



RANGITIKEI
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Making this place home.

ORDER PAPER

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 22 June 2023
Time: 1.00pm
Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Chair: HWTM Andy Watson
Deputy Chair: Cr Dave Wilson
Membership: Cr Brian Carter
Cr Jarrod Calkin
Cr Fi Dalgety
Cr Gill Duncan
Cr Richard Lambert
Cr Simon Loudon
Cr Greg Maughan
Cr Tracey Piki Te Ora Hiroa
Cr Coral Raukawa
Cr Jeff Wong

For any enquiries regarding this agenda, please contact:

Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor, 0800 422 522 (ext. 917), or via email

kezia.spence@rangitikei.govt.nz

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Locations:	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <u>Marton</u> Head Office 46 High Street Marton </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <u>Bulls</u> Bulls Information Centre Te Matapihi 4 Criterion Street Bulls </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <u>Taihape</u> Taihape Information Centre 102 Hautapu Street (SH1) Taihape </td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<u>Marton</u> Head Office 46 High Street Marton	<u>Bulls</u> Bulls Information Centre Te Matapihi 4 Criterion Street Bulls	<u>Taihape</u> Taihape Information Centre 102 Hautapu Street (SH1) Taihape	
<u>Marton</u> Head Office 46 High Street Marton	<u>Bulls</u> Bulls Information Centre Te Matapihi 4 Criterion Street Bulls				
<u>Taihape</u> Taihape Information Centre 102 Hautapu Street (SH1) Taihape					
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Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of Council of the Rangitīkei District Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Rangitīkei District Council, 46 High Street, Marton on Thursday, 22 June 2023 at 1.00pm.

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AGENDA

1 Welcome / Prayer

2 Apologies

3 Public Forum

No Public Forum

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of items on this agenda.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

That, taking into account the explanation provided why the item is not on the meeting agenda and why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting, [enter item number](#) be dealt with as a late item at this meeting.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

1.1 The minutes from Ordinary Council Meeting held on 1 June 2023 are attached.

Attachments

1. Ordinary Council Meeting - 1 June 2023

Recommendation

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 1 June 2023 **[as amended/without amendment]** be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

MINUTES



UNCONFIRMED: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 1 June 2023
Time: 9.30am
Venue: Council Chamber
 Rangitikei District Council
 46 High Street
 Marton

Present

- HWTM Andy Watson
- Cr Dave Wilson
- Cr Brian Carter
- Cr Gill Duncan
- Cr Jeff Wong
- Cr Simon Loudon
- Cr Greg Maughan
- Cr Jarrod Calkin
- Cr Fi Dalgety

In attendance

- Mr Peter Beggs, Chief Executive
- Mr Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer
- Mrs Carol Gordon, Group Manager - Democracy and Planning
- Ms Gaylene Prince, Group Manager - Community Services
- Mr Dave Tombs, Group Manager - Corporate Services
- Mrs Sharon Grant, Group Manager - People and Culture
- Ms Adina Foley, Group Manager- Capital Projects (zoom)
- Ms Georgia Etheridge, Corporate Planning Advisor
- Ms Katrina Gray, Senior Strategic Planner (zoom)
- Ms Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor
- Ms Rhonda Morris, Communications Manager

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ITEM 6.1 ATTACHMENT 1

Unconfirmed

1 Welcome / Prayer

The meeting opened at 9.30am and Cr Dalgety read the council prayer.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/166

Apologies received from Cr Lambert, Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa and Cr Raukawa.

Cr B Carter/Cr G Duncan. Carried

3 Public Forum

There was no Public Forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Cr Calkin declared a conflict of interest regarding staff salaries.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/167

That the late item "7.3 – Council Debt – Future Scenarios" be dealt with as part of the agenda for the Council meeting on 1 June 2023, the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting as the information contained in the report is crucial to the discussions on deliberations for the 2023/24 Annual Plan. The reason the item is not on the agenda is that the financial details were finalised after the agenda had been sent out.

Cr J Calkin/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/168

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 24 May 2023 **without amendment** be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

Cr D Wilson/Cr B Carter. Carried

7 Reports for Decision

7.1 Analysis of Submissions to Framing 2023/24 Annual Plan

Ms Etheridge introduced the report.

Key Choice One- Taihape Town Hall/ Civic Centre

His Worship the Mayor advised he has made suggestions on recommendations to staff regarding the Taihape Town Hall/Civic Centre prior to the meeting and that his recommendations refer back to submissions on the design concepts and the usability of the Taihape Town Hall.

He further confirmed unsolicited offers for the earthquake strengthening can be considered regarding the process. This will be an open tender process and a contractor may be able to provide solutions for specific elements. His Worship the Mayor responded to questions that the recommendation to fully restore Taihape Town Hall does provide scope to retain the façade of the building.

Councillors asked about the contingency costs in relation to this project and Ms Foley responded that the Taihape Civic Centre has 30% of contingency for construction costs and the higher price for travel to Taihape.

There were concerns from some councillors that the resolution was foreshadowing the decisions for the Marton Civic Centre. It was noted that the wording of the resolution was in reference to Council accessing better off funding and therefore would not pre-empt decisions.

His Worship the Mayor referred to specific submissions and that prior to preparing the tender document there needs to be community consultation with key user groups to address concerns of the usability of the building, auditorium size and other issues.

Key Choice Two- Marton Civic Centre

Councillors requested a pause on the build for the Marton Civic Centre to have further discussion and to consider the impacts of Council debt and three waters.

There were concerns regarding the timeline of this pause and His Worship the Mayor responded to this, stating that this decision is tied with the Long-Term Plan.

The Mayor signalled the need for a budget and urgent maintenance that will be required for the High Street and Broadway / High Street buildings.

Mr Tombs responded to questions that there is budget of \$5 million for Marton buildings in the Annual Plan for 2024.

Ms Foley responded to comments that the last inspection for corner buildings on Broadway was in April/March and that inspectors pointed out a few areas that urgently need to be addressed such as water damage. Ms Foley will confirm the timeline for earthquake strengthening requirements and will provide this information to councillors.

Key Choice Three- Calico Line Pathway

Some councillors noted concerns that the project needed further scope and detail as there is now a decision on Nga Tawa Road.

His Worship the Mayor spoke of the precedent set by Huntly School pathway, the significance of the school as a business in the district and his concerns for the safety of the students.

Mr Beggs confirmed that this is an unbudgeted expense in terms of our Long-Term Plan but is included within our rates position, however this is debt funded so would have a minor impact on decreasing rates.

Forestry Differential

This has been widely circulated with industry groups involved and has been indicated for some time this would occur.

Shared Pathway from Dixon Way

This was a request to look at the options, however it was noted that this conversation has been had in past for this same stretch of road and has been difficult to progress.

Taihape Recreational Facilities Upgrades

Council is waiting for the Parks Upgrade plans to provide direction to community groups. His Worship the Mayor requested that there be an absolute timeframe. Mr Benadie responded that he will speak to the consultants to confirm a timeframe and councillors requested that this be included in the officer comment.

Youthline Request

There were some councillors against this as it did not fit within local government scope. Other councillors believed it sat with community wellbeing and supported the work happening in Taihape.

Dry-Vault toilets

The purpose is to investigate the need in the community and not that Council will put dry-vault toilets in every cemetery. This will be considered via the Long-Term Plan process.

Lighting at the Taihape Court

Ms Prince explained that Taihape Tennis has received \$100,000 from the previous Long-Term Plan. The request for \$48,393.80, is in conjunction with Taihape Netball which is on top of the previous \$100,000.

Ms Prince confirmed that the court resurfacing is programmed for December and therefore 6 months would allow for seeking of funds. His Worship the Mayor stated he is aware of the possibility of alternate funding and requested that Council staff work with both Taihape Netball and Taihape Tennis.

Ratana Gym Shed

Staff have requested further costs from Mr Mete on this project and he was unable to confirm these for the meeting. Councillors were concerned this would be an unbudgeted cost with little scope on the project proposed.

Community Funding

Councillors questioned what the Wellbeing Conference was, and Ms Prince explained that it has not been held in the past few years.

It was noted that groups would be encouraged to apply to the annual plan or long-term plans in the future, and this could better inform councillors of projects and have greater engagement with staff.

Staff Salary

Mrs Grant gave further explanation on this section of the report noting that this paragraph had been omitted from the report:

“If the data is extrapolated out to 1 July 2023, then on the basis of 5.5% median movement in the 12 months to 1 March 2023, and in particular considering the 4.4% median movement in the six months to 1 March 2023, Councils Draft Annual Plan provision of 6% is somewhat light. That said, the budget provided will enable a reasonable level of increase to be achieved, noting that 2023/24 increases will match the funding allocated in full.”

Rates

Mr Tombs spoke in relation to the rates increase, noting there had been very little change. Mr Tombs agreed to email further information to councillors with staff comment on these changes, specifically on the Marton Civic Centre pause.

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/169

That the report ‘Analysis of Submissions to Framing 2023/24 Annual Plan’ be received

Cr B Carter/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/170

That Council receive submissions 001-272 made to the ‘Framing 2023/24 Annual Plan’ between 23 March and 25 April 2023, including the late submissions 216, 250, 254, 260-270, and 272.

Cr D Wilson/Cr B Carter. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/171

With regard to officer comments made in response to submissions as listed in Attachments 6-9, Council has considered the Officer comments and accepts them with amendments, noting they will be included as Council’s response to submitters.

Cr G Duncan/Cr J Calkin. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/172

That Council approves the new budget for the Taihape town hall/civic centre, broadly outlined as option 1 in the key choices section of the consultation document, of up to \$14 million noting that Council is likely to receive \$1,883,000 for better off funding towards the project included in this budget.

HWTM/Cr J F Wong. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/173

That Council directs staff to focus on the completion of this project ahead of the Marton civic centre and starts the design process as from 1st July 23 which is earlier than planned in the long term plan 2021-2031

HWTM/Cr S Loudon. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/174

That prior to preparing tender documents the council engages with key users of the Taihape Town Hall and civic centre to clarify community needs regarding the design.

Cr G Duncan/Cr J F Wong. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/175

That the design process calls for tenders to provide for the following elements

- I) Earthquake strengthening of the town hall civic centre
- II) To meet compliance issues for the strengthened building
- III) To provide for efficient heating
- IV) To meet current fire standards
- V) To provide for power upgrade
- VI) To consider users expectations re design

Tenders will be considered for all or individual elements of the design.

HWTM/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/176

[For Key Choice Two]

That Council pauses the build process for the Marton Civic buildings and to allow for a fuller understanding of councils debt analysis with the government changes in 3 waters and looks to a deliberation in the next long term plan.

Cr D Wilson/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/177

[For Key Choice Three]

That Council does not approve the additional unbudgeted (debt funded) spend of up to \$300,000 to construct the new footpath from Nga Tawa School to Marton along Calico Line.

Cr G Maughan/Cr D Wilson. Lost

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/178

That Council does approve the additional unbudgeted (debt funded) spend of up to \$300,000 to construct the new footpath from Nga Tawa School to Marton along Calico Line.

Cr J F Wong/Cr J Calkin. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/179

Council continue with its proposed introduction of the Forestry rating Differential. For 2023/24 this will be a factor of 1.5 applied to the Roding Targeted Rate for properties classified as forestry.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J F Wong. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/180

That Council do request staff to liaise with Waka Kotahi and KiwiRail to assess options for a shared pathway from Dixon Way into Taihape.

Cr G Maughan/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/181

That Council does not provide funding to Youthline for the 2023/24 financial year.

Cr J Calkin/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/182

That Council considers dry-vault toilets at cemeteries as part of the 2024-34 Long Term Plan process.

Cr D Wilson/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/183

Council does support funding of lighting at the Taihape Courts to the value of \$48,393.80.

Cr Duncan/Cr Loudon.

Amendment

Council does support funding of lighting at the Taihape Courts to the value of \$48,393.80 if other funding cannot be found within 6 months.

HWTM/Cr Dalgety. Carried.

This became the substantive motion:

Council does support funding of lighting at the Taihape Courts to the value of \$48,393.80 if other funding cannot be found within 6 months.

Cr G Duncan/Cr S Loudon. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/184

That Council do not provide monetary support to Ratana Gym for a new storage shed.

Cr G Maughan/Cr B Carter. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/185

That Council reaffirm provisional sum in the 2023/24 draft annual plan allowing for a 6% increase to pay bands.

Cr D Wilson/Cr G Maughan. Carried Conflict of interest Cr Calkin

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/186

That Council reduce its expenditure and keep rate increases as low as possible by reducing the funding that is available for the community to apply for, including by:

- Reducing the Event Sponsorship fund to \$25,000
- Removing the Annual Path to Wellbeing Conference, Parks Upgrade Partnership, and Placemaking funds,

and encourage community groups and individuals to apply for funding through the Annual Plan/Long Term Plan process.

Cr D Wilson/Cr G Maughan. Carried Cr Duncan and Cr Dalgety voted against

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/187

That Council suggest that representatives from the Poppy Places Trust apply to the Community Initiatives Fund.

Cr J Calkin/Cr G Maughan. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/188

That Council reaffirm provisional sum in the 2023/24 draft annual plan allowing for a 6% increase to pay bands.

Cr D Wilson/Cr G Maughan. Carried
Conflict of interest was declared by Cr Calkin

7.2 Agreement - Mayors Task Force For Jobs

His Worship the Mayor spoke of the success of the programme and acknowledged the success of the team and the contractors.

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/189

That the report 'Agreement – Mayors Taskforce for Jobs' be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J F Wong. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/190

That Council approves entering into an agreement with Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) for the delivery of the Mahi Tahī Programme (Mayors Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ) - Community Recovery Programme) from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2025.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/191

That Council authorises the Mayor or Chief Executive to sign the agreement with Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) for the delivery of the Mahi Tahī Programme (Mayors Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ) – Community Recovery Programme).

Cr G Duncan/Cr G Maughan. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/192

That Council endorses applying the opt-out procurement rule (Rule 11) of the procurement policy for the appointment of a Contractor to deliver the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs programme, invites Expression of Interest from both James Towers Consultants Limited and Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa, and that a working group be set up by His Worship the Mayor, and to include 5 Councillors be authorised to determine the means of delivery for the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs, 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2025, including the amount of funding and number of total outcomes to apply for.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

7.3 Council Debt – Future Scenarios

Mr Tombs introduced the report stating that debt will be a greater focus in the future.

His Worship the Mayor stated that this is a supplementary report for information.

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/193

That the Report ‘Council Debt- Future Scenarios’ be received.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

8 Public Excluded

The meeting went into public excluded session 1.12pm.

Resolution to Exclude the Public

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/194

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

1. Waste Transfer Station Operation Tender Recommendation Report

The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 of the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987* for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
8.1 - Waste Transfer Station Operation Tender Recommendation Report	s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities	s48(1)(a)(i)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1) of the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987* and the particular interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of the Act which would be prejudiced by the holding or the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public as specified above.

.Cr D Wilson/Cr G Maughan. Carried

9 Open Meeting

The meeting went into open session 1.41pm.

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/198

That the public excluded meeting move into an open meeting, and the below recommendations be confirmed in the open meeting:

22/RDC/195- 22/RDC/197

Cr B Carter/Cr J Calkin. Carried

The meeting closed at 1.41pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 29 June 2023.

.....
Chairperson

Unconfirmed

7 Reports for Decision

7.1 Adoption of the 2023/24 Annual Plan and Adoption of the 2023/24 Rates Resolution

Author: Georgia Etheridge, Corporate Planning Advisor

Authoriser: Carol Gordon, Group Manager - Democracy & Planning

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 This report outlines the procedures for the approval and adoption of the 2023/24 Annual Plan and the consequential setting of the 2023/24 rates.

2. Context

- 2.1 This Annual Plan is based on Year 3 of Council's 2021-31 Long Term Plan and outlines plans for the 2023/24 year, including updated budgets.
- 2.2 The draft Annual Plan was adopted for consultation on 15 March 2023, with consultation taking place between 23 March and 25 April 2023. Council received 272 submissions.
- 2.3 Council held combined hearings on the Annual Plan and the draft Community Spatial Plan on 11 and 12 May 2022 in Taihape and Marton, where 26 submitters took the opportunity speak to their submissions on the draft Annual Plan.
- 2.4 Council deliberated on all submissions on 1 June 2023. As a result of the submissions and deliberations process, the final 2023/24 Annual Plan has been prepared and is now ready for adoption by Council.
- 2.5 The following changes were made to the draft Annual Plan that was released as a supporting document to the Consultation Document:
 - Mayor's Message added.
 - Response to submissions added.
 - Finances updated to reflect decisions made during deliberations.
 - Minor amendments to some supporting financial information (tables and graphs).
- 2.6 The 2023/24 Annual Plan, if adopted, will see a rate increase of 10.19% for the 2023/24 year.
- 2.7 The updated Annual Plan is attached under separate cover (Attachment 1), noting that minor spelling, grammatical and formatting changes are still required.

3. Rates Resolution

- 3.1 The proposed rates resolution is attached (Attachment 2); this has been peer-reviewed by Simpson Grierson. The rates resolution needs to be approved following the adoption of the Annual Plan.

4. Next Steps

- 4.1 Once the 2023/24 Annual Plan has been adopted it will be designed, printed, and distributed within one month, and loaded to Council's website and hard copies available on request.
- 4.2 Rates will be set and invoices will be issued to ratepayers in late July / early August 2023.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 The Annual Plan 2023/24 outlines the projects and operational expenditure planned for the year and details the financial implications of the activities included. These financial implications have been discussed throughout workshops and Council Meetings while preparing the Annual Plan.
- 5.2 Capital Expenditure Budget of \$35.7m is included in the 2023/24 Annual Plan. This figure, in Year 3 of the LTP, was \$28.7m and this has now been amended by:
 - Increase of \$2.8m for income received for "Better Off" projects
 - Increase of \$5.2m for items identified through the 2023/24 Annual Plan process
 - Increase of \$3m to the Roding program to reflect the program that has been agreed with Waka Kotahi
 - Other adjustments that result in a nett deferral of \$4m that recognise some projects have incurred delays (e.g. Marton Rail Hub) and others have had capital budgets carried forward from 2022/23 to 2023/24
- 5.3 Regarding the final point above, Officers note that:
 - a degree of uncertainty exists regarding the timing of some projects; and
 - where the level of this uncertainty is sufficiently high, the budgets relating to these projects has been deferred until future years; and
 - where circumstances change that enable these projects to commence during 2023/24 then such work will be conducted during the year.

This would result in the expenditure being incurred in advance of the budget, which should be viewed as a positive outcome.

5.4 Balanced Budget

- Section 100 of the Local Government Act 2002 identifies that a local authority must ensure that each year the projected operating revenues are set at a level sufficient to meet that year's operating expenses (balanced budget). However, a local authority may set an unbalanced budget if the local authority resolves that it is financially prudent to do so, after having regard to the matters identified in section 100.
- Deficits are planned in Years 3 to 5 of the Long-Term Plan. Capital grants received in Years 1 and 2 prevent budgeted deficits in these years. A key cause of these deficits is the increase in depreciation costs which increased from \$10.6 million in 2019 to a

budget in 2023/24 of over \$17 million. Without reducing the asset and infrastructure base, Council has very limited ability to manage this cost.

- When setting the current Long-Term Plan, Council considered it prudent to rate for these deficits over a number of years, thus avoiding large rate increases in any one year. Council's view on this has not changed since the adoption of the Long-Term Plan. This will result in an ongoing, sustainable balanced budget. Ratepayers and Council's favourable funding position has been considered in making this decision.

6. Impact on Strategic Risks

6.1 Possible risks associate with this report include:

- Trust and confidence is tarnished.

The community may feel Council has not appropriately sought or considered feedback on the Annual Plan.

This is mitigated by the efforts taken to have meetings and events throughout the district, holding hearings in two locations, and responses being issued to submitters to demonstrate the consideration given to issues raised.

- Financial stability is lost

When preparing plans and determining rates required, Council must rely on the best information available to understand the funding required for capital and operational costs.

The risk is mitigated through sourcing projections for reputable sources, reviewing budgets, and ensuring expenditure is thoroughly understood before it is included in the annual plan.

7. Mana Whenua Implications

7.1 No mana whenua implications have been identified for this report.

8. Statutory Implications

8.1 Council is required to prepare the Annual Plan under the Local Government Act 2002, Section 95. Requirements for the content of the Annual Plan are listed in schedule 10, Part 2, while consultation requirements are listed in Section 82 and Section 95A.

9. Decision Making Process

9.1 The decision to adopt the Annual Plan 2023/24 is significant as this sets the activities for the 2023/24 year and consequently the 2023/24 rates. Council carried out the necessary consultation to make this significant decision.

Attachments:

1. **Annual Plan 2023-24 (under separate cover)**
2. **Rates Resolution (under separate cover - to be tabled once advice from Simpson Grierson has been received)**

Recommendation 1

That the report 'Adoption of the 2023/24 Annual Plan and Adoption of the 2023/24 Rates Resolution' be received.

Recommendation 2

That Council considers it is prudent to adopt a budget that is not balanced in 2023/24 on the basis that it is financially prudent to do so and achieves a sustainable balanced budget.

Recommendation 3

That Council adopts the 2023/24 Annual Plan, subject to minor corrections.

Recommendation 4

That Council adopts the 2023/24 Rates Resolution.

7.2 Proposed Increase to 2023/24 Schedule of Fees and Charges

Author: Carol Gordon, Group Manager - Democracy & Planning

Authoriser: Peter Beggs, Chief Executive

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 At the Council meeting on 01 June 2023 Council discussed a potential increase in the cost to deliver services at the Waste Transfer Stations following a tender process for this service.
- 1.2 The result of the tender process for the waste transfer station operations has resulted in unbudgeted costs. One option proposed was to recover these costs by increasing the tonnage charge to \$235/tonne, for the 2023/24 year.

2. Background

- 2.1 Council consulted on its Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges alongside the Annual Plan 2023/34. As part of this document the weighbridge charge was proposed to increase to \$200/tonne (from \$172/ tonne in 2022/23).
- 2.2 No submissions were received related to increases in the weighbridge charge, and Council adopted the Schedule of Fees and Charges on 24 May 2023.

3. Significance and Engagement Policy

- 3.1 Consultation is not explicitly required under legislation for the amendment of the solid waste fees, however, consideration of Council’s Significance and Engagement Policy to determine the significance of the decision and appropriate consultation is appropriate.
- 3.2 The Significance and Engagement Policy identified that the scale of engagement for decisions which do not require the use of the special consultation procedure will be decided on a case by case basis, with the level of engagement decided by considerations of:
 - A. *The level of significance of the matter.*
 - B. *Whether the issue is District-wide, or only affects easily identified communities.*
 - C. *The desired level of participation.*
- 3.3 The level of significance is considered to be low. The proposed increase to the fee will impact on users, but the financial and non-financial risks to Council are low and there is no impact on Council’s ability to act within their statutory principles.
- 3.4 District wide users of the waste transfer stations will be impacted.
- 3.5 Council has recently consulted on the proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges. No submissions were received in relation to Solid Waste, despite a proposed increase to the weighbridge charge. The tender process has provided a price for management of the waste transfer stations above the budgeted value. There is limited choice to prudently fund this increase, as the alternative (debt funding is not prudent). In addition, delaying

a decision to await consultation is not desirable as the contract will be implemented from 1 July 2023.

- 3.6 Officers propose the appropriate level of consultation is 'inform'. That the community is informed of the increase, rather than consulted on whether to increase or not.
- 3.7 Based on all the information provided at the meeting on 1 June 2023 Council agreed to increasing the Solid Waste fee in the 2023/24 Schedule of Fees and Charges from \$200/tonne to \$235/tonne. This now needs to be formally resolved by Council.

Recommendation 1:

That the Proposed Increase to 2023/24 Schedule of Fees and Charges report be received.

Recommendation 2:

That Council increases the Solid Waste fee in the 2023/24 Schedule of Fees and Charges from \$200/tonne to \$235/tonne.

8 Public Excluded

Resolution to Exclude the Public

The meeting went into public excluded session [enter time](#)

Recommendation

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

1 Public Excluded Council Meeting - 1 June 2023

The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 of the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987* for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
8.1 - Public Excluded Council Meeting - 1 June 2023	To consider the minutes relating to matters that were the subject of discussion at the 1 June meeting	S48(1)(a)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of the Act which would be prejudiced by the holding or the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public as specified above.

9 Open Meeting