

**South Wairarapa District Council
Adoption of the Enhanced Annual Plan 2024-25
Minutes from 26 June 2024**

- Present:** Mayor Martin Connelly (Chair) Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter, Councillor Aidan Ellims, Colin Olds, Alistair Plimmer, Rebecca Gray (via Zoom), Martin Bosley, Aaron Woodcock, Pip Maynard and Kaye McAulay.
- In Attendance:** Janice Smith (Chief Executive Officer), Stefan Corbett (Group Manager, Infrastructure & Community Operations), Paul Gardner (Group Manager, Corporate Services), Russell O'Leary (Group Manager, Planning & Regulatory), Charly Clarke (Chief Financial Officer), Rob Thomas (Manager, Stakeholder Relationships), Nicki Ansell (Lead Advisor Policy & Projects) and Amy Andersen (Lead Advisor Democracy & Committees).
Via Zoom: Sara Edney (Building Control Manager).
- Public forum:** Daphne Geisler and Jim Hedley.
- Conduct of Business:** This meeting was held in the Supper Room, Waihinga Centre, 62 Texas Street, Martinborough and via audio-visual conference. This meeting was live-streamed is available to view on our YouTube channel. The meeting was held in public under the above provisions from 9:00am to 10:20am.
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Open Section

- A1. Karakia Timatanga - Opening**
Mayor Connelly opened the meeting with a karakia.
- A2. Apologies**
There were no apologies.
- A3. Conflicts of Interest**
There were no conflicts of interest.

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A4. Acknowledgements and Tributes

Cr Maynard acknowledged the Gisborne district having been affected by weather this week, loss of members of community, sending thoughts to the Council.

Cr Olds acknowledged the passing of Bruce Craig, former Featherston town clerk.

A5. Public Participation

Daphne Geisler – Rates/SUIP

Ms Geisler spoke to Council about her concerns regarding the rating policies (funding impact statement, SUIP and related QV data) and communications with ratepayers regarding targeted rates.

Members queried whether Ms Geisler had reached out to Council about these concerns prior to the meeting and requested a copy of her presentation.

Jim Hedley – Enhanced Annual Plan

Mr Hedley spoke to Council regarding the impact of proposed rates on the farming community and his concerns relating to the proposed rating model.

A7. Extraordinary business

There was no extraordinary business.

A8. Minutes for Confirmation

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2024/37) that the minutes of the Council meetings held on 27 March, 24 April, 15 May and 22 May 2024 are a true and correct record, subject to the following change to the 22 May 2024 minutes: Cr Gray voted *for* the amendment on page 21 of the agenda.

(Moved Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter/Seconded Cr Olds)

Carried

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2024/38) that the public excluded minutes of the Council meeting held on 27 March 2024 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

(Moved Cr Olds/Seconded Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter)

Carried

A9. Matters arising from previous minutes

There were no matters arising.

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B. Report Backs and Updates from Community Boards and the Māori Standing Committee

Nil reports.

C Recommendations from Committees

Nil reports.

D Decision Reports from the Chief Executive and Staff

D1. Delegations Policies and Register Update

Ms Smith spoke to matters included in the report.

Members queried the amounts for expenditure delegated to the Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2024/39) to:

1. Receive the *Delegations Policies and Register Update Report*.
2. Approve a financial delegation, for both capital and operational expenditure, of \$500,000 to the Chief Executive in line with the amended financial delegation policy.
3. Note that all other financial delegations are set by the Chief Executive.
4. Approve the delegation of legislative functions under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 and the Oaths & Declarations Act 1957.
5. Approve the amended delegation register for all legislative delegations following the amendment of position titles.

[Items read together 1-5]

(Moved Cr Maynard /Seconded Cr Plimmer)

Carried

D2. Adoption of the Treasury and Liability Management Policy

Ms Smith provided background and spoke to matters included in the report. Members noted the many decisions today have already been completed through deliberations—debating has been completed in other public meetings leading to adoption today. Members were pleased to see the policy in place.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2024/40) to:

1. Receive the *Treasury & Liability Management Policy Report*.
2. Adopt the new policy with effect from 1 July 2024 noting that the policy will be reviewed in three years (or sooner should it be required).

[Items 1-2 read together]

(Moved Cr Olds/Seconded Cr McAulay)

Carried

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D3. Adoption of Rating Policies

Ms Clarke and Ms Smith spoke to matters included in the report.

Ms Smith noted that the rating policies have been reviewed by Simpson Grierson.

Members queried the changes made following previous discussions and reviews of the policies; and acknowledged the communication with staff relating to follow up on particular concerns, prior to adoption.

Meeting adjourned at 9:36am.

Meeting reconvened at 9:37am.

Members queried the communications with ratepayers affected by SUIPS. Ms Smith confirmed that those affected have been contacted.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2024/41) to:

1. Receive the *Rating Policies* Report.
(Moved Cr Plimmer/Seconded Cr Bosley) Carried

2. Approve the addition to the Remission of Rates Policy for the Remission of Uniform Annual General Charge, and Uniform Targeted Rates on Retail Properties in Certain Circumstances,
(Moved Cr Plimmer/Seconded Cr Bosley) Carried

3. Approve the addition to the Remission of Rates Policy for the Remission of Uniform Annual General Charge, and Uniform Targeted Rates on Pastoral and Dairying Properties in Certain Circumstances,
(Moved Cr Ellims/Seconded Cr Bosley) Carried

4. Adopt the following policies with effect from 1 July 2024:
 - a. Revenue and Financing Policy
(Moved Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter/Seconded Cr Olds) Carried
 - b. Remission of Rates Policy
(Moved Cr Plimmer/Seconded Cr Bosley) Carried
 - c. Remission and Postponement of Rates on Māori Freehold Land Policy
(Moved Cr Maynard/Seconded Mayor Connelly) Carried

5. Note that these policies will be reviewed again as part of the development of the Long-Term Plan for 2025-34.
(Moved Cr Ellims/Seconded Cr Maynard) Carried

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D4. Adoption of the Enhanced Annual Plan 2024-25

Ms Smith spoke to matters included in the report, including timeframes for working with designers to produce the final document.

Members discussed feedback from the community, community members who engaged with Council through the consultation process, and acknowledged staff for their work through the process and producing the final document.

Members queried projects that remain unfinished and carried over to 2024-25; Ms Smith and Ms Clarke referenced the information on page 289 of the agenda.

Members queried whether there would be an opportunity to review the capital projects forecast in the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan; Ms Smith confirmed there would be an opportunity to complete a reset of expectations.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2024/42) to:

1. Receives the *Adoption of the Enhanced Annual Plan 2024-25*.
2. Carry over an estimated \$6.76m of unspent capital budget from the 2023-24 financial year to the 2024-25 financial year.
3. Approve the updated fees and charges for abandoned vehicles removal and disposal, general bylaws enforcement, burglar alarms and financial contributions.
4. Adopt the 2024-25 Enhanced Annual Plan in accordance with Section 95 of the Local Government Act 2002.
5. Delegates authority to the Mayor and Chief Executive to approve minor edits that don't change the intent of the content prior to publication of the Enhanced Annual Plan 2024-25 document.
6. Note that the final Enhanced Annual Plan 2024-25 will be published within one month of its adoption.

[Items 1-6 read together]

(Moved Mayor Connelly /Seconded Cr Ellims)

Carried

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D5. Setting of rates, due dates, and penalties for 2024-2025

Ms Clarke spoke to matters included in the report.

Members discussed concerns relating to SUIPS, the fairness of the rating system and overall level of confidence with regard to the setting of rates.

Members acknowledged Ms Smith for the changes made since her commencement in the Chief Executive role. Ms Smith acknowledged the whole team who worked on the Enhanced Annual Plan.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2024/43) to:

1. Receive the 'Setting of rates, due dates, and penalties for 2024-2025' report.
(Moved Cr McAulay/Seconded Cr Bosley) Carried

2. That, in accordance with Section 23 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 (the Act), Council sets the rates for the rating year starting on 1 July 2024 and ending on 30 June 2025:

General Rates	Basis of Assessment	Rate
Uniform Annual General Charge (UAGC)	Per SUIP	\$423.00
General Rate	Per \$ of Capital Value	\$0.00136157
Footpath Rate	Per \$ of Capital Value	\$0.00004157
Refuse & Recycling Rate	Per SUIP	\$493.00
Additional wheelie bin rate	Per additional bin	\$493.00
Roading Charge	Per SUIP	\$174.00
Roading Rate	Per \$ of Capital Value	\$0.00038927
Stormwater Rate	Per \$ of Capital Value	\$0.00029729
Differential	Basis of Assessment	Rate
Wastewater – Serviced	Per connected SUIP	\$1,033.00
Wastewater - Serviceable	Per rating unit	\$516.50
Additional pan rate	Per toilet or urinal	\$1,033.00
Water Supply - Serviced	Per connected SUIP	\$1,199.00
Water Supply - Serviceable	Per rating unit	\$599.50
Water Race - Longwood	Per \$ of Land Value	\$0.00132697
Water Race - Moroa	Per \$ of Land Value	\$0.00028810

(Moved Cr Olds/Seconded Cr Plimmer) Carried

Against: Cr Woodcock

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E Information Reports from the Chief Executive and Staff

Nil Reports.

F Mayoral Report

F1. Report from His Worship, The Mayor

Mayor Connelly spoke to matters in his report and provided further information in relation to the Water Services preliminary arrangements, the submissions process and future updates regarding water services.

Cr Gray left the meeting at 10:03am.

Noted that Councillor Olds will provide further updates at the next Strategy Working Committee meeting on 3 July 2024.

Cr Gray returned to the meeting at 10:08am.

Mayor Connelly spoke about project management and proposed improvements to the governance oversight of capital projects. Members queried whether the workshop was required and the role of governance versus operations.

Ms Smith spoke about future plans including the in-house Project Manager, how the role will operate to provide and report to Assurance, Risk and Finance Committee in future. Members overall supported Ms Smith’s approach and as a result, Mayor Connelly withdrew recommendations 2 & 3 included in his Mayoral report.

*COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2024/44) to receive the Report from His Worship, The Mayor.
(Moved Mayor Connelly/Seconded Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter) Carried*

Meeting closed at 10:20am.

Confirmed as a true and correct record

.....(Mayor)

.....(Chief Executive)

.....(Date)

.....(Date)

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