Long-term Plan 2024-34

Respondent No. 214

Response ID 5669338

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Personal information

First name	Adrian
Last name	Gregory
I'm providing a submission (choose one):	as an individual
Please let us know what ward you live in	Ōtaki
Do you want to speak to Council about your submission at our public hearings on 2 May?	No

Submission

Proposal 1: Three waters funding Which option should we choose? (select one option)

Option 1: Fund \$4.7 million shortfall with an additional 5% rates increase in Year 1.

Would you like to expand on your answer for option 1?

Option 1 offers no impact on debt levels

Proposal 2: Proactively reduce Council's debt Which option should we choose? (select one option)

Option 2: Apply average rates increases of 7% per year from 2025/26 to 2033/34

Would you like to expand on your answer for option 2?

Debt reduction is absolutely essential, and this option strikes the right balance

Proposal 3: Transfer Council's housing for older people Which option should we choose? (select one option)

Option 1: Transfer our older persons' housing assets to a new Community Housing Provider

Would you like to expand on your answer for option 1?

Your argument for this option is persuasive and in tune with my own thinking

New climate action rate Which option should we choose? (select one option)

Option 1: Introduce a new targeted climate action rate based on a property's capital value rather than the current land-value based general rate

Would you like to expand on your answer for option 1?

It is necessary and more transparent

Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about this LTP?

I note with some concern that no 7 of the Council's TOP 10 Priorities is 'Health Access'. I do not believe that the Council has any direct responsibility for health services and access to them, more so since the effective excision of 'localities' from health policy under the coalition government. I believe that the Council may/may wish to have a role in advocating for "health access", but that is not the way the Priority is framed. And the Council certainly does have a role that impacts on health and wellbeing through its multiple infrastructure and public services portfolio, all of which are key social determinants of health, but again this is not how the Priority is framed. Given the significant rate increases and the 'head winds' that the Council and its rate payers over the years of this LTP I strongly suggest that Council should reword Priority 7 to refocus on the impacts and influence that Council can have on health and wellbeing outcomes through its core business, which is not health.