

Chair's Report- Finance and Performance- 29 August 24

Morning everyone, it has been a busy couple of weeks for me started with a holiday. We drove down the West Coast passing only two tourists' buses and what felt like 20 cars the whole way. Then on to Wanka with its exponential growth in the last fifteen years. Even Lake Hawea, what I considered quite a windy back water now has huge residential subdivisions, both regions facing issues quite different from ours. Localism is important.

I was privileged to attend the Local Government Conference in Wellington where I believe 800 participants brought in over 1 million dollars revenue into the city, and yet the conference centre is considered by our Prime Minister a nice to have. So, while fantastic to hear from the ministers directly, the Prime Minister's stance was very reminiscent of being told off at boarding school. If working together is the answer to the countries big problems I don't think it's happening any time soon.

The four wellbeing's will be removed from legislation, and we are to be performance benchmarked. I assume that it is the statement of service report in front of us today, will be score carded across the country. The PM is strong in limiting the nice to haves, should that include getting our town halls open or even rebuilding council chambers, I'm certain I've come away with little more certainty.

While I acknowledge it is very challenging for a lot of people in our community and devastating for those who rely on the mill in Tangiwai. It is really heartening seeing the positivity here in Marton it's great to see some of our predominant buildings painted and the number of new commercial buildings being built along Wellington Road. I can't forget to mention some exciting new businesses in Hunterville.

Finally in our order papers today, we are reporting on the full year as our financial year ends 30 June. I'd like to extend a thank you to the CEO and his staff for their commitment and effort of the last year to make Rangitikei a better place to call home.

Today we farewell Dave Tombs our GM Corporate Services, thank you Dave for all your explanation and wish you well in the next chapter of your life in an island paradise.

My apologies my report on the conference will not be presented today due to other commitments in the last week.