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**MARLBOROUGH
DISTRICT COUNCIL**



Only Marlborough

31 March 2023

Record No: 2365423
File Ref: D050-001-02
Ask For: Mike Porter

Notice of Council Meeting – Thursday, 6 April 2023

Notice of the Council Meeting to be held in the Council Chambers and via Teams, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim on Thursday, 6 April 2023 to commence at 9.00 am.

BUSINESS

As per Order Paper attached.

**MARK WHEELER
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**Order Paper for the
COUNCIL MEETING**
to be held in the Council Chambers and via Teams, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim
on THURSDAY, 6 APRIL 2023 commencing at 9.00 am

Open Meeting

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Marlborough District Council

**Order Paper for the
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on THURSDAY, 6 APRIL 2023 commencing at 9.00 am

1. Karakia

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa
E te Atua tō mātou Kai-hanga,
ka tiāho te maramatanga me te ora, i āu kupu kōrero,
ka tīmata āu mahi, ka mau te tika me te aroha;
meatia kia ū tonu ki a mātou
tōu aroha i roto i tēnei huihuinga.
Whakakī a matou whakaaro ā mātou mahi katoa,
e tōu Wairua Tapu.
Āmine.

(God our Creator,
when you speak there is light and life,
when you act there is justice and love;
grant that your love may be present in our meeting.
So that what we say and what we do may be filled with your Holy Spirit.
Amen.)

2. Apologies

3. Declaration of Interests

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

4. Minutes

- 4.1 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 2 March 2023
(Minute Nos. Cncl-0323-255 to Cncl-0323-291)



**Minutes of a Meeting of the
Marlborough District Council
held in the Council Chambers, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim
on THURSDAY 2 MARCH 2023 commencing at 9.00 am**

Present

The Mayor N P Taylor (in the Chair), Cllrs S R W Adams, J A Arbuckle, S J Arbuckle, A R Burgess, J D N Croad, D A Dalliessi, B A Faulls, M R K Flight, G A Hope, R J Innes, B J Minehan, J C Rosene and T P Sowman.

In Attendance

Mr M S Wheeler (Chief Executive), Mr M F Fletcher (Chief Financial Officer), Mr D G Heiford (Manager Economic, Community & Support Services), Mr R P Coningham (Manager Assets & Services), Ms G M Ferguson (Consents & Compliance Group Manager), Mr A J Lyall (Property & Community Facilities Manager), Ms H Adams (Kaihautū), Mr H R Versteegh (Environmental Science & Policy Group Manager), Mr R Foitzik (General Counsel), Mr D G Walters (Communications Manager), Ms S L Young (Chief Information Officer), Mr S A Donaldson (Planning & Development Engineer), Mr S W Rooney (Operations & Maintenance Engineer), Ms A L Davidson (Manager Resource Consents), Ms K M Winter (Team Leader Environmental Health), Mr A D Johnson (Manager Environmental Science & Monitoring), Mr B R Paton (Marlborough Emergency Management Group Manager), Mr S J Murrin (Marlborough Roads Manager), Dr A G McNeil (Solid Waste Manager), Ms J A Tito (Parks & Open Spaces Manager), Ms C L Lake (Financial Services Manager), Ms L J Craighead (Planner Parks & Open Spaces), Ms S J Young (Regional Events Advisor), Ms S E Edmonds (Strategic Planner), Ms S P Mavi (Solicitor), Ms N J Chauval (Committee Secretary) and Mr M J Porter (Democratic Services Manager).

Karakia

The meeting opened with a karakia.

Apology

Cllrs J Arbuckle/Croad:

That the apology for absence from Cllr B G Dawson be received and sustained.

Carried

Cncl-0323-255 Declaration of Interests -

Members were reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

A number of declarations were noted in the agenda:

- The various interests as declared under Minute Nos. Cncl-1222-204;
- The interests as declared under Minute No. A&S-0123-215 (Minute Nos. A&S-0123-218 and A&S-0123-221);
- The interest as declared under Minute No. E&P-0223-228 (Minute No. E&P-0223-235);
- The interest as declared under Minute No. EFC-0223-241 (Minute No. EFC-0223-e-48); and
- The interests declared at the meeting by Cllr Faulls under Minute Nos. Cncl-0323-277 and Cncl-0323-285.

Cncl-0323-256 Introduction of Additional Items -

Cllrs Adams/Dalliessi:

That the following additional items be considered for reason of the urgent nature of the business and insufficient time being available to include the items on the original Agenda and Meeting Notice.

In Open Meeting:

Waste Fees and Charges

Carried

Cncl-0323-257 Annual Plan Budgets 2023-24**F230-A23-03**

The Mayor welcomed everybody and introduced the purpose of the budget side of the meeting as per the Agenda. The Mayor also acknowledged the work of the Finance Team and other staff who had worked on reports.

Cncl-0323-258 Budget Summary**F230-A23-03**

Mr Fletcher spoke to his report which provided Council with an overview of the budgets proposed for inclusion in Council's 2023-24 Annual Plan (AP).

In summary Mr Fletcher reported that to maintain current levels of service, the "raw" rates increase for 2023-24 would be 10.87%. However, rates savings of approximately 1.9%, which have yet to be processed through the financial and rating system, have been identified, yielding a net figure of just under 9.0%. This is a 3.3% increase on the 5.7% rates increase forecast in the Long Term Plan (LTP) for 2023-24. It was noted that the 2023-24 rates increase forecast in LTP was determined in a totally different economic environment. When preparing the 2021-31 LTP the forecast CPI increase was 1.2% for 2022, 1.4% for 2023 and 1.8% for 2024. This compares with the current and forecast CPI increases 7.3%, 6.4% and 3.5% for the same periods. The proposed budgets maintain a continuation of existing levels of service and a capital expenditure programme that mainly focuses on core infrastructure. To reduce the impact on rates, fees have been reviewed, expenditure has been reviewed with a view to reduce where possible, new revenue source identified, extensive use has been made of the Infrastructure Upgrade and Depreciation Reserves and a \$4.5M allocation from the COVID-19 Rates Relief Reserve. The majority of the increase is driven by the cost pressures facing local government as reflected in the Local Government Cost Index (LGCI); Council's capital expenditure programme and consequential increased maintenance, management, depreciation and cost of increased debt; increasing Government requirements; and additional personnel costs.

Mr Fletcher further reported that when considering the reasonableness of the proposed rates increase, it must be recognised that Marlborough is a Unitary Council, with the combined functions of both a Regional Council and Territorial Local Authority. The rate increases proposed by the majority of Regional Councils are significantly higher than what has been proposed. Net debt levels are forecast to be within the \$230M net debt cap set by Council between 2027-28 and 2031-32 where the cap is exceeded by a maximum of \$23M (including Flaxbourne Irrigation) in 2029-30 should the Three Waters reforms not proceed. Should the Three Waters reforms proceed, there will be no exceedances. Mr Fletcher advised that indicatively should Council agree with the recommendations as detailed in the agenda, the rates increase for 2023-24 will be less than 8.0%.

Mr Fletcher, in his background to the report, advised that for each of the two years between Long Term Plans Council is required to prepare an Annual Plan. 2023-24 is the second year since Council adopted its 10 year 2021-31 LTP and the first for this Council. As part of the preparation of the LTP, The previous Council undertook a significant review of its operations and policies. Council's review included the levels of service for all its activities; Rating and Revenue Policies including the method of rating, rating areas and its Revenue and Financing Policy; Treasury, debt and investment policies; and key assumptions including legislative impact, inflation, interest rates, NZTA subsidy level, population growth and the economic lives of Council assets. The interest rates assumption has been further reviewed as part of the preparation of this AP and Council has decided to increase the interest rate assumption to 5%, which is consistent with NZ wide increase in interest rates. This year's AP has been prepared in an environment that is similar to that which existed when the LTP was prepared, i.e. the Council and the community are facing:

- the continuing impacts of COVID-19 both on Marlborough and the rest of the world. Much of Marlborough's economy is trade and tourism related and therefore reliant on how the rest of the world deals with the impacts of the COVID-19 epidemic. Much of the Marlborough economy has withstood the economic impacts of COVID-19 well, certainly much better than some of the pessimistic forecasts being made by many commentators 24 months ago. The exception has been tourism. However, there are signs of a recovery in this sector with the opening of NZ's borders and the return of passenger numbers at Marlborough Airport to pre-COVID levels;
- increasing impacts of Government Regulation and National Policy Statements (NPSs). The Taumata Arowai – Water Services Regulator Act was passed in July 2020 and the National Policy Statement (NPS) on Freshwater Management 2020 was also issued in the same year;
- further NPSs being in the pipeline, there is also the review of the Resource Management Act 1991 and how the Three Waters will be delivered in the future. As a result of the uncertainty surrounding these developments and reviews, it has been assumed that the status quo will remain for the purposes of

preparing this AP. They will be better addressed in the 2024-34 LTP when greater certainty exists. In the interim, Council must keep abreast of any developments and be prepared to provide input/comment;

- higher levels of population growth are currently being experienced compared to the position of 5-10 years ago. Higher levels of growth increase the demand for additional Council infrastructure. While much of the growth component is paid for via Development Contributions in the long term, Council must fund the costs upfront; and
- increasing requests from the community for either increased levels of service or increased financial support.

In addition:

- higher than normal levels of inflation are currently experienced, with forecast CPI increases expected to peak at just over 7%, before returning to more normal levels, noting that recovery from Cyclone Gabriel could delay this; and
- supply chain, i.e. the availability of certain materials and the availability of skilled personnel remains a real issue.

Mr Fletcher spoke on the budget approach which was detailed in the report.

The prime drivers for rates increases are the Local Government Cost Index (LGCI), capital expenditure and personnel costs. The LGCI is forecast each year by BERL and used by the majority of Local Authorities to forecast likely inflation movements. The forecast for 2023-24 is 2.4. Over the past five years actual Capital Expenditure has ranged from \$36.2M in 2020 (COVID) to \$76.1M before flood damage expenditure in 2022 with an average of \$58.2M. The projection for 2022-23 is just over \$75M. A total budget of \$76.3M (including \$1.0M for the Flaxbourne Irrigation Scheme) was recommended. Detail on how this figure was recommended and the effect on depreciation was included in Mr Fletcher's report. Mr Fletcher advised that with the LGCI forecast to increase by 5.9% and the indicative impact on rates from Capex and revaluations (funded depreciation and interest) being 8.7% and Personnel being 1.5%, that these three factors explain a significant portion of the total rates increase.

There is also a fourth significant driver, Government requirements. The exact dollar values of the additional costs resulting from increasing Government requirements are difficult to quantify as collectively they impact the whole of Council, including for example, the NZ Drinking Water Standards, Traffic Management requirements, National Environmental and Policy Statements, even down to specifying the level of training required by Building Control Officers. There is no indication that the pace of Government reforms and resulting additional costs will slow. Two attachments to the agenda showed the impact and the number of initiatives out for consultation.

The report covered in detail how the proposed budget impacts upon projected debt, along with proposed operating and capital expenditure.

The table below identifies the activities that have the greatest impact on the proposed increase in rates and charges and in summary the reasons why. It should also be noted that some of the increase results from the flow on effects of previous years' decisions, particularly if last year expenditure was funded from reserves for one year and this year are fully rate funded and investment in infrastructure intensive activities such as Sewerage, Water and Community Facilities. These projects are now incurring a full year's charge for depreciation, interest on loans and, for some, increased operating costs. Conversely, if budgeted Capital Expenditure has been deferred or delayed, then the corresponding depreciation and interest will not come to charge:

General Rooding and Footpaths	1,519,771	The main increase is in depreciation costs due to an increase in revaluation of the assets.
Library	1,284,182	Increased operating and depreciation costs due to a larger library building.
Community Facilities	1,023,457	The main increase is due to additional costs for the District's reserves and public conveniences. This includes an increase in operating costs for the Lansdowne sports hub.
Water Supply	806,123	The main increase is in depreciation costs due to an increase in assets and their values in prior years.
Building control	699,062	The budget for Fees & charges has decreased by 5%, while the personnel & operating costs have increased due to inflation. A separate paper proposing increased fee levels is contained in this agenda and will largely offset this increase.
Sewerage	655,388	The main increase is in depreciation costs due to increase in assets in prior years.
Flood protection	449,256	Increased operating cost in insurance, electricity and minor works.

Environmental Management	426,400	Additional resources are required for environmental review to keep pace with government (National policy and environmental statements) and the community demand for quality environmental data and monitoring to position Council well for the future.
Solid Waste Management	389,452	Waste disposal levy increasing from \$30 per tonne to \$50 per tonne. It is expected that this will increase to \$60 per tonne next year.
Resource Consents	371,523	Increased costs in personnel and corporate expenses, but no increases in fees shown in this budget. A separate paper proposing increased fee levels is contained in this agenda and will largely offset this increase.
Democratic Process	367,937	As there is an LTP next year the audit fees costs are budgeted, offsetting the reduced election costs that featured in the 2022-23 budget. The increase in councillor fees are also in this category.
Storm water	360,453	The main increase is in depreciation costs due to increase in asset values in prior years.
Culture Heritage	205,023	Increase in depreciation costs for the art gallery portion of the new library/art gallery building.
Harbours	200,724	Major expense being depreciation for the 3 tide stations computer project. An indicated increase in Navigation levies will largely offset this increase.
Targeted Rates and Charges:		
Riverlands Water Supply	181,818	Additional costs due to the Riverlands new water treatment plant including treatment costs.
Total	9,359,515	

Mr Fletcher reported that managers have identified a number of new initiatives with supporting papers which were reported in the Agenda. The table below showed the indicative impact on Rates should Council proceed with the proposed initiatives. NB: the indicative rates movement at the time will include the financial impact of any related staff positions, depreciation and debt servicing costs:

Levels of Service Increases	Total \$	Indicative Rates Impact 2023-24	Comments
People and Capability initiatives	70,000	\$70,000	As this expenditure is on-going it should be Rates funded.
Travel-Time allowance	8,000	\$8,000	As this expenditure is on-going it should be Rates funded.
CDEM Group Plan Review	39,500	-	As this is only for one year, it is suggested that this be funded from the Forestry and Land Development Reserve.
River Rating Review	200,000	-	As this is only for a two-year period, it is suggested that this be funded from the Forestry and Land Development Reserve.
Bus Service Review	29,400	\$29,400	As the continuation of the Picton bus would be permanent, this should be rates funded.
Community Facilities: Playgrounds and Sports Parks Funding	1,705,160	\$21,440	Majority of items from Landsub with the balance being debt funded via rates.
Funding of New Art Gallery	1,000,000	(\$80,000)	Rates saving
Essential Fresh Water Building Capability and Capacity for Catchment Management	975,000	-	For future rates from 2025-2026
Fixed Term Increase in Building Control Staff	500,000	-	As this is only for a two-year period, it is suggested that this be funded from the Forestry and Land Development Reserve.
Fee Reviews – Rates Savings			
Resource Consent Fees		(\$276,690)	
Health Fees		(\$19,100)	
Building Control Fees		(\$438,860)	
Resource Consent & Permitted Activity Monitoring Fees & Charges		(\$222,270)	
LIMS Fees		(\$24,800)	
Service Connection Fee Review		(\$30,680)	
Net Impact on Rates		(\$963,560)	Rates Saving

The forecast balances (\$M) of Council's discretionary Reserves were highlighted in the report. Further detail on the allocations already approved from these Reserves is shown under Minute Nos. Cncl-0323-262 and Cncl-0323-263.

Members discussed the COVID-19 Rates Relief Reserve and the Emergency Events Reserve. It was suggested that the COVID-19 Rates Relief Reserve be unwound next year, and that the Emergency Events Reserve would be looked at during the 2024-34 Long Term Plan process.

The Mayor/Clr J Arbuckle:

That Council receive the information contained in this Budget Summary Paper and adopt it as supporting information to the 2023-24 Annual Plan.

Carried

Cncl-0323-259 Water and Sewerage Capital Budgets F230-A23-03

Mr Donaldson provided an overview of Water and Sewerage projects and capital budgets over the 2023-33 period.

The report included specific detail on the projects proposed and their capital costs.

Members expressed their appreciation of the quality of Council's work in this area, and the quality of information contained in the report.

The Mayor/Clr Croad:

That the water and sewerage budget and programme for the 2023-33 period be received and the information be adopted as supporting information.

Carried

Cncl-0323-260 Road and Footpaths Budget F230-A23-03, R800-006-002-02

Mr Murrin provided an overview of major roading expenditure, broken down into three categories: Maintenance; Renewals; and Capital Improvements. It was noted that expenditure is split into subsidised and unsubsidised. Subsidised expenditure attracts a subsidy from Waka Kotahi. The current subsidy for Council's standard roading programme is set at 51%.

It was further reported that the Waka Kotahi subsidised Roothing Programme is funded in a 3-year block and is known as the 2021-24 National Land Transport Programme (NLTP). The 2023-24 year is the last year of the current NLTP.

Mr Murrin further reported that the only major capital improvements proposed in the long term plan are bridge replacements. There is a total of \$7.64m budgeted over 2 years 2025-27 for the High Street Bridge and a further \$7.4m is budgeted in 2027-28 for the Wither Road West Bridge, across the Taylor River.

The report included specific detail on the risks not currently budgeted for, and the current budget situation.

Clrs Croad/Innes:

That the report be received.

Carried

Cncl-0323-261 Capital Expenditure Schedule F230-A23-03

Members noted the summary of the proposed capital expenditure programme for the 2023-24 Annual Plan. Mr Fletcher reported that the majority of the larger items are either commented on in the previous two items. It was noted that the figures in this schedule differ from those contained in the above items, due to the budget adjustments made to broadly align with the funding envelope agreed in the Long Term Plan.

The Mayor/Clr J Arbuckle:

That the information be received and adopted as supporting information.

Carried

Cncl-0323-262 Reserve Balances

F230-A23-03

Mr Fletcher outlined the forecast balances for Council's significant Reserves.

Members agreed to surrender the allocation of \$293,533 from the Forest and Land Development Reserve for the Marlborough Heritage Trust fire protection plan.

Cirs Hope/J Arbuckle:

1. That Council receive and adopt this paper as supporting information.
2. That Council surrender the allocation of \$293,533 from the Forest and Land Development Reserve for the Marlborough Heritage Trust fire protection plan.

Carried

Cncl-0323-263 Infrastructure Upgrade Reserve

F230-A23-03

Mr Fletcher provided a specific update on the Infrastructure Upgrade Reserve.

The Mayor/Cir Croad:

That Council receive and adopt this paper as supporting information.

Carried

Cncl-0323-264 Forecast Financial Statements

F230-A23-03

Mr Fletcher explained the forecast Financial Statements reflecting the income, expenditure and funding decisions in the 2023-24 Draft Annual Plan.

The report included the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense; Statement of Changes in Net Assets / Equity; Statement of Financial Position; Statement of Cash Flows; and the accompanying Financial Statement Notes.

Following a question on 3 Waters assets and debts, Mr Fletcher undertook to provide a response following the meeting.

Cirs J Arbuckle/Dalliessi:

That the information presented be received as supporting documentation.

Carried

Cncl-0323-265 Council Activities

F230-A23-03

Mr Fletcher advised that the purpose of this paper was to present for Council's information each of Council's Activities and provide a guide to the structure of each the Activity Statements. The intention was that this information would be made available to the public during the consultation process as supporting information. The papers were separately attached to the Agenda (filed in CM – Record No. 2341360).

The following issues were raised at the meeting:

- Page 16 – Cir Dalliessi noted that the reference to “Marlborough Migrant Centre” should be “Marlborough Multicultural Centre”.
- Page 17 – Cir J Arbuckle questioned the level of funding for Building Consent, Resource Consent and Transfer Station grants and that these grants should increase by more than CPI. It was agreed that staff would prepare a staff submission to the Annual Plan.
- Page 75 – Cir J Arbuckle raised the funding level of the Environmental Grants. It was further suggested that a yearly CPI increase should be added to these Grants.

Cirs J Arbuckle/Hope:

That “Environmental Grants” be CPI adjusted on the base rate from the 2024/25 year and annually thereafter.

Carried on a show of hands 9 to 3 (with 2 abstentions)

- Page 91 – Cllr Dalliessi questioned the current level of split between user contribution and community contribution to the funding of the Animal Control function. This is to be discussed further by the Animal Control Sub-Committee.

Cllrs J Arbuckle/Dalliessi:

1. That Council note the availability of the information contained in the separate Activity Attachment.
2. That Council receive and adopt the information as supporting information.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: The meeting adjourned at 10.55 am and reconvened at 11.10 am.

Cncl-0323-266 Levels of Service Increases: E-Recruitment System C500-005-019-H02

Mr Heiford advised that the purpose of the report was to request approval to procure an e-recruitment system to support and streamline Council's recruitment processes.

In summary it was reported that Council's current recruiting process is labour-intensive, manual, and at times can be unstructured. These inefficiencies can lead to an increase in time to hire and result in administrative errors being made. The People & Capability (P&C) Strategy 2022-2024 has recognized streamlining Council's recruitment processes as a top priority to better support the organisations goals and improve Council's "new employee" experience. The P&C team have identified an e-recruitment system, to build on the efficiencies and effectiveness that such a system brings, in order to improve on how recruitment is managed at Council.

The report covered in detail information under the headings of Overview, Background, Current Recruitment Challenges and Risks, Advantages of an E-Recruitment System, Cost Benefits, Budget Requirements and Next steps.

Cllrs J Arbuckle/Innes:

That Council procures an e-recruitment system and supporting technology for recruitment and vacancy management at a cost of up to \$30,000 per annum (initial purchase and on-going support), with funding to come from general rates.

Carried

Cncl-0323-267 Levels of Service Increases: Digital Health and Safety Management System (HSMS) C500-005-019-H02

Mr Heiford advised that the purpose of the report was to introduce a Digital Health and Safety Management System (HSMS) to support Council by digitising our Health and Safety Management processes.

In summary it was reported that the system was requested as part of a programme of work that will support Council's Health, Safety and Wellbeing Strategy (2022–2024). A review to understand the current health and safety challenges and risks faced by Council including the advantages and cost benefits of a digital HSMS has been undertaken. The financial impacts outlined are proposed to take effect from the first quarter of the 2023/2024 financial year.

The report covered in detail information under the headings of Overview, Background, Current Health and Safety Challenges and Risks, Advantages of a Digital HSMS, Cost Benefits, Statistics, Claims and Offences, Direct and Indirect Costs, Budget Requirements and Next steps.

Cllrs Croad/Minehan:

1. That Council approve the request to implement a digital HSMS.
2. That Council approve the budget increases for the 2023/24 budget (and future years) to implement and maintain the digital HSMS at a cost of up to \$40,000 per annum (initial purchase and on-going support), with funding to come from general rates.

Carried

Cncl-0323-268 Levels of Service Increases: Travel-Time Allowance

D050-003-05

Mr Heiford advised that the purpose of the report was to report back to Council on the cost of the implementation of the Travel-Time Allowance for Councillors.

In summary it was reported that any reimbursement of the Travel-Time Allowance would be outside of current budget levels and would require an increase in rates. It was estimated that a budget in the vicinity of \$8,000 would be required for this allowance.

Following discussion, Clr Adams moved (with Clr Croad seconding) the following motion.

Clrs Adams/Croad:

- 1. That Council decline to increase rates for the provision of a Travel-Time Allowance.**
- 2. That Council not adopt the Travel-Time Policy as part of the Elected Members' Allowances and Reimbursement Policy, therefore the Elected Members' Allowances and Reimbursement Policy as adopted under Minute No. Cncl-1222-212 remains the Policy for the 2022-25 Triennium.**

Carried

NB: Clrs Burgess, Fauls and Minehan abstained from voting on the above issue

Cncl-0323-269 Levels of Service Increases: CDEM Group Plan

E210-001-04

Mr Paton advised that the purpose of the report was to gain funding from Council to review and rewrite the Marlborough Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan (Group Plan).

In summary it was reported that the current Group Plan was written in 2016 and had minor changes made to it in 2018 to reflect the changes to the CDEM Act regarding the way recovery was managed. Group Plans have a 5 year operational period. Under Section 56 of the CDEM Act Groups 'must review' their Group Plan if it is more than 5 years old. A full review is a significant amount of work, including extensive community consultation and hazard identification. This is currently beyond the Group Office's capacity. A quote has been received to carry out a full review by a contractor (Toa Consulting) specialising in CDEM planning.

The report gave Council three options for the proposal (fund a contractor to carry out a full review and rewrite, CDEM Group Office carries out the reviewing and rewriting or delay the review). Members agreed to approve funding a contractor to carry out a full review and rewrite of the Marlborough CDEM Group Plan to the value of \$39,500 (GST exclusive).

Mr Paton is to arrange a briefing with elected members.

Clrs Hope/Innes:

That Council fund a contractor to carry out a full review and rewrite of the Marlborough CDEM Group Plan to the value of \$39,500 (GST exclusive) for the 2023/24 financial year only, with funding from the Forestry and Land Development Reserve.

Carried

Cncl-0323-270 Levels of Service Increases: Wairau River Rating Review

R700-002-01

Mr Coningham advised that the purpose of the report was to request approval to complete a technical review of the Wairau River Rating Scheme and conduct public consultation on potential changes to the Scheme.

In summary Mr Coningham reported that the Wairau River Rating Scheme in general has been in place since 1960. The first review of the rating for this scheme was carried out in 1994, and it is now time to review the rating scheme again to look at including other areas in the rating scheme and the level of service provided currently for those areas. With Climate Change, Marlborough is expected to experience more frequent intense rain events meaning a wider focus on the rivers and drainage network for the Wairau River Rating Scheme is required. A number of areas within the Wairau Plains post the July 2021 and August 2022 flood events have

approached Council wanting to see a higher level of service on flood protection and drainage work carried out in their area.

The report gave Council two options for the proposal (allocate \$200,000 from Reserves for a technical review and consultation or the status quo). Members agreed to allocate \$200,000 from the Forestry and Land Development Reserve to complete the technical review of the Wairau River Rating Scheme and conduct public consultation on potential changes to the Wairau River Rating Scheme.

Cllrs Adams/Hope:

That Council approves the allocation of \$200,000 from the Forestry and Land Development Reserve to complete the technical review of the Wairau River Rating Scheme and conduct public consultation on potential changes to the Wairau River Rating Scheme.

Carried

Cncl-0323-271 Levels of Service Increases: Picton and Renwick Trial Bus Service Review R800-003-003-01

Mr Coningham advised that the purpose of the report was to provide Council with an update on the Renwick and Picton trial bus services and to consider whether to extend, expand or discontinue the contracted trial bus services.

In summary it was reported that during the 2018-28 LTP decision process Council allocated additional gross funding of \$150,000/yr to enable additional bus services to be trialled in the 2018-21 period. Once fare revenue and Waka Kotahi financial assistance of 51% is considered, the net impact on rates is approximately \$66,000 per annum. The trial period for the Renwick and Picton bus services was originally proposed to terminate in June 2021 but was reviewed and extended to 30 June 2023.

Further detail on each trial service was included in the report.

The report gave Council three options for the proposal (cease the Renwick bus service and to formalise the Picton bus service from a trial to a permanent service, continue the existing trial bus services for Renwick and Picton for a further 12 months to June 2024, or discontinue both Renwick and Picton bus services at the end of their trial period of June 2023). Members agreed to cease the Renwick bus service and to formalise the Picton bus service from a trial to a permanent service.

Cllrs Croad/Fauls:

- 1. That Council cease the Renwick bus service on 30 June 2023.**
- 2. That Council move the Picton bus service from a trial to a permanent service with effect from 1 July 2023, at a cost of \$29,000 per annum, with funding from general rates.**

Carried

Cncl-0323-272 Levels of Service Increases: Community Facilities: Playgrounds and Sports Parks Funding R510-021-01

Ms Tito advised that the purposes of the report were to request funding for new development on Council playgrounds, and to request funding for improvements and upgrades to assets on Council playgrounds, parks and sports parks.

In summary it was reported that the proposed projects for funding have been identified either through an Annual Plan submission, as a result of new subdivision development or have been identified by staff. A total of 10 projects totalling \$1,705,160 are proposed that include new developments, asset replacement and improvements. A number of these projects meet the criteria for funding from the Land Subdivision Reserve with some projects to be rates funded, depending on the size of growth component for each project. This leaves a balance of \$3,455,558 in the Land Subdivision Reserve. There will be an additional paper seeking Land Subdivision Reserve funding for projects to the Assets and Services Committee in June 2023.

The report covered in detail Background – Playgrounds, Parks and Sports Parks, Funding, and Next steps.

Cirs Croad/Hope:

1. That Council approve funding for proposed projects totalling \$1,705,160, with an allocation of funding from the Land Subdivision Reserve totalling \$1,437,160 and the balance, \$268,000, to be rates funded as per the following:

Name of park and description of proposed project	Cost	Growth Driven (Percent)	Landsub Reserve	Debt funding
Rose Manor Reserve <i>A new playground in a new subdivision.</i>	\$550,000	100	\$550,000	\$0
Wairau Valley Hall Playground <i>A new playground to meet growth in numbers of children.</i>	\$150,000	100	\$150,000	\$0
Flaxbourne Domain <i>Upgrade to playground with an increased use of playground identified and a growth in number of children.</i>	\$150,000	60	\$90,000	\$60,000
Wither Hills Farms Park <i>Replacement bridge at Sutherland Stream car park entrance. A noted growth in track user numbers.</i>	104,000	50	\$52,000	\$52,000
Lansdowne Park <i>New seal on carpark at Lansdowne Hub with increased user numbers. Improved finish to hub development.</i>	\$181,160	100	\$181,160	\$0
Seddon Domain <i>Resurface for rugby field, with noted increase in number of players.</i>	\$45,000	70	\$31,500	\$13,500
Seddon Domain <i>Resurface to netball courts following damage, netball continues to be a growth sport in Seddon.</i>	\$100,000	50	\$50,000	\$50,000
Renwick Domain <i>Modular pump track to meet growth in users at Domain.</i>	\$75,000	100	\$75,000	\$0
Pollard Park Playground <i>Replace aging equipment to meet growth and changing needs of playground users.</i>	\$150,000	65	\$97,500	\$52,500
Havelock Domain Playground <i>Redevelopment of playground to meet growth in users of area and address health and safety concerns at the Domain.</i>	\$200,000	80	\$160,000	\$40,000
Total			\$1,437,160	\$268,000

2. That Council approve the use of \$268,000 of rate funded debt to fund the non-growth component of the works required to upgrade parks and open spaces assets to meet levels of service, safety and demand requirements.
3. That Council note the rating impact will be \$21,440.

Carried

Cncl-0323-273 Levels of Service Increases: Art Gallery Funding R510-021-01

Mr Fletcher advised that the purpose of the report was to request Council's agreement to change the method of funding Council's \$2.0M grant towards the funding of the new Art Gallery.

In summary it was reported that currently Council's \$2.0M grant towards the construction of the Art Gallery is by means of "Rate Funded Debt". As the need for this project is partially driven by growth, it was proposed by staff that \$1M of this project is funded by the Land Subdivision Account (LSA). This will generate a rate saving of approximately \$80,000, while still leaving a balance of \$2,455,558 in the Land Subdivision Account.

Members discussed the recommendation of staff to fund up to \$1M of the Art Gallery construction cost from the Land Subdivision Account and also the other options detailed in the agenda item. It was agreed that up to \$1.2M (with rates savings of approximately \$96,000) would be funded. This leaves a balance of \$2,255,558 in the Land Subdivision Account.

Cllrs J Arbuckle/Adams:

That Council agree to fund up to \$1.2M of the Art Gallery construction cost grant from the Land Subdivision Account.

Carried

**Cncl-0323-274 Levels of Service Increases: Essential Fresh
Water Building Capability and Capacity for
Catchment Management E360-002-002-02**

Mr Johnson advised that the purpose of the report was to seek budget approval to provide ongoing funding of Catchment Care Services from 2025/26 to meet the Council obligations under the National Policy Statement for Freshwater 2020 (NPSFM) and the Marlborough Environment Plan (PMEP).

In summary it was reported that the Essential Freshwater package National Policy Statement for Freshwater (NPSFM), introduced by central government in 2020, and the Marlborough Environment Plan (PMEP) create additional requirements for the Council in respect of freshwater management and protecting ecosystem health. The NPSFM framework makes it mandatory to develop catchment action plans for degraded catchments and their implementation through a proposed farm planning regime. Council has already invested in a catchment care programme, however the majority of the funding for this programme is currently provided by government. The funding impacts for a continuation of a service if solely funded by Council would require additional Council funding from 2025/26. Council staff will continue to advocate for government assistance for catchment management to help supplement rate funding.

Further detail was included in the report.

Cllrs Faulls/Hope:

That Council agree to include in future years' budgets, funding of \$225,000 for 2025/26, \$300,000 for 2026/27 year and \$450,000 from 2027/28 and subsequent years to implement the statutory requirements under the National Policy Statement for Freshwater (NPSFM) and Marlborough Environment Plan (PMEP) for catchment care services.

Carried

**Cncl-0323-275 Levels of Service Increases: Fixed Term
Increase in Building Control Staff R450-002-B01**

Ms Ferguson advised that the purpose of the report was to provide Council an update on existing and future Building Control service demand as a result of emergency response activity and commencement of the Building (Dam Safety) Regulations 2022 in 2024.

In summary it was reported that increased and ongoing demand on Building Control emergency recovery activities from the 2021 & 2022 flood events required additional resource. The commencement of the Building (Dam Safety) Regulations 2022 will place additional demand on Building Control to implement these regulations. Two fixed term positions were proposed to fill these resource areas for a period of two years. It was proposed to fund these positions from the Forestry and Land Development Reserve, as they are fixed term positions.

The report covered the background in detail along with detail under headings of Emergency Response, Building (Dam Safety) Regulations 2022, Assessment/Analysis and Options.

The report gave Council two options for the proposal (approve two fixed term Building Control Officers funding from the Forestry and Land Development Reserves or the status quo). Members agreed to fund two 2-year fixed term positions from Forestry and Land Development Reserve to a value of up to \$250,000 per annum to support Building Control emergency response and regulatory delivery.

The Mayor/Cllr Innes:

That Council approve the funding of two 2-year fixed term positions from Forestry and Land Development Reserve to a value of up to \$250,000 per annum to support Building Control emergency response and regulatory delivery.

Carried

**Cncl-0323-276 Annual Review of Resource Consent Fees –
Resource Management Act 1991 R450-002-R02**

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to provide Council with the review of fees and charges under the Resource Management Act 1991 (the Act) and consider a proposed increase to the existing fee schedule for charges.

Ms Ferguson advised that the current fees were last increased in July 2022. The current fees have been reviewed and it is recommended that there is a 13.5% increase to the Resource Consent charges for the 2023/2024 financial year. The Marlborough District Council Resource Management Act 1991 - Charging Policy was changed in 2020 to allow for CPI adjustments to Resource Consent Fees and Charges on an annual basis from 1 July each year, increases greater than CPI are required to be consulted on using the special consultative procedure as provided in section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Cirs Croad/Dalliessi:

That Council approve consultation under section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 on the Option A increase (as noted in the agenda as being a 13.5% increase in Resource Consent fees and charges) to the existing fee schedule for charges associated with consent processing activities under Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) effective from 1 July 2023.

Carried

**Cncl-0323-277 Proposed Environmental Health Fees 2023/2024
E350-004-009-02**

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to provide Council with the review of fees and charges under the Food Act 2014 and Health Act 1956 and a proposed schedule of fees and charges for consideration.

Ms Winter reported that Council can set fees under the Food Act 2014 through the special consultative procedure and for Health Act 1956 function by resolution. A review of the current fees and the costs of undertaking the required activities has been undertaken. It was proposed that the fees should increase for the 2023/24 financial year to ensure that the fees recovered for the group's activities align with Council's Revenue and Financing Policy. These fees were last increased in 2022.

Cirs Adams/Minehan:

That Council approve consultation on the proposed schedule of fees and charges, as noted in the agenda report, using the special consultative procedures under s83 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Carried

Clr Faulls declared an interest in the above and did not discuss nor vote on the issue.

**Cncl-0323-278 Revision of Building Control Fees 2023-2024
R450-002-B01**

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to provide Council with the review of fees and charges for Building Control functions and consider an increase and change to the existing "Flat" fees schedule for the 2023/24 year.

Ms Ferguson advised that the current fees were last increased in July 2022. The current fees have been reviewed and it is recommended that there is a 14.1% increase to the Building Control group fees and charges for the 2023/24 financial year. In addition, there is a proposed fee increase for marquee building consent applications (Band D Marquees), fees for minor works are proposed to decrease from \$605 to \$200 (Schedule 1 Exemptions) and fees relating to compliance schedule fees are proposed to increase. The Marlborough District Council Building Control - Charging Policy was changed in 2020 to allow for CPI adjustments to fees and charges on an annual basis from 1 July each year, increases greater than CPI are required to be consulted on using the special consultative procedure as provided in section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Cirs Adams/S Arbuckle:

That Council approve consultation under section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 on the Option A increase (as noted in the agenda as being a 14.1% increase in Building Control fees and charges) to

the existing fee schedule for charges associated with Building Control activities effective from 1 July 2023.

Carried

Cncl-0323-279 Annual Review Resource Consent & Permitted Activity Monitoring Fees & Charges - Resource Management Act 1991 E360-005-007-01

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to provide Council with the review of fees and charges for Monitoring activities under the Resource Management Act 1991 (the RMA) and consider an increase to the existing fees schedule for the 2023/24 year.

Ms Ferguson advised that the current fees were last increased in July 2022 using the CPI. The current fees have been reviewed and it is recommended that there is 13.5% increase to the RMA Monitoring charges for the 2023/24 financial year. The Marlborough District Council Resource Management Act 1991 - Monitoring Charging Policy was changed in 2020 to allow for CPI adjustments to Monitoring Fees and Charges automatically on an annual basis from the 1 July each year. Increases greater than CPI are required to be consulted on using the special consultative procedure as provided in section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Cllrs J Arbuckle/Croad:

That Council approve consultation under section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 on the Option A increase (as noted in the agenda as being a 13.5% increase in Environmental Protection Group fees and charges) to the existing fee schedule for charges associated with RMA monitoring activities effective from the 1 July 2023.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: The meeting adjourned at 12.34 pm and reconvened at 1.18 pm.

Cncl-0323-280 Proposed Amendments to Land Information Memorandum Fees as per Section 44A of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 I100-005-002-03

Ms Young reported that the purposes of the report were to consider an amendment to the existing fee for Land Information Memorandums (LIM); and to propose a new charge for LIM requests that are cancelled part way through processing.

Members noted that a review of LIM fees has been carried out and a proposed fee increase too Residential and Commercial/Rural/Industrial. A new charge will be created for LIMs that are cancelled part way through processing to recover the cost of the work undertaken. It was further noted that LIMs are optional not mandatory.

Ms Young advised that a LIM is a report prepared by Council that provides information in terms of section 44A of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 on matters affecting land and buildings on a particular property. Council processed 387 LIMs in 2021/22. The last fee increase adopted in 2009 when the activity moved to Information Management. The minor fee increases since 2010 indicates a significant increase in efficiency within the activity using electronic systems and streamlining processes.

Cllrs Minehan/S Arbuckle:

That Council agrees to a proposed fee increase and a new charge:

1. **That LIM fees are increased for Residential to \$386.40, and for Commercial/Rural/Industrial to \$668.40.**
2. **That a new charge of \$120 per hour will be incurred for a LIM request that is cancelled part way through processing.**

Carried

Cncl-0323-281 Service Connection Fee Review

W400-007-01

Mr Rooney reported that the purpose of the report was to complete a review of service connection fees.

Mr Rooney advised that a standard Service Connection Fee increase based on the Primary Producer (construction) Index was proposed, with these fees to be charged from 1 July 2023 for the 12 months. A comparison of fees charged, and Council expenditure will be completed for the 2024-34 Long Term Plan. The Proposed Schedule of Service Connection Fees was attached to the Agenda as Attachment 4.24.1.

Cllrs J Arbuckle/Hope:

- 1. That Council agree to increase all services connection fees from 1 July 2023 to meet the actual costs of installation as per Attachment 4.24.1 (as attached to the Agenda).**
- 2. That Council request a comprehensive analysis of the costs to install the services be completed to reset the base line charges for the 2024-34 Long Term Plan.**

Carried

Cncl-0323-282 Waste Fees and Charges

W300-006-008-14

Dr McNeil advised that the purpose of the report was to gain approval to implement the proposed waste fees and charges from 1 July 2023.

In summary it was reported that the annual review of waste fees and charges has been completed. This year will see another significant increase in landfill gate fees predominantly attributable to the changes in the waste disposal levy and aftercare/reserve provisions at the regional landfill site. Contract cost escalations for the transfer stations and the kerbside collections are also contributing factors. Cost recovery for these increases is by increased gate fees, and amendment to the kerbside refuse collection targeted rate.

The report covered the background in detail along with detail under headings of Background/Context, Assessment/Analysis (Waste Sorting Centre (WSC), Other Transfer Stations, Kerbside Refuse Collection, Kerbside Recycling Collection, Grass and Coin Skips), Option and Next Steps.

Cllrs Croad/Dalliessi:

- 1. That Council implements the updated waste fees and charges (as attached to the agenda) with effect from 1 July 2023.**
- 2. That Council recovers all costs associated with an increase in the waste disposal levy, landfill aftercare/reserve provisions, and contract escalations from user pays (gate fee) contributions and an amendment to the kerbside refuse collection targeted rate.**

Carried

At the conclusion of this item, Mr Fletcher advised that following the decisions made at the meeting the provisional rates increase was approximately 7.8%.

Cncl-0323-283 Confirmation of Minutes

-

The Mayor/Cllr Croad:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15 December 2022 (Minute Nos. Cncl-1222-204 to Cncl-1222-214) be taken as read and confirmed.

Carried

Committee Reports

Cncl-0323-284 **Assets & Services Committee** -

Clrs Croad/Rosene:

That the Committee report contained within Minute Nos. A&S-0123-215 to A&S-0123-227 be received and the recommendations adopted.

Carried

Cncl-0323-285 **Adoption of the Marlborough District Council Responsible Camping Control Bylaw 2022**

R510-005-17-09

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to seek Council adoption of the Marlborough District Council Responsible Camping Control Bylaw 2022.

Ms Craighead reported in summary that a report containing recommendations on the final decisions and form of bylaw from the Hearing Panel considering submissions to the Marlborough District Council Responsible Camping Control Bylaw 2022, was considered by the Assets and Services Committee on 31 January 2023. However, adoption of a bylaw was required as a formal resolution of the Council, hence the need for this report.

Clrs Croad/Rosene:

1. That Council adopts the Marlborough District Council Responsible Camping Control Bylaw 2022 (as attached to the Agenda) effective 1 May 2023.
2. That Council acting under a delegation from the Minister of Conservation and pursuant to section 44(1) of the Reserves Act, authorises camping on that part of the following reserves where a bylaw made under the Freedom Camping Act 2011 is in place:
 - Lot 1 DP 366864 – classified as Local Purpose (Picnic Area) Reserve [Alfred Stream Reserve];
 - Section 5 Block XVII Taylor Pass Survey District – classified as Recreation Reserve by Gazette Notice 105187 (Gaz 1981 p2585) [Blairich Recreation Reserve]; and
 - Section 1 Block XV Patriarch Survey District – classified as Recreation Reserve by Gazette Notice 1981 p3732 [Wash Bridge Recreation Reserve].
3. That Council applies for resource consent for the freedom camping sites to be located at Alfred Stream Reserve, Opouri Road [Carluke Domain] and Renwick Dog Park.

Carried

Clr Faulls declared an interest in the above and did not discuss nor vote on the issue.

Cncl-0323-286 **Environment & Planning Committee** -

Clrs Hope/Sowman:

That the Committee report contained within Minute Nos. E&P-0223-228 to E&P-0223-240 be received and the recommendations adopted.

Carried

Cncl-0323-287 **Economic, Finance & Community Committee** -

Clrs J Arbuckle/Croad:

That the Committee report contained within Minute Nos. EFC-0223-241 to EFC-0223-254 be received and the recommendations adopted.

Carried

Cncl-0323-288 Bylaw Decision: Draft East Coast Beach Vehicle Bylaw

L150-019-16

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to release the report 'Recommendations of Commissioners to Marlborough District Council and Submitters in respect of Draft East Coast Beach Vehicle Bylaw 2022' dated 18 July 2022 (filed in CM: Record No. 2341361); to receive feedback letters from; Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu; Te Rūnanga a Rangitāne o Wairau and Te Rūnanga Ngāti Kuia; and to consider the feedback letters and recommendations by the Commissioners as detailed in their Report.

Mr Johnson and Ms Edmonds reported in summary that following the 7.8 magnitude Kaikōura earthquake in November 2016 and the associated coastal uplift of up to 5.5 metres, the public became aware of the increased accessibility of Marlborough's east coast for vehicles. Council subsequently prepared a technical report which identified significant indigenous flora, fauna and other public values which were at risk of being permanently damaged, destroyed or impacted by vehicles. Council decided that a Bylaw was the most appropriate option to address those risks. A Statement of Proposal, including a draft Bylaw, was notified in parallel with a technical report in July 2021. The draft Bylaw was notified for public consultation using the special consultative procedure under the Local Government Act 2002.

The notification period closed on 8 September 2021 and a total of 193 submissions were received. Council delegated recommendatory powers to three Commissioners; Rob Enright (Chair), Ma-rea Clayton and Councillor David Croad who sat as a panel. The first hearing took place from 23 to 25 November 2021. A wide spectrum of outcomes was sought by submitters, ranging from full support to total rejection. Some submitters were open to limits on access, such as spatial, seasonal, or vehicle restrictions. There was a large measure of agreement on the values, but not how to protect those values. At a subsequent hearing held on 3-4 May 2022, the Panel listened to submitters and asked questions of agencies that provided additional information after the first hearing. The Panel finalised their report of recommendations on 18 July 2022 and grouped their recommendations into two stages. Recommendations grouped under Stage One are those that the Panel considers to be within scope of the as-notified draft Bylaw. Recommendations grouped under Stage Two go beyond the scope of the as-notified Bylaw and would require additional formal consultation to be undertaken before being implemented.

Council received the Panel's Report in the public excluded part of a Council meeting in August 2022. At that meeting the Council resolved to accept the as-notified Bylaw with the Stage One recommendations, subject to input from Tangata Whenua and accepted that the Stage Two recommendations would be considered in the first review of the Bylaw. Council has received feedback from Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Te Rūnanga a Rangitāne o Wairau, and Te Rūnanga Ngāti Kuia. There were four options presented in the report for Council to consider based on the Panel's recommendations and feedback from Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Te Rūnanga a Rangitāne o Wairau, and Te Rūnanga Ngāti Kuia.

Those four options were Option One – approve the as-notified Bylaw and the Panel's Stage One and Stage Two recommendations; Option Two – approve the as-notified Bylaw and the Panel's Stage One recommendations and defer the Stage Two recommendations to a review; Option Three – approve the as-notified Bylaw; and Option Four – do nothing and not make a Bylaw. The report covered those options in depth. Members discussed the options available, as well as posing various questions to staff.

Cllrs J Arbuckle/Hope:

- 1. That Council adopts the Marlborough District Council East Coast Beach Vehicle Bylaw 2022 (as attached to the agenda as Attachment 7.6 – named "Bylaw as Notified with Stage One Recommendations") effective from 1 July 2023 and that a review of the "Yellow Zone", including hours of operation, be undertaken in 2026.**
- 2. That Council releases the report 'Recommendations of Commissioners to Marlborough District Council and Submitters in respect of Draft East Coast Beach Vehicle Bylaw 2022' dated 18 July 2022.**
- 3. That Council receives feedback letters from Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Te Rūnanga a Rangitāne o Wairau and Te Rūnanga Ngāti Kuia.**
- 4. That Council considers the Stage 1 recommendations in the Panel's Report and feedback from Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu; Te Rūnanga a Rangitāne o Wairau, and Te Rūnanga Ngāti Kuia.**

Carried

NB: Cllrs Burgess, Minehan and Rosene requested that their vote against the above motion be recorded.

Cncl-0323-289 Approval of Delegations Register from Chief Executive & Council to Council Officers

L150-016-38-01

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to approve the sub-delegations from the Chief Executive and direct delegations from Council to Officers as contained in the Marlborough District Council's Delegations Register.

Ms Mavi and Mr Foitzik reported that the Delegations Register combines and lists all delegations from the Chief Executive to staff in one document, including adopted Terms of Reference (ToRs) for all of Council committees and sub-committees and all statutory delegations from Council directly to Council staff/ officers. The respective delegations in the Delegations Register have been reviewed and confirmed by each Council business unit. The Delegations Register is intended to be a living document and form part of the legal compliance program. Legal Services will regularly review and update as and when required, for instance in the event of legislative changes. After each triennial election, the new Council will also be asked to approve the Delegations Register. The Delegations Register was separately attached to the agenda (filed in CM: Record No. 2341684).

Cllrs Croad/Dalliessi:

That Council approve the sub-delegations from the Chief Executive and direct delegations from Council to Officers as contained in the Marlborough District Council's Delegations Register.

Carried

Cncl-0323-290 Iwi Representation on Council's Standing Committees

D050-006-05

Ms Adams advised that the purpose of the report was to seek Council's approval to proceed with recruitment for the Iwi Representative positions for the Council's three Standing Committees.

In summary Ms Adams reported that iwi representation on Council Committees has long been offered at Marlborough District Council (33 years), however, the positions on committees have not been filled consistently. Council was informed at a briefing in December 2022 of the intention to fill the current vacant seats for iwi representation on its Standing Committees and the recruitment process that is favourable to do so. Investigation into remuneration and job descriptions has occurred, taking into consideration the request for consistency from Te Tauihu iwi Chairs collective. Ngāti Kuri (as not included in Te Tauihu collective) have also been notified of our intention to fill the positions on Council standing committees.

The Mayor/Cllr Croad:

- 1. That the report be received.**
- 2. That the Council receives the iwi representatives for Council Standing Committees and:**
 - a. Approves the draft position descriptions as per Attachment 9.1 (as attached to the agenda); and**
 - b. Approves the proposed remuneration of \$12,840 per annum per appointment (for iwi and rural representatives on Standing Committees); and**
 - c. Requests staff to proceed with recruitment for the Iwi Representatives roles; and**
 - d. Notes the Mayor will appoint individuals to the position based on recommendation from the iwi Trusts.**

Carried

Cncl-0323-291 Decision to Conduct Business with the Public Excluded

Cllrs J Arbuckle/Burgess:

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

- Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes**

- Committee Reports (Public Excluded Sections)
- Trade Waste Charges Review 2022
- Grants Sub-committee Community Representation
- Community Events Fund

The general subject 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(1) 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(1) for the passing of this resolution
Minutes and Committee Reports	As set out in the Minutes	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under Section 7 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.
Trade Waste Charges Review 2022	To protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information, as provided for under Section 7(2)(b)(ii).	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under Section 7 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.
Grants Sub-committee Community Representation	In order to protect the privacy of natural persons, as provided for under Section 7(2)(a).	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under Section 7 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.
Community Events Fund	To enable the Council, as holder of the information, to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations provided for under Section 7(2)(i)	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under Section 7 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Carried

The meeting closed with a karakia at 3.57 pm.

Confirmed this 6th day of April 2023

N P TAYLOR
MAYOR

Record No. 2359896

5. Committee Reports

5.1 Environment & Planning Committee

Environment & Planning Committee Meeting held on 9 March 2023
(Minute Nos. E&P-0323-292 to E&P-0323-303)



**Minutes of a Meeting of the
ENVIRONMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE
held in the Council Chambers, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim on
THURSDAY, 9 MARCH 2023 commencing at 9.00 am**

Present

Cls G A Hope (Chairperson), B A Fauls (Deputy), J A Arbuckle, A R Burgess, B J Minehan, Mayor N P Taylor and Mr S Harvey (Rural Representative)

Present via Teams

Clr R J Innes

Also Present

Clr J D N Croad

In Attendance

Mr H R Versteegh (Environmental Science and Policy Group Manager) and Nicole Chauval (Committee Secretary)

Apologies

Cls Hope/J A Arbuckle:

That the apology for absence from Clr T P Sowman be received and sustained and the apology for non-attendance from Clrs S R W Adams and S J Arbuckle be noted.

Carried

E&P-0323-292 Declaration of Interests -

No interests with items on the agenda were declared.

ATTENDANCE: Alan Johnson, Council's Environmental Science and Monitoring Manager, Mike Ede, Council's Team Leader Environmental Monitoring, Peter Hamill, Council's Team Leader Land & Water, Peter Davidson, Council's Environmental Scientist – Groundwater, Charlotte Tomlinson, Council's Hydrologist were present for the following item and Jono Underwood, Council's Biosecurity Manager was present for the following two items.

E&P-0323-293 Environmental Science and Monitoring Group
E360-000-002

Mr Johnson noted that the purpose of the report was to provide an overview of the Environmental Science and Monitoring Group (ESMG) functions, key areas of responsibility and challenges.

To highlight the report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 2358328). Each member of the team had a section within the presentation highlighting their areas and some of the challenges and pressures they face.

Members were advised that the ESGM deliver a range of statutory based functions pursuant to the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan, the Regional Pest Management Plan, including a number of national directives under the Resource Management Act 1991 and Biosecurity Act 1993.

The core activities of the ESGM focus on state of the environment monitoring, reporting, investigations and collection of environmental data. In addition, the ESGM delivers several environmental programmes that

provide for both economic, and social wellbeing of the community and help protect and restore the natural environment.

It was reported that the collection of high-quality environmental data managed over the long term is a prerequisite to sound decision making for policy development, hazard management and achieving a range of community outcomes including resource consent requirements.

The ESMG works in an integrated way within Council and also works collaboratively with various stakeholders in the community.

At the end of the presentation Alan Johnson acknowledged Rachel Russell, Council's Te Hoiere Programme Manager, and her team, who were present in the public gallery, noting that they hadn't presented today as they had presented at the previous Committee meeting.

Members asked a number of questions at the meeting.

Cirs Hope/Faults:
That the information be received.

Carried

Postscript: The ESMG presentation was emailed to Councillors following the Committee meeting.

ATTENDANCE: Brent Holmes, Council's Senior Biosecurity Officer and Liam Falconer, Council's Senior Biosecurity Officer were present for the following item.

E&P-0323-294 Key Species-led Programme Updates
E315-003-009-01, E315-003-019-01, E315-003-021-01

Jono Underwood, Council's Biosecurity Manager, noted that the purpose of the report was to provide the Committee with an update on three of the larger pest-led programmes being implemented by the Biosecurity Team. To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 2358323).

It was reported that three of the larger pest-led programmes are those managing the threats from the invasive pest plants Chilean needle grass and nassella tussock, and the invasive marine pest Mediterranean fanworm. These three programmes consume a large portion of both Biosecurity staff time and operating budget but the investment is proportionate to the threat posed by these key invasive species to Marlborough.

Mr Holmes advised that over 600 properties in Marlborough have infestations of nassella tussock to varying degrees and of these properties, approx. 385 have more than a low-level infestation and are managed through an active inspection regime. It was noted that biosecurity staff carry out an annual transect monitoring programme to assess the long-term trends of nassella tussock density at a regional scale and MDC continues to support research into the viability of biocontrol agents for nassella tussock.

It was noted that although the average numbers are moving downwards, the monitoring programme needs to be running for at least 10 years before trends of the annual estimates can be determined.

Mr Falconer provided an update on the invasive species fanworm noting that dive surveillance across main vessel hubs occurs twice a year and targeted dives are undertaken when high risk vessels arrive. All incursions to date have been controlled and no active sites remain. It was noted that the combination of rapid response efforts by the Biosecurity Team, ongoing surveillance, and working with key local partners such as Marlborough Marinas ensures the invasive marine pest does not establish in Marlborough waters.

Mr Falconer advised that there are currently 209 properties affected with Chilean needle grass. The Biosecurity Team, and a number of local contractor resources have been delivering on-ground search and destroy works over the key seeding season to support occupiers' year-round efforts. These additional inputs are aimed at either intervening early for any new infestations or putting as much pressure as possible on the more lightly infested properties. For the more moderate to heavily infested properties, Council continues to support those occupiers with the likes of pasture renovations and also carrying out compliance checks of boundaries to support neighbouring control efforts.

Cirs Hope/J A Arbuckle:
That the information be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: The meeting adjourned at 10.46 am and resumed at 11.01 am

ATTENDANCE: Mr Peter Davidson, Council's Environmental Scientist – Groundwater Quantity & Quality and Matt Oliver, Environmental Scientist – Land was present for the following item.

E&P-0323-295 Wairau Plain Land-Use Intensification Modelling E345-007-001

Mr Davidson advised that the purpose of the report was to present the Wairau Plain nitrate-nitrogen predictor tool and forecasts of nitrate-nitrogen concentrations leached to groundwater for potential future crop types. To highlight this report the Groundwater Impacts Model for the Wairau Plains was shown and variations were demonstrated (excel spreadsheet filed in CM Record No. 2358321).

Members were advised that currently, rural areas of the Wairau Plain are predominantly used for growing grapes and nitrate nitrogen levels in groundwater are low, especially north of Rapaura Road due to the diluting effects of transmissive aquifer flows. It was noted that groundwater underlying land southwards to New Renwick Road contain increasing levels of nitrate nitrogen which in certain seasons and sites can exceed the surface water limit in the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan (PMEP).

Mr Davidson advised that the model predicted that if current Wairau Plain vineyards were replaced with market gardening, pip fruit or dairying, groundwater nitrate-nitrogen concentrations would exceed the annual maximum limit in the PMEP.

Cirs Hope/J A Arbuckle:
That the information be received.

Carried

The Chair advised that Item 6 – Variation 7 to the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan – Significant Wetlands, Item 7 – Variation 8 to the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan – Rezoning Open Space and Item 8 - Variation 9 to Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan - Notable Trees would be considered together.

ATTENDANCE: Ms Louise Walker, Council's Strategic Planner, was present for the following three items.

E&P-0323-296 Variation 7 to the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan – Significant Wetlands M100-11-13

Ms Walker noted that the purpose of the report was to seek approval for the preparation and consultation for the three variations to the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan (PMEP):

Variation 7 - to include new significant wetlands, remove other wetlands and make boundary adjustments to existing sites, giving effect to Council's Biodiversity Criteria for Significance.

Variation 8 - to rezone Council reserves as required to ensure the appropriate management of activities undertaken at those sites and to consider the appropriateness of zoning at one location in East Bay.

Variation 9 - to consider the inclusion of new notable trees, the removal of two trees that may no longer meet the threshold and to amend the location of others that may be incorrectly mapped. In addition, the variation would consider whether the policy cascade (objective through to rules) for the maintenance of notable trees is achieving the purpose for which they have been drafted. Approve the preparation and consultation on a variation to the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan to consider:

- the inclusion of new notable trees;
- the removal of two trees that may no longer meet the threshold and to
- amending the location of trees that may be incorrectly mapped.
- whether the policy cascade (objective through to rules) for the maintenance of notable trees is achieving the purpose for which they have been drafted.

It was noted that the preparation of the variations will involve consultation with relevant parties, including landowners, tangata whenua, and ministers of the Crown who may be affected.

Members were advised that an evaluation report pursuant to Section 32 of the RMA will be drafted and that document along with the final version of the proposed variations will be brought back to the Environment and Planning Committee for approval to progress to public notification in due course.

Cllrs Fauls/Burgess:

That Council approve the preparation of, and consultation on, a variation to the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan to include new significant wetlands and to remove or make boundary adjustments to existing significant wetlands.

Carried

E&P-0323-297 Variation 8 to the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan – Rezoning Open Space

M100-11-10

Cllrs J A Arbuckle/Minehan:

That Council approve the preparation and consultation for a variation to the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan (PMEP) to rezone Council reserves as required to ensure the appropriate management of activities undertaken at those sites and to consider the appropriateness of zoning at one location in East Bay.

Carried

E&P-0323-298 Variation 9 to the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan – Notable Trees

M100-11-10

In response to a query on Recommendation 4 Ms Walker confirmed that consultation was being undertaken on whether a resource consent for minor maintenance was necessary. A resource consent would still be required for the removal of a notable tree.

Members were advised that the variations will be publicly notified and those residents close to the trees will be contacted directly.

Cllrs Fauls/Mr S Harvey:

That Council approve the preparation and consultation on a variation to the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan to consider:

1. the inclusion of new notable trees;
2. the removal of two trees that may no longer meet the threshold and to
3. amending the location of trees that may be incorrectly mapped.
4. whether the policy cascade (objective through to rules) for the maintenance of notable trees is achieving the purpose for which they have been drafted.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Ms Kim Lawson, Council's Strategic Planner, was present for the following two items.

**E&P-0323-299 Submission on Natural and Built Environment
Bill and Spatial Planning Bill L150-019-R04**

Ms Lawson noted that the purpose of the report was to inform the Committee on Marlborough District Council's submission to the Select Committee on the Natural and Built Environment Bill (NBE Bill) and Spatial Planning Bill (SP Bill).

Members were advised that the Council had prepared a submission on the NBE Bill and SP Bill. The sub-committee of the Environmental and Planning Committee approved the submission, and Council filed the submission on 3 February 2023.

The Council provided an oral submission to the Select Committee on Wednesday, 1 March 2023 where the Mayor presented three key points of the Council submission. Details of the key areas of importance to Marlborough were detailed in the agenda item.

Ms Lawson advised that the submission to the Select Committee can be viewed on Parliament's website via the following links - https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/submissions-and-advice/document/53SCEN_EVI_129831_EN13210/marlborough-district-council

https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/submissions-and-advice/document/53SCEN_EVI_129832_EN13206/marlborough-district-council

Oral submissions can also be viewed but are only available on the Environment Committee's facebook page, scroll down to view, MDC presented to Environment Subcommittee B on 1 March: <https://www.facebook.com/environmentSCNZ/>

**The Mayor/Clr Minehan:
That the submission on the NBE Bill and SP Bill be received.**

Carried

E&P-0323-300 EDS Legal Proceedings – NES-PF M150-018-43

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to inform the Committee of the legal proceedings filed by the Environmental Defence Society (EDS) and served on the Council.

Ms Lawson advised that EDS has sought declarations in the Environment Court that the National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry (NES-PF) breach the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) for permitting harvesting (and related earthworks) in high erosion risk areas of the Marlborough Sounds. EDS has served the proceedings on the Council, and other parties.

Members were advised that Council has instructed a barrister to assist and represent it in these proceedings and the Council has filed its intention to appear in opposition to the relief sought.

**Clrs J A Arbuckle/Hope:
That the information be received.**

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Mr Jamie Sigmund, Council's Strategic Planner, Implementation & Review, was present for the following item.

**E&P-0323-301 Regional Sea Level Rise Modelling
I100-004-P267, E320-003-001**

Mr Sigmund noted that the purpose of the report was to provide Council with information on the initiation of region wide Sea Level Rise modelling.

Mr Sigmund reported that the National Institute of Water and Atmosphere (NIWA) has been engaged to undertake 'first pass' Sea Level Rise (SLR) inundation modelling for the region. The SLR modelling will use the latest national sea level rise projections, vertical land movement data, and recently updated national SLR guidance material (MfE, August 2022).

It was noted that the project is a specific action within the MDC Climate Change Action Plan 2020 (2. (b)).

Members were advised that the guidance material outlines a ten-step decision making cycle (DAPP) for managing the implications of 'Climate Change' and the potential impacts of SLR. The guidance material focuses on three main types of coastal hazards that are exacerbated by climate change - Coastal erosion; Coastal inundation, or gradual persistent inundation from high tides due to sea-level rise and rising groundwater and salinisation in coastal lowlands caused by sea-level rise.

The Mayor provided members with additional background information noting the planning undertaken by the previous Council by way of a Climate Action Plan being established. It was noted that there are various strands of work currently underway and noted that it is important that this work be communicated out to the community.

It was noted that this 'project' integrates with Climate Change policies, objectives, and methods that have already been actively developed with the community as part of the proposed Marlborough Environment Plan (PMEP). All appeals on the 'Climate Change' Topic, Issues, Objectives, Policy, and Methods have now been resolved. This is an important factor as having the MEP framework beyond challenge means that we have a strong connection to several strategic elements of the MfE DAPP process and the 10-step decision making cycle.

Budyong Hill, Climate Karanga Marlborough, was present in Chambers and was invited by the Chair to speak to members. Mr Hill congratulated the Hearing Panel for their work on the PMEP Chapter 19 Climate Change noting initially it was underwhelming but what we have ended up with is considerably better.

The Mayor/Clr Faults:

- 1. That the information be received.**
- 2. That upon completion of the 'first pass' SLR modelling that modelling results, and future considerations are reported back to Council.**

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Ms Sue Bulfield-Johnston, Council's administrator and Hearing Facilitator, Advocacy and Practice Integration, was present for the following item.

E&P-0323-302 Resource Consent Hearings Update R450-004-22

The report to the Committee provided a rolling summary of hearings scheduled and completed for applications for resource consent.

It was noted that eight hearings have been completed in the year commencing 1 July 2022. Decisions have been issued for all but one of the applications. A table listing the hearings was attached to the agenda item for members' information.

Three hearings have been scheduled through to May 2023 and one request for a hearing has been received.

Ms Bulfield-Johnston noted a hearing date has now been set for the Marberry Estate Ltd. The hearing will be scheduled for one and a half days commencing with a site visit on the morning of 27 April and hearing to commence that afternoon.

Ms Bulfield-Johnston further advised that for the combined hearing of DKNZ Enterprises Ltd and AB & DM Fitzpatrick two submitters were scheduled to be heard, both have withdrawn their submissions and whether a hearing is now required is to be resolved.

Cllrs J A Arbuckle/Fauls:
That the report be received.

Carried

E&P-0323-303 Information Package

Cllrs Hope/Minehan:
That the Regulatory Department Information Package dated be received and noted.

Carried

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.58 am

Record No: 2359302

5. Committee Reports

5.2 Economic, Finance & Community Committee

Economic, Finance & Community Committee Meeting held on 21 March 2023
(Minute Nos. EFC-0323-304 to EFC-0323-320)



**Report and Minutes of a Meeting of the
ECONOMIC, FINANCE & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
held in the Council Chambers, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim
on TUESDAY 21 MARCH 2023 commencing at 9.00 am**

Present

Cirs J A Arbuckle (Chairperson), B G Dawson (Deputy), S R W Adams, S J Arbuckle, A R Burgess (from 9.11 am), J D N Croad, D A Dalliessi, R J Innes, B A Faulls, G A Hope (from 9.04 am), B J Minehan, J C Rosene, T P Sowman and Mayor Nadine Taylor

In Attendance

Mr M F Fletcher (Chief Financial Officer), Mr D G Heiford (Manager, Economic, Community & Support Services) (remotely) and Ms N Chauval (Committee Secretary)

Apologies

Cirs Croad/J A Arbuckle:

That the apology for absence from Clr M R K Flight be received and sustained and the apologies from Clr A R Burgess for lateness and Mayor Taylor and Clr B G Dawson for withdrawing from the meeting early be noted.

Carried

EFC-0323-304 Declaration of Interests

Clr B G Dawson declared an interest in Item 4 – Business Trust Marlborough Six Month Report 2022/23 and Public Excluded Item 1 – Marlborough Tech & Innovation Hub.

Clr D A Dalliessi declared an interest in Item 7 – Welcoming Communities Advisory Board – Appointment of Council Representative.

Clr S J Arbuckle declared an interest in Item 10 – Review of Director Fees.

Cirs J D N Croad, J A Arbuckle and Mayor Taylor declared an interest in Item 10 – Review of Directors Fees and Item 12 – MDC Holdings Limited – 2023-24 Statement of Intent.

ATTENDANCE: The Mayor withdrew from the meeting at 9.34 am during the following item.

ATTENDANCE: Nick Brunson, Infometrics, and Neil Henry, Council's Manager, Strategic Planning & Economic Development were present for the following item.

EFC-0323-305 Infometrics Marlborough Annual Economic Profile

E100-007-01

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to receive a presentation from Infometrics on the latest Marlborough economic data, covering the 2023 Economic Profile and the most recent quarterly results. A two page summary of the annual report was attached to the agenda item for members' information.

It was noted that Council contracts Infometrics Ltd to provide a detailed annual economic profile on Marlborough district, and quarterly economic reports. These reports are made available via the Council website.

The annual and latest quarterly reports can be found here: <https://www.marlborough.govt.nz/about-marlborough/infometrics-economic-and-community-data>

To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown and can be viewed via the following link: https://www.marlborough.govt.nz/Infometrics_Marlborough_Slide_Deck-21-03-23.pdf

Members asked a number of questions and indicated their appreciation for the detailed information presented.

Clrs Croad/J A Arbuckle:
That the information be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Mr Brian Dawson, Manager Business Trust Marlborough, and Aaron Marshall, Chair Business Trust Marlborough were present for the following item.

EFC-0323-306 Business Trust Marlborough Six Month Report
2022/23 **E100-005-007-02**

Brian Dawson presented the Business Trust Marlborough's six monthly report. The report detailed the activities of the Business Trust Marlborough in the financial year of 2022/23 and was attached to the agenda item for members' information. To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 2360660).

Mr Dawson acknowledged the presence of Beth Barnes, Deputy Chair Business Trust Marlborough who was seated in the public gallery.

Members were advised that the Trust's performance against agreed KPI's for the 8 months is on track for achieving or exceeding by year end.

Members asked a number of questions covering what engagement looks like and start-up weekends. It was noted that Council provides the Trust with a \$50k annual grant and has approved that this be CPI indexed.

Clrs J A Arbuckle/Dalliessi:
That the report be received.

Carried

NB: The order of the agenda was altered at this point and the following Item 10 and Item 12 were heard ahead of Item 5.

NB: Clr J A Arbuckle declared an interest in the following two items - Review of Director Fees and MDC Holdings Limited – 2023-24 Statement of Intent, Clr Dawson assumed the chair.

EFC-0323-307 Review of Director Fees **S400-004-012-22**

Council's Chief Financial Officer, Martin Fletcher noted that the purpose of the report was to consider the MDC Holdings Ltd's Directors Fees recommendation from its 2022 Annual General Meeting which is to increase the directors' fees for MDC Holdings Ltd and to continue the process adopted by the Council of the annual adjustment of Directors Fees.

Members were advised that the proposed Directors Fees will also cover Marlborough Airport Ltd.

Clrs Dawson/Hope:
That Council:

1. **Agree to increase the Directors Fees for MDC Holdings Ltd to;**
 - (a) **Director \$12,500; and**
 - (b) **Chair \$25,000;**
2. **Note that proposed Directors Fees also cover Marlborough Airport Ltd; and**
3. **Agree to continue the process adopted by Council on 20 September 2016 for the annual adjustment of Directors Fees.**

Carried

NB: Clrs Croad, J A Arbuckle (The Chair) and Mayor Taylor declared an interest in the above Review of Director Fees and did not take part in discussions nor vote on the issue.

ATTENDANCE: Mr Adrian Ferris, Council's Corporate Accountant, was present for the following item.

EFC-0323-308 MDC Holdings Limited – 2023-24 Statement of Intent S400-004-010-23

Council's, Chief Financial Officer, Martin Fletcher and Adrian Ferris, Council's Corporate Accountant presented the MDC Holdings Limited (MDCH) 2023/24 Statement of Corporate Intent (SOI) to members. The SOI was included with the agenda for members' information.

Members were advised that schedule 8 Local Government Act 2002, requires MDCH to deliver to Council a completed SOI by 30 June of each year for the next year (year ending 30 June 2024) and two subsequent years.

Members were advised that the 2023/24 draft SOI is consistent with the 2022/23 SOI. It was noted that the significant points are that the targets for Port Marlborough NZ Limited (PML) have been based on its 2022-23 SCI. The statutory timing for preparing Port Company SCI's is 31 July for the draft and 30 September for the final document, which is some seven months after MDCH is required to submit a draft SOI to Council.

Mr Fletcher advised that if the PML 2023-24 SCI is significantly different, MDCH will present an amended SOI to Council. Performance measures of the Subsidiaries have now all been aligned under People, Planet, Prosperity, and Partnerships and Group Performance targets are now included.

**Cllrs Dawson/Rosene:
That Council approves the Draft 2023-24 Statement of Intent for MDC Holdings Limited.**

Carried

NB: Cllrs Croad, J A Arbuckle and Mayor Taylor declared an interest in the above MDC Holdings Limited 2023-24 Statement and did not take part in discussions nor vote on the issue.

ATTENDANCE: Cllr Dawson withdrew from the meeting at 10.12 am during the following item.

ATTENDANCE: Mr Peter Coldwell, Chief Executive, and Alistair Schorn, Business Advisor, Marlborough Chamber of Commerce, were present for the following item.

EFC-0323-309 Marlborough Business Confidence Survey E100-010-01

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to provide details of the recent Marlborough Business Confidence survey undertaken in conjunction with Marlborough Chamber of Commerce in late 2022. To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 2360659).

The survey provided a picture of recent, past and future thinking as an indicator of economic health in the region. 233 responses were received with high participation rates by larger businesses.

It was noted that feedback will be provided to the respondents, Chamber members news coverage – Marlborough Express etc, inputs to RSLG and Smart+Connected Groups etc.

**Cllrs Croad/Adams:
That the information be received.**

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Ms Dorien Vermaas, Council's Economic Portfolio Manager, attending remotely and Mark Unwin, Economic Development Programmes Manager, was present in the room for the following item.

EFC-0323-310 Economic Development Update E100-010-01

Ms Vermaas advised that the purpose of the report was to provide an update on the activities of Council's Economic Development team between December and March. To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 2360652).

As part of the presentation topics covered was Refresh Brand Marlborough, a collaboration with Destination Marlborough on telling the Marlborough Story together. Members requested that prior to the brand being finalised for release it be presented to Councillors.

During discussion it was noted that engaging with the industry itself is important to ensure they are brought along with the Marlborough Story. The current situation in the Marlborough Sounds regarding the lack of access, in particular for farmers, was noted and it was raised whether there is an opportunity to create a specific sub brand around the Sounds. It was agreed that this be a topic of discussion for a workshop.

It was reported that Screen Marlborough received 4 enquires – 1 local, 2 national TV and 1 international. Have finished the Marlborough Film Permitting Guide, this was achieved in collaboration with DOC and iwi. Finished the website for the sawmill studios www.sawmillstudios.co.nz and have finished the Marlborough/Nelson pages in the 'Lookbook' Aotearoa New Zealand locations.

In respect of agritech and innovation, a presentation was made to four Central Government Industry Transformation Plan (ITP) managers on the Marlborough Economic Wellbeing strategy. This highlighted what Marlborough's economy consists of, what we need and what is wanted from Central Govt.

Members were advised the Marlborough Tech week is running from 13 – 20 May. An invitation to the CEO Agritech NZ to visit as part of Tech Week has been sent.

Members were advised that an outcome of conversations with all food stakeholders is a digital project for Marlborough food producers that will provide assistance in increasing visibility, resilience and identifying distribution channels.

It was noted that Marlborough will be hosting a trade show for Marlborough food producers and trade buyers from across New Zealand will be invited to attend. Talks have been happening with Nelson and Tasman regarding a possible Trade Show for the wider top of the south.

In response to a query on what other funding is being applied for, Ms Vermaas advised that ED team have an account manager in Kanoa who provides guidance to Council on other funding opportunities in Central Government and the team continually seek other funding opportunities where possible.

Members were advised that there are a number of KPIs for the Economic Development team and it was suggested that consideration be given to including information on the KPIs in future reports.

**Clrs J A Arbuckle/Croad:
That the information be received.**

Carried

ATTENDANCE: The meeting adjourned at 10.53 am and resumed at 11.07 am

**EFC-0323-311 Welcoming Communities Advisory Board –
Appointment of Council Representative C150-002-028-01**

The report seeking Council approval for the appointment of Clr Dalliessi as the Council representative on the Welcoming Communities Advisory Board was presented.

Cirs Rosene/Croad:
That Council approve Councillor Dalliessi as the Council representative on the Welcoming Communities Advisory Board.

Carried

NB: Clr Dalliessi declared an interest in the above Welcoming Communities Advisory Board – Appointment of Council Representative and did not take part in discussions nor vote on the issue.

EFC-0323-312 Small Townships Programme Sub-Committee
D050-001-S03

The Minutes of the Small Townships Programme Sub-Committee meeting held on 23 February 2023 were attached for ratification by the Committee.

Cirs Faulls/Minehan:
That the Minutes of the Small Townships Programme Sub-Committee meeting held on 23 February 2023 be ratified.

Carried

NB: The Chair noted that the following item had been included on the agenda as the Assets & Services meeting scheduled for 7 March 2023 had been cancelled.

ATTENDANCE: Mr Geoff Dick, Council's Senior Rivers Technical Engineer, was present for the following item.

EFC-0323-313 July and August 2022 – Flood Damage Repairs
Estimate and Repair Progress Update
L150-026-01-01

Council's Senior Rivers Technical Engineer, Mr Geoff Dick noted that the purpose of the report was to provide Council with an estimate of repair costs for flood damages incurred during the July and August 2022 flood events, including initial emergency response and provide a brief update on repair works completed or underway. To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 2360651).

Attached to the report was the July, August 2022 Flood Damage Estimate for members' information.

Mr Dick advised that the flooding impacts from the August storm caused additional flood damage to Wairau Scheme assets, along managed tributaries and along river frontages for many farms and private properties. There has been a large number of calls by landowners for recovery advice and assistance where appropriate.

It was noted that assessment of additional necessary repairs to Wairau Scheme assets plus any additional work recommended in Wairau Scheme tributaries plus outlying areas is now considered complete. The schedule was attached to the agenda item. Mr Dick advised that in addition a programme of follow up capital works is recommended for future consideration to further reduce the risk of similar flooding in identified hazard areas.

Mr Dick advised that Council has applied for Government assistance for capital upgrades for the next three years of 60%, approximately \$16M, Council's 40% share is budgeted for in the LTP.

The areas where capital upgrades are considered appropriate or worthy of further investigation to reduce the risk of future flooding in known hazard areas were detailed in the agenda item. It was reported that most of these upgrade projects will require further Council consideration and/or budget included in the next LTP to address. It was noted that Andersons Floodway and the Rarangi Road drainage upgrades will also need to be addressed as part of the Wairau scheme rates review.

Cirs Croad/Adams:

1. That the report be received.
2. That Rivers staff be authorised to continue with the July/August 2022 flood damage repairs as per the schedule attached to this report.
3. That the Committee notes the seven areas for potential capital upgrades. Given the community interest in all these upgrades further reports to the Assets & Services committee are proposed as options, costs and community input information becomes available.

Carried

EFC-0323-314 Sale of Assets Proceeds Policy

F225-000-01

Mr Fletcher noted that the purpose of the report was to present an order of preference for the use of proceeds from Asset Sales including Carbon Credits.

It was noted that from time to time Council looks to sell assets. The paper presented did not cover when a particular asset should be sold as the motivations for sale are generally asset specific. It was noted that there is a strategy in place for the sale of buildings.

The following five options were presented to members.

- a) If the asset was purchased from a particular Reserve, credit that Reserve.
- b) Reinvest in income generating assets.
- c) Reinvest in public good assets.
- d) Repay debt.
- e) Use the proceeds to reduce rates.

Members were advised that the use of asset sales proceeds for a one-off reduction in rates is not recommended.

Cirs J A Arbuckle/Hope:

That Council:

1. **Agree the following order of priority for the use of funds generated following the sale of Council assets as:**
 - (c) **Repay the relevant Reserve if the initial purchase was funded from that Reserve.**
 - (d) **Reinvest the funds in a suitable income generating asset.**
 - (e) **Reinvest in a public good asset.**
 - (f) **Repay debt.**
2. **Note that asset sales proceeds, if used to reduce rates in any one year, will have a significant negative impact on the following year's rates.**

Carried

EFC-0323-315 Marlborough District Libraries Activity Report – February 2023

L300-018-001-02

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to provide an update to the Committee on the operations of the library service.

The information contained within the report was noted and Clr Rosene drew members' attention to the Marlborough District Libraries being recognised as Working to be Dementia Friendly, with Picton Library and Service Centre being the first Library in New Zealand to be recognised in this way.

It was noted that every two years revalidation is required. The Picton Librarian has collected evidence of Picton's continued relationship with Marlborough Alzheimers and has submitted an application for renewal.

It was noted the list of overdue Building Consents is increasing as building projects are not being started due to the unavailability of materials and builders.

There are a number of invoices relating to the Resource Consent Annual Monitoring fees outstanding and emails have been sent requesting payment.

The Property Leases and Licences Debtors Report as of 28 February 2023 was attached to the agenda for Councillors' information.

Cllrs Croad /Adams:
That the information be received.

Carried

EFC-0323-318 Rates Report as at 28 February 2023 F270-36-21

Mr Fletcher advised that the purpose of the report was to advise the Council of the rates position as at 28 February 2023.

Members were advised on the current rating year arrears. It was noted 59.12% of the 2022-2023 rates have been collected which is a slight increase on the same period last year, which was 58.20%.

The third instalment of 2022-2023 rates is due for payment on 8 March and of the 1,534 properties that incurred a penalty on their 2022-2023 quarter 2 instalment, which was due for payment by 8 December, 168 accounts are still behind. This is an increase from the same period last year from 1,055 properties incurring a penalty with only 80 accounts behind. This is not unexpected, considering the current financial climate and the increased cost of living.

Members were advised that follow up work continues with these properties to contact the ratepayers re overdue rates and the Rates Team are continuously working with ratepayers to find mutually agreeable repayment plans to help them manage their rates payments.

It was noted that since 1 July 2022 34 Energy Efficiency Loan Rates applications have been approved for energy efficiency funding. These figures are less than the 64 applications received at the same time last financial year.

Cllrs J A Arbuckle/Rosene:
That the information be received.

Carried

EFC-0323-319 Information Package -

Cllrs J A Arbuckle/Rosene:
That the Assets & Services Information Package originally scheduled for the 9 March 2023 meeting (cancelled) be received and noted.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Cllr Dawson rejoined the meeting at the 12.00 pm during the following item.

EFC-0323-320 Decision to Conduct Business with the Public Excluded

Cllrs J A Arbuckle/Innes:

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

- Debtors
- Marlborough Tech & Innovation Hub
- Land Acquisition

The general subject 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(1) 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(1) for the passing of this resolution
Debtors	In order to protect the privacy of natural persons, as provided for under Section 7(2)(a).	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under Section 7 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.
Marlborough Tech & Innovation Hub Land Acquisition	To enable the Council, as holder of the information, to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations) as provided for under Section 7(2)(i).	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under Section 7 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Carried

The meeting closed at 1.01 pm.

Record No: 2362464

5. Committee Reports

5.4 Grants Sub-Committee

Grants Sub-Committee held on 31 March 2023
(Minute No. Grnt-0323-321 to Grnt-0323-326)



**Minutes of a Meeting of the
GRANTS SUB-COMMITTEE
held in the Council Chambers, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim
on FRIDAY 31 MARCH 2023 commencing at 9.30 am**

Present

Clr Thelma Sowman, Clr Sally Arbuckle, Mrs Karen Hartshorne, Ms Denyse Healy and Ms Jane Buckman

Present via Teams

Clr Allanah Burgess

In Attendance

Jodie Griffiths (Community Partnerships Advisor), Natalie Lawler (Community Partnerships Support) and Nicole Chauval (Committee Secretary)

Being the first meeting of the Triennium members took the opportunity to introduce themselves before moving into the business of the meeting.

Apologies

Clr S J Arbuckle/Karen Hartshorne:

That an apologies for non-attendance from Ms Sally Wadworth, Mr Graeme Haymes and Mr Sam Smith be received and sustained.

Carried

**Grnt-0323-321 Approval of Revised Terms of Reference (ToR)
for the Grants Sub-Committee**

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to approve the revised Terms of Reference for the Grants Sub-Committee, which will be published on Council's website.

The draft Terms of Reference for the Grants Sub-Committee were attached to the agenda item for members' information.

Denyse Healy/Jane Buckman

That the Committee approve the revised Terms of Reference as deemed appropriate to accurately reflect the purpose, scope and authority of the Sub-Committee. (Refer Appendix 1)

Carried

**Grnt-0323-322 Role and Responsibilities – Declaring an
Interest D050-001-G02**

Committee members were reminded of their responsibilities when allocating the available funding under set criteria, and they were advised of what was expected of them when having an interest in a particular application. The intention of declaring an interest is to ensure that those with an interest have no involvement in the decision making process.

Council's District Secretary's advice is that Committee members, once they have declared an interest, leave the room for that particular application. Members were advised that it is important that it be seen that matters are processed without any influence especially where, for example, there are competing applications; some organisations may not have a representative around the table. The rule needed to be applied strictly for the process to be seen as fair to all concerned.

It was noted that declaring an interest applies to those who are members or honorary members of an organisation and also where it could be perceived that a person has an interest in an organisation.

It was reported that the chairperson would make the final decision if there was dissention.

Jane Buckman/Clr S J Arbuckle:
That the information be received.

Carried

Grnt-0323-323 Community Grant Criteria and Amendment

D050-001-G02

Members noted that the purpose of the report was to review the criteria for Community Grant funding and to seek the Sub-Committee approval to transfer 'Environmental' community grants into the grants process managed by the Environment Sub Committee and appropriate Council staff. This includes transferring \$20,000 from the Community Grants budget.

It was reported that initial agreement has been reached between the Grants Sub-Committee and Environment Committee chairs to move the community based Environmental Grant requests to the existing Environmental grant process, Working for Nature/Mahi mō te Taiao. The reasons for the proposed change were discussed and further detailed in the agenda item.

During discussion it was noted that the terms and criteria were clear and readable and that members were comfortable with being able to raise any amendments during the year.

At the conclusion of the discussion Jodie Griffiths proposed that 'not for capital expenditure' be included under the heading 'What Can't Be Funded', members supported the amendment.

Karen Hartshorne/Denyse Healy

- 1. That the Committee confirm the criteria for the 2023 grant round.**
- 2. That the Committee approve the transfer of community based Environment Grants funding of \$20,000 to the Environment Sub-Committee.**

Carried

Grnt-0323-324 Clarification of Process for Decision Making

D050-001-G02

Committee members' attention was drawn to the process for decision making that had been successfully used by previous Grants Sub-Committees. Members had been asked to familiarise themselves with the process prior to the meeting so that this could be consistently applied when considering grant applications.

Members were advised that at any time when an application is being discussed and a Committee member has declared an interest in, they must leave the room.

The process for decision making was detailed in the agenda item for members' information.

Denyse Healy/Karen Hartshorne:
That the information be received.

Carried

Grnt-0323-325 Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund 2022-23 Allocation

C150-001-011-19

Sport NZ had made funding of \$28,758.00 available for rural travel for young people aged between 5-19 years under specific criteria and eligibility conditions. Ten applications were received and nine applications were eligible for consideration. Requests totalled \$45,780.50.

Committee members discussed the applications and made the following recommendations:

Organisation	Project Description	Grant
Ward School	Travel to weekly touch, tennis & cricket competition	\$3,500.00
Seddon School	Travel to weekly hockey, touch, rugby & netball competitions	\$4,000.00
Queen Charlotte College	Travel for netball, touch rugby, volleyball and rippa for local competitions	\$6,500.00
Havelock School	Travel for junior to local competition	\$2,000.00
Picton Football Club	Travel between Picton and Blenheim for junior football teams	\$2,500.00
Awatere Rugby Football Club	Travel to rugby games from Ward and Seddon to Blenheim	\$2,000.00
Pelorus Rugby Football Club	Travel for rugby	\$3,335.00
Waitohi JAB Rugby	Travel for JAB teams to weekly competition	\$3,800.00
Rai Valley Area School	Various school travel Note: Letter to be sent outlining the criteria for funding swimming activities.	\$1,123.00

Members requested that a letter be written to Sport New Zealand seeking a review of the Rural Travel Fund - non-fixture sports activities criteria.

Clr S J Arbuckle/Karen Hartshorne:

That Council approve the above listed grants to Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund applicants totalling \$28,758.00.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: The meeting adjourned at 10.27 am and resumed at 10.45 am.

Grnt-0323-326 Creative Communities NZ Arts Funding Scheme

Allocation 2022-23 – Round 2

C150-001-003-19

Members were advised that a request had been received from Justin Eade who had received grant funding in 2022 for the stage production 'Otago Man', however they have been unable to recruit actors for the show. They have requested to use the funding to produce a film 'Special Force', which will involve 10-15 Marlborough people as the actors.

During discussion members requested clarification on whether a hard drive is eligible to be funded.

Members approved the request and noted they would like to be advised when the project is completed.

Jane Buckman/Denyse Healy:

That the Committee approve the request from Justin Eade to reallocate the Grant funding of \$1,000.00 to undertake a film production.

Carried

NB: Clr S J Arbuckle declared a conflict of interest and withdrew from the meeting for this item.

The Grants Sub-Committee allocates Creative Communities funding twice a year, with closing dates at the end of February and September each year.

Available funds to allocate for Round 2 totalled \$33,609.00. Twenty Five applications were received and twenty three applications were eligible to be considered for funding. Requests totalled \$75,955.38.

Committee members discussed the applications and made the following recommendations:

Organisation	Project Description	Grant
Marlborough Girls' College	Music Therapy & Pasifika Uniforms	\$1,440.00
Creative Kids Trust	Hono Tahi	\$3,900.00
StageLab	StageLab's guide to parenting	\$5,000.00
Little Green Man Productions	Wonderland Glow Show	\$3,269.00
Awatere Valley Trust	Seddon Underpasses Project	\$1,000.00
Barrer, Anne	Art Workshops	\$2,400.00
Marlborough Repertory Society	75 years Staged (Clr S J Arbuckle declared a conflict of interest and withdrew from the meeting for this item.)	Decline
Wanderlust Opera	Marlborough Opera Festival Condition: Tagged to venue hire.	\$3,800.00
Marlborough District Brass Band Inc	Pre Contest Concert Note: Audit visit to be undertaken.	\$2,000.00
Davies, Mieke	Container Mural - St Mary's school.	\$2,200.00
Paul, Vonny	Pacifica/Van Gogh fusion	\$1,500.00
New Zealand Chinese Association - Nelson and Marlborough Branch Incorporated	Celebrate Chinese Language week	\$1,200.00
Omaka Marae Incorporated	Nga Toi o Omaka Marae	\$1,200.00
Blenheim Choral	Performance of CARMINA BURANA	\$1,100.00
Irons, Cathy	Douce Ambiance	\$1,100.00
Waitohi Picton Open Studios	Waitohi Picton Open Studios	\$1,100.00
Pearls of The Pacific	Pearls of The Pacific Showcase Condition: Tagged to venue hire and materials.	\$1,000.00
Marlborough Floral Art Group	Tutored workshop with outside Tutor	\$400.00
Vadillo, Santiago	Marlborough Little Aviators	Decline
Navarro, Andrea	Mixed media and collage art class (Denyse Healy declared a conflict of interest and withdrew from the meeting for this item.) Note: Insufficient funds.	Decline
Bell, Isabella	The Acoustic South Series Note: Insufficient funds.	Decline
Waterhouse, George	DJ Mentoring Note: Insufficient funds.	Decline
Te'o Suasami, Maniva Paese Susan	Samoan Dance Classes with Niva Note: Insufficient funds.	Decline

SCHEDULE 'A' – Ineligible/Withdrawn Applications

Kauri, James	Te kaiarahi hapori	Ineligible
Red Cross	Craft club	Withdrawn

Clr S J Arbuckle/Jane Buckman:

- 1. That Council approve the above listed grants to Creative Communities NZ Arts Funding Scheme applicants totalling \$33,609.00.**
- 2. That it be noted that the applications listed in 'Schedule A' do not qualify for assistance or were withdrawn.**

Carried

The meeting closed at 12.52 pm.

Record No: 2366676

6. 2023-24 He Uiuinga Mahere ā-Tau Annual Plan Consultation (includes Appendix 6.1)

(Report prepared by M Fletcher)

F230-A23-03

Purpose of report

1. To adopt Council's 2023-24 Annual Plan consultation document, called the *He Uiuinga Mahere ā-Tau Annual Plan Consultation*.

RECOMMENDED

That Council adopt the *2023-24 He Uiuinga Mahere ā-Tau Annual Plan Consultation Document*.

Background

2. The Local Government Act 2002 (Act) was amended in 2014 and requires councils to produce a consultation document (**attached as Appendix 6.1**) as the basis for the public's participation in decision-making on annual plans.
3. The purpose of the amendment to the Act was to increase the focus on the Long Term Plan and to reduce the resource commitment needed to produce a Draft Annual Plan, and provide councils with more flexibility on whether or not to consult, and the level of consultation they wish to undertake.

Comments

4. The *2023-24 Annual Plan* is a high-level summary which identifies Council's signalled intention to have a rates increase of 7.8%, the impact that has on levels of service and major capital budgets/projects proposed for the 2023-24 year, and the subsequent three years. It also includes a message from the Mayor and how to make a submission.
5. The *2023-24 Annual Plan* will be published on Council's website and can be printed off from there. It will also be made available via local newspapers.
6. In addition, a number of articles and media releases on this year's Annual Plan projects and programmes will continue to be published on our website, Facebook and Twitter during April.
7. A small number of printed copies of the 2023-24 Annual Plan will be made available from Council offices and libraries.
8. Council's website will contain supporting information about the Annual Plan, including agenda items from the 2 March Council meeting, which include all the new projects, the budget summary, LTP activity statements, capital expenditure and general financial content at that time.

Attachment

Appendix 6.1 – 2023-24 He Uiuinga Mahere ā-Tau Annual Plan Consultation

Page 47

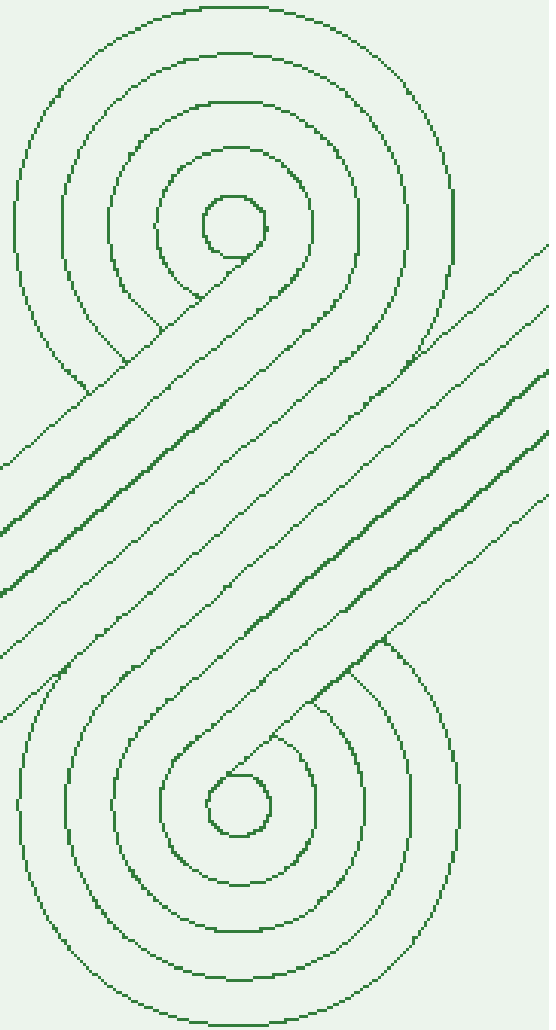
Author	Martin Fletcher, Chief Financial Officer
Authoriser	Mark Wheeler, Chief Executive

<i>Summary of decision-making considerations</i>			
<i>Fit with purpose of local government</i>			
The proposal supports the continued financial viability of Community facility providers and Community organisations.			
<i>Fit with Council policies and strategies</i>			
	<i>Contributes</i>	<i>Detracts</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>
LTP / Annual Plan	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Financial Strategy	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Infrastructure Strategy	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social well-being	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economic development	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environment & RMA Plans	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arts & Culture	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 Waters	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land transport	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks and reserves	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Nature of the decision to be made</i>			
The options do not involve a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water.			
<i>Financial considerations</i>			
Council has signalled its intention to have a rates increase of 7.8% and a number of fees increased.			
<i>Significance</i>			
The decision is considered significant and will go through a formal consultation process.			
<i>Engagement</i>			
See above and in the Consultation Document itself.			
<i>Risks: Legal / Health & Safety etc</i>			
There are no known significant risks or legal implications.			
<i>Climate Change Implications</i>			
There are no known climate change implications to this decision.			

Appendix 6.1

2023-24

He Uiuinga Mahere ā-Tau Annual Plan Consultation



**Have
your
say**



marlborough.govt.nz

Ngā kōrero nā te koromatua Message from the Mayor



This year's proposed budget maintains current levels of service and continues a significant capital expenditure programme focused on Marlborough's core infrastructure needs, primarily roading, sewerage and water treatment.

A small number of new expenditure items have been supported by councillors, leaving an overall proposed rates increase of 7.8% for the year beginning 1 July 2023.


This is a very unusual year - like every council, we are facing much higher than normal levels of inflation, with the Consumer Price Index expected to peak at over 7% this year. Supply chain issues are driving up costs and affecting many parts of the economy, including local government.

New Government requirements on councils and the increasing cost of servicing debt are also major factors.

The two biggest drivers of Council's rates increases are the Local Government Cost Index (LGCI) and capital expenditure. The LGCI includes the cost of bitumen and water pipes - in other words the main goods and services that councils purchase. This year's LGCI is running at 5.9%.

We've worked hard to address this inflationary challenge and bring down what would have been a much bigger rates increase - well above 10% - without cutting public services.

Hence we have reviewed our user pays fees and reduced expenditure where possible. Fees including resource consenting, environmental health and building control are proposed to be increased.




“ We’ve worked hard to address this inflationary challenge and bring down what would have been a much bigger rates increase - well above 10% - without cutting public services.”

By increasing fees we are reducing the impact on ratepayers by just over \$1 million - I believe that is a fairer way of spreading costs.

New revenue sources have also been identified and we’ve made good use of our Infrastructure Upgrade, Depreciation and Covid-19 Rates Relief reserves. Funding from reserves means that an activity or project can be undertaken without a corresponding rates increase.

I’m very aware of the cost of living pressures on households and recognise that 7.8% is a relatively high rates increase.



It’s not something that any Mayor wants to propose but our budgets are under significant inflationary and interest cost pressure - and it’s the same for every council in the country.

However I’m very proud to say that we have been able to maintain community services like libraries, events, parks, playgrounds and senior housing - no services have been cut. Pages 8 and 9 of this consultation document give a flavour of the work and projects the Council is delivering in this financial year.

I encourage you to make a submission and let us know what you think. Please email annualplan@marlborough.govt.nz by 5.00 pm on Monday 8 May.

**Ki te kāpuia e kore e whati
We succeed together**

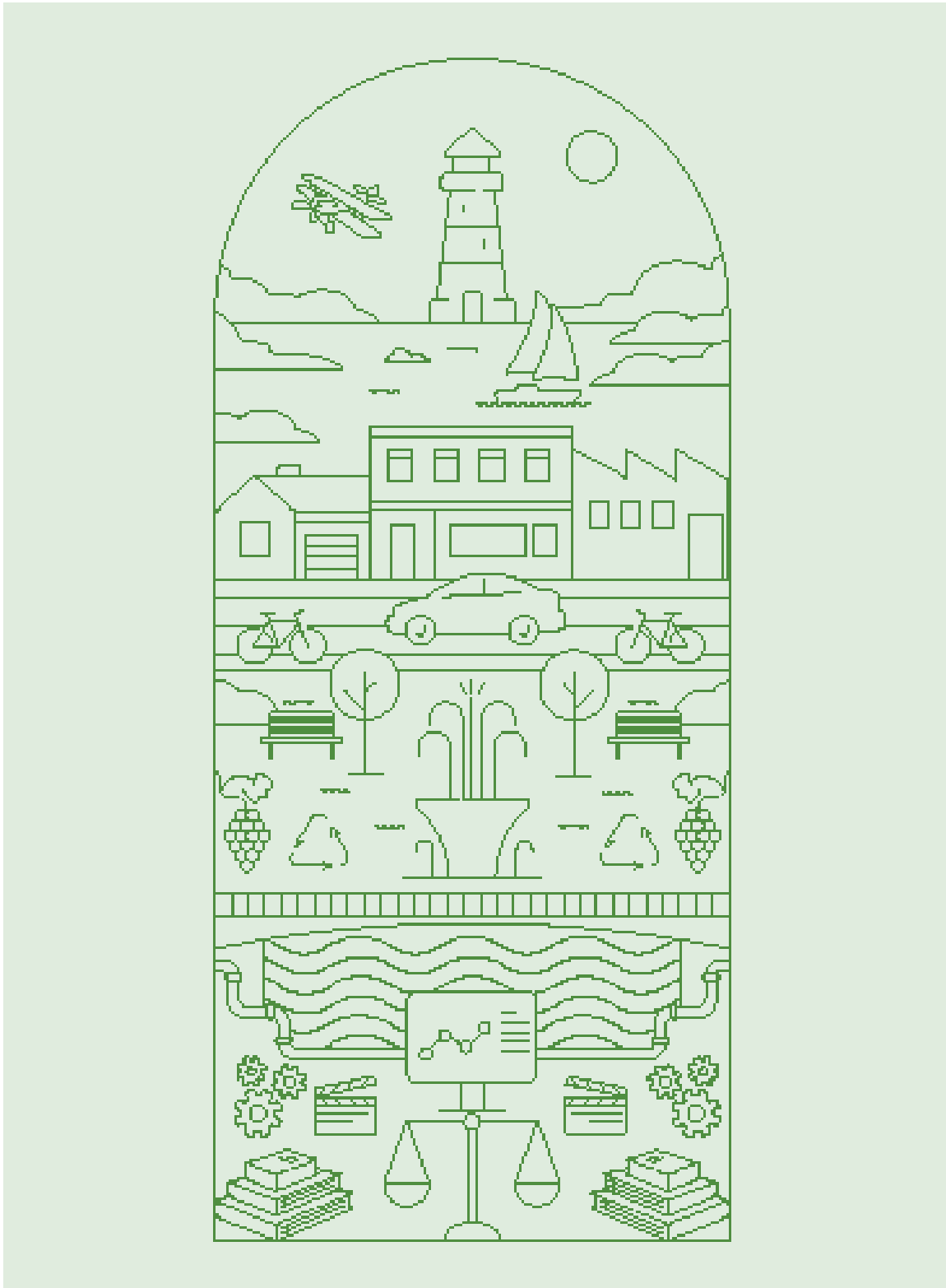


**Nadine Taylor
Mayor of Marlborough**

Te Kaunihera ā - rohe Marlborough District Council - a unitary authority

Did you know Marlborough District Council is a unitary authority - one of only six in New Zealand. Put simply, this means we perform the role of a regional council and territorial authority (city or district council). Every three months ratepayers receive a rates bill for the services council provides. On average this bill is approximately \$909 - comparable to a three monthly power bill.

For this, Council provides a range of services from roads and reserves to rubbish and recycling; footpaths and street trees to swimming pools, sports parks and playgrounds; from drinking water, stormwater and wastewater to emergency management and flood protection; from libraries and public toilets to biosecurity and building control; and from environmental science to planning and consenting - it is fair to say the services and facilities Council provides benefit our region and everyone in our community.



Projects for the year ahead

A small number of new initiatives adopted by Council in its Annual Plan Budget 2023-24 are set out below.

The majority of these items are proposed to be funded from Reserves as opposed to rates.

- Upgrades and improvements for community facilities and playgrounds in Blenheim, Renwick, Seddon, Ward, Wairau Valley and Havelock: \$1.7M over four years, with a rating impact of \$21,440 in 2023-24.
- \$5.8M for parks and reserves upgrades and renewals, including playgrounds, track improvements, street trees and the development of a new Taylor Pass reserve and Blenheim dog park.
- \$15.7M for roads, footpaths, wharves and cycle ways including the development of the Renwick Cycle Trail and streetscape improvements in Blenheim and Picton.
- \$3.0M for the senior housing development in George Street, Blenheim.
- \$4.7M for flood protection and control work across the district, including the Town Branch Drain upgrade and options for flood protection for Renwick's Lower Terrace.
- \$26.8M for new sewerage treatment plants, pump stations, pipelines and other renewals in Blenheim, Havelock, Picton, Renwick, Seddon, Grovetown, Spring Creek and the Riverlands industrial area.
- \$7.2M for drinking water improvements including new treatment plants in Blenheim, Picton, Renwick and Havelock; and a new reservoir in Picton.
- \$29.4K to make the Picton to Blenheim return bus service permanent.

- \$975K over three years for additional costs to provide catchment care services to implement the National Policy Statement for Freshwater and the Marlborough Environment Plan from 2025-26.
- \$200K over two years to carry out a technical review of the Wairau River Rating Scheme and consult on potential scheme changes.
- \$39.5K to support a review and update of the 2018 Marlborough Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan to meet legislative requirements and ensure Marlborough has a fit-for-purpose plan in place to manage future potential natural disasters.
- \$70K to improve recruitment and health and safety management processes through digital solutions.

This budget does not include any funding for the restoration of roading in the Sounds other than the already committed \$85M for which 95% financial assistance was provided by Waka Kotahi.

Any further allocations for Sounds access will need: the completion of the Marlborough Sounds Future Access Study; Waka Kotahi to agree a financial assistance percentage; and public consultation.



Activities with the greatest impact on the proposed increase in rates and charges

Some of this year's rates increase comes from the flow-on effects of previous years' decisions (particularly if expenditure was previously funded from reserves for one year but is fully rate funded this year) and investment in infrastructure-intensive activities such as sewerage, water and community facilities.

These projects now incur a full year's charge for depreciation, interest on loans and, for some, increased operating costs.



The proposed rates rise for 2023–24 is 7.8% or \$5.40 per week per average rateable property.

- General roading and footpaths \$1.52M - mainly from increased depreciation costs (used to fund Council's share of renewals) due to an increase in revaluation of the assets.
- Environmental management \$310,500 - additional resources are required to keep pace with the Government's legislative changes and the community's demand for good quality environmental data and monitoring.
- Community facilities \$951,991 - due to the combined impact of small increases across many of Council's reserves and public toilets and an increase in operating costs for the Lansdowne Sports Hub.
- Library \$1.256M - from operating and depreciation costs due to a larger library building and extended community programmes.
- Solid waste management \$398,450 - from an increase in the Waste Disposal Levy from \$30 to \$50 per tonne imposed by Government. This is expected to increase again to \$60 per tonne in 2024.
- Democratic process \$369,297 - from budgeted audit costs and fees for next year's Long Term Plan, councillor fees and staff funding.
- Flood protection \$379,256 - from increased operating costs and repair costs from recent flood events.

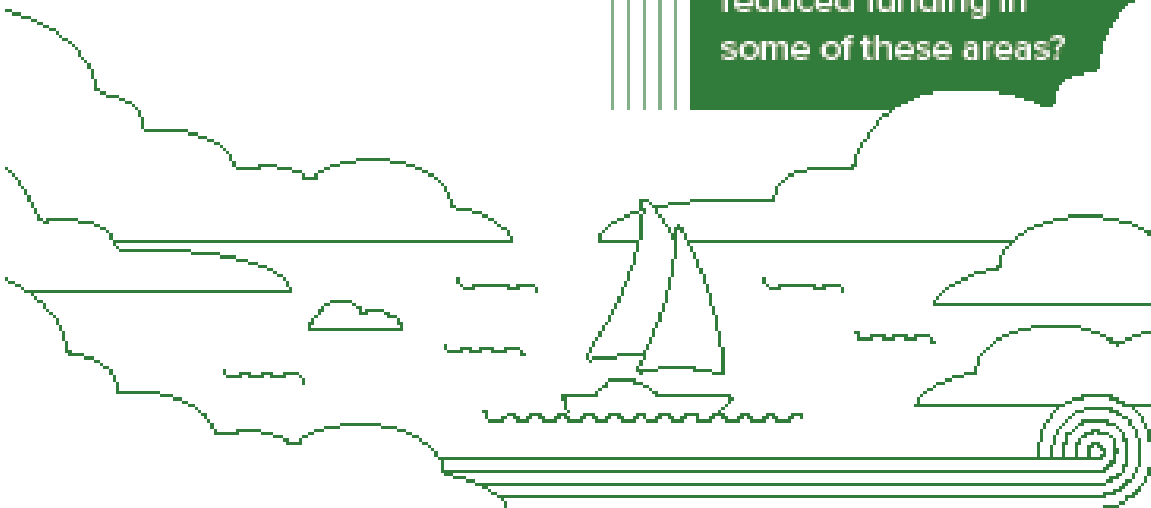


- Building control \$316,993 - from increased operating costs. The proposed building control fee increases (outlined on page 13) will largely offset this.
- Water supply \$556,210 - from increased depreciation costs due to an increase in the assets and their values in prior years.
- Sewerage \$655,434 - from increased depreciation costs due to an increase in the assets and their values in prior years.
- Stormwater \$360,489 - from increased depreciation costs due to an increase in the assets and their values in prior years.
- Riverlands Water Supply \$181,818 - additional costs due to the new Riverlands Water Treatment Plant, including treatment costs.

**Have
your
say**


Do you support the investment in these areas?

Would you like to see reduced funding in some of these areas?






Have
your
say



He aha ngā kaupapa
hira ki ā koe?

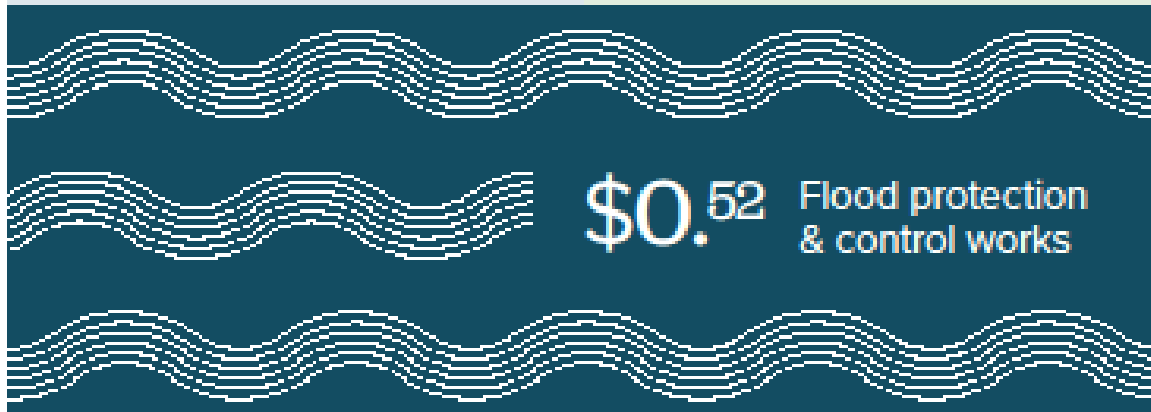
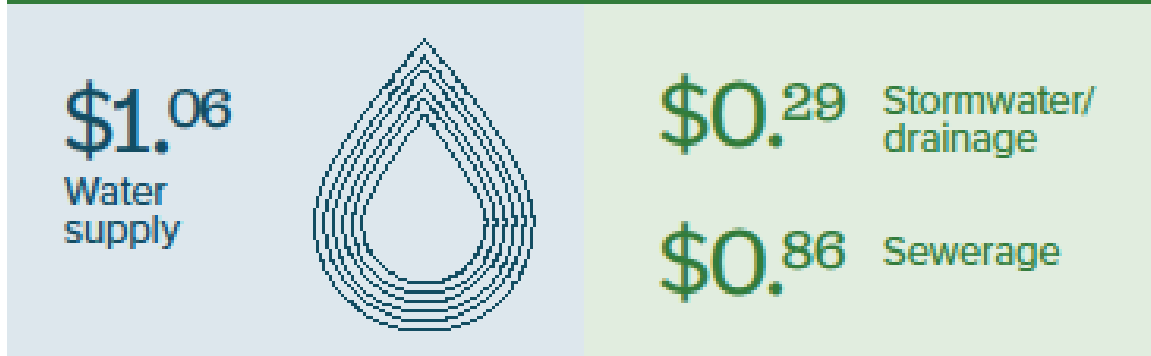
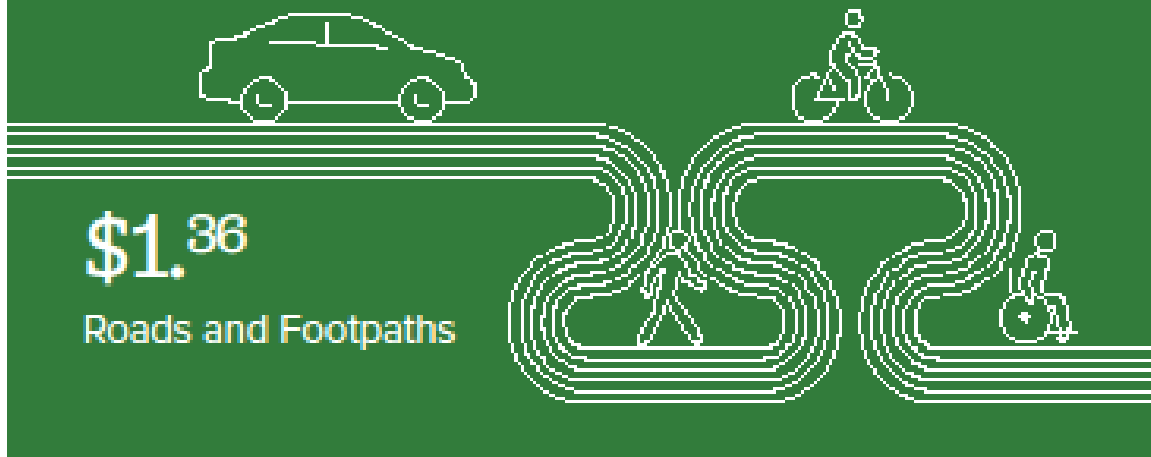
What matters to you?

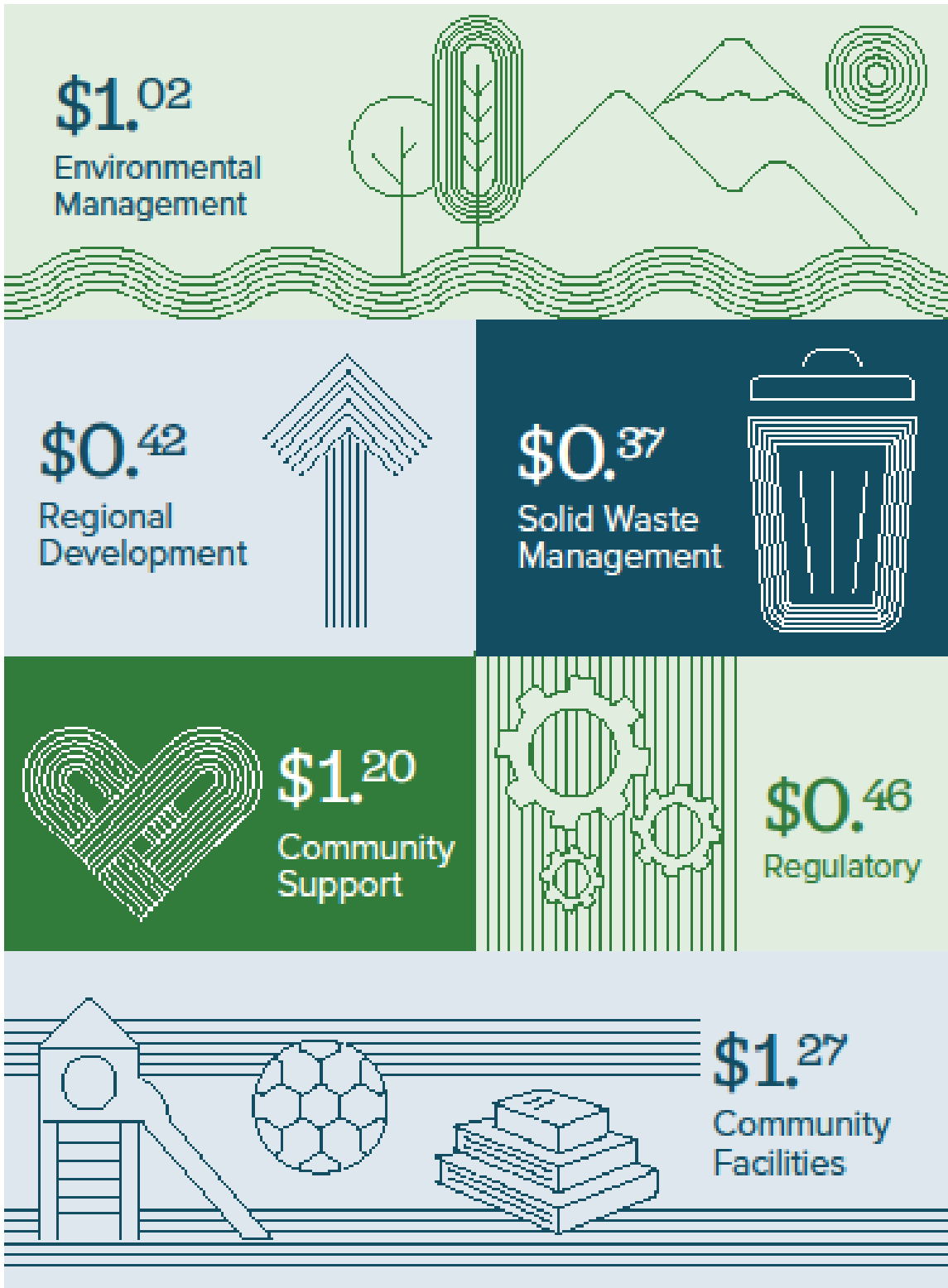


The online form is the quickest and
easiest way to make a submission.

Simply go to marlborough.govt.nz
and follow the online prompts.

How much our activities cost per household per day on average





Fees and charges review and rates savings

Council has reviewed its user pays fees including resource consenting, environmental health monitoring, building control and solid and trade waste.

Council has longstanding policies in place which outline how much of these activities relate to the public good and should therefore be rates funded, compared to the private benefit which should be funded by users.

The current ratios range from 60% user pays to 100% user pays. The following fee increases maintain these ratios.

The related benefit for rates is that it reduces the impact on ratepayers in 2023-24 by just over \$1 million.

To read more about the proposed fee or charge increase for each activity, go to Council's website marlborough.govt.nz

Activity	Proposed increase
Resource consent fees	13.5%
Health fees	15 - 20%
Building control fees	14.1%
Resource consent and permitted activity monitoring fees and charges	13.5%
LIM fees – residential	20%
– rural	20%
Service connection fee review	13%
Solid waste	Various
Trade waste	Various

Note: Separate consultation on the Trade Waste fee review will also be undertaken directly with each user.



Do you have any comment on the proposed fee/charges increase?

Do you believe Council should maintain the current balance between rates and user pays?

How to find out more about your rates

There's a wealth of information on the Council website about how the rates for your property are calculated.

Marlborough properties are levied works and services rates and charges, based on the property's land value, which of the six Geographic Rating Areas the property is located in, and whether the property type is Residential/Rural or Commercial/Industrial. There are also targeted rates and charges where a service is only provided to a particular area, for example water, sewerage rubbish collection and Wairau River flood protection.

Go to: marlborough.govt.nz/services/rates and click on *How to use the Rates Comparison Model*.

The instructions on that page will take you to the *Rating Information Smart Map* where you can see your current year's rates and the proposed rates for the new financial year beginning 1 July 2023. Simply enter your property address in the white search box at the top left of the page.

If you click on *View Rates Comparison* you will find a detailed breakdown of rating information for your property.



How to submit

Online form

The online form is the quickest and easiest way to make a submission. Simply go to marlborough.govt.nz and follow the online prompts. Please indicate in your submission if you'd like to speak directly to your councillors at a public hearing.

Hard copy

A hard copy of the submission form can be printed from our website, or collected from Council's Blenheim or Picton offices, or Marlborough District Libraries. All hardcopies must be returned before close of business on 8 May.

Email

Please send your submission to annualplan@marlborough.govt.nz



Timeline

6 April	Public consultation opens
6 April to 8 May	Submission period
8 May	Consultation closes at 5.00 pm
6 to 8 June	Submission hearings
12 June	Council considers submissions
29 June	Council adopts final plan and sets rates
1 July	New rates effective



7. Decision to Conduct Business with the Public Excluded

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

- Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes
- Committee Reports (Public Excluded Sections)
- Capital Funding Allocation

The general subject 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(1) 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(1) for the passing of this resolution
Minutes and Committee Reports	As set out in the Minutes and Reports	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under Section 7 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.
Capital Funding Allocation	To enable the Council, as holder of the information, to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations) as provided for under Section 7(2)(i).	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under Section 7 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.