1440 hours each per annum

As there are 8760 hours in a year, the 7 toilets in the Loft are only using 0.3% of the hours I am paying for.
The 2 homestead toilets are using 14% of the hours I am paying for.

This blanket policy is discouraging for B and B owners, who are usually only functioning for 1 or 2 nights a week at most. Perhaps it would make more sense to have different rates for businesses that are open 6 to 7 days a week and those that are only open for a few hours a week. Or make a slight increase to everyone's rates as everyone benefits from visitors to the Wairarapa over all.

Upload File:

Upload Additional File:

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<http://www.swdc.govt.nz/node/1029/submission/1052>



**Submission to
South Wairarapa District Council
on the
Draft Long Term Plan 2018-2028**

Date: 23 April 2018

Tourism Industry Aotearoa (TIA) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Long Term Plan 2018-2028 of South Wairarapa District Council.

This submission is filed without prejudice to TIA's future position. Our ability to prepare a comprehensive submission responding to the consultation document relied on the provision by the Council of information relevant to the connection between the consultation document and the benefits that would accrue. If any information is provided at a later date, TIA reserve the right to comment further.

INTRODUCTION

1. Tourism Industry Aotearoa (TIA) is the peak body for the tourism industry in New Zealand. With over 1,500 members, TIA represents a range of tourism-related activities including hospitality, accommodation, adventure and other activities, attractions and retail, airports and airlines, as well as related tourism services.
2. The primary role of TIA is to be the voice of the tourism industry. This includes working for members on advocacy, policy, communication, events, membership and business capability. The team is based in Wellington and is led by Chief Executive, Chris Roberts.
3. Tourism 2025 (www.tourism2025.org.nz), an industry-led, government supported economic growth framework was launched in New Zealand in 2014 and has set an aspirational goal of reaching \$41 billion in annual tourism revenues by 2025. Spend growth has been rapid since 2014 and we are well on target to reach that goal.
4. This year, TIA is working on a Tourism 2025 reset that will include incorporating sustainability principles, articulating a longer-term view of tourism in coordination with Central Government; and identifying new priority actions to be addressed over the next 1-3 years.
5. Any enquiries relating to this paper should in the first instance be referred to Nienke van Dijken, TIA Policy Analyst at nienke.vandijken@tia.org.nz or by phone on 04 494 1842.

TOURISM'S IMPACT AT A REGIONAL LEVEL

6. The visitor spend from both international and domestic visitors for South Wairarapa District Council was \$69m (YE Feb 2018).
7. The tourism industry makes a significant contribution to regional economic development through the jobs and income it creates. Only a fraction of visitor spending actually occurs in places commonly considered visitor specific e.g. accommodation, attractions. The rest takes place in shops, cafes, petrol stations and other local businesses. Local farmers and market gardeners benefit from selling their goods directly or indirectly to visitors.
8. On any day of the year, your community is hosting the visitors, domestic and international, who are helping support local jobs and businesses.

9. One of the keys to a strong regional visitor economy is the quality of the visitor experience. Councils play an important part in that experience with the investment they make in infrastructure e.g. roads, water/waste disposal, broadband, attractions and events in addition to their support for promotional bodies. Councils play a vital role in helping visitors, as well as ratepayers, make the most of their time in the community.
10. Councils' planning need to consider the needs of visitors and residents so that the community can reap the benefits of the visitor economy.
11. In 2016 TIA developed a Local Government Manifesto, outlining eight priority actions for councils to reap greater economic and social rewards from tourism. A copy of this manifesto was sent to all Local Councils, ahead of the Local Council Election. For more details, please refer to Appendix 1.

Challenges and opportunities of tourism growth

12. Tourism growth presents both challenges and opportunities. The visitor economy is a major driver of regional prosperity but the costs and benefits of increased tourism do not always fall evenly. However, talk of new visitor taxes and levies must be debated robustly, with all the issues and options considered. Any form of national or local tourism tax or levy must be fair, efficient and ring-fenced for tourism-related investments.
13. We understand that the growth in tourism in your region may bring with it specific issues. The following section explores some of those likely issues, how the industry is responding and what you, as a Council, could do.

14. Infrastructure

Recent tourism growth has placed pressure on some infrastructure used by visitors. In order to better understand and size this issue, TIA undertook a [National Tourism Infrastructure Assessment](#) in 2016/17. The resulting report identified the main infrastructure deficits in both the private and public sectors.

The priority infrastructure types identified were:

- Visitor accommodation
- Telecommunications
- Airport facilities
- Road transport
- Car parking
- Public toilets
- Water and sewerage systems

Much of the infrastructure identified as a priority for investment is local and mixed use (used by both residents and visitors) and has often seen long-term under-investment. To optimise the benefits of tourism for host communities, coordination between Central and Local Government agencies and industry partners is needed for projects to proceed.

What the Industry is doing:

- TIA successfully advocated for the Tourism Infrastructure Fund resulting in a \$100m fund for local and mixed-use infrastructure.
- Tourism sectors able to scale-up quickly are doing so, e.g. the road transport sector has been able to respond quickly with increased fleet size.
- Operators are making significant private investment into infrastructure e.g. Skyline Queenstown's \$100m redevelopment.
- TIA is undertaking work to identify and address the key barriers to infrastructure investment.

What you as a Local Council could do in regards to infrastructure:

- Apply to the Tourism Infrastructure Fund for projects like new carparks, toilets and visitor facilities.
- Coordinate with Central Government and industry partners on infrastructure projects submitted to the Regional Growth Fund.
- Ensure the Long-term Plan accurately reflects the infrastructure needs of tourism.

15. Social Licence to Operate

The fast growth of the visitor economy has caused unease in some host communities, with locals worried about the number of visitors and the impact. This places pressure on the social licence the industry has to operate within these communities.

What the Industry is doing:

- TIA in conjunction with Tourism New Zealand undertakes six-monthly 'Mood of the Nation' research to assess New Zealanders' views of tourism.
- TIA in conjunction with Tourism New Zealand is developing a 'Tourism Narrative' project, which includes helping local businesses tell their stories.
- TIA is a key partner in NZTA's Visiting Drivers project to reduce the number of accidents by visiting drivers.
- TIA leads the Responsible Camping Forum, a group of 40 organisations representing rental operators, industry associations, Local and Central Government working together to manage freedom camping.
- A number of infrastructure initiatives will contribute to addressing social licence issues such as over-crowding.

What you as a Local Council could do in regards to social licence concerns:

- Ensure freedom camping is effectively managed in your region
- Promote the benefits of tourism in your region to the local community

16. Sustainable tourism

With the rapid growth achieved in the past few years, the tourism industry is facing the challenges of managing and sustaining growth, rather than generating growth. There needs to be purposeful effort to actively manage the industry for its long term sustainable success.

What the Industry is doing:

- TIA has worked with industry and with Government agencies' support to develop a Tourism [Sustainability Commitment](#) (TSC). The Commitment establishes a set of aspirational goals at both an industry and business level across the areas of economic, environmental, host communities and visitor sustainability. Tourism

operators are signing up to the TSC and working towards implementing the sustainability commitments within their businesses.



What you as a Local Council could do to support tourism sustainability:

- Support the tourism sustainability goal through positive policy and regulatory settings, and funding.
- Sign up the Council or your appropriate agency to the TSC and actively promote the TSC to your local tourism operators.

17. Protecting and restoring the environment

Tourism is a highly competitive global industry. New Zealand's environment is our unique selling point, it underpins our 100% Pure New Zealand tourism position and supports many of our iconic adventure and outdoor activities. Data from the International Visitor Survey conducted for the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE) shows that the top factor for influencing visitors to choose New Zealand is our natural landscape and scenery.

New Zealand's natural environmental assets are under threat, including many of our native species, our freshwater rivers and lakes, and our unique landscapes.

What the Industry is doing:

- The environment is one of the four pillars of the Tourism Sustainability Commitment. The TSC asks that Tourism businesses actively support and champion ecological restoration initiatives, and that they are measuring, managing and minimising their environmental footprint.
- TIA is a member of the Land and Water Forum and advocates with central government to protect our natural environment.

What you as a Local Council could do to support our valuable environment:

- Recognise the economic value of your environmental assets to tourism

- Ensure the Long-term Plan accurately reflects the environmental needs of tourism
- Action the requirements of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management as quickly as possible

18. Regional Economic Development

TIA is pleased to see the increased focus on regional development by Central Government.

Regional dispersal is one of the big challenges for the tourism industry, as currently 65% of current visitor spend occurs in the four gateways of Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Queenstown. By improving the spread of tourism around the country, we can ensure that many more regions benefit from tourism activity, while relieving pressure on those places with the highest visitor loads. We are strongly supportive of regional development initiatives that encourage and incentivise tourism.

An effective regional tourism partnership relies heavily on a strong and healthy relationship with Local Government and local communities. The regions where tourism is well managed are characterised by strong local leadership and support, and Regional Tourism Organisations (RTOs) and Economic Development Agencies (EDAs) play an important part in this.

TIA is keen to work with you either in partnership with RTOs/EDAs on areas such as regional visitor strategies, or directly on issues such as freedom camping and proposed regional visitor levies.

Funding

19. Tourism funding in this context relates to financial contributions provided through Central and Local government. There are two components to tourism funding – the source of funds and distribution of funds.

20. Sources of tourism funding

International visitors pay taxes and are more than paying their way. TIA believes these taxes, including the border clearance levy and \$1.5 billion a year in GST, need to be taken into account when additional charges on visitors are contemplated.

Tourism businesses support regional tourism activity through general and targeted rates, regional marketing alliances and their own marketing efforts.

There are infrastructure funding issues at a local government level, especially in regions with small ratepayer bases. Central government assistance is desirable in some cases and there are opportunities for greater user pays and better use of council balance sheets.

Any new funding models contemplated need to be fair and applied nationally. A strength of the New Zealand tax system is its simplicity. Ad hoc taxes on visitors or tourism businesses at a local level are undesirable.

21. Distribution of tourism funding

Central government funding support for local mixed-use infrastructure provided by local government requires a robust governance and allocation process.

Any form of tourism tax, such as the existing border clearance levy, must be ring-fenced for tourism-related investments, not siphoned off for other purposes.

Regional expenditure on tourism marketing and destination management by local authorities should be consistent with the tourism aspirations of the community and cognisant of the impact that visitor spend has on the wider community including employees and suppliers.

22. New visitor taxes and levies must be debated robustly, with all the issues and options considered. Any form of national or local tourism tax or levy must be fair, efficient and ring-fenced for tourism-related investments. TIA will vigorously resist any poorly designed tax or levy proposals that could tarnish New Zealand's reputation as a country that welcomes visitors.

Tourism in the South Wairarapa

23. TIA is pleased to see the recognition of the value of tourism in the LTP and the proposed focus by the Council on economic development and promoting and enhancing the district and increasing infrastructure for visitors to the district.

24. It is promising to see that the Council aims to enable economic growth through siting and connecting business efficiently and to enhance the District's tourism offerings as part of its spatial plan.

Promoting and enhancing the District & infrastructure for visitors

25. We understand that the Council aims to ensure that it maximises future opportunities for growth, economic development and employment for its residents.
26. It is pleasing to see that the Council recognises the substantial economic impact that domestic and international visitors have on the District and its residents.
27. As noted, the tourism industry makes a significant contribution to regional economic development through the jobs and income it creates. Only a fraction of visitor spending actually occurs in places commonly considered visitor specific e.g. accommodation, attractions. The rest takes place in shops, cafes, petrol stations and other local businesses. Local farmers and market gardeners benefit from selling their goods directly or indirectly to visitors.
28. We are supportive of the Council's preferred option of the proposed spending \$300,000 spread over the next 10 years to promote and enhance the district.
29. We commend the Council on its proposal to provide more infrastructure for visitors including such things as more public toilets, more drinking fountains or other sources of drinking water, more dumping stations for self-contained travellers and more rubbish and recycling containers for visitors to use.
30. We support the Council's preferred option of investing \$50,000 per annum over the next 5 years in visitor infrastructure.

FOLLOW UP PROCESS

31. TIA wishes to have the opportunity to participate further in any follow-up process, including any formal meetings, to ensure that the potential impacts on tourism are adequately represented.
32. Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the draft LTP. Any enquiries relating to this paper should in the first instance be referred to Nienke van Dijken, TIA Policy Analyst at nienke.vandijken@tia.org.nz or by phone on 04 494 1842.

BACKGROUND

33. Tourism for New Zealand is big business as the country's largest export sector. It is a major contributor to the New Zealand economy that will always be here and won't easily go offshore. Tourism takes the lead in promoting New Zealand to the world. The brand positioning built by a vibrant tourism industry has become an important source of national confidence and identity and a front window for "Brand New Zealand". Indeed, the clean and pure offer that is synonymous with New Zealand tourism has been widely adopted and used to promote New Zealand exports in a range of other industries as well.
34. The tourism industry delivers the following value to New Zealand's economy:
 - Tourism in New Zealand is a \$99 million per day and \$36 billion a year industry. Tourism delivers around \$40 million in foreign exchange to the New Zealand economy each day of the year. Domestic tourism contributes another \$59 million in economic activity every day.
 - The tourism industry directly and indirectly supports 14.5% of the total number of people employed in New Zealand. That means 399,150 people are working in the visitor economy.
 - Tourism is New Zealand's biggest export industry, earning \$14.5 billion or 20.7% of New Zealand's foreign exchange earnings (year ended March 2017).

Appendix 1: TIA Local Government Manifesto 2016

The following Tourism 2025 actions are the priorities for a stronger local government/tourism partnership. The industry's eight priorities we would like to see from Local Government are:

Destination Management

This is the most important thing councils can do – look after and invest in the quality of your region as a destination.

- Facilitate and enable communities to meet the needs of growing numbers of visitors, as well as residents.
- Identify your unique selling points as a destination and promote them.
- Work with neighbouring communities to attract visitors to the wider region.

Infrastructure Facilitation

With the rapid growth in visitor numbers, we have to invest in essential infrastructure and enable the private sector to develop its infrastructure by delivering efficient planning and approval services.

- Define and plan for the priority infrastructure that meets the needs of visitors as well as residents.
- Examine the regulatory environment applied to tourism operators and other businesses serving visitors, and assess where the compliance burden can be reduced to support increased productivity

Events programming

Events are one of the best tools for encouraging people to visit your community. Use them to your advantage.

- Schedule events (meetings, conferences, sports events and festivals) outside of the peak season to foster off-peak travel activity.
- Attract high value business visitors through the availability of quality facilities, such as convention centres where appropriate.

Measuring Visitor Satisfaction

It is important to understand what your visitors think of your community. If they are happy, businesses can grow. If you know there are areas of low satisfaction, you can address the problems. Without this insight, you can't increase value.

- Track the satisfaction of international and domestic visitors, whether by direct customer feedback or social media, and use this information to address areas of dissatisfaction and deliver ever higher satisfaction levels.

Off-peak Marketing

Help your community to prosper by attracting people to visit throughout the year. This will develop a sustainable tourism industry with more permanent jobs.

- Council-owned or supported marketing agencies (e.g. RTOs, EDAs) build a stronger focus on promoting off-peak travel activity to high value visitors.

Regional Development and Tourism

Every region wants to grow and tourism can and does support this goal. Tourism complements your community's other industries like wine, horticulture and farming.

- Encourage and incentivise tourism as part of your regional development strategies.

Enabling Airport and Port Facility Development

Great air and cruise links are vital to growing tourism. If your airport or port is council-owned, make sure long-term plans are aligned with industry forecasts. There are long lead times, so you have to think ahead.

- Councils work with local airports to establish and implement long-term and sustainable development strategies.
- Councils work with their port company to ensure cruise tourism is enabled.

Sustainable Tourism Positioning

Every region needs to demonstrate its commitment to look after its economic future and the resources it uses to operate.

- Identify the regional priorities required to develop a sustainable tourism industry across economic, social, cultural and environmental considerations.

By actively pursuing these opportunities, your Council can enable real economic and social gains for their communities.

South Wairarapa District Council
2018/28 Long Term Plan
Grant Application Form

Email to: ltf@swdc.govt.nz before 4 pm, 23 April 2018

1. ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name of organisation:

Community Networks Wairarapa Incorporated

Physical address:

C/- 71 Watt Street

Featherston, 5710

Postal address:

C/- 71 Watt Street

Featherston, 5710

Contact Person:

Kara Pennington

Email:

kara@wcn.org.nz

Phone No (Day):

Mobile No: 022 586 9528

Phone No (After hours):

When was the organisation formed and what are its aims and objectives?

The Community Networks Wairarapa (the Networks) (also known as the Wairarapa Community Networks) are independent forums for the social and community sectors across the Wairarapa with a key purpose of enabling connection, collaboration and cooperation, and information and skill exchange amongst providers; on the basis that facilitating and enabling connection, collaboration and capability will ensure strong integrated social and community services that best meet the needs of our communities.

Community Networks Wairarapa Incorporated is the umbrella organisation (incorporated in 2014) that coordinates three local Community Networks based in Carterton, South Wairarapa and Masterton. Other Wairarapa-based networks have been amalgamated into Networks including the Wairarapa Stopping Violence Network, Positive Action Network, and Special Needs Education Reference Group.

The South Wairarapa Community Network currently meets in Featherston, where the Network was established.

We mean the community and social sectors in the broadest sense: we have members from around 130 social service agencies and groups, community groups, government departments, education, justice and health providers actively participating in Network meetings right across the Wairarapa; we have 260 members on our email circulate list and 182 members actively using our Facebook group.

Membership of the Networks is open to anyone operating in, or who has an interest/stake in, the work the community and social sectors do to improve wellbeing and resilience in our Wairarapa communities. This includes grass-roots voluntary groups (Christians Against Poverty; Fab Feathy) to agencies purchasing outcomes (Oranga Tamariki, the Department of Internal Affairs).

Total number of members in your organisation?	260
How many full-time equivalent people work in your organisation?	0.375 FTE (15 hours per week to cover the Wairarapa Region)
How many volunteers work in your organisation?	7 (volunteer board)
Date of last AGM?	15 Aug 2017
Are you GST registered? N	GST No: n/a

Officers of organisation	
Chair: Judi Rendall	Phone No: 0277531719
Secretary: Sandy Ryan	Phone No: 0220902980
Treasurer: Jeremy Logan	Phone No: 0274332215

2. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Specific reason for grant application (e.g. upgrade to facilities/purchase of equipment/one-off event):

To support the Networks to continue to hold 8 meetings per year in the South Wairarapa and to support the Networks to grow and develop membership across the South Wairarapa, including a specific focus on increasing participation among groups/organisations based in Greytown, Martinborough and Rural South Wairarapa.

Where and when will the activity/event take place or what is the anticipated completion date of the project (please note funds cannot be allocated retrospectively)?

Operations for the Networks is ongoing. We currently hold 8 meetings per year in the South Wairarapa (based in Featherston). We collate and circulate information from members out to an email list of 260 members across the Wairarapa and operate a closed Facebook group (currently 182 members) so that those connected to the Networks can readily connect and exchange information. Our intention, should we receive sufficient funding, is to increase paid staff hours to allow our Coordinator to connect with groups/organisations in Greytown, Martinborough and Rural South Wairarapa.

Why should South Wairarapa District Council (SWDC) support this project/event?

The Networks bring together representatives from health, education, social, community, government organisations and in doing so the Networks contribute to SWDC community outcomes, in particular healthy people; educated and knowledgeable people; and vibrant and strong communities.

The Masterton and Carterton District Councils provide support for the Networks.

Who will benefit from these funds and in what way?

Network members and potential members in the South Wairarapa. The SWDC contribution would cover a proportion of costs associated with holding 8 meetings per annum in the South Wairarapa and a proportion of costs for our Coordinator to connect with potential members across the district.

Would you like to speak in support of your application at a meeting of the South Wairarapa District Council? No

Submission hearings will be held on 14 & 15 May 2018 at the Council Chambers, Martinborough

3. FINANCIALS

Funding requirements	
Total cost of project	\$45,500.00 per annum
Your organisation's contribution	Volunteer governance
Other outside funding (please supply brief details)	\$44,000.00 per annum
Amount applied for in this application	\$1,500.00
Shortfall (please provide brief details of how will balance be found)	\$0.00
Project income (if applicable), e.g. generated from sales to public	n/a
Is organisation a registered charity?	Yes
Have you applied to SWDC for funding before?	No
If yes, when, for what purpose and how much was granted?	n/a

Bank account details	
Name of bank:	Westpac
Account name:	Community Networks Wairarapa Incorporated
Account No:	03-0687-0022491-000

4. Declarations

We agree to comply with requests from an officer or councillor from SWDC for additional information in relation to this application.

Statement to comply with the Provisions of the Privacy Act 1993

The personal information above is collected and will be held by SWDC for the purpose of considering your application for financial assistance. You have the right of access to, and correction of, personal information about you, that we hold.

Authorisation

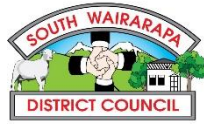
- I certify that the information provided in this application form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
- I have the authority to make the application on behalf of the organisation.
- I agree that the necessary documentation listed below is attached to this application.
- I confirm that we will complete and return a grant accountability form within two months of the project being completed.
- The organisation will keep receipts and a record of all expenditure for 7 years.
- Any unspent funds will be returned to SWDC.
- All expenditure will be accounted for in the Grant Accountability Form.

Signatory One		Signatory Two	
Signed:			Signed:
Full name:	Kara Pennington	Full name:	Judi Rendall
Designation:	Coordinator	Designation:	Chair
Date:	23 April 2018	Date:	23 April 2008

Supporting documentation required for this application

- Most recent annual accounts including notes and review/audit report.
- Income and expenditure statement for part year and inaugural minutes (if organisation has been operating for less than 12 months)

Over the past year the Networks have invested resources into implementing fully independent financial and payroll administration systems. Since 1 July 2017 the Networks no longer have a fund-holder



MOU with Connecting Communities Wairarapa acting as our fund-holder. Governance of the Wairarapa Community Networks has always been independent.

We have attached a copy of our former-funder-holder's audited report and an income and expenditure statement for the Networks expenditure since 1 July 2017.

South Wairarapa District Council 2018/28 Long Term Plan Grant Application

Conditions of Grant:

Residential eligibility:

- Organisations, Charitable Trusts & Incorporated Societies must currently operate within South Wairarapa or have a broader Wairarapa-wide benefit.

Application forms:

- Will be accepted either in electronic or hard copy form.
- A separate application must be made for each project or event.

Annual grant:

- All applications are considered by the South Wairarapa District Council and awarded at their discretion and on the merits of each project for the greater wellbeing of the South Wairarapa community.
- There is no maximum amount for any one grant, however, the SWDC's resources are limited and funding support is not guaranteed on an on-going basis.
- Applicants will need to re-apply each year for consideration of funding to continue.
- There is a 12-month time limit for uplifting the funds from the date of notification of approval.
- After 12 months, if funds have not been uplifted the grant will be rescinded and a new application must be completed and submitted for consideration.
- Unused funds must be returned to SWDC.

Supporting material:

- Organisations are required to provide copies of their most recent annual report and financial statements that have either been audited or reviewed by a suitably qualified person.
- Within two months of completion of the project or event, applicants are required to send to the SWDC a completed Grant Accountability form.

Payments:

- GST registered applicants must provide a tax invoice to enable the grant to be paid



South Wairarapa District Council
2018/28 Long Term Plan
Grant Application Form

Email to: ltp@swdc.govt.nz before 4 pm, 23 April 2018

1. ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name of organisation:
 Featherston Community Centre (Charitable Trust)

Physical address:
 14 Wakefield Street, Featherston 5710

Postal address:
 same as physical address

Contact Person: Maud Bot	Phone No (Day):
Email: Maud.bot@gmail.com	Mobile No: 0275278928
	Phone No (After hours):

When was the organisation formed and what are its aims and objectives?

The Centre, established in 1992, provides a community space for social, educational and recreational services for the people of Featherston and the South Wairarapa.

Total number of members in your organisation?	n/a
How many full-time equivalent people work in your organisation?	0.6
How many volunteers work in your organisation?	> 15
Date of last AGM?	July 2017
Are you GST registered? Y/N	GST No: 63864757

Officers of organisation	
Chair: Emily Greenberg	Phone No: 027 3138 042
Secretary: Shannon Steven	Phone No: 021 026 50097
Treasurer: Maud Bot	Phone No: 027 527 8928

2. PROJECT OVERVIEW

<p>Specific reason for grant application (e.g. upgrade to facilities/purchase of equipment/one-off event):</p> <p>Please see attached letter.</p>
<p>Where and when will the activity/event take place or what is the anticipated completion date of the project (please note funds cannot be allocated retrospectively)?</p>
<p>Why should South Wairarapa District Council (SWDC) support this project/event?</p> <p>Our mission is strongly aligned with the Council's strategic pillar of Best and Healthiest Community Partnerships. Hence we embrace the Council's described role to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of the community, and to work collaboratively with community groups.</p>
<p>Who will benefit from these funds and in what way?</p> <p>The need to support the Centre was specifically identified through the public consultations as part of the Fab Feathy Community-Led Development Project, and as such the Centre looks forward to using this resource to further understand, develop and meet needs that are relevant to the Community.</p> <p>The number of people using the Centre and our online services continues to grow. Last year approximately 350-400 people used the Centre each month and this year our visits have increased significantly to between 550 and 700 people per month.</p>
<p>Would you like to speak in support of your application at a meeting of the South Wairarapa District Council? Yes/No</p> <p><i>Submission hearings will be held on 14 & 15 May 2018 at the Council Chambers, Martinborough</i></p>

3. FINANCIALS

Funding requirements	
Total cost of project	\$50,621

Your organisation's contribution	\$20,505
Other outside funding (please supply brief details) Grants from: COGS NZ Lottery Board McCarthy Trust Wairarapa REAP	\$30,116
Amount applied for in this application	\$15,000
Shortfall (please provide brief details of how will balance be found)	n/a
Project income (if applicable), e.g. generated from sales to public	n/a
Is organisation a registered charity?	Yes/No
Have you applied to SWDC for funding before?	Yes/No
If yes, when, for what purpose and how much was granted?	

Bank account details	
Name of bank:	Kiwibank
Account name:	Featherston Community Centre
Account No:	38-9005-0917230-00

4. Declarations

We agree to comply with requests from an officer or councillor from SWDC for additional information in relation to this application.

Statement to comply with the Provisions of the Privacy Act 1993



The personal information above is collected and will be held by SWDC for the purpose of considering your application for financial assistance. You have the right of access to, and correction of, personal information about you, that we hold.

Authorisation

- I certify that the information provided in this application form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
- I have the authority to make the application on behalf of the organisation.



- I agree that the below is attached to this necessary documentation listed application.
- I confirm that we will complete and return a grant accountability form within two months of the project being completed.
- The organisation will keep receipts and a record of all expenditure for 7 years.
- Any unspent funds will be returned to SWDC.
- All expenditure will be accounted for in the Grant Accountability Form.

Signatory One	Signatory Two
Signed: 	Signed: 
Full name: Maud Bot	Full name: Shannon Steven
Designation: Treasurer	Designation: Secretary
Date: 22/04/2018	Date: 22/04/2018

Supporting documentation required for this application	
• Most recent annual accounts including notes and review/audit report.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• Income and expenditure statement for part year and inaugural minutes (if organisation has been operating for less than 12 months)	<input type="checkbox"/>

South Wairarapa District Council 2018/28 Long Term Plan Grant Application

Conditions of Grant:

Residential eligibility:

- Organisations, Charitable Trusts & Incorporated Societies must currently operate within South Wairarapa or have a broader Wairarapa-wide benefit.

Application forms:

- Will be accepted either in electronic or hard copy form.
- A separate application must be made for each project or event.

Annual grant:

- All applications are considered by the South Wairarapa District Council and awarded at their discretion and on the merits of each project for the greater wellbeing of the South Wairarapa community.
- There is no maximum amount for any one grant, however, the SWDC's resources are limited and funding support is not guaranteed on an on-going basis.

- Applicants will need to re-apply each year for consideration of funding to continue.
- There is a 12-month time limit for uplifting the funds from the date of notification of approval.
- After 12 months, if funds have not been uplifted the grant will be rescinded and a new application must be completed and submitted for consideration.
- Unused funds must be returned to SWDC.

Supporting material:

- Organisations are required to provide copies of their most recent annual report and financial statements that have either been audited or reviewed by a suitably qualified person.
- Within two months of completion of the project or event, applicants are required to send to the SWDC a completed Grant Accountability form.

Payments:

- GST registered applicants must provide a tax invoice to enable the grant to be paid
- Grants will be paid directly into the applicant organisation's designated bank account.
- SWDC may request receipted accounts as evidence of payment in advance of release of this grant.

Please return the completed by 4.00 pm on Monday 23 April 2018 to:

South Wairarapa District Council

PO Box 6

Martinborough 5741

Or email: ltp@swdc.govt.nz

Submission on the South Wairarapa District Council Long Term Plan 2018-2028

TO:	South Wairarapa District Council
FROM:	Connecting Communities Wairarapa
CONTACT:	Gretchen Saalbrey, General Manager
POSTAL ADDRESS:	41 Perry Street, Masterton 5810
EMAIL:	gretchen@connectingcommunities.nz
PHONE:	021 308 955
DATE:	19 April 2018

Introduction

1. Connecting Communities Wairarapa (Connecting Communities) is a not-for-profit organisation providing community development and social services to the Wairarapa. Established in 1995 as the Masterton Safe and Healthy Community Council, Connecting Communities works across the region delivering financial literacy, housing advocacy, neighbourhood, community and youth development initiatives.
2. Connecting Communities has multi-year funding over a number of their services, ensuring a strong foundation and structure from which to grow and develop.

Submission

3. This submission relates to the South Wairarapa District Council (SWDC) Long Term Plan 2018-2028.
4. Connecting Communities wishes to speak to this submission. We are available on both the 14th and 15th of May.



GENERAL COMMENTS

5. Connecting Communities commends SWDC for preparing a comprehensive Long Term Plan (LTP) for the period 2018 - 2028.
6. Connecting Communities notes that the focus of the LTP is primarily on physical infrastructure and requests that SWDC update the LTP to have a greater focus on community development, in order to achieve the five community outcomes outlined on page 3 of the consultation document.

ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

7. Connecting Communities supports the SWDC's five community outcomes as outlined on page 3 of the consultation document, particularly 'healthy and economically secure people' and 'vibrant and strong communities'.
8. Connecting Communities also supports the activity goals and principal objectives for economic, cultural and community development outlined on page 27 of the LTP consultation supporting documents. This includes actively developing a safe, inclusive and cohesive community and encouraging interest in the social development of the district.
9. However, Connecting Communities notes that SWDC only plans to spend \$420,635 on economic, cultural and community development in the first year of the LTP, or 2.17% of total spending¹.
10. Connecting Communities requests that SWDC update the LTP to identify:
 - a. how this level of spending (2.17%) will achieve the stated community outcomes; and
 - b. how much funding will be allocated to achieving each of the five community outcomes over the period of the LTP.
11. Connecting Communities further requests that SWDC reconsider the LTP budget allocation to release additional multi-year grant funding for community development activities. This will enable SWDC to better meet its stated community outcomes and achieve meaningful action for the people and communities of South Wairarapa. Community grant funding could be utilised for a range of projects such as community and youth development, neighbourhood support, and programmes regarding life skills and strengthening families.
12. In addition, Connecting Communities requests that greater clarity is provided regarding the 'projects for 2019/20 and beyond' on page 28 of the LTP consultation supporting documents. Currently only two projects for this time-

¹ Total of \$19,363,402 spending in the first year of the LTP as indicated in the second pie chart on page 11 of the consultation document

period are identified ('continue work on promoting and enhancing the district'; and 'continue grant funding specifically targeted at the district's youth'). More clarity is required to ensure visibility over pipeline projects and the efficient use of ratepayer funding.

YOUTH TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

13. Connecting Communities supports Option One for youth training and development, namely to provide \$75,000 per annum for grants to support youth training, development and recreational activities.

GRANT APPLICATIONS

14. Connecting Communities attaches three grant applications. The projects and activities contained in these grant applications will assist SWDC to achieve its community outcomes in a meaningful and timely way, particularly 'vibrant and strong communities' and 'healthy and economically secure people'.
15. It is requested that SWDC consider multi-year grant funding as opposed to annual funding. This would assist organisations such as Connecting Communities to establish enduring programmes that recognise the ongoing nature of such work.

Conclusion

16. Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the SWDC's Long Term Plan 2018-2028. Connecting Communities looks forward to working with SWDC to progress community development within the South Wairarapa.

Signed:



Gretchen Saalbrey
General Manager
Connecting Communities Wairarapa

South Wairarapa District Council

2018/28 Long Term Plan

Grant Application Form

Email to: ltip@swdc.govt.nz before 4 pm, 23 April 2018

1. ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name of organisation: Connecting Communities Wairarapa
Physical address: 41 Perry Street Masterton 5810

Postal address: as per physical address

Contact Person: Gretchen Saalbrey	Phone No (Day):
Email: Gretchen@connectingcommunities.org.nz	Mobile No: 021 308 955
	Phone No (After hours):

When was the organisation formed and what are its aims and objectives?

Connecting Communities Wairarapa (CCW) was first established in 1995 (as Masterton Safe and Healthy Community Council), following recognition that while some Masterton communities thrived, others were falling behind. The organisation’s main task was to co-ordinate a network of support services and initiatives to help strengthen individuals, and their neighbourhoods, to enable them to live well – and to do so independently.

Connecting Communities Wairarapa now operates a range of community-led initiatives and social services focused on increasing the well-being of our people and our community.

We have two teams: Social Services (budgeting, life skills, sustaining tenancies, strengthening families) and Development (community and youth development, neighbourhood support).

Our key areas of focus are:

- Resilient, connected communities
- The engagement and development of local youth through targeted initiatives and youth council
- Reducing poverty-related harm through budgeting, life skills, sustainable tenancies, healthy homes and access to agencies that ensure all the needs of our clients are met.
- Offering a multi-agency, strengths-based social approach to our clients to create a sustainable reduction of poverty-related harm.

Total number of members in your organisation?	10
How many full-time equivalent people work in your organisation?	8.5 FTE
How many volunteers work in your organisation?	5
Date of last AGM?	1 March 2018
Are you GST registered? Y	GST No: 106-097-319

Officers of organisation	
Chair: Peter McNeur	Phone No: 027 222 7690
Secretary: Tessa-Jane Dennes	Phone No: 027 620 2513
Treasurer:	Phone No:

2. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Specific reason for grant application (e.g. upgrade to facilities/purchase of equipment/one-off event):

1. To pay the rent for an office in the Featherston Community Centre.

This will enable Connecting Communities to

- Increase the accessibility of their social services programmes (Building Financial Capabilities, Life Skills, Strengthening Families, sustaining

tenancies) to South Wairarapa residents and create a link to other Wairarapa social agencies that are based in Masterton, ie Work and Income.

- Connect with other agencies and local South Wairarapa initiatives, including community-led development that will enable collaboration.
- Provide the South Wairarapa Neighbourhood Support Co-ordinator with an office to create a strong link to the South Wairarapa community.

2. To place a Social Services co-ordinator dedicated to South Wairarapa residents at the Community Centre for a minimum of 16 hours per week.

To achieve the best outcomes for our clients we have created a Social Services Team and employ Social Services Co-ordinators who work across all our programmes with each client.

These programmes include 1:1 financial mentorship through our Building Financial Capabilities and Life Skills programme, Money Mates workshops, we have just partnered with Emerge Aotearoa and work with their transitional housing tenants to enable sustainable tenancies, co-ordinate Strengthening Families and we are creating partnerships with local Foodbanks, housing providers and Regional Public Health (for their well-homes programme) to reduce the harm caused by poverty and hardship in our community.

Our approach gives our co-ordinators the opportunity to get to know and understand the people we are working with so that we can ensure all assistance is well co-ordinated for that family.

With every client we see, we identify all the needs they have and connect them with other agencies as required. Being based in South Wairarapa will help us create a vital link between South Wairarapa residents and the many Wairarapa agencies that are based in Masterton.

It is imperative that we make these services, and the agencies we connect with, more accessible to South Wairarapa residents.

Where and when will the activity/event take place or what is the anticipated completion date of the project (please note funds cannot be allocated retrospectively)?

We would like the funds to cover a full financial year, starting 1 July 2018, and for multi-year funding to be considered.

Why should South Wairarapa District Council (SWDC) support this project/event?

Our social services programmes offer a multi-agency, co-ordinated service and in all cases, a strengths-based approach.

Genuine accessibility to these services directly contributes to the community outcomes outlined on page 3 of the LTP consultation document, particularly **'healthy and economically secure people'** and **'vibrant and strong communities'**.

Who will benefit from these funds and in what way?

Those facing harm caused by poverty and hardship and those who lack the basic life skills to live well.

We work on a practical level to alleviate the key drivers of poverty – giving our clients financial skills and tools to manage their money, including helping them navigate any issues they face or other organisations they need to work with; life skills; food and housing affordability / sustainable tenancies.

We are able to work with clients to a high level; liaising directly with Oranga Tamarki, working as a strengthening families lead agent, attending court appearances, engaging other agencies and working with clients until all their needs are met.

In response to the need that we believe exists, we have funded a social services co-ordinator to be based in the Featherston Community Centre for two days per week since the 12th of March 2018 and will continue to fund this until 30 June 2018. During the five weeks that our co-ordinator has been working from the Community Centre, she has been able to achieve the following:

- Set up an 8 week Money Mates course at Featherston School (Wed 9 May – Wed 27 June), open to the whole community
- Attend Featherston Plunket Playgroup to promote our services and the Money Mates course. Connected with Marlene Devonshire, kaiawhina and got an invitation for Connecting Communities to attend the next Plunket Clinical meeting
- Contacted the practice manager, Aruni Dias, at Featherston Medical so they can help patients who struggle to pay their medical bills connect with us
- Have a meeting set up with Family Works to discuss our services and working together with their team
- 3 client sessions held in the Featherston Community Centre office. 2 client sessions held in clients' homes in Greytown and Featherston. None of these clients have the resource to travel to Masterton for appointments.
- Met with Greytown-based Project M coordinator. Discussed partnering to provide life skills for our clients, volunteers for her service and the end result of 80 dozen muffins per term for schools to help feed hungry children.
- Contacted Waiwaste co-ordinator Elise re food waste from Pain & Kershaw, Martinborough – potential for Project M to make use of some and South Wairarapa Foodbank are also keen. (They were unable to make a lasting connection with Waiwaste when they tried 12 months ago). Meeting set for this or next week.
- Met Greytown Sport & Leisure Hub coordinator. Introduced her to our services and also the South Wairarapa Community Network.
- Made a new connection with PORSE Consultant, Maria Viljoen, when she came into the Community Centre on business. She agreed to promote our service and presence in the South Wairarapa to her families and educators.

- Attend all the South Wairarapa Age Concern morning teas promoting Neighbourhood Support alongside Red Cross, NZ Police, NZ Fire Service and WREMO.

Would you like to speak in support of your application at a meeting of the South Wairarapa District Council? Yes/~~No~~

I am available on both the 14th and 15th of May to speak in support of this application.

3. FINANCIALS

Funding requirements	
Total cost of project	\$ 29,460.00
Your organisation's contribution	\$ 12,650.00
Other outside funding (please supply brief details)	\$ n/a
Amount applied for in this application	\$ 16,810.00
Shortfall (please provide brief details of how will balance be found)	\$ 0
Project income (if applicable), e.g. generated from sales to public	\$ n/a
Is organisation a registered charity?	Yes/No
Have you applied to SWDC for funding before?	Yes/No
If yes, when, for what purpose and how much was granted?	We received funding from SWDC in F2016, F2017 and F2018 to employ a South Wairarapa Neighbourhood Support Co-ordinator, for \$14,000 per year. It is my understanding that we have received funds in the past to support South Wairarapa youth to be involved in the Wairarapa Youth Council.

Bank account details	
Name of bank:	ASB
Account name:	Connecting Communities Wairarapa
Account No:	12-3290-0004408-00

4. Declarations

We agree to comply with requests from an officer or councillor from SWDC for additional information in relation to this application.

Statement to comply with the Provisions of the Privacy Act 1993

The personal information above is collected and will be held by SWDC for the purpose of considering your application for financial assistance. You have the right of access to, and correction of, personal information about you, that we hold.

Authorisation

- I certify that the information provided in this application form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
- I have the authority to make the application on behalf of the organisation.
- I agree that the necessary documentation listed below is attached to this application.
- I confirm that we will complete and return a grant accountability form within two months of the project being completed.
- The organisation will keep receipts and a record of all expenditure for 7 years.
- Any unspent funds will be returned to SWDC.
- All expenditure will be accounted for in the Grant Accountability Form.

Signatory One	Signatory Two
Signed: 	Signed: 
Full name: PETER DONALD MCNEUR	Full name: Gretchen Saulsbrey
Designation: CHAIRPERSON	Designation: General Manager
Date: 19/4/2018	Date: 19/04/18

Supporting documentation required for this application

- Most recent annual accounts including notes and review/audit report.
- Income and expenditure statement for part year and inaugural minutes (if organisation has been operating for less than 12 months)

South Wairarapa District Council

2018/28 Long Term Plan

Grant Application Form

Email to: ltf@swdc.govt.nz before 4 pm, 23 April 2018

1. ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name of organisation: Connecting Communities Wairarapa
Physical address: 41 Perry Street Masterton 5810

Postal address: as per physical address

Contact Person: Gretchen Saubrey	Phone No (Day):
Email: Gretchen@connectingcommunities.org.nz	Mobile No: 021 308 955
	Phone No (After hours):

When was the organisation formed and what are its aims and objectives?

Connecting Communities Wairarapa (CCW) was first established in 1995 (as Masterton Safe and Healthy Community Council), following recognition that while some Masterton communities thrived, others were falling behind. The organisation’s main task was to co-ordinate a network of support services and initiatives to help strengthen individuals, and their neighbourhoods, to enable them to live well – and to do so independently.

Connecting Communities Wairarapa now operates a range of community-led initiatives and social services focused on increasing the well-being of our people and our community.

We have two teams: Social Services (budgeting, life skills, sustaining tenancies, strengthening families) and Development (community and youth development, neighbourhood support).

Our key areas of focus are:

- Resilient, connected communities
- The engagement and development of local youth through targeted initiatives and youth council
- Reducing poverty-related harm through budgeting, life skills, sustainable tenancies, healthy homes and access to agencies that ensure all the needs of our clients are met.
- Offering a multi-agency, strengths-based social approach to our clients to create a sustainable reduction of poverty-related harm.

Total number of members in your organisation?	10
How many full-time equivalent people work in your organisation?	8.5 FTE
How many volunteers work in your organisation?	5
Date of last AGM?	1 March 2018
Are you GST registered? Y	GST No: 106-097-319

Officers of organisation	
Chair: Peter McNeur	Phone No: 027 222 7690
Secretary: Tessa-Jane Dennes	Phone No: 027 620 2513
Treasurer:	Phone No:

2. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Specific reason for grant application (e.g. upgrade to facilities/purchase of equipment/one-off event):

Fund a South Wairarapa Neighbourhood Support Co-ordinator and resources for 0.5 FTE.

Connecting Communities currently receives funding to employ a co-ordinator for 9 hours per week. This funding ends on 30 June 2017.

It is our belief that 9 hours per week is insufficient to achieve the goals we have for Neighbourhood Support.

With the increase in hours, we believe we will be able to:

- Create an excellent communication tool for council, police, fire and emergency and WREMO through significant growth in databases, newsletters, group meetings, facebook presence and marketing tools
- Create strong, functioning 'cells' within each community to support any civil emergency action through strong connections and the communication of practical, relevant information
- Support and share the philosophy of 'Good Neighbours' groups to make sure neighbours and communities are connected, resilient and have support networks in place to improve their resilience
- Reach all rural communities, especially those that could be cut off in an emergency
- Reduce the damaging effects of social and geographical isolation

Where and when will the activity/event take place or what is the anticipated completion date of the project (please note funds cannot be allocated retrospectively)?

We would like the funds to cover a full financial year, starting 1 July 2018, and for multi-year funding to be considered.

Why should South Wairarapa District Council (SWDC) support this project/event?

Good co-ordination and the development of strong Neighbourhood groups directly contributes to the community outcomes outlined on page 3 of the LTP consultation document, particularly '**vibrant and strong communities**'.

Communities that are well connected are known to be more resilient and stronger, particularly in times of adversity.

Who will benefit from these funds and in what way?

1. The community as a whole will benefit from good, clear information and networks to help them create connections and increase their resilience.
2. All partner agencies who will use the Neighbourhood Support networks to communicate their messages, ie Police with any messages on prevention.

Would you like to speak in support of your application at a meeting of the South Wairarapa District Council? Yes/~~No~~

I am available on both the 14th and 15th of May to speak in support of this application.

3. FINANCIALS

Funding requirements	
Total cost of project	\$ 42,375.00
Your organisation's contribution	\$ 5,000 Management and admin support, use of car, operating expenses.
Other outside funding (please supply brief details)	\$ n/a
Amount applied for in this application	\$ 37,375.00
Shortfall (please provide brief details of how will balance be found)	\$ 0
Project income (if applicable), e.g. generated from sales to public	\$ n/a
Is organisation a registered charity?	Yes/ No
Have you applied to SWDC for funding before?	Yes/ No
If yes, when, for what purpose and how much was granted?	We received funding from SWDC in F2016, F2017 and F2018 to employ a South Wairarapa Neighbourhood Support Co-ordinator, for \$14,000 per year. It is my understanding that we have received funds in the past to support South Wairarapa youth to be involved in the Wairarapa Youth Council.

Bank account details	
Name of bank:	ASB
Account name:	Connecting Communities Wairarapa
Account No:	12-3290-0004408-00



4. Declarations

We agree to comply with requests from an officer or councillor from SWDC for additional information in relation to this application.

Statement to comply with the Provisions of the Privacy Act 1993

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Authorisation

- I certify that the information provided in this application form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
- I have the authority to make the application on behalf of the organisation.
- I agree that the necessary documentation listed below is attached to this application.
- I confirm that we will complete and return a grant accountability form within two months of the project being completed.
- The organisation will keep receipts and a record of all expenditure for 7 years.
- Any unspent funds will be returned to SWDC.
- All expenditure will be accounted for in the Grant Accountability Form.

Signatory One	Signatory Two
Signed:	Signed:
Full name: <u>PETER DONALD MCNEEL</u>	Full name: <u>Gretchen Saultbrey</u>
Designation: <u>CHAIRPERSON.</u>	Designation: <u>General Manager</u>
Date: <u>19/4/2018</u>	Date: <u>19/04/18</u>

Supporting documentation required for this application

- Most recent annual accounts including notes and review/audit report.
- Income and expenditure statement for part year and inaugural minutes (if organisation has been operating for less than 12 months)

South Wairarapa District Council

2018/28 Long Term Plan

Grant Application Form

Email to: ltl@swdc.govt.nz before 4 pm, 23 April 2018

1. ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name of organisation: Connecting Communities Wairarapa
Physical address: 41 Perry Street Masterton 5810

Postal address: as per physical address

Contact Person: Gretchen Saalbrey	Phone No (Day):
Email: Gretchen@connectingcommunities.org.nz	Mobile No: 021 308 955
	Phone No (After hours):

When was the organisation formed and what are its aims and objectives?

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Our key areas of focus are:

- Resilient, connected communities
- The engagement and development of local youth through targeted initiatives and youth council
- Reducing poverty-related harm through budgeting, life skills, sustainable tenancies, healthy homes and access to agencies that ensure all the needs of our clients are met.
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Total number of members in your organisation?	10
How many full-time equivalent people work in your organisation?	8.5 FTE
How many volunteers work in your organisation?	5
Date of last AGM?	1 March 2018
Are you GST registered? Y	GST No: 106-097-319

Officers of organisation	
Chair: Peter McNeur	Phone No: 027 222 7690
Secretary: Tessa-Jane Dennes	Phone No: 027 620 2513
Treasurer:	Phone No:

2. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Specific reason for grant application (e.g. upgrade to facilities/purchase of equipment/one-off event):

- Funding for Wairarapa Youth Council to support and strengthen participation from youth in South Wairarapa and to provide support for Wairarapa youth focused events.
 - This will give us the resources to actively recruit South Wairarapa youth to the Wairarapa Youth Council, hold meetings in South Wairarapa and

providing resources such as transportation costs for the youth which has been a barrier to them engaging.

- It gives us a mandate to ensure we have engaged with South Wairarapa youth and that they don't miss out on these opportunities.

Youth Council

The Connecting Communities Wairarapa Youth Development Coordinator provides support and facilitation for the Wairarapa Youth Council.

The purpose of the Youth Council is to:

- Build youth knowledge of Council processes
- Participate in Council decision making processes
- Build the Councils knowledge of the needs of Youth and how these can best be met
- Be the Youth voice on Council decisions

The Youth Council encourages membership from across South Wairarapa, Carterton and Masterton and has the ability to be a valued voice for young people. They welcome the opportunity to meet with councillors and talk about the local issues that are affecting young people. In the next year

Youth Council to:

- Have opportunities for members of Youth Council to meet regularly with local Council and Community Boards across Wairarapa
- Develop a role for Youth Council to learn about participation in local community planning through their active involvement
- Deliver youth focussed events across Wairarapa, funded by all three councils

Where and when will the activity/event take place or what is the anticipated completion date of the project (please note funds cannot be allocated retrospectively)?

We would like the funds to cover a full financial year, starting 1 July 2018, and for multi-year funding to be considered.

Why should South Wairarapa District Council (SWDC) support this project/event?

Engagement of Youth in their community and local councils and encouraging leadership and participation supports the Council's goals for Youth Training and Development on page 5 of the LTP consultation document.

Who will benefit from these funds and in what way?

By engaging in Youth Council Young people in South Wairarapa will be provided with:

- Leadership training and opportunities
- Opportunities to attend conferences/seminars
- Training on and exposure to the local political system
- A chance to have a voice on issues that effect them and their future

South Wairarapa Council and residents will benefit from having a close relationship with youth to help in their decision making and planning for the future.

Wairarapa Youth Council is a fantastic resource available to the councils to get the youth voice heard. Young people are the future so they need to be involved in the decision-making process now because they will be living with the decisions made now.

Would you like to speak in support of your application at a meeting of the South Wairarapa District Council? Yes/~~No~~

I am available on both the 14th and 15th of May to speak in support of this application.

3. FINANCIALS

Funding requirements	
Total cost of project	\$ 9,500
Your organisation's contribution	\$ CCW offers the co-ordination of the Youth Council and events by the Youth Development Co-ordinator
Other outside funding (please supply brief details)	\$ 5,000 (Masterton District Council) \$ 3,000 (Carterton District Council)
Amount applied for in this application	\$ 1,500
Shortfall (please provide brief details of how will balance be found)	\$ 0
Project income (if applicable), e.g. generated from sales to public	\$ n/a
Is organisation a registered charity?	Yes/ No
Have you applied to SWDC for funding before?	Yes/ No
If yes, when, for what purpose and how much was granted?	We received funding from SWDC in F2016, F2017 and F2018 to employ a South Wairarapa Neighbourhood Support Co-ordinator, for \$14,000 per year.

	It is my understanding that we have received funds in the past to support South Wairarapa youth to be involved in the Wairarapa Youth Council.
--	--

Bank account details	
Name of bank:	ASB
Account name:	Connecting Communities Wairarapa
Account No:	12-3290-0004408-00



4. Declarations

We agree to comply with requests from an officer or councillor from SWDC for additional information in relation to this application.

Statement to comply with the Provisions of the Privacy Act 1993

The personal information above is collected and will be held by SWDC for the purpose of considering your application for financial assistance. You have the right of access to, and correction of, personal information about you, that we hold.

Authorisation

- I certify that the information provided in this application form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
- I have the authority to make the application on behalf of the organisation.
- I agree that the necessary documentation listed below is attached to this application.
- I confirm that we will complete and return a grant accountability form within two months of the project being completed.
- The organisation will keep receipts and a record of all expenditure for 7 years.
- Any unspent funds will be returned to SWDC.
- All expenditure will be accounted for in the Grant Accountability Form.

Signatory One	Signatory Two
Signed:	Signed:
Full name: <u>PETER DONALD MCKEOWN</u>	Full name: <u>Gretchen Saulbrey</u>
Designation: <u>CHAIRPERSON</u>	Designation: <u>General Manager</u>
Date: <u>19/4/2018.</u>	Date: <u>19/04/18.</u>

Supporting documentation required for this application

- Most recent annual accounts including notes and review/audit report.
- Income and expenditure statement for part year and inaugural minutes (if organisation has been operating for less than 12 months)

South Wairarapa District Council
 Long Term Plan (LTP) 2018 – 2028
 Response to Consultation Document

Contents

1	Submission Form - SHARE YOUR VIEW ON OUR FUTURE.....	2
2	Innovative Actions – Overarching Comments.....	6
2.1	Enterprise and Economic Development	6
2.2	Efficient and Effective Service Delivery.....	7
2.3	Consultation and Engagement.....	8
3	Introductory Comments to South Wairarapa District Council’s Long Term Plan	9
4	Future Growth and Development – Spatial Plan	9
5	Youth Training and Development	10
6	Promoting and Enhancing the District.....	10
7	Infrastructure for Visitors	11
8	Sports Coordination	11
9	Water Conservation	11
10	Reducing Waste to Landfill	11

1 Submission Form - SHARE YOUR VIEW ON OUR FUTURE

Profile

SUBMITTER

Ron Shaw on behalf of Wairarapa Voice, Incorporated.

ADDRESS:

P O Box 224,
Carterton 5743

EMAIL

C/- email: ronshaw12frederick@gmail.com

PHONE

Contact mobile 021 191 1337

Wairarapa Voice Inc. is not a ratepayer in South Wairarapa District.

Wairarapa Voice Inc represents ratepayers and voters across the Wairarapa.

A Wairarapa Voice Inc representative **would like to speak to this submission** on either May 14 or 15.

SUMMARY SUBMISSIONS (see details that follow)

Innovative Actions – Enterprise and Economic Development
<p>In our view:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Territories do compete for residents, investment and Tourism. • The attitude of local Councils and their level of willingness, or not, to facilitate and encourage activities that add value can be a significant determinant of whether or not people decide to reside, invest or visit the area. • Areas like Southland and Taranaki have, with Council leadership and accord been able to form entities, Venture Taranaki and Venture Southland, which have succeeded in adding economic value to their region.
<p>We submit that the three Wairarapa Councils should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate the return on its funding of WREDA and act accordingly • Identify how it could cooperate to develop value propositions for the economic development of the Wairarapa and mobilise those through improved coordination and the extension of economic development activity.

Innovative Actions – Efficient and Effective Service Delivery

In our view the time for prevarication and stalling on this issue of shared services is over and action should be taken to commence the necessary research work this year so that changes can be provided for in the next year's annual plan.

We submit that the three Wairarapa Councils investigate the opportunities for standardising and simplifying service delivery where there are benefits to do so and allocate the resources to make the changes during the 19/20 planning year

Innovative Actions – Consultation and Engagement

We submit that South Wairarapa District Council (SWDC) should:

- Improve the effectiveness of consultation on plans and proposed policy changes taking into account the points mentioned in this submission
- Adopt the attached Better Practice Guide

Rates Affordability

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

~~Agree~~

Disagree

Comment

The idea that SWDC can expect compounded rates increases well over inflation for what is a business as usual long term plan is unacceptable.

SWDC must be much more aggressive in its cost management and the management of long term assets.

Future growth and development

Spatial plan for the South Wairarapa

~~Option 1~~

~~Option 2~~

We support an alternative Option 3

Comment

Option 3 is:

- Release a draft terms of reference for the Spatial Plan explaining how it will deliver a basis for community strategic direction and produce the benefits outlined in the LTP
- Consult on the Spatial Plan and the terms of reference in terms of the Better Practice Guide so that a wide stakeholders group can provide valid input into the future direction of the community
- Only then allocate spending and contract with a suitably qualified consultancy

Youth Training and development		
Provide grants to support youth training and development and to provide recreational activities		
Option 1	Option 2	We support an alternative Option 3
Comment Option 3 is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore links with the YETE initiative being run by Masterton District Council with support from Carterton District Council • Consult on building upon this cooperation with MDC and CDC • Only then allocate any spending 		

Promoting and enhancing our district			
initiative to promote and enhance our district			
Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	We support an alternative Option 4
Comment Option 4 is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore links with the other district council, the regional council, and the private sector to provide a Wairarapa Wide economic development approach that builds upon the complementary strengths of the councils • Consult with the community on this mooted cooperation • Only then allocate any spending 			

Infrastructure for visitors	
initiative to provide more infrastructure for visitors	
We support Option 1 SUBJECT TO A REVIEW AFTER ONE YEAR	Option 2

Sports Coordinator	
Provision of central coordination of sport across the district	
Option 1	We support Option 2

Water Usage	
Carry out a feasibility study to investigate ways to reduce water usage or increase water storage	
Option 1	We support Option 2

Waste To Landfill 1
Food Waste Collection
WE DO NOT SUPPORT FOOD WASTE COLLECTION
Waste To Landfill 2
Wheelie Bins
WE SUPPORT THE PROVISION OF WHEELIE BINS
Waste To Landfill 3
WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE E-WASTE/USEABLE GOODS INITIATIVES WITHOUT FURTHER STUDY

2 Innovative Actions – Overarching Comments

As well as our submissions upon the contents of the LTP Consultation Document which follow below, Wairarapa Voice believe that all three district councils in Wairarapa should take innovative action in three areas quite apart from anything canvassed in the LTP:

- Enterprise and Economic Development;
- Efficient and Effective Service Delivery and;
- Consultation and Engagement

2.1 Enterprise and Economic Development

The Wairarapa is under-performing much of the rest of the country when it comes to generating income and GDP per capita.

*2017 MBIE
Figures (inclusive
of some data from
previous years)*

	National	Wellington Region	Masterton	Carterton	South Wairarapa
Population	4,793,900	513,900	25,200	9,050	10,250
% of National		10.72%	0.53%	0.19%	0.21%
Average Annual Household Income	\$97,100	\$113,600	\$78,800	\$86,100	\$92,600
Income Compared to National Average		117%	81%	89%	95%
Gross Domestic Product per Capita	57,002	\$69,851	\$39,310	\$43,912	\$26,640
GDP Compared to National Average		123%	69%	77%	47%
Portion of population 25-64 years old	51.4%		47.6%	48.3%	50.4%

Whilst it is not the role of Councils to be developing or owning businesses they have a role to play in the promotion of the Wairarapa as an attractive place to live, work and visit.

Presently promotion of the area is haphazard and poorly co-ordinated. Significant funds are entrusted to WREDA, an entity jointly owned by Wellington City and the GWRC, in the hope that the Wairarapa will gain something by being promoted along with every other area that makes up the Wellington Region. From an examination of WREDA activity it seems that the majority of its programs and activities are Wellington City centred with a few tack on promotions that largely involve day trips to the countryside to provide tourists with some relief from the Capital City.

It seems that the Wairarapa Councils think that funding WREDA minimises the need for coordinated local economic development activity. However the Wairarapa is distinctly different geographically and demographically from the rest of what is defined as the greater Wellington. The fact that around 12% of its population commutes to Wellington and further afield for work is no different a situation where similar proportions of people commute from Cambridgeshire and Oxfordshire to London to work while strongly identifying with their towns and counties rather than some notion of Greater London.

In our view:

- Territories do compete for residents, investment and Tourism.
- The attitude of local Councils and their level of willingness, or not, to facilitate and encourage activities that add value can be a significant determinant of whether or not people decide to reside, invest or visit the area.
- Areas like Southland and Taranaki have, with Council leadership and accord been able to form entities, Venture Taranaki and Venture Southland, which have succeeded in adding economic value to their region.

We submit that the three Wairarapa Councils should:

- Evaluate the return on its funding of WREDA and act accordingly
- Identify how it could cooperate to develop value propositions for the economic development of the Wairarapa and mobilise those through improved coordination and the extension of economic development activity.

2.2 Efficient and Effective Service Delivery

We opposed the amalgamation of the three Wairarapa Local Authorities because the LGC failed to make a concrete case to do so and proposed that the new single authority be established through a set of transition arrangements that would, in our experience, fail to deliver any benefits.

In the course of our research that led to our opposition to the amalgamation proposed by the LGC we identified the possibility of benefits arising from the standardisation and simplification of some services through resource sharing.

Our people have led successful large-scale programmes and projects that have delivered significant value. In each of these the approach has been to:

1. Create an inventory of the services delivered to ratepayers and customers by each Council and the key process, people, systems and cost of each service delivered.
2. From this identify those services where improvements could be made, and the stakeholder and cost implications of a specific initiative to make changes to realise specific benefits

3. Assign responsibility to one or more managers to manage and be accountable for making the changes and the realisation of benefits to agreed standards of quality, timeliness and cost.

In our view steps one and two will identify a number of areas where there are benefits that should be taken. The time for prevarication and stalling on this issue of shared services is over and action should be taken to commence the necessary research work this year so that changes can be provided for in the next year's annual plan.

We remain willing to apply some of our capabilities to get this necessary and overdue initiative off the ground.

We submit that the three Wairarapa Councils investigate the opportunities for standardising and simplifying service delivery where there are benefits to do so and allocate the resources to make the changes during the 19/20 planning year

2.3 Consultation and Engagement

Whilst the annual and long-term planning processes may meet statutory requirements the process and deliverables for consultation have become stale. There is room for improvement as follows.

Consultation is not an hour, more or less, lecture introduced by a Councillor followed by a 10 minute question and answer session where attendees are told to write submissions on the questions that the Council finds difficult or inconvenient to answer during consultation. Rather information needs to be provided before consultative meetings that state the issue that needs to be addressed by the plan and the logic and impact of a range of possible solutions. It can be in summary form like a Word table with references to other documents and it should contain diagrams if relevant that illustrate any logic flows. The benefit is that you don't then end up at the end of the lecture with a whole bunch of underinformed angry people on a 'different planet'.

Where major changes are being proposed some form of early community consultation on options can build understanding in the community so that the changes don't come as shock announcements that look like pre-determined decisions with unpalatable alternatives presented.

There are some better practice guides on consultation about and we have prepared one that we think is relevant to NZ conditions. SWDC could consider adopting it as a policy but it will only work if there is an attitude shift that engages early with communities and stakeholders on problems/opportunities and is involved in seeking solutions and exploring their impact before they are formalised.

We submit that SWDC should:

- Improve the effectiveness of consultation on plans and proposed policy changes taking into account the points mentioned in this submission
- Adopt the attached Better Practice Guide

3 Introductory Comments to South Wairarapa District Council's Long Term Plan

The SWDC approach to the LTP seems very modest, having the tone of managing a district in decline into genteel senescence.

There is no sense that SWDC is aware of the changes happening in the 21st century economy with no perceptible openness to innovation and no discernable aspirational vision and direction for South Wairarapa.

The tone of the LTP Consultation Document is risk averse, incremental, and conservative.

This is a shame as the South Wairarapa has many people and groups who are leading a vital, go-ahead district.

At the least, Wairarapa Voice (WV) believe that SWDC should be exploring innovative opportunities outlined in the Overarching Comments above. Additionally, WV have considered specific LTP proposals below.

4 Future Growth and Development – Spatial Plan

The LTP is based upon conservative population projections that appear likely to undershoot actual growth. In the absence of soundly based projections, the LTP's assertions on infrastructure adequacy are open to question.

In the absence of adequate population growth projections, SWDC propose spending \$300,000 on a Spatial Plan. The LTP is silent on who will prepare this plan but it will presumably be contracted out in the absence of internal capability to produce a half way defensible growth projection.

The work will be initiated this year but the costs will be smeared over the 10 years of the plan.

Without any aspirational vision for the district, there is a risk that the Spatial Plan will simply repeat local shibboleths albeit in the language of consultants.

Rather than the binary choices outlined in the LTP, there is a third option.

WE SUPPORT OPTION THREE which is to:

- Release a draft terms of reference for the Spatial Plan explaining how it will deliver a basis for community strategic direction and produce the benefits outlined in the LTP
- Consult on the Spatial Plan and the terms of reference in terms of the Better Practice Guide canvassed above so that a wide stakeholders group can provide valid input into the future direction of the community
- Only then allocate spending and contract with a suitably qualified consultancy

5 Youth Training and Development

SWDC propose spending \$75,000 per annum on grants to support youth training, development, and recreational activities. This amount will have a perceptible impact on rates being 10% of the rates increase proposed and yet, spent in isolation, will have very limited impacts.

Rather than the binary choices outlined in the LTP, there is a third option.

WE SUPPORT OPTION THREE which is to:

- Explore links with the YETE initiative being run by Masterton District Council with support from Carterton District Council
- Consult on building upon this cooperation with MDC and CDC
- Only then allocate any spending

6 Promoting and Enhancing the District

SWDC propose spending \$30,000 a year (\$300,000 over the planning horizon) on:

- GROWTH - development for our businesses and residents, employment for our people
- CLARITY - a clear vision of what we offer visitors and new residents
- UNITY – South Wairarapa is one family made up of a group of flourishing and diverse communities
- SERVICE – by updating our website ratepayers and businesses will be able to access services and information more readily
- CONFIDENCE – we know who we are, where we are going and how to make good decisions based on our aspirational goals

Apart from the update of the SWDC website, there are no SMART Goals in this laundry list of vague wishes. There needs to be much more clarity around what this expenditure is trying to deliver. Apart from the inability to test whether any of these wishes have delivered anything, the proposed spend, in isolation is not enough to make any real difference.

Perhaps if the proposed spend was combined with funding from the other district councils and the regional council, it could have some impact.

This time the LTP provides three options, none of whom can be supported as they are. However, there is a fourth option.

WE SUPPORT OPTION FOUR which is to:

- Explore links with the other district council, the regional council, and the private sector to provide a Wairarapa Wide economic development approach that builds upon the complementary strengths of the councils
- Consult with the community on this mooted cooperation
- Only then allocate any spending

7 Infrastructure for Visitors

The LTP proposes spending \$250,000 over 5 years on toilets, drinking fountains, camper van dumps, rubbish, and recycling containers for visitors to use. The total cost seems high and, as it's funded from reserves, will attract little ongoing scrutiny. However the continued growth of tourism suggests that this spend should be supported but with annual reviews ensure there is not spend for spend sakes.

WE SUPPORT OPTION ONE with funding review after 1 year.

8 Sports Coordination

Sports groups have to step up and do the administrative tasks such as grants applications, supported by community groups. This is not SWDC's job and no additional funding should be provided.

WE SUPPORT OPTION TWO

9 Water Conservation

Until central and regional government reach a coherent policy on fresh water management SWDC should continue an "education and encouragement" approach.

WE SUPPORT OPTION TWO

10 Reducing Waste to Landfill

The suite of actions proposed under this heading is a Wairarapa Wide proposal. As we have seen with the Dog Pound proposal there is a consistent lack of cooperation from Masterton District Council for Wairarapa wide actions. Accordingly, this suite of actions should be approached cautiously.

Food Waste Collection

SWDC does not have the population density to support a Food Waste Collection system. These systems need scale to operate so while it works in San Francisco it will never reach sufficient scale in Wairarapa. The best approach would be to partner with community groups to introduce community based initiatives – worm farms and the like. The money allocated for this component could be better spent on economic development.

WE DO NOT SUPPORT FOOD WASTE COLLECTION

Wheelie Bins

There are strong arguments for doing this, not least the need to fit in with the valley wide approach to rubbish and recycling collection. This component of the Waste to Landfill suite of initiatives provides a useful pilot for cross Wairarapa cooperation, giving MDC the opportunity to build trust after the Dog Pound fiasco.

WE SUPPORT THE INTRODUCTION OF WHEELIE BINS

Transfer Station Changes – e-waste and useable goods

This needs further exploration with MDC and CDC. There is the danger that MDC will insist on operational requirements that handicap these initiatives with respect to SWDC which will make this unlikely to be a good use of SWDC money.

WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE E-WASTE/USEABLE GOODS INITIATIVES without further study

Local Government Public Participation Better Practices and Expectations

Published by Wairarapa Voice Inc P O Box 224 Carterton 5713 New Zealand.
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Foreword

Public participation is a critical input to government activity, and developing effective strategies, programs and projects. Failing to adequately engage the public risks alienating the community and creating negative impacts through poorly informed and implemented decisions. Despite the critical role that public participation plays there is no New Zealand whole-of-government guidance or framework that helps Local Governments plan and implement effective public participation exercises. And yet this is an area that all levels of government find consistently challenging.

This better practice guide has been formed in order to:

- Provide a high-level framework for local governments across the public sector to use when deciding how best to involve the public in government decision-making and implementation
- Clearly set out the principles and elements that can be used to assess the efficiency and effectiveness of public participation.

This guide is not prescriptive. Local Governments need to determine how they will apply the principles in the context of their activities. For example, the public participation process involved in deciding whether to put traffic lights or a roundabout at a local intersection will necessarily differ from processes associated with developing a strategy to address homelessness. However, encouragement of high quality, suitable public participation should be the default position rather than defaulting to downplaying public participation through assigning low significance to local government decisions.

The way local governments approach public participation should reflect the context in which the decision will be made and meet the needs of both decision makers and participants. The development of this guide builds on our experience over the last decade of dealing with the need to defend our towns from multiple attempts by central government to impose local government structural change through a process repeatedly judged to be flawed by the majority of our citizens with a voice. The guide incorporates substantial content from a similar guide developed by the Victorian Auditor General's Office, Australia which embodies research and guidance from the International Association for Public Participation.

We thank the people who have supported the development of this guide and hope that the New Zealand Public Sector in general and Local Governments in particular use it to plan and implement effective public participation to better inform government in its decision-making and implementation.

Wairarapa Voice

March 2018

About Wairarapa Voice Inc.

Wairarapa Voice Incorporated stands for good local democracy and decision-making in Wairarapa.

The people of Wairarapa want action in their own district and they also want Wairarapa to move forward with actions, not words, building on the strengths of each district to deliver the best of local representation while collaborating on Wairarapa wide outcomes.

Wairarapa Voice will actively work with the District Councils, businesses, and community organisations to ensure that Wairarapa works well for all residents.

Wairarapa Voice look forward to working with you to move forward each district in particular and Wairarapa as a whole.

Introduction

Why is public participation important?

Governments are responsible for decisions that have both intended and often unforeseen impacts on the community. Transparent and well managed public participation is essential to fully inform government policies and their translation into effective strategies, programs and projects.

Most governments recognise the value the public bring to understanding problems and risks and crafting solutions that are more likely to work. In addition to the real life experience that community stakeholders can contribute to decision-making, the credibility of a decision is enhanced when it is perceived to be the product of an open and deliberative process.

Conversely, inadequate public participation can alienate sections of the community, undermine trust and is more likely to result in poorly informed decisions.

What is public participation?

The International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) defines public participation as the involvement of those affected¹ by a decision in the decision-making process. We use the term 'public participation' to describe these situations, though the same activities are also described as community or stakeholder consultation, engagement and participation.

Public participation encompasses a range of public involvement, from simply informing people about what government is doing to delegating decisions to the public.

IAP2's Public Participation Spectrum explains this range and the extent of participation at each level.

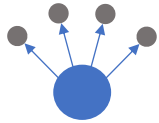
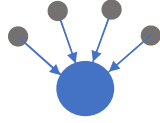
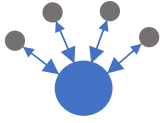
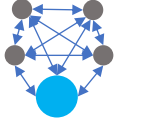
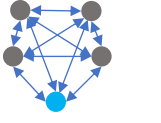
The spectrum includes five levels of increasing public engagement. IAP2 refers to the first two as 'participation' and the last three as 'engagement'. We describe the fifth level of public participation as 'empowerment' to highlight the significant difference in decision-making authority between this level and other levels.

What are the aims of this guide?

The guide has two aims:

- First, it communicates our expectations about what good performance looks like—describing the principles and practices we expect local governments to follow
- Second, it signals sets out the expectations of the community against it will judge the efficiency and effectiveness of public participation in the future

Levels of Public Participation

	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
LEVELS					
OBJECTIVES	To provide balanced and objective information to support understanding by the public.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work with the public to ensure concerns and aspirations are understood and considered.	To engage with the public on each aspect of the decision, including the development of alternatives and a preferred solution.	To create governance structures to delegate decision-making and/or work directly with the public.
COMMITMENTS	To keep the public informed.	To listen to and acknowledge the public's concerns.	To work with the public to exchange information, ideas and concerns.	To seek advice and innovations from and amongst various public parties.	To work with the public to implement agreed-upon decisions.
DESCRIPTIONS	<p>Participation</p> <p>The first two public participation levels— Inform and Consult—typically occur when a decision has already been made, and government wants to either communicate that decision to the public, or seek opinions on the decision.</p>		<p>Engagement</p> <p>The third and fourth public participation levels— <i>Involve and Collaborate</i>—have two way information flows, and include sharing information within and across stakeholder communities during the decision-making process.</p> <p>When undertaking Engagement, decision makers commit to using stakeholder feedback to inform the decision and shape the outcome.</p> <p>Activity that occurs at the Collaboration level is also sometimes referred to as partnering</p>		<p>Empowerment</p> <p>The fifth public participation level— Empower—is also often referred to as co-production, where decisions are made jointly between government and the community. This is typically when decision-making authority has been delegated to a group including members from both the government and the community/industry.</p>

Source: Adapted from the International Association for Public Participation's Public Participation Spectrum.

Public participation principles and values

Public participation better practice guides often include principles to drive and shape local governments' practices.

The public generally expects that good local government will perform its activities and in particular its management of public participation consistent with the following values.

PUBLIC SECTOR VALUES	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PRINCIPLES
<p>Accountability</p> <p>Demonstrate accountability by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ working to clear objectives in a transparent manner➤ accepting responsibility for their decisions and actions➤ seeking to achieve best use of resources➤ submitting themselves to appropriate scrutiny.	<p>Accountability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Being clear about the scope and objectives of the public participation exercise.➤ Demonstrating that results and outcomes are consistent with the commitment made at the outset of the process.➤ Being clear about the contribution participants will be asked to make and the responsibilities associated with this.➤ Providing appropriate time and resources to ensure that those affected can participate in a meaningful way.
<p>Respect</p> <p>Demonstrate respect for members of the community, community groups other public officials and colleagues by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ treating them fairly and objectively➤ ensuring freedom from discrimination, harassment and bullying➤ using their views to improve outcomes on an ongoing basis.	<p>Inclusiveness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Making every reasonable effort to include the stakeholder groups and members of the public affected by the pending decision.➤ Making reasonable adjustments where necessary to remove barriers to participation and ensure an inclusive approach.➤ Providing appropriate time and resources to ensure that those affected can participate in a meaningful way.➤ Being aware and taking account of the needs of diverse communities to be able to participate in a meaningful way.

PUBLIC SECTOR VALUES

Responsiveness

Demonstrate responsiveness by:

- providing frank, impartial and timely advice to the local government
- identifying and promoting relevant better practices.

Integrity

Demonstrate integrity by:

- being honest, open and transparent in all dealings
- using powers responsibly
- striving to earn and sustain public trust at a high level.

Impartiality

Demonstrate impartiality by:

- making decisions and providing advice on merit and without bias, caprice, favouritism or self interest
- acting fairly by objectively considering all relevant facts and fair criteria
- implementing government policies and programs equitably.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PRINCIPLES

Responsiveness

Fully advising government of the:

- significant potential impacts of decisions on stakeholder groups and the public
- challenges and opportunities related to the participation exercise.
- Responding to the engagement and input of the public in a timely and constructive manner
- Identifying and promoting public participation better practice in government decision-making.

Transparency and integrity

- Ensuring that those affected understand the scope of the pending decision, the decision-making process and any constraints on this process.
- Addressing public and stakeholder concerns in an honest and forthright way and communicating results back to the public in a way they understand.

Openness

- Embedding in all decision-making processes an openness to appropriately understanding and incorporating the views of those affected by decisions.
- providing access to all relevant information about the decision in a manner that participants can understand, so that their contributions may be fully informed.

PUBLIC SECTOR VALUES

Human rights

Respect and promote the human rights by:

- making decisions and providing advice consistent with human rights
- actively implementing, promoting and supporting human rights.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PRINCIPLES

Awareness

- Being aware and taking account of legislation that should shape the approach to public participation.

Approach

Figure 3 summarises the approach we believe the public expect to see local governments adopt in their management of public participation based on the framework, principles and values set out previously. They are also reflective of the practices generally required to effectively manage any project:

- Have clear objectives
- Understand the problem
- Objectively identify and assess options
- Apply a principled and rigorous management approach
- Continuously evaluate and learn

The approach to public participation in government decision-making needs to reflect the scale and purpose of the government decision or project. For example, we would not expect to see the same depth of analysis and documentation for a participation exercise on the \$50 000 installation of local traffic management on a suburban street when compared with participation required when investing \$1 billion into new public infrastructure.

Nevertheless, in both cases, we would still expect to see documentary evidence that local governments had understood and appropriately taken account of these elements in designing and implementing their approaches to the related public participation activities. It is fatal to public participation if the stakeholders feel that the decisions are automatically treated as insignificant and therefore, should only attract limited or no engagement.

The aim of the guide is not to develop a set of identical documents, but rather to ensure agency records show alignment with its principles and better practice elements.



Figure 3

Source: Victorian Auditor-General's Office.

Element 1

Clearly define the decision required and the scope of the public participation exercise

Problems are caused when local governments do not clearly communicate the nature of the decision to be made and the scope of the public participation exercise. For example, it is counter-productive if the public thinks it can influence a decision that the local government has already made if the objective of the public participation is to inform people about the decision and work with them to secure a smooth implementation. It is also problematic when the public is being asked to contribute to a decision, but perceives that the local government is closed to their participation.

Being clear about the extent to which participants will be able influence the decision being made is critical to establishing trust and to avoid incorrect perceptions. This also applies to decisions where some aspects or components are open for input, but others are not—for example, due to legal requirements, safety reasons or other non-negotiable factors.

Earlier in the guide it is noted that different levels of the public participation spectrum encompass different levels of public participation. Once the objective of the participation exercise is known, the corresponding objective in the spectrum identifies which level is needed.

Expectations

We look for evidence of clarity in the decision to be made. A fully-informed description of the planned objectives and scope of the public participation and evidence that these things have been communicated to, and understood by, stakeholders.

This is set out in detail below.

‘Realistic expectations should be provided to the public about the extent to which public participation can and should influence local government decisions.’

1. Clearly define the objectives and scope of the public participation exercise by:

- 1.1. Describing the decision to be made.
 - 1.1.1. There is a comprehensive and clear description of the matter that is being decided.
 - 1.1.2. Local Governments are clear about the government’s priorities and their impact on the scope of the decision.
- 1.2. Taking into account relevant legislation in framing the public participation.
 - 1.2.1. There is evidence that local governments are aware of the full extent of their legal obligations in relation to making the decision and have appropriately designed the public participation exercise in light of this.
 - 1.2.2. Local governments can demonstrate that they have taken into account broader legislative requirements such as human rights in making decisions.
- 1.3. Defining the objectives and scope of the participation exercise and setting initial expectations around the level of participation.
 - 1.3.1. Local governments have clearly and comprehensively described the objectives and scope of the participation exercise and the level of public participation they are seeking in making that decision.

Element 2

Understand who is affected and how they should be included

This element captures the stakeholder analysis—who is impacted, how and if they should be involved in the decision-making, and how is this best achieved?

While Element 1 framed initial expectations about who should be involved, this element confirms this and determines how to effectively involve these target stakeholders. It is a critical stage because missing those impacted by the decision or approaching affected stakeholders inappropriately undermines the public participation, while including those unaffected by the decision is inefficient.

It is important that local governments carefully consider the following when deciding who to involve in the decision-making process:

- who is directly and indirectly affected by, interested in, or able to influence the decision being made
- stakeholder diversity—for example, including people of different/diverse cultures, people from regional or remote communities, people with disabilities, older/ younger stakeholders, and those with real life experience relevant to the decision being made
- barriers—whether there are barriers to participant involvement that need to be addressed such as:
 - resources—for example, if the participant cannot afford to travel, or needs carers/aides to travel
 - timing—for example, if the participant has time constraints or scheduling requirements
 - willingness—where stakeholders are reluctant to participate, or are experiencing ‘consultation fatigue’
 - ‘optimal mix’—for example, where the interests of the different stakeholder groups are appropriately balanced, and the views of one group do not overwhelm others.

Performing this stage well creates a solid foundation for capturing and understanding the issues of importance to the public that are relevant to the decision. Failing to do this properly risks missing critical issues that may emerge later in the project when it is more difficult and costly to effectively address them.

Expectations

We will look for evidence that all those likely to be affected have been identified and the potential impacts of the decision have been assessed, together with an assessment of how best to approach those that need to be included in the participation exercise.

This is set out in detail below.

2. Understand who is affected and how they should be included by:

- 2.1. Identifying stakeholders affected by, interested in, or who can influence or inform the decision.
 - 2.1.1. Local governments can demonstrate that they have identified all relevant stakeholder groups and members of the public potentially affected by, or holding a legitimate interest in the decision.
 - 2.1.2. Local governments have used available information and, where necessary, undertaken further data collection and research to understand who potential stakeholders are.
- 2.2. Understanding how stakeholders are affected and the nature and intensity of their interest.
 - 2.2.1. Local governments can clearly link the selection of those included in the participation exercise to an objective analysis of the impacts and interests of stakeholder groups and members of the public.

- 2.2.2. Local governments have confirmed these impacts by engaging the stakeholder groups and members of the public they expect to be most affected or interested.
- 2.3. Understanding stakeholders' capacity and willingness to participate and if participation barriers need to be removed.
 - 2.3.1. Local governments can demonstrate that they have identified how to most effectively engage with participants, including if barriers to participation need to be removed and if reasonable adjustment is required.
 - 2.3.2. Local governments can demonstrate that they have sought to achieve an 'optimal mix' of participants for the exercise—such that an appropriate balance of views is represented.
- 2.4. Understanding stakeholders' capacity and willingness to contribute and preferred methods.
 - 2.4.1. Local governments can demonstrate that they have developed a good understanding of the key, potential participants.
- 2.5. Confirming that stakeholders understand their roles in the decision-making process.
 - 2.5.1. The objective and scope of the exercise have been explicitly communicated to the participants.
 - 2.5.2. Local governments have ensured that participants understand the government's priorities and their resulting level of influence on the decision to be made.

Element 3

Identify the resources, skills and time required for effective public participation

Engagement mechanisms and tools to facilitate the participation need to be appropriately matched to participants' needs. A 'one size fits all' approach is not likely to provide meaningful input into the decision, and it is not unusual to need a mix of different engagement approaches to facilitate meaningful engagement for different participants.

This also includes public participation capability—just like facilities management or HR, public participation is a specialist skill, and so an effective participation exercise may sometimes require engaging additional staff or specialist resources.

The public sector needs to have high quality skills and experience so that it can balance the interests of all parties. At present, the public service frequently lacks the capability to frame a debate and so relies on vested interests to do this work.'

Identifying the time required for meaningful participation is also essential, and was an issue stakeholders frequently raised with us in developing this guide. Rushed public participation exercises create scepticism amongst participants, and cannot realise the true benefit of participation.

Expectations

We will look for evidence that local governments have identified the resources, skills and time frame required to undertake the participation exercise as defined under Element 1.

This is set out in detail below.

3. Identify the resources, skills and time required for effective public participation by:

- 3.1. Describing the resources required to ensure an effective participation process.
 - 3.1.1. Local governments can demonstrate that the resources identified are sufficient and appropriate to achieve the objectives of the participation exercise.
- 3.2. Identifying the skills necessary to meaningfully engage with all participants.

- 3.2.1. Local governments have identified the specialist skills or assistance that may be required to carry out the participation exercise, and how to source them.
- 3.2.2. Where appropriate, agency staff have undertaken any training necessary to enable them to effectively facilitate the participation exercise.
- 3.3. 3.3 Estimating the time required to ensure an effective participation process.
 - 3.3.1. Local governments can demonstrate that the time frames identified are sufficient and appropriate to allow for meaningful participation.

Element 4

Document the public participation and management approach

It is important that public participation exercises, like any other project activities, are clearly documented in a plan that is the end-to-end roadmap for successful implementation.

The length and detail of the documentation will depend on the scale and complexity of the public participation exercise. However, the underlying aims remain the same—to clearly and adequately document a plan of action for local governments to follow and use to assess whether they are achieving the objectives of the public participation exercise.

For example, the plan for a local council that is commissioning a survey about changes to a local park will need to meet all of the requirements. By comparison, the level of detail about things such as the resources and skill sets required, and the approach to monitoring and evaluation, is likely to be greater for public participation in decision-making around large scale urban planning.

Setting out a clear plan for implementing the participation exercise is critical to following through on the essential planning work undertaken through Elements 1, 2 and 3.

Expectations

We will look for evidence of a plan that is appropriately customised to the participation exercise.

This is set out in detail below.

4. Document the public participation and management approach including:

- 4.1. Documenting the finalised public participation decision, objectives, scope, stakeholders included and the approaches to be used.
 - 4.1.1. Local governments have clearly described these foundational aspects of the plan and explained the rationale underpinning them—see Elements 1, 2 and 3.
 - 4.1.2. Local governments can demonstrate a clear and equitable process for engaging with stakeholders, including understanding and responding to any concerns.
 - 4.1.3. Local governments' plans incorporate effective mechanisms for communicating the results of the public participation activities to stakeholders, including how these were used in the decision-making process and the final decision made.
 - 4.1.4. Local governments have documented how they will capture the participants' input to inform the decision being made so that the resulting records are a complete and accurate reflection of the participation.
- 4.2. Identifying the risks that threaten the objectives and how these will be monitored and managed.
 - 4.2.1. Local governments have identified the risks to the objectives of the public participation exercise—particularly those that rate highly.
 - 4.2.2. Local governments can demonstrate that they have understood, mitigated and/or managed these risks, including situations where time or resource constraints have meant a compromised approach to public participation.
- 4.3. Setting the governance and management structure for achieving the objectives.

- 4.3.1. Local governments have defined a management structure for the public participation exercise that has the capacity to successfully deliver and monitor the exercise while defining clear responsibilities for achieving the objectives. The approach needs to have appropriate senior management endorsement.
- 4.4. The monitoring, feedback and evaluation processes.
 - 4.4.1. Local governments have clearly described how progress will be measured in terms of time lines, resource use and achieving the public participation objectives.
 - 4.4.2. Local governments have put in place a clear approach for evaluating success, including outcome measures to assess the achievement of objectives and a post-participation process for evaluating and reporting on the success of the exercise.

Element 5

Implement the public participation plan and monitor its progress

A good plan is irrelevant if local governments are not capable of, or committed to, applying its actions and successfully managing the risks that affect its progress. This element focuses on how well the public participation process is monitored and managed.

Expectations

We will look for evidence that public participation exercise has been implemented as described in the plan.

This is set out in detail below.

5. Implement the public participation plan and monitor its progress by:

- 5.1. Applying the public participation approach as intended
 - 5.1.1. Local governments can show how they applied a planned approach by completing intended actions according to the objectives, time lines and resources documented in their plans.
- 5.2. Monitoring progress in terms of budget, time lines, and meeting the objectives
 - 5.2.1. Local governments have evidence that they monitored expenditure, progress against time lines and progress towards achieving the intended objectives of the public participation exercise.
- 5.3. Appropriately monitoring and responding to risks
 - 5.3.1. Local governments can demonstrate how they monitored and appropriately responded to the risks identified during the planning of the public participation exercise.

While the amount of effort should be tailored to the scale of the project, all public expenditure should be evaluated to confirm that it achieved the intended result. Over many years the poor evaluation of projects has been a recurring finding in performance audits.

Failing to evaluate public participation means local governments have no clear understanding about whether they have successfully engaged the community and achieved the objectives of the public participation exercise, and whether they should address any weaknesses and learn from their experiences in future public participation exercises.

Element 6

Evaluate the public participation exercise and apply continuous improvement

While the amount of effort should be tailored to the scale of the project, all public expenditure should be evaluated to confirm that it achieved the intended result. Over many years the poor evaluation of projects has been a recurring finding in performance audits.

Failing to evaluate public participation means agencies have no clear understanding about whether they have successfully engaged the community and achieved the objectives of the public participation exercise, and whether they should address any weaknesses and learn from their experiences in future public participation exercises.

Expectations

We will look for evidence that local governments have, after completion of the public participation exercise, evaluated the outcomes against the objectives, and documented the lessons and recommendations for improvement.

This is set out in detail below.

6. Evaluate the public participation exercise and apply continuous improvement by:

6.1. Assessing whether they have achieved public participation objectives.

6.1.1. Local governments have applied a clear and appropriate evaluation framework to assess the success of the public participation exercise against the objectives set at the outset.

6.1.2. Local governments have consulted the stakeholders involved to understand their perceptions of the weaknesses and strengths of the public participation exercise and potential areas for improvement.

6.1.3. Specifically, local governments should be able to demonstrate that they:

6.1.3.1. accurately understood and reflected the views and opinions provided by participants

6.1.3.2. documented the results of the evaluation.

6.2. Documenting and applying the lessons.

6.2.1. Local governments have adequately identified areas for improvement and documented a plan for integrating these into their ongoing operations.