

Long-term Plan 2024–34



Respondent No. 83

Response ID 5633456

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Personal information

First name Mia

Last name Matheson

I'm providing a submission (choose one): as an individual

Please let us know what ward you live in Raumati

Do you want to speak to Council about your submission at our public hearings on 2 May? No

Are you happy for your name to be published with your feedback: My name can be published with my feedback

Submission

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

Option 2: Fund \$4.7 million shortfall by taking on debt each year.

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

Households are already under extreme pressure due to rising costs across the board, they cannot afford to fund this shortfall through rates.

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

Option 3: Apply average rates increases of 6% per year from 2025/26 to 2033/34

Would you like to expand on your answer for option 3?

This question (and preferred option) seems in contrast to the above option which gives people the opportunity fund the water services shortfall by debt which I'm sure many people will choose. This gives the impression that the option above is not a genuine option for people. I understand the long term implications of increasing debt, and the need to reduce this into the future, but right now people and

families are hurting so it's not the time to do this.

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

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?

Only if we are guaranteed additional visibility on climate work

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

I love living in Kāpiti. It's safe, there's good facilities and parks, and things are generally well maintained. We are lucky. However, when you are a single income family, already paying for water and rubbish, a 17% rate increase really hits us hard. It's \$702 extra per year that we are having to come up with which is not insignificant. Understand that costs are going up, and some of these are non negotiable to provide the same services. If Council truly wants to support it's community at this time then it's time to put any new projects and service improvements on hold until we get through this economic storm. In general, people are more than happy with what Council is currently providing, I'd be more than happy to see some projects scrapped or put on pause if it means less financial impact on families. For some, year on year increases mean that they are having to either move, or default on their mortgages.

I don't envy the difficult decisions that Council has to make, in this environment, when it seems like its impossible to keep everyone happy. However, I do encourage Council to think about overall financial strain on households, and cut back on any non-necessities that contribute to the rates increase - even if it is just for the first few years of the plan. People with the means might grumble if their pet projects don't go ahead, but it'll soon be forgotten. It's not so simple for people who are struggling to put food on the table already.