

Long Term Plan now open for public consultation

Marlburians are now encouraged to make a submission on the Council's Long Term Plan (LTP) 2024-2034.

Mayor Nadine Taylor said at Council's meeting to adopt the draft LTP the biggest challenge was how to fund the local share of the Marlborough Sounds road repairs, which were damaged by storms in 2021 and 2022.

"This is one of the most significant decisions facing us in Marlborough: 'who pays what' towards rebuilding the transport network in the Sounds over the next decade and beyond," Mayor Taylor said. "The good news is the New Zealand Transport Agency is planning to contribute 71 per cent of the cost of the repairs and 51 per cent of the road improvements. But that still leaves Marlborough ratepayers needing to find \$104 million dollars, the local share of the repair bill."

Five options are outlined in the consultation document, alongside a range of other items for public feedback. They include increased general roading maintenance funding of \$27.5M over the next three years, flood protection improvements for Spring Creek and funding for a sports pavilion at A&P Park in Blenheim.

"Council's preferred option is to split the Sounds roading repair

bill across five Sounds zones with the rest of Marlborough contributing via a uniform annual charge. This would mean non-Sounds ratepayers would contribute about 70 per cent of the cost of repairs," Mayor Taylor said.

The proposed rates increase this year is below the average across the country at 12.58%, not including Sounds roading repairs. If the repairs go ahead as proposed, an additional 0.37% will apply, bringing this year's increase to 12.95%.

The LTP continues Council's strong capital expenditure programme with a focus on core infrastructure and public services – pipes in the ground, water treatment facilities and road maintenance with Council proposing to invest \$1 billion over the next 10 years, \$277 million more than the previous ten-year plan.

To make a submission go to <https://links.marlborough.govt.nz/haveyoursay> Copies of the consultation document are available at Council's customer service centres.

The Marlborough Regional Land Transport Plan 2024-2027 is also available for public feedback over the same period via Council's website.



Tā mātou
mahere tekau tau
Our ten year plan



Marlborough District Council
Consultation Document

Mahere wā roa 2024 - 2034
Long term plan 2024 - 2034



Full complement of iwi representatives on Council committees

The appointment of iwi representatives to all Council's standing committees continues a long-standing Council commitment to have local iwi at the table.

Welcoming the iwi representative appointees at a mihi before last week's full Council meeting, Mayor Nadine Taylor said iwi positions on Marlborough District Council committees had been in place for more than 30 years however the positions had not always been filled.

"For many years the mahi was ably undertaken by Richard Hunter and Raymond Smith but their departure after years of dedicated service left us without iwi representation. I am very pleased we now have all three voting positions filled on our Assets and Services, Environment and Planning, and Economic, Finance and Community Committees," Mayor Taylor said.

Council re-committed in December 2022 to fill the current vacant seats. The recruitment process took into consideration the request for consistency from Te Tauihu Iwi Chairs collective.



New iwi representatives welcomed at Council this morning from left are Ruihana Smith, Dawn McConnell and RaNae Niven with Mayor Nadine Taylor (second from right)

The new iwi representatives are:

RaNae Niven - Rangitāne o Wairau, Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Koata, Ngāti Kuia, Te Ātiawa, Ngāti Apa ki Te Rā To

Dawn McConnell - Te Ātiawa, Ngāti Tama, Ngāti Mutunga, Ngāti Toa, Ngāti Koata

Ruihana Smith - Ngāti Kuia, Ngāti Apa ki Te Rā To and Ngai Tahu

"Our three new appointees between them have broad iwi affiliations and a wide range of skills and experience. We warmly

welcome them to the table and look forward to their valuable contribution," Mayor Taylor said.

The iwi representatives will serve on the following Council committees:

RaNae Niven

Economic, Finance and Community Committee

Dawn McConnell

Assets and Services Committee

Ruihana Smith

Environment and Planning Committee

New citizens welcomed

Twenty-five people from 10 countries have been officially welcomed to Marlborough.

The province's newest citizens, from the UK, Philippines, Canada, Italy, India, Germany, South Africa, Tonga, Vietnam and the Czech Republic, were welcomed at a ceremony at Council chambers.

Mayor Nadine Taylor told the

group the day was an important milestone in their new lives as citizens of this province and country.

In future they would all enjoy the rights and freedoms of native-born New Zealanders.

"Your decision to apply for citizenship was no doubt made after very careful consideration

and is a commitment to your future," she said. "It is not a rejection of your past but in future your first loyalty will be to New Zealand."

Following the Mayor's opening address and the presentation of certificates, Council's waiata group performed for the new citizens and their friends and families.



Mayor Nadine Taylor with Marlborough's newest citizens

Irish ambassador visit

Mayor Nadine Taylor met with Irish Ambassador Jane Connolly recently.

The Wellington based ambassador was in Marlborough as part of her aim to visit the regions and foster relationships, Mayor Taylor said.

"Marlborough has a diverse population and it's always good when international representatives visit us to gain a broader understanding of the province," Mayor Taylor said. "The ambassador was very interested in both our economy and people."



Mayor Taylor and Irish Ambassador Jane Connolly in Seymour Square

Opening Hours

Mon to Fri: 8.30 am - 4.30 pm
Closed Wed 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm
03 520 7400 | mcd@marlborough.govt.nz

15 Seymour Street, Blenheim 7201, New Zealand
PO Box 443, Blenheim 7240, New Zealand

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