

Strategic Planning and Policy Committee Agenda - Fees and Charges and Enhanced Annual Plan Hearings and Deliberations 20 & 21 May 2024



Council Chambers
Waipā District Council
101 Bank Street
Te Awamutu

Chairperson
EM Stolwyk

Members

Her Worship the Mayor SC O'Regan, AW Brown, LE Brown, PTJ Coles, RDB Gordon, ML Gower, MG Montgomerie, DM Morgan, MJ Pettit, CS St Pierre, BS Thomas, B Harris - Te Kanohi

20 May 2024 09:00 AM

21 May 2024 09:00 AM

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Closing Karakia



APOLOGIES



DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Members are reminded to declare and stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected member and any private or other external interest they may have.



LATE ITEMS

Items not on the agenda for the meeting require a resolution under section 46A of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 stating the reasons why the item was not on the agenda and why it cannot be dealt with at a subsequent meeting on the basis of a full agenda item. It is important to note that late items can only be dealt with when special circumstances exist and not as a means of avoiding or frustrating the requirements in the Act relating to notice, agendas, agenda format and content.



CONFIRMATION OF ORDER OF MEETING

Recommendation

That the order of the meeting be confirmed.

COMMITTEE REPORT



To: The Chairperson and Members of the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee

From: Manager Strategy
Manager Finance

Subject: **Fees and Charges 2024/25 Hearings**

Meeting Dates: 20 May 2024

1 PURPOSE - TAKE

The purpose of this report is to support the hearing of submissions on Waipā District Council's Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25.

2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

The Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 was consulted on from 25 March to 26 April 2024. A total of 31 submissions were received with one submitter requesting to speak to their submission.

3 RECOMMENDATION – TŪTOHU Ā-KAIMAHI

That the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee

- a) *Receives the report of Melissa Russo, Manager Strategy titled 'Fees and Charges 2024/25 Hearings'(document number 11218659); and*
- b) *Hears the verbal submission of Alcohol Healthwatch (submission 556) on the Fees and Charges 2024/25 and supporting information.*

4 BACKGROUND – KŌRERO WHAIMĀRAMA

At its 5 March meeting, the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee approved the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 and Statement of Proposal for consultation.

Consultation was open from 25 March to 26 April 2024. 31 submissions were received with one submitter requesting to attend hearings:

- 9:10am Andrew Galloway (Alcohol Healthwatch) - submission 556

This submission is attached as Appendix 1. All submissions on the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 are attached to the deliberations report.

5 SIGNIFICANCE & ENGAGEMENT – KAUPAPA WHAI MANA ME NGĀ MATAPAKINGA

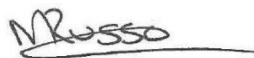
Staff have considered the key considerations under the Significance and Engagement Policy, in particular sections 7 and 8, and have assessed that the matter in this report has a low level of significance.

6 NEXT ACTIONS

Deliberations will take place on 21 May 2024. It is intended that adoption of the 2024/25 Fees and Charges will form part of the deliberations report.

7 APPENDIX- ĀPITITANGA

No:	Appendix Title
1	Submission 556 – Alcohol Healthwatch, Andrew Galloway (ECM 11225999)



Melissa Russo
MANAGER STRATEGY



Jolanda Hechter
MANAGER FINANCE



Reviewed by Kirsty Downey
GROUP MANAGER STRATEGY



Approved by Ken Morris
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE / GROUP MANAGER BUSINESS SUPPORT

APPENDIX 1

Submission 556 – Alcohol Healthwatch, Andrew Galloway (document number 11225999)

Submission/Event: 556

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we support

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges Alcohol Healthwatch supports the review by Waipā District Council of the Fees and Charges Policy, and we note the increase in those alcohol-related fees that are listed in the 2024/25 financial year. | We support a full cost recovery approach for alcohol licensing, as while full cost recovery was envisaged by the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, the fees set under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013 have not kept pace with the costs incurred by Council. This inevitably means that without setting realistic fees the Council (and ratepayers) would be subsidising the costs associated with alcohol licensing.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges We note that while fees are set by set by regulation, the Council has the ability to make a bylaw under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fee-setting Bylaws) Order 2013 and alter these nationally fixed amounts and set fees that reflect the Council’s actual costs as a licensing authority, and in respect of its inspection and enforcement functions. | We support a comprehensive review of all the costs incurred with licensing, not just those listed in the Fees and Charges Policy, which includes costs associated with administration, monitoring and enforcement to ensure that these are met by the sector. | Revising fees in a timely manner would we believe meet the policy objectives of the licensing fees regime, namely: | (a) To recover the total reasonable costs incurred by the Council in administering the alcohol licensing system | (b) To ensure that those who create the greatest need for regulatory effort bear the commensurate costs | (c) To allow local circumstances to be reflected in the fees paid by operators and income received by the Council | (d) To minimise alcohol-related harm, to the extent that this can be achieved through a cost recovery regime. | The alcohol licensing regime and fee-setting is part of a package of measures which, when used comprehensively, can create safer environments and significantly minimise rates of hazardous drinking and subsequently alcohol-related harm. This includes the recently-reviewed Local Alcohol Policy and the Public Places Alcohol Control Bylaw and similar policies. | We further note that under the section 404 of the 2012 Act, the Ministry of Justice is required to undertake a five-year review of alcohol licensing fees and of cost recovery by councils. However, this review is overdue, and we would encourage the Council to advocate to Central Government for a timely review of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013. | In a similar vein, we note that remuneration of District Licensing Committee members is also generally determined by the Ministry of Justice under the Cabinet Fees Framework (CO(22)2). We understand that the current fee for members is set at \$51 per hour or \$78 per hour for the DLC chairperson. We consider that these rates should be reviewed to ensure that a greater pool of applicants may be attracted to undertake this work if remunerated adequately.

I have attached additional information
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
Yes

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	169
<i>First Name</i>	Alcohol Healthwatch
<i>Last Name</i>	Andrew Galloway

COMMITTEE REPORT



To: The Chairperson and Members of the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee

From: Manager Strategy

Subject: 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan hearings

Meeting Dates: 20 May 2024

1 PURPOSE - TAKE

The purpose of this report is to support the hearing of submissions on Waipā District Council's 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan Consultation Document and supporting information.

2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

The 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan was consulted on from 5 to 26 April 2024. A total of 292 submissions were received with 32 submitters requesting to speak to their submissions.

3 RECOMMENDATION – TŪTOHU Ā-KAIMAHI

That the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee

- a) *Receives the report of Melissa Russo, Manager Strategy titled '2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan hearings'(document number 11202233); and*
- b) *Hears the verbal submissions on the 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan Consultation Document and supporting information.*

4 BACKGROUND – KŌRERO WHAIMĀRAMA

At its 3 April meeting, the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee approved the 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan Consultation Document and supporting information for consultation.

A total of 292 submissions were received with 32 submitters requesting to attend hearings. Appendix 1 contains the submissions from those speaking at the hearing on 20 May 2024.

5 SIGNIFICANCE & ENGAGEMENT – KAUPAPA WHAI MANA ME NGĀ MATAPAKINGA

Staff have considered the key considerations under the Significance and Engagement Policy, in particular sections 7 and 8, and have assessed that the matter in this report has a low level of significance.

6 NEXT ACTIONS

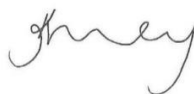
Deliberations will take place on 21 May 2024. Based on the Committee's recommendations following hearings and deliberations, the 2024/25 Annual Plan will be presented to Council for adoption on 25 June 2024 followed by the setting of rates.

7 APPENDIX- ĀPITITANGA

No:	Appendix Title
1	Submissions from those presenting at the hearing on 20 May 2024 on the 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan (ECM #11223118)



Melissa Russo
MANAGER STRATEGY



Kirsty Downey
GROUP MANAGER STRATEGY

APPENDIX 1

Submissions from those presenting at the hearing on the 20 May 2024 on the 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan (ECM #11223118)

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Amy
<i>Last Name</i>	Marfell
<i>Organisation</i>	Sport Waikato
<i>Id</i>	542

<i>Full Response</i>	<p>1. <i>What do you think? Do we have the balance right?</i></p> <p>-</p> <p>2. <i>Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?</i></p> <p>-</p> <p><i>Are there any further comments you would like to make?</i></p> <p>-</p>
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**SPORT WAIKATO'S SUBMISSION IN RESPONSE TO THE
WAIPĀ DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Enhanced Annual Plan 2024-25

26 April 2024

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1. ABOUT SPORT WAIKATO

Sport Waikato is one of 14 Regional Sports Trusts in Aotearoa/New Zealand, responsible for supporting Central Government and Sport New Zealand’s focus on getting more New Zealanders physically active. There is widespread and global evidence that physical activity enhances people’s physical, social, emotional, and mental health, educational outcomes and general wellbeing as well as making for a more cohesive society.

Founded in 1986, Sport Waikato’s vision is to have **“everyone out there and active”** so as to achieve a healthy, vibrant, physically active region through play, active recreation and sport.

OUR APPROACH

Sport Waikato is guided by Moving Waikato – the region’s unified strategy for physical activity through play, active recreation and sport. The strategy seeks to prioritise partnerships with other key agencies to influence key outcomes, including to increase the provision of opportunities for both participation and quality experiences for the people of the region. We believe that by working together we can achieve the ultimate goal of 75% of all Waikato adults and young people meeting the physical activity guidelines by 2030, and therefore, a more healthy, well and physically active region.

Moving Waikato is guided by a Strategic Advisory Group comprising representation from Health, Education (primary, secondary and tertiary), Local Government, Iwi, Sport NZ and Sport Waikato. The strategy has three key pillars each providing a lens that gives direction on how we work: **Our People**, **Building Communities**, and **Regional Leadership**

MOVING WAIKATO
A STRATEGY TO GROW PARTICIPATION IN PLAY, ACTIVE RECREATION AND SPORT IN THE WAIKATO REGION

**ONE VISION
EVERYONE OUT THERE AND ACTIVE**

Moving Waikato is an evidence based strategy for physical activity through play, active recreation and sport for the Waikato region, and gives focus and clarity towards 2025. It seeks to build on the positive momentum of existing partnerships and to increase the provision of opportunities for both participation and quality experiences for the people of the region.

- OUR PEOPLE**
A focus on the provision of opportunities that meet the needs of the people of our region.
MORE PHYSICALLY ACTIVE TAMARIKI, RANGATAHI AND WHAANAU
- BUILDING COMMUNITIES**
A focus on quality local delivery of play, active recreation and sport experiences.
HELPING COMMUNITIES TO HELP THEMSELVES
- REGIONAL LEADERSHIP**
A focus on regional and national partners working together to lead change and enhance outcomes.
LEADING AND DELIVERING CHANGE

ACHIEVING SUCCESS THROUGH WORKING TOGETHER

We are now into Horizon 2 of Moving Waikato, following its launch in 2016 and subsequent successes, including significant developments in the collection of key insights, sector capability work, the Waikato Regional Sports Facilities Plan (now the Waikato Regional Active Spaces Plan, which is in its 4th iteration), targeting participation among women and girls and the development of a regional cycle strategy. This next period (2024-2027) will see a focus on Rangatahi (12-17 years) and Tamariki (5-11 years) alongside specific commitment and attention to enabling participation among targeted populations, including: Maaori; deprived communities; women and girls; disabled people and those with low participation levels and/or those who tend to miss out.

THE IMPORTANCE OF COUNCILS TO OUR APPROACH

Councils play a key role in the work that Sport Waikato does and are an important partner and investor in enabling play, active recreation and sport to happen for people and communities. We wish to take a moment to thank Waipa District Council for their support of the work of Sport Waikato, whilst also acknowledging the immense fiscal pressure you are facing to provide community infrastructure while keeping costs for communities affordable.

Sport Waikato is excited to work alongside you to continue to ensure a range of opportunities for people to engage in physical activity exists across the Waipa District. In particular, we look forward to providing support for the planning, investment, and operation of the facilities and open spaces which enable play, active recreation and sport, as well as increasing collaborative and cross-sectorial partnerships that open up opportunities for increased levels of movement.

2. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The Waipā District (not unlike the Waikato Region and Aotearoa/New Zealand as a whole) faces a number of challenges in the future that necessitate the use of a planned and collaborative approach to the delivery of opportunities for play, active recreation and sport. Equally, there are a number of opportunities to entice and grow participation that can and should be realised. These challenges and opportunities are outlined below.

The Waipā district has a usual resident population of 53,241 people made up of over 19,581 households (Statistics New Zealand, 2018) with 20% of these households located rurally. This population figure is up 14% from the last census in 2013, which shows growth in the number of New Zealanders calling Waipā their home. By 2050, Waipā is expected to see an additional 25,000 reside in Waipā, impacting Cambridge (2,300 more homes), Te Awamutu (3,000 more homes) and Kihikihi (3,000 more homes). NIDEA 2018 is predicting that adults 45-64 years old will grow from current levels in 2023 of 15,342 to approximately 16,467 by 2043, and older adults 65+ from 11,816 in 2023 to 19,789 in 2043.

On top of this, the demographic trends show that the population is aging. Indeed, along with the rest of New Zealand, Waipā's population is projected to age over the next 30 years. The number of youth (aged under 15) is projected to hold steady at around 11,500. The population aged 65 years and older is projected to grow strongly, from 11,700 in 2018 to 19,500 in 2048, outnumbering both those aged 15-39 and 0-14 (Stats NZ, 2023).

People identifying as Māori in the Waipā District comprise 15% of the district population, which is lower than both the Waikato regional average of 24% and national average of 17%. Waipā District comprises 39 SA2 areas, with 5 of these reporting high levels of deprivation, totalling 8,525 people, or 16% of the population (Index of Multiple Deprivation, 2018) with a median household income of \$87,000p/a (Census, 2018).

Of course, a growing and aging population is a factor to consider. Additionally, with 1 in 5 people living in rural areas, there are challenges when it comes to providing for play, active recreation, and sports. These challenges are especially prominent when considering access and provisions that must meet the needs of a growing, changing, and often rurally distant community.

THE VALUE OF PLAY, ACTIVE RECREATION AND SPORT

In a 2018 study by Sport NZ, it was revealed that 92% of people believe being active keeps them physically fit and healthy, and helps relieve stress. A further 88% of people believed that sport and other physical activities provided them with opportunities to achieve and help build confidence, and 84% felt that sport brings people together while creating a sense of belonging. The vast majority of people (74%) also believed that sport helps to build vibrant and stimulating communities.

Of course, the benefits of physical activity through play, active recreation and sport are well documented and wide-reaching from physical health, to social, emotional and mental wellbeing. Indeed, a report on the *Social Return on Investment (SROI) of Recreational Physical Activity in Aotearoa New Zealand* (Sport NZ, October 2022) showed that recreational physical activity generates significant value for society across multiple wellbeing domains and outcomes. For every \$1 spent, there was a social return of \$2.12 to New Zealand, meaning that the value of the wellbeing outcomes for New Zealand is greater than the costs of providing these opportunities. While health outcomes are the most significant wellbeing domain for measuring the impact of sport and physical activity benefits to society, broader benefits were also *clear across several domains of wellbeing, including subjective wellbeing; income consumption and wealth; work, care and volunteering; family and friends; and safety*¹.

CURRENT LANDSCAPE OF PARTICIPATION IN WAIPA

Recent figures from Active NZ (2021) suggest that 75% of young people (5-17 years) and 67% of adults in the Waipā District do enough physical activity to positively impact their wellbeing, with 69% of young people and 75% of adults suggesting they would like to do more physical activity than they currently do.

Active recreation and play are the preferred modes of physical activity for Waipā residents with activities such as running/jogging, swimming, games (e.g., four square, tag, bullrush, dodgeball), playing (e.g., running around, climbing trees, make-believe) and cycling among the preferences for young people and walking, gardening, individual workouts with equipment, running/jogging and playing games (e.g., with kids) topping the list of preferred physical activities among adults.

3. OUR SUBMISSION ON YOUR PROPOSED ENHANCED ANNUAL PLAN 2024-25

In our submission, we wish to comment on the following:

1. **Thank you:** On behalf of the people of Waipā, Sport Waikato thank you for your investment contributions to play, active recreation and sport. Councils are key enablers of physical activity, and your effort and investment are noted and sincerely appreciated.
2. **Our Recommendations:**

Sport Field Investment and Lease Model Review

Sport Waikato recognises the challenging environment for local government at present and the subsequent reduction in funding towards play, active recreation and sport infrastructure noting that some key play,

¹ There is more evidence required to better reflect the true value of the social cohesion dimension which is considered to be currently undervalued.

active recreation and sport projects across Waipā are paused until consultation on the 2025-34 Long Term Plan early next.

Sport Waikato are supportive of council's approach to the 'Lease Model Review' across sport grounds which has been budgeted for and will help to guide a more sustainable model around the optimisation and upkeep of these assets in the future, while potentially guiding a more strategic approach to sport field improvements funding. **We are however conscious of the pause on funding towards sport field improvements, based on the following:**

- Pressure is growing on field networks because of factors such as movement in winter and summer sports seasons (coming closer together and in some cases overlapping), the growth in informal social play (outside of structured code play) and growth population catchments, particularly across the sub-region of Waipā and Hamilton
- Waikato sport parks are susceptible to poor condition in several locations based on an underlying peat base, making it extremely difficult to establish and maintain good quality soil, sand dressed and sand carpeted surfaces without significant investment
- Waikato insights via the Future of Rugby Clubs survey found that 80% of clubs are experiencing some form of capacity issue, 70% use fields during the summer (with 43% indicating access was insufficient to meet needs) and there was strong desire for more floodlight coverage, surface upgrades and access to additional fields

There is a desire from the community to ensure that sport grounds have well-functioning amenities and supporting infrastructure that meet the needs of the community across our sport ground network. Sport Waikato analysis highlights the following for Waipā residents:

- 31% of the community are physically active at sport fields as a family (22% as individual), while this is 46% and 27% respectively for parks and reserves.
- Community dissatisfaction for sport fields (19%) slightly outweighs satisfaction levels (14%).

Regionally, sport and recreational organisations have highlighted:

- 53% - facilities and spaces have quality issues
- 41% - facilities and spaces meet the needs of future communities
- Participants highlighted that improvement to clubrooms was the #1 priority for clubs, followed by amenities (toilets/changerooms) #2 and improved quality of provision (courts and fields) #3

Relevant Recommendation from Waikato Regional Active Spaces Plan

- *Complete leased park model of sport field allocation review.*
- *Develop or upgrade sports fields to increase capacity in line with the recommendations of the Central Waikato Sub-Region Winter Sports Field Study (Global Leisure Group September 2020), and Waikato Artificial Turf Study (Visitor Solutions 2023).*
- *Review and upgrade the provision, allocation, utilisation, quality and maintenance of sports fields based on current and future need*
- *Increase capacity of fields through provision of targeted flood lighting, improved turf management or multi-use artificial turf (cost benefit required for each). Council to consider working with partner funders to provide a comprehensive, maintained and accessible network of floodlit facilities*

Leamington Domain Masterplan

Sport Waikato supports funding outlined for the implementation of the Leamington Domain Masterplan including the increase funding towards the play spaces at the domain outlined in the Enhanced Annual Plan based on the following:

- 31% of the community are physically active at sport fields as a family (22% as individual), while this is 46% and 27% respectively for parks and reserves.
- Outdoor Sport and Recreational facilities are important community assets with 30% of the community reported that spaces, inclusive of outdoor courts, are locations where they are active.
- Community survey results reveal that 40% of respondents are using existing playgrounds/obstacle courses, yet only 21% are very or extremely satisfied with these with suggestions made that they

are not fit for purpose (e.g., family friendly, including opportunities for adults to play with their children, or accessible – able to be played on/in/at by people of different abilities)

The Leamington Domain concept will deliver an inclusive space for play, active recreation and sport and will provide spaces and opportunities for Tamariki and Rangatahi to be active. This is important with 76% of Waipā's rangatahi and 61% of Waipā's tamariki wanting to do more physical activity – Active NZ (2021)

Recommendation from Waikato Regional Active Spaces Plan – Play spaces approach for all councils

- *Maintain and/or enhance the network ensuring:*
 - *Focus on optimising and maintaining existing assets spaces.*
 - *Focus on flexible, accessible, and inclusive provision for all, including low participation groups*
- *Considerations around future planning should occur alongside planning for destination spaces (via town concept planning an alike) and key locations which cater for a large volume of active recreation.*
- *Where assets are highlighted to be renewed, consideration for co-design of engaging age-appropriate play opportunities*

Regional Connectivity Coordinator (North)

Sport Waikato's Regional Connectivity Coordinator team partner with all 10 Territorial Local Authorities across the greater Waikato region and this team includes a Coordinator who works across the Waipā and Waikato Districts and Hamilton city. The Coordinators serve as support for Council technical staff across play, active recreation and sport projects, as well as conduits between the local sector and local government providing, support, advocacy and strategic leadership around investment and decision-making as well as the delivery of quality play, active recreation and sport opportunities.

We know some of the biggest issues and opportunities we have to support community and individual wellbeing through physical activity can only be tackled effectively when we all work together. Many of the changes, challenges and opportunities relevant to our communities are beyond the ability of any one group or organisation to deal with. Therefore, **we request:** that Council continue to fund Sport Waikato at **\$50,000 plus GST per annum**, to provide this important service that includes working in partnership with Council to leverage quality play, active recreation and sport outcomes for the Waipā District. We already have a range of agreed projects with Council staff ready to action from 2024/25 as part of the recent renewal of the Waipā District Play, Active Recreation and Sport Plan and we look forward to working alongside Council to ensure people and communities in the Waipā district are active enough to positively impact their health and wellbeing.

Once again, we thank you for the opportunity to make a submission as part of Council's LTP process.

1. Key Documents and Data Sets to refer to in Reference to this Submission

- Moving Waikato
- The Waikato Regional Active Spaces Plan (WRASP)
- Sub-Regional Artificial Turf Study (Visitor Solutions – 2023)
- Regional Community Survey 2022
- Regional Club and Regional Sporting Organisation Survey 2022
- Active NZ 2021

4. SPORT WAIKATO CONTACTS

Should the Council wish to seek further information or clarification on this submission, please contact:

Matthew Cooper

Chief Executive

M: 027 545 0005

E: matthewc@sportwaikato.org.nz

Dr. Amy Marfell

General Manager – Regional Leadership

M: 0273502606

E: amym@sportwaikato.org.nz

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Jo
<i>Last Name</i>	Davies-Colley
<i>Organisation</i>	Cambridge Community Board
<i>Id</i>	440

<i>Full Response</i>	<p>1. <i>What do you think? Do we have the balance right?</i></p> <p>-</p> <p>2. <i>Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?</i></p> <p>a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.</p> <p><i>Are there any further comments you would like to make?</i></p>
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The Cambridge Community Board (CCB) acknowledges the significant financial pressures and constraints Waipa District Council is under and the resulting impact on aspirational projects, and indeed rate payers.

Pause on Projects: The CCB accepts the pause on the Te Awamutu museum project, Te Ara Wai, to be financially prudent.

The CCB submits that the Cambridge Library project planning continues in the Enhanced Annual Plan. We understand that existing budget limitations means no detailed design work could be undertaken at this point, however a comprehensive feasibility study has been completed and we believe this gives WDC the framework to begin essential early decision making around land acquisition for a future library site.

The CCB has serious concerns that if the Cambridge Library project is shelved in this annual plan, and not picked up until several years into the next Long Term Plan, that when the library eventually does get built, it will already be missing service delivery targets for the anticipated growth facing Cambridge and the surrounding communities.

We urge Waipa District Councillors to visit the Cambridge library and experience the immense pressure that library staff work under, as well as the significant space constraints for library patrons, the ever-growing collection of books stored on the floor, as well as the “cheek-by-jowl” library user experience across the building.

The CCB does not accept that the Cambridge Library project be removed from the Enhanced Annual Plan but advocates that planning continue specifically around land acquisition, and that it be kept front of mind for WDC as a key project in the first year of the next Long Term Plan.

In light of the significant and unavoidable rates increases, we believe a new library will present better value for Cambridge and Waipa residents than other significant projects.

Likewise, we understand the pause in funding for Cambridge Town Hall improvements but would like to see investment in this important community asset back in early years of the LTP.

Water Tower: The CCB accepts that removal of the water tower is the most financially prudent decision on the table but acknowledges that our community is split on the issue of demolishing this heritage structure.

Due to the Category 2 Heritage status of the water tower and the need for resource consent the CCB perceives there to be significant risk of the project cost escalating beyond the estimated budget without achieving the ultimate goal of ensuring public safety. This does not seem to be clear in the consultation document.

Rates Increases: We acknowledge the need to increase rates due to inflation and the cost of borrowing that WDC carries as well as the continued cost of growth. We also understand and want to highlight that increased rates will only add to the financial stress that many residents are already facing.

Funding Cuts: The CCB is prepared to accept funding cuts to our discretionary fund in light of the current economic environment. We would urge council not to take this a precedent-setting shift in the funding of community boards and recommend that this is reviewed at the earliest possible opportunity. The discretionary fund grants may seem small, but they go a long way to empowering our community to take ownership of their town and work together for positive outcomes.

The CCB submits that delegations to the board by council be funded in **addition** to the discretionary fund. For example, the CCB currently manages the Sister Cities relationship and this funding is granted in addition to the discretionary funding. We submit that funding for Anzac Day and Armistice Day commemorations, which are also council delegations, be in **addition** to the Discretionary Fund granted to the board by WDC. It will be very difficult for the board to operate any projects that support community wellbeing or advocacy if we are required to fund Anzac and Armistice commemorations from within the proposed smaller Discretionary Fund.

Event Funds: The CCB is concerned by the proposal to discontinue the Community Event Fund, our local community events do far more for the wellbeing of our people than just the economic benefit of bringing in people from out of town. We recommend that the criteria of the District Promotion Fund are changed so that Community Events can apply.

i-SITE: The CCB submits that some level of funding for the i-SITE should continue. The i-SITE supports local commerce and tourism through their work, as well as running key community events; this will be significantly compromised with a complete removal of funding. We also perceive a risk in duplicating this service by increasing staffing at WDC as opposed to funding this locally run and volunteer supported organisation to continue its positive work in the community. We suggest that the funding proposed for the communications team to do “online visitor promotional activity” could instead be directed to Cambridge i-SITE. A quick comparison of the i-SITE run www.cambridge.co.nz events page shows far more extensive event listings than www.whatsonwaipa.co.nz – perhaps there are some savings to be made here?

Urban mobility: There is no allocation in the EAP to further walking and cycling infrastructure. We know these safety improvements only add value to our community, especially school children. The CCB will continue to advocate for funding to be made available for walking and cycling improvements.

Further Projects: A vibrant town centre continues to be an important priority for CCB and we submit that future budgets include projects such as increased seating in Cambridge CBD, drinking fountains in Cambridge CBD as well as reserve spaces and sports fields and a business case for Riverside Park redevelopment.

SPP Submission

First Name

Nicola

Last Name

Greenwell

Organisation

Hamilton & Waikato Tourism

ID

370

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Hamilton & Waikato Tourism (HWT) provides this submission to encourage Waipā District Council to reconsider funding levels for the Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO) for the 2024-25 Enhanced Annual Plan and retain at the current level. | HWT is the Regional Tourism Organisation for Waipā; along with neighbouring districts of Hamilton city, Waikato, Ōtorohanga, Waitomo and Matamata-Piako.

Submission and supporting documentation is attached as separate pdf.



18 April 2024

Enhanced Annual Plan
Waipā District Council
Te Awamutu

Tēnā koutou katoa

Hamilton & Waikato Tourism (HWT) provides this submission to encourage Waipā District Council to reconsider funding levels for the Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO) for the 2024-25 Enhanced Annual Plan and retain at the current level.

HWT is the Regional Tourism Organisation for Waipā; along with neighboring districts of Hamilton city, Waikato, Ōtorohanga, Waitomo and Matamata-Piako. Recent research confirmed total combined funding for Hamilton & Waikato Tourism from our six partnering councils is significantly lower when compared to the other 30 Regional Tourism Organisations throughout the country. Per capita, the funding we receive through Service Level Agreements places us 28th out of the 31 RTOs.

While there is strong case and evidence to support a request for additional funding, we are not seeking any funding increase in this LTP, despite the fact our buying power has been severely impacted by rising costs over the last three years.

Tourism is very important for the region and Waipā with visitors contributing \$216million to the Waipā district economy for the year to October 2023 – \$44million of this is from international visitors, and \$172million from domestic visitors. This is \$592,000 of new money injected into your district economy each day.

Hamilton & Waikato Tourism's role is to grow tourism revenue through attracting more visitors to Waipā and the mighty Waikato who stay longer and spend more. We do this by raising awareness, changing perceptions and building demand in target markets. We aim to attract domestic and international visitors and increase their length of stay and expenditure through effective destination marketing, development, and management activity.

Hamilton & Waikato Tourism promotes the mighty Waikato, and the tourism businesses within it, as a preferred destination for domestic and international business, events and leisure travellers and provides leadership in regional product and event development, investment, and sector capability.

As passionate ambassadors of Waipā and the region, Hamilton & Waikato Tourism aims to ensure visitors are aware of and enjoy the wide variety of experiences and places on offer, in turn contributing to economic, social, environmental and cultural benefits for the community.

There is clear value and benefit from collaborating with neighbouring districts. Waipā and each district need each other to leverage the diverse visitor experiences and services to offer a compelling visitor experience. Partnering with HWT is proven to be a strong collaboration model ensuring the city and region are represented efficiently and effectively.

Working under a private-public partnership model, funding from partner councils enables HWT to undertake core activities including regional product development, sector capability building and the promotion of the region to leisure and Business Events visitors, media and the travel trade. When a project is appropriate, we work alongside and collaboratively with other regional entities: Te Waka, Creative Waikato, Waikato Screen, etc.

Tourism has the ability to actively benefit the community across the four wellbeing pillars – social, environmental, cultural and economic. Also increasing the profile of Waipā through HWT’s activities and channels is not only good for visitors – it is an important attractor for people who may want to invest and live in our region.

Supporting the sustainability of our visitor economy is not a luxury; it’s a necessity. The region cannot afford to lose visitor spend. We know with the right messaging, marketing, and mahi, tourism is an industry that adds value to the towns, city, region and communities. If we take our foot off the accelerator now, long term damage will be done, and it will take more money and a very long time to catch up lost ground.

We need our regional and local leaders to understand and acknowledge the contribution of tourism to Waipā and the mighty Waikato, and to recognise attracting visitors is a sound investment of ratepayer dollars. If funding is reduced, we will not be able to offer the level and breadth of current services. Cuts will be inevitable, which will result in less tourism revenue, less employment and a less prosperous Waipā. At the very least, we request our current funding to remain unchanged to be able to stay competitive with other regions in New Zealand.

The HWT Board and HWT Shareholder are clear the current proposed 20% reduction in funding will result in significantly less services from HWT, resulting in materially less tourism revenue into Waipā.

Therefore, the recommendation in our submission is to reinstate funding to the level of the last three years so Waipā’s tourism offer is able to be maintained at a compelling and competitive level.

On behalf of the board and management of HWT, we thank you for your consideration and urge reconsideration of the Enhanced Annual Plan budget for HWT.

Yours sincerely



Richard Leggat
Chairman
Hamilton & Waikato Tourism



Nicola Greenwell
Chief Executive
Hamilton & Waikato Tourism

Attached

- Submission to Enhanced Annual Plan
- Letter of Support – Tourism Industry Aotearoa TIA
- Letter of Support – Tourism New Zealand
- Letter of Support – Australasian Society of Association Executives
- Letter of Support – Explore Central North Island

Submission to Waipā District Council Enhanced Annual Plan 2024-2035

Regional Tourism Organisation – ~~nice to have~~



Regional Tourism Organisation – **must have**

Hamilton & Waikato Tourism (HWT) is the official tourism organisation for the Waikato region. Our role is to attract domestic and international visitors and increase the length of stay and expenditure through effective destination marketing, development, and management activity. HWT promotes Waipā and the Waikato as a preferred destination for domestic and international business, events and leisure travellers and provides leadership in regional product and event development, investment, and sector capability. As passionate ambassadors of the region, HWT aims to ensure visitors enjoy the wide variety of experiences and places throughout the mighty Waikato, in turn contributing to economic, social, environmental and cultural benefits for the community.



HWT is funded through a public/private partnership with the region's tourism industry and six local authorities including Waipā, Hamilton City, Matamata-Piako, Ōtorohanga, Waikato and Waitomo. Funding is provided for services agreed to within a signed Service Level Agreement. This submission is made to the Enhanced Annual Plan and subsequent Long Term Plan to continue funding through to 2035.

Our request

Waipā District Council EAP indicates a 20% reduction in funding. Any reduction in funding will directly impact deliverables and service delivery. Reduction in funding directly impacts the services we are able to provide to the visitor sector. Less resources = less services. Less services will inevitably lead to less visitors. Less visitors equals less visitor spend in our communities. This will impact communities across Waipā and the mighty Waikato.

In the 12 months ended October 2023 visitors spent \$1.9billion in our region; of this \$216million in Waipā district alone. This equates to \$592,000 new money being spent in your district each day. This is at risk should the RTO be unviable, or activities seriously diluted. (SOURCE: Month Regional Tourism Estimates)

While we acknowledge the council finances need addressing and 'tough decisions' need to be made, our submission to Waipā District Council urges reconsideration of funding allocation to the Service Level Agreement with Hamilton & Waikato Tourism. The HWT Board is clear the current proposed 20% reduction in funding will materially reduce the services we provide.

From past experience when the region had no RTO, tourism revenues were badly affected. The HWT board will endeavour to do all we can to keep some level of presence, however we will be less effective with any reduction in funding.

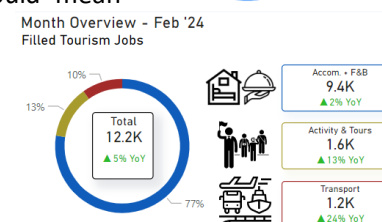
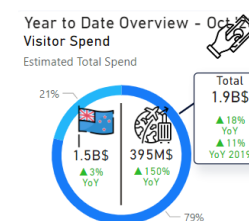


Introduction

1. Tourism Waikato was disestablished in 2006 when Hamilton City Council withdrew funding to secure the V8 Supercar event. This resulted in a significant decline in domestic and international visitor expenditure, a drop in overnight stays, lack of national and international tourism profile and destination marketing.
2. Hamilton & Waikato was re-established 1 July 2011. HWT is the Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO) for the mighty Waikato region. The core purpose of HWT is to promote the region as an appealing destination to international and domestic visitors in order to generate economic benefits for the region and its communities.
3. We understand the economic climate is tough and councils need to make savings in operating expenses. We therefore avoided requesting additional or increased funding. If funding can be maintained at current levels we will need to reduce some activity, given the impact of inflation on costs over the last three years, but overall, we believe we can be an active and effective RTO.
4. We understand savings need to be made. However, given the funding amount for HWT is just **0.12%** of the overall council operating budget the saving the proposed cut has minimal impact on your operating expenses but a large impact on HWT's viability. We propose the current reductions in the EAP are too great and must be reconsidered.

Value of Tourism to our economy

5. Visitors spend \$1.9billion in our region; this means \$5.1million each day is added to our regional economy, and as stated earlier \$216million is going directly to Waipā.
6. We achieve 6.3% market share of visitor spend across the country. With reduced activity from HWT, if the market share should drop just half a percent, this would mean \$149million less spent in the region per annum; or \$400,000 dollars less per day.
7. Data tell us 12,200 people are employed directly within the visitor sector in our region. On average, for every \$151,254 visitors spend, this equates to one job. Therefore, if our visitor spend reduces by \$149million, this has potential to impact 985 jobs in our community!
8. Similarly, 10% of New Zealand's Business Events are hosted in our region. This is 720 events hosting 94,400 delegates. If our market share should drop, the impact on venues, accommodation, event services etc would be negative.
9. Tourism is an important contributor to the region, not only in terms of the direct expenditure and employment generated, but also in terms of the broader economic development platform it provides. For example, the experience someone has in a region strongly influences their perception of that region as a place to live, work, study or invest. This applies to both visitors and residents.



Value of Tourism to Waipā district

10. Visitors spent over \$216million in Waipā YE October 2024 - \$44million from international manuhiri and \$172million from New Zealanders.

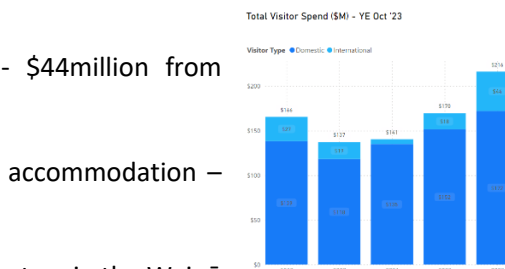
11. During 2023, 213,500 guest nights were enjoyed in commercial accommodation – occupancy rate of 52%.

12. The HWT team have provided support and expertise to many operators in the Waipā district over the last few years in particular.

13. Specific guidance and assistance has been provided to new and developing operators in Waipā, recently specifically Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari, Hidden Lake Hotel, The Clements, Riverside Adventures.

14. The new hotel soon to be opened in Cambridge is fantastic. A new hotel development is great news however the developer and operator will anticipate partnering with a well-functioning RTO to assist with filling their beds.

15. Waipā is home to significant events – NZ National Fieldays, events held at Karapiro, significant and sizable equine and cycling events. Our team showcase events coming up in the region to encourage visitation and extend length of stay. Many event organisers/promoters seek out and rely on the exposure the local RTO can provide for their event. The most recent and specific example was the International Breast Cancer Dragon Boat event hosted at Karapiro – the HWT team worked with the New Zealand committee to bid for and secure the event.



16. Due to HWT having strong events capability, the team are the Lead Entity for the Thermal Explorer Regional Events Fund. This fund has provided assistance to events hosted in your district – Sika Show, Great Kiwi Summer Festival, 2023 Olympic Weightlifting NZ National Championships; Autorama '23; Grins Night of Champions; Long Course Weekend and the NZ Fitness Festival. This is only accessible through the RTO – if there was to be no RTO, then central Government funding like this may not be available.

17. To quote Mayor Susan’s words at “Waipa Celebration event” in December 2023 at the Don Rowlands Centre: ***“now is the time to make ancestral decisions for the future generations”***.

What our residents say

18. Research carried out surveyed what our residents consider to be the benefits of tourism, and the challenges tourism brings to their community. 85% of our residents acknowledge they experience benefits from tourism, including more businesses, more employment, inspiration to travel domestically, and a greater variety of goods/services available.

19. Waipā residents identified the key benefits of tourism of more local businesses opening or being able to stay open and greater opportunities for employment.

Comparative funding for other RTOs

20. Research conducted comparing funding to each of New Zealand's RTOs by population indicate we are 28th out of the 31 RTOs, at our current funding levels. While we do all we can, it is a fact we compete with the other 30 RTOs for visitors, especially domestic visitors, and even on current funding we are pushing uphill. The proposed funding cut strongly suggests Waipā does not value the tourism dollar relative to other NZ towns and regions.
21. Regional Tourism Organisations compete for visitors, events and conferences. If HWT is not funded appropriately, we will not be able to remain competitive in the NZ tourism sector.

Result of reduced funding

22. Payment towards HWT activity is by way of Service Level Agreement, ie: HWT provides a service for our six councils. This is not a grant nor a handout. The RTO deliver these services on behalf of the partnering council. Without sufficient payment to conduct these services each council will need to have plans to deliver a number of these specialist tasks in-house or forgo them completely.
23. With other partnering councils also reducing by significant amounts, the current proposals have the potential to result in an approximate 40% reduction of budget. This will massively weaken the competitiveness of the RTO and our effectiveness.
24. Reduced council contributions will result in areas of work being reduced and some areas being removed from our activities and deliverables. We have a team of eight FTE staff who are subject experts, with experience and expertise in the visitor sector. Current proposed reduced funding means we will be forced to reduce staff.
25. When changes affect the visitor market, the RTO is there to provide expertise, support and guidance. This could be with negative incidents, ie: global pandemic, cyclone damage; or with positive changes, ie: new hotel development, investment and if/when international flights return to Hamilton Airport; or assisting maximising the impact of significant events, ie: FIFA Women's World Cup. A well-resourced RTO is here to support the sector through these times. Current proposed funding means the RTO would not be resourced sufficiently to assist during these times.
26. As Waikato Regional Airport Limited (WRAL) is HWTs shareholder, the WRAL board will make the ultimate decision on whether the organisation and work is viable to continue or disband the RTO function.

Conclusion

27. HWT thanks Waipā District Council for its support over the past 12 years.
28. Looking forward, the region needs tourism growth to increase the prosperity and living standards of its people. We can only do this by continuing a collaborative and long-term strategic approach, led by an appropriately funded and resourced Hamilton & Waikato Tourism.
29. Reduced funding will result in reduced services from HWT, with significant negative impacts on the sector and community.
30. **HWT would like to request to speak to this submission at the LTPs hearings.**
31. All enquiries should be made to Nicola Greenwell, CE of Hamilton & Waikato Tourism. Email nicola@waikatonz.com or phone 07 843 0056.

Recommendation

32. Waipā District Council continues its partnership with Hamilton & Waikato Tourism in collaboration with other Waikato based councils;
33. Waipā District Council elected members to reconsider funding of Hamilton & Waikato Tourism; and
34. Waipā District Council commits investment to Hamilton & Waikato Tourism to the same level as currently invested (\$183,378) with annual CPI increases in the Enhanced Annual Plan 2024-25; and through into the subsequent Long Term Plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit to Waipā District Council's draft Enhanced Annual Plan 2024-25.



Richard Leggat
Chairman
Hamilton & Waikato Tourism



Nicola Greenwell
Chief Executive
Hamilton & Waikato Tourism

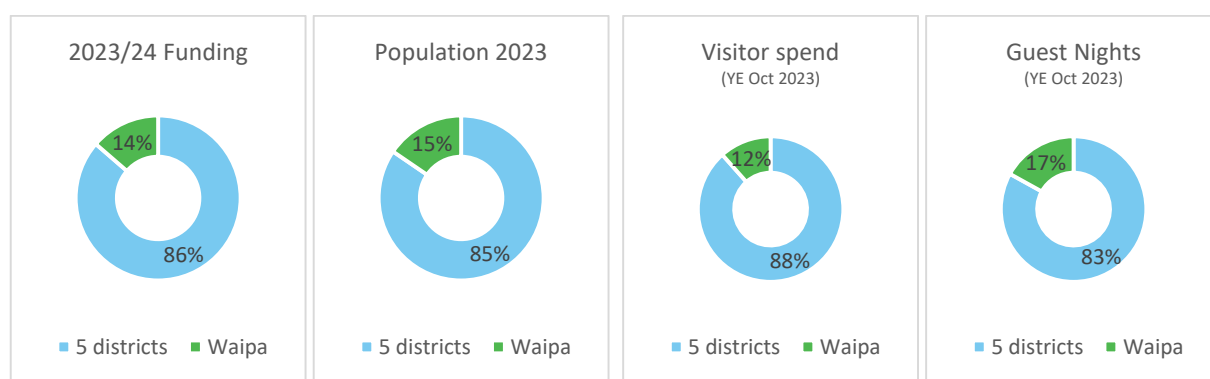
Appendix – quick facts, data and insights

Visitors contribute \$216million to Waipā’s economy – a return of \$1,180 for each dollar contributed by Waipā DC to HWT’s work. While no concise measure to indicate how much of this is due to the RTO’s work – if we assume as low as 3% - our activity directly contributes \$6.5 million.

(Source: [MBIE Monthly Regional Tourism Estimates](#))

Waipā’s **population of 61,100** contributes **\$2.99 per person** towards HWT’s activities.

(Source: [Regional Economic Activity Web Tool](#))



We are the only RTO with six contributing councils (every other RTO has less than this). We have the 4th largest city in our region. We are a large region, and yet... our funding per person compared to other RTO’s – we are 28th out of 31 RTOs. Overall, HWT receives \$3.44 per person across the region.

(Source: [RTNZ Project Tōnuī](#))

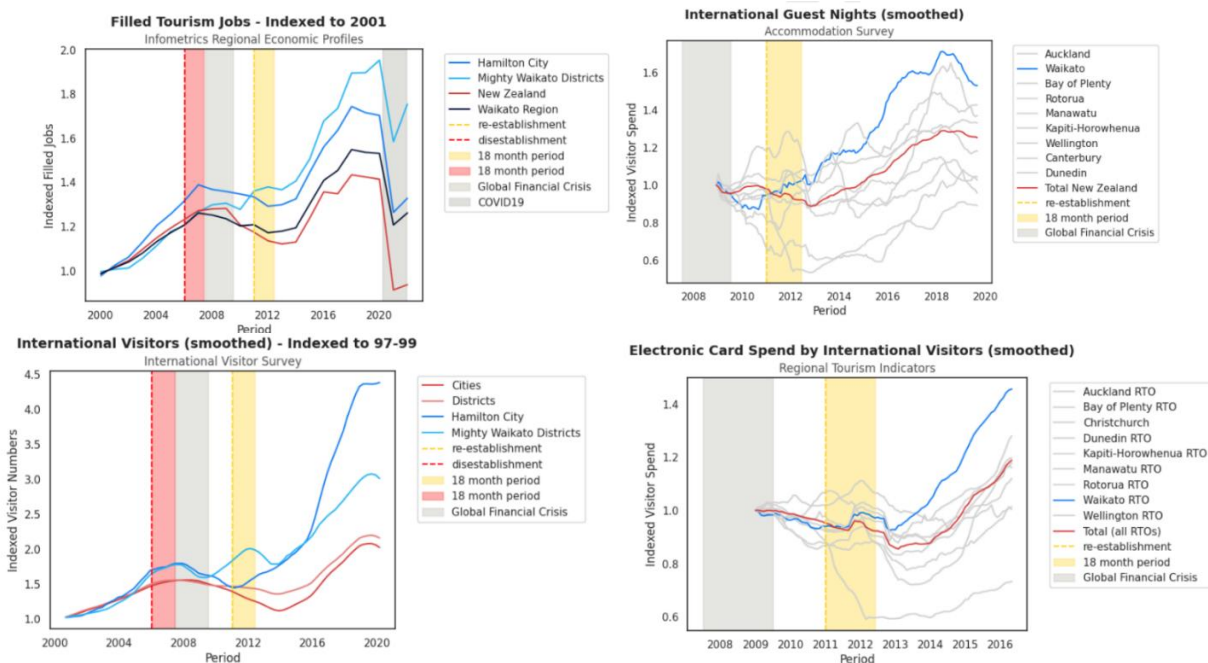
Proposed funding across the six partnering councils results in a smaller budget than the initial budget when HWT was re-established in 2011

The abstract, often unseen, support provided by the HWT team:

- Cyclone Gabrielle – Government provided Cyclone Recovery fund which omitted Hamilton and Waikato. HWT successfully advocated on behalf of the operators who suffered damage and had to close for weeks in order to repair such damage.
- Covid-19 Global Pandemic – hours and hours of work supporting our sector navigate the new rules and government subsidies. Provided many webinars on cash flow management, business plans, resilience, digital activations and many more subjects. Instigated the “mighty Local” activations, providing information to our local community at the various ‘alert’ levels.



Waikato Tourism disbanded in 2006. There was no RTO in our region for 5 years. Visitation, guest nights, visitor spend and jobs decreased during this period. We have seen increases in all since the re-establishment of HWT.



In 2019 tourism was number 1 export earner for NZ at \$41 billion. While the sector has suffered due to the Covid-19 pandemic, 2023 Tourism Satellite Account shows visitor sector contribution to NZ of \$38 billion. Recovery post-covid is very strong. Tourism is expected to once again claim the Number 1 export earner title very soon.

(Source: [Tourism Satellite Account 2023](https://rtnz.org.nz/project-tonui/))

Case Study: a video that showcases the impact of reduced RTO activities: [What happens when you cut a destination's marketing budget? The story of Colorado Tourism – a cautionary tale](#). The report can be found [here](#).

Case Study: report from US Travel Association – [“What’s at Stake When Destinations Stop Marketing: The Power of Travel Promotion”](#)

Quote from **Stephen England-Hall** during early part of Covid-19 global pandemic. At the time, Stephen was CE of New Zealand Tourism: *“Tourism New Zealand continued to keep the New Zealand brand alive in other international markets to keep New Zealand’s destination brand present in the minds of our audience and avoid ‘going dark’.... A year of not promoting a destination could mean up to three years of trying to recover that lost ground, amid intense competition from other countries for tourists.”*



Destination promotion is essential to the quality of place in our community

Tourism builds community

9 April 2024



Nicola Greenwell
Chief Executive
Hamilton & Waikato Tourism

By email: nicola@waikatonz.com

Kia ora

Long-term Plans 2024-2034 for Waikato Councils: TIA Submission

Tourism industry Aotearoa welcomes the opportunity to set out the importance of continued Council investment into the tourism-related functions carried out by Hamilton & Waikato Tourism.

Key feedback

TIA views tourism as being an enormously beneficial contributor to people and place. The tourism and hospitality industry is integral to our national identity; when it thrives, so does New Zealand. It brings economic diversity, resilience, generates jobs and fosters regional prosperity while showcasing our cultural richness and timeless experiences, fostering pride and social connectivity both locally and globally.

Across New Zealand, local government is under immense pressure. TIA recognises this pressure, and the difficult decisions Councils are tasked with making. Notwithstanding this, we submit that funding for core tourism activities by Councils is an investment in the economic health and future prosperity of the towns, cities and region of the Waikato, an investment that will generate a healthy return on investment (ROI).

It is our understanding that tourism functions of Hamilton & Waikato Tourism are signalled as reducing in the long-term planning processes of the six Councils.

Given what the international evidence base tells us, we believe it is important to treat Council spend in these tourism functions as an investment, and not a cost. This spend will generate a dividend in the form of increased economic activity, increased Council revenues, more and better jobs, and increased vibrancy across the city. During this period of slowing economic growth and increasing headwinds, enabling buoyant tourism activity is a logical and prudent step for Councils to take.

TIA recommends that:

Each of the six Councils who collaborate and partner with Hamilton & Waikato Tourism ensure that funding provision for the Service Level Agreement is retained and maintained in their Long-term Plans so that the wider Waikato region can accrue its return on investment in these tourism functions.

Tourism Industry Aotearoa

TIA is the peak body for the tourism industry in Aotearoa New Zealand. With around 1,300 members, TIA represents a range of tourism-related activities including hospitality, accommodation, adventure activities, attractions, retail, airports and airlines, transport, as well as related-tourism services.

TIA is sharply focused on ensuring the sustainable future of the industry, and this is clearly articulated in our key guiding documents and programmes. These include the tourism industry's strategic framework, *Tourism 2050 – A Blueprint for Impact, He Pae Tukutuku, and the industry's sustainability platform New Zealand Tourism Sustainability Commitment - He kupu taurangi kia toitū ai te tāpoitanga.*

Tourism 2050 has ten Actions, one of which is 'Address Industry Funding' which includes local government funding for tourism. It is a priority for TIA that substantive progress is made in this area, and sustaining Council funding levels form part of this.

The tourism industry

Tourism is the movement of people to places where they don't normally live to 'do, see, visit or experience'.

In the year to March 2023 (the latest data point we have) tourism expenditure was \$37.7 billion, and with tourism making up 11.4% of exports and supporting 11.3% of New Zealand's employment.¹ Since then, further recovery has taken place as tourism works to restore its position alongside Dairy as New Zealand's largest export earning sectors.

The Waikato region received \$1.9b of international and domestic spending in the year to October 2023.² It hosted 1.3 million guest nights per year, or 3.3% of New Zealand's total guest nights.³ As such, tourism plays an important role within the region.

Nature of this submission

TIA recognises that the Regional Tourism Organisation of the Waikato region, Hamilton & Waikato Tourism, is supported and funded by six City or District Councils – Hamilton, Waipa, Waikato, Waitomo, Otorohanga and Matamata Piako.

This makes it important that the contributions from each Council are in place to ensure that Hamilton & Waikato Tourism has the capacity and critical mass to drive the growth and development of tourism in your region.

As such, this submission is designed to inform each of the six Councils about the importance of sustaining tourism functions as a driver of economic and social well-being in each of the Council areas and across the region.

Tourism spend is an investment

Council spending on tourism activities such as destination marketing and events promotion is widely considered to be an investment, not a cost.

As an investment, resources spent in these areas generate a return over and above the direct cost, and that is why countries and cities around the world invest in these functions. Generally, for every \$1 invested in the local visitor economy there is a direct return for the funding party, such as the local government entity, and with a larger benefit for businesses and people working in the local economy. This is the globally accepted rationale for destination marketing and events attraction activities.⁴

¹ Tourism Satellite Account, YE March 2023, Stats NZ, February 2024.

² Monthly Regional Tourism Estimates, YE October 2023, MBIE, 2023.

³ Data Accommodation Data, YE February 2024, MBIE, 2024

⁴ There is extensive literature on the Return on Investment from destination marketing. However, there is a vast number of ways ROI can be calculated depending on the methods used. What is common is that the ROI is invariably positive, and usually strongly positive. In analysis by Oxford Economics for the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTTC) the following ROIs were cited: Visit Denmark: ROI 16:1, Visit Scotland: ROI 20:1; Australia's 'A Different Light campaign': ROI 64:1; Canada Tourism Commission: ROI 38:1; Visit California: ROI of between 25:1 and 200:1 depending on target market.

In cases where such funding has been withdrawn, the consistent outcome is a discernible decline in tourism activity and, over time, reinstatement of the funding, followed by a gradual period of catch up. The case study evidence shows that when tourism related investment is cut, visitor spending starts reducing immediately and continues to decline. Fortunately, there are not too many of these case studies because funding reductions are quite rare which indicates that the boost generated from this type of investment is recognised and valued.

The Colorado example is widely held as the classic case study.⁵ When Colorado's \$12m tourism marketing budget was cut to zero in 1993, annual visitor spending reduced by \$1.4b initially and then to \$2b annually. State and local taxes fell by \$134m. With reinstatement of funding to \$17m in 2006, the advertising spending of \$10.7m generated an additional \$2.1b of visitor spend and additional tax revenue of \$139m. For the State funder, for every dollar it spent, it received an additional \$12.96 of tax revenue. A 13:1 return.

Similarly, in 2013 the San Diego Tourism Authority had its budget reduced by 83%, down from \$28m to \$4m.⁶ ⁷ Over the following year, this rapidly impacted the performance of the San Diego hotel industry, with room demand, occupancy and price levels all trailing other regional and national destinations that had maintained funding. As funding was returned, the market position was restored reasonably quickly.

Events play a very important role in creating demand of high value visitors, and as a lever for tackling hard-to-address issues such as seasonality or time-of-week fluctuations. This elevates the benefits from investing in programmes that attract events and particularly those that can provide a boost to fill what would be an otherwise quiet period. Through having an ability to attract events, regions can create a more even and predictable demand pattern that can sustain businesses and the jobs that they create.

TIA submits that, in line with international evidence, the Councils that support and enable Hamilton & Waikato Tourism to ensure there is sufficient base funding for tourism functions in the interest of gaining both the return on investment and the intangible place-making and community benefits that will accrue from this expenditure.

Conclusion

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views and we would be most happy to expand on any points raised in this submission.

Please do not hesitate to get in contact if you have any queries. Bruce Bassett can be contacted on 021 609 674 or bruce.bassett@tia.org.nz.

Ngā mihi,



Rebecca Ingram
Chief Executive

⁵ <https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn%3Aaid%3Ausc%3AUS%3A5f329423-2212-352a-91b4-718798f774c2#pageNum=1>

⁶ https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/tmd_tourismeconomics072916.pdf

⁷ https://www.ustravel.org/sites/default/files/media_root/document/POTP_Negative_Case_Studies.pdf



18 March 2024

Kia Ora Nicola

Thank you for your request to Tourism New Zealand for a letter of support to assist in your discussions with your funders around securing ongoing funding to enable you to continue to work effectively with our organisation. As New Zealand's National Tourism Organisation we are responsible for promoting New Zealand as a visitor destination in key markets overseas and our relationship with all the 31 Regional Tourism Organisations (RTOs) across Aotearoa including Hamilton & Waikato Tourism is critical.

To ensure tourism benefits New Zealand we target visitors from key international markets. Once here, it's important our visitors have a great experience, so we also guide them on travelling safely and caring for our home, people and culture.

To do these successfully we rely on having a close relationship with each RTO to ensure that we are closely aligned to their own specific regional identity and community desires, which are outlined in their current destination management plans. Without this close relationship our own marketing and operational plans cannot accurately reflect the diversity that exists across New Zealand, especially in local communities such as in Hamilton and Waikato.

Our role is to ensure that tourism contributes to a sustainable and productive future across:

- **Economy** The tourism economy thrives and grows adding incremental value to the New Zealand economy and its assets.
- **Nature** Tourism restores, maintains and nourishes the environment for the intergenerational benefit of New Zealand.
- **Culture** The tourism story and experience preserve and enhance our values, culture and heritage; the makeup of our identity.
- **Society** People in and part of tourism communities thrive through jobs, shared knowledge, and physical and mental well-being.

Our activity is carefully focused on several key markets around the world and a select group of consumers within those key markets. This is so we get the maximum yield for the tourism industry including operators across Hamilton and Waikato.

We work offshore to encourage our target market, those 'Actively Considering' New Zealand to book, visit more of our regions and do more during their time here. In a very competitive international market, our work with Hamilton & Waikato Tourism is critical to ensure that we can connect with local operators across the region.

As well as marketing to consumers, our trade training, marketing and media programme is designed to ensure that those who sell New Zealand have the knowledge and understanding to do so well. This includes our work in the business events area that provides business-specific funding and support for international conferences. Working in partnership with Hamilton & Waikato Tourism gives us the ability to connect the region to these audiences.

Nga mihi

Rene de Monchy
Chief Executive

Support Paper: The Essential Role of Regional Tourism Bureaus in Supporting New Zealand's Association Conferences and Events

Introduction

The Australasian Society of Association Executives (AuSAE) New Zealand, representing a vibrant community of chief executives and senior leaders from professional associations and trade associations across Aotearoa New Zealand. Our members are at the forefront of professional development, economic growth, and community wellbeing and underscores the urgent need to maintain or increase core funding for regional tourism organisations, specifically focusing on Hamilton and Waikato Tourism (HWT). This advocacy is driven by the looming threat of significant funding cuts across several councils, jeopardising the foundational support for our regional tourism and event-hosting capabilities. . This paper champions the critical need to sustain, if not increase, core funding for regional tourism bureaus.

The Value of Associations to Regional Economies

Membership bodies significantly boost regional economies through conferences and events, far beyond mere financial injections. These gatherings serve as catalysts for economic, social, and educational development, leaving a lasting positive impact on host regions. Our partnership with Hamilton and Waikato Tourism has been pivotal in elevating the region's profile, leading to a succession of business opportunities and securing the association community's business in an unparalleled manner.

Strategic Partnership with Hamilton and Waikato Tourism

Our collaboration with HWT has proven instrumental in enhancing the visibility and attractiveness of the Hamilton and Waikato region to the association sector. Together, we've positioned the region as a top destination for conferences and events, generating direct economic benefits and solidifying industry relationships. This partnership has facilitated memorable experiences for attendees and created substantial business opportunities, contributing to the region's economic vitality and expansion.

Impact of Funding Cuts

The substantial funding cuts proposed from the six councils places this valuable partnership in jeopardy. Such cuts threaten to dilute HWT's efforts and could inadvertently shift the association community's focus to other regions for their events. The forthcoming decision by our shareholder on whether to continue or dissolve HWT, followed by the board's decisions on operational focuses, presents a concerning outlook for the future of regional tourism and our collective endeavours.

11 March 2024

The Critical Nature of Continued Support

The potential downscaling or cessation of HWT's activities would not only be a loss for the Hamilton and Waikato region but also for the wider association community that AuSAE represents. The unique synergy between AuSAE and HWT has been a cornerstone of our mutual success, delivering enhanced professional development opportunities, economic benefits, and community engagement to the region.

Conclusion

The partnership between professional and trade associations and regional tourism organisations, exemplified by AuSAE and Hamilton and Waikato Tourism, is vital for the prosperity of regional economies and the association sector. We advocate for sustaining or enhancing funding for these organisations to ensure the continued success of such partnerships. As AuSAE New Zealand, we urge councils, and stakeholders to recognise the extensive benefits of these collaborations and to act decisively in support of our communities' and regional economies' future.

Urgent Call to Action

In light of these challenges, our collective voice must be heard louder than ever. We must unite to support the sustainability of HWT and similar entities, ensuring their continued invaluable contributions. The potential disappearance of such organisations would not only impact current operations but also diminish the region's future potential for economic and professional development in hosting association events.

Brett Jeffery/CAE – General Manager New Zealand

Australasian Society of Association Executives
159 Otonga Road, Rotorua 3015
New Zealand
027 249 8677
brett@ausae.org.au

11 March 2024

explore Central North Island

Thermal Explorer Highway / Pacific Coast Highway / Volcanic Loop



17 April 2024

Tēnā Koe

RE: Submission on 2024-34 Long Term Plan

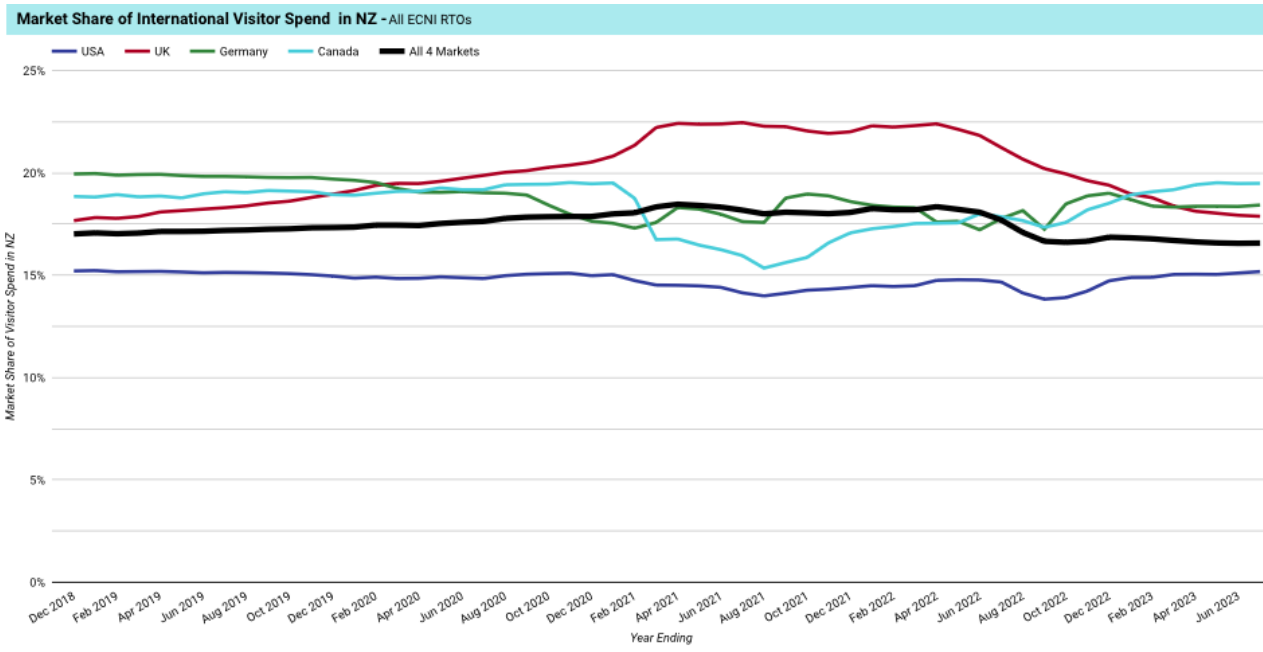
We are writing regarding the proposed changes in funding, contained in the draft 2024-34 Long Term Plan (LTP), for your Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO), Hamilton & Waikato Tourism. As a collective of eight RTOs who form the Explore Central North Island (ECNI) marketing alliance and make up a large portion of the North Island, we have significant concerns about the proposed changes.

ECNI is a central North Island collaboration between Destination Hauraki Coromandel, Tourism Bay of Plenty, Visit Ruapehu, Destination Great Lake Taupō, Rotorua NZ, Hamilton & Waikato Tourism, Activate Tairāwhiti, and Hawke's Bay Tourism who come together to market ourselves. We promote the three main touring routes through the central North Island; [Pacific Coast Highway](#), [Thermal Explorer Highway](#) and the [Volcanic Loop](#). In addition, we provide a number of specific itineraries through the eight regions of ECNI to assist both domestic and international travellers and industry members, to experience some of New Zealand's beautiful sights and activities. As a collective we host and attend trade training events in NZ and internationally, keeping Travel Buyers up to date with product offerings from central North Island tourism businesses for their clients traveling to NZ. Our collective voice is strong as we continue to drive and increase demand for North Island visitation.

The primary focus for ECNI is achieving growth in the key long haul western markets of North America and UK/Europe. For the year ending July 2023, international visitor expenditure for these key markets exceeded pre-Covid levels at \$209.49million across the ECNI regions. Following a summer season where we have experienced strong growth in the North American market, this figure will have increased significantly, underlining the value of tourism to your local communities and benefit of the ECNI partnership. The following table provides additional detail on the market growth for ECNI.

All ECNI RTOs - International Visitor Spend				Market Growth			Post-COVID Recovery		
Market	Year Ending July			% change 2022-23			Pre-COVID YE Jul-19	% recovered Jul 2023	
	2021	2022	2023	RTO	NZL	RTO		NZL	
USA	\$20.56M	\$25.84M	\$102.94M	+298.4%	+284.9%		\$77.61M	133%	132%
UK	\$32.70M	\$31.78M	\$75.45M	+137.4%	+182.1%		\$77.00M	98%	100%
Germany	\$1.50M	\$1.02M	\$16.73M	+1543.9%	+1485.5%		\$32.77M	51%	55%
Canada	\$2.13M	\$2.29M	\$14.37M	+526.7%	+474.3%		\$15.03M	96%	94%
All 4 Markets	\$56.90M	\$60.93M	\$209.49M	+243.9%	+267.3%		\$202.40M	104%	107%
Other Intl	\$71.86M	\$74.43M	\$278.28M	+273.9%	+271.7%		\$287.00M	97%	97%
Total Intl	\$128.76M	\$135.36M	\$487.77M	+260.4%	+270.0%		\$489.40M	100%	101%

From both an international and domestic perspective, tourism is a highly competitive sector. At a national level New Zealand must compete strongly to secure a small share of the total international tourism market and once a visitor has decided on New Zealand as their next destination, regions compete fiercely for a visitor’s time and money. In a New Zealand context, the larger metropolitan centres and those with an international airport are at a distinct advantage, with much larger marketing budgets and more opportunities to partner with airports and airlines. ECNI pools resource and has been very effective at maintaining market share across the target markets, as detailed in the following graph.



The proposed funding reduction in the draft LTP will jeopardise Hamilton & Waikato Tourism ongoing participation in ECNI. As discussed above, the ECNI partnership allows the 8 regions to compete successfully, as evidenced through market share and visitor expenditure, against the larger gateway regions that have significantly larger budgets. Put simply, each RTO’s investment in ECNI delivers excellent value for money as funds and resource allocated is boosted 8 times through the partnership. Any RTO not contributing will cease to be part of the partnership, will no longer appear in itineraries and marketing activity, and understandably lose market share.

It is important to highlight that the proposed reduction in funding will result in a very significant economic contraction, that will require significantly greater investment to reverse once enacted. There are a range of international case studies that demonstrate how even well-known destinations can suffer when they fail to promote themselves. One of the most relevant examples is Colorado, which shut down its travel promotion program in 1993 by cutting the states promotion budget from US\$12 million to zero almost overnight. The consequences were immediately felt as follows:

- Within one year, Colorado slipped from first place to 17th place in the summer resort category.
- By 1997, Colorado's overall share of the U.S. leisure market plummeted by 30%.
- Visitor spending fell dramatically, creating an immediate loss in revenues of US\$1.4 billion, which increased to US\$2.4billion by the late 1990s.
- As a consequence, state and local tax receipts dropped by US\$134 million between 1993 and 1997.
- In 2000, the state opened the Colorado Tourism Office with a US\$5 million annual budget, which increase to US\$19million in 2006 following a demonstrated return on investment of more than 12:1.
- The head of the Colorado Tourism Office in 2011 was quoted "Our lesson to [the state of] Washington is that it's been 18 years since we went dark in 1993, and we still haven't gotten back it the national market share we had."

Any reduction in the modest funding provided to Hamilton & Waikato Tourism will result in a significant economic contraction as competing regions secure market share. Once lost, this is difficult to regain and will require substantial new investment beyond the amount saved in the proposed cuts.

Tourism plays a pivotal role in the economic, social, and cultural fabric of New Zealand. Beyond the iconic landscapes and attractions that draw international visitors, tourism offers an opportunity for local communities to showcase their unique heritage, traditions, and natural wonders. Tourism fosters a sense of pride and identity among locals, encouraging preservation and stewardship of natural and cultural assets. Overall, tourism not only drives economic growth through visitor expenditure and employment but also creates vibrancy and a destination that is a great place to live, work and do business.

On behalf of Explore Central North Island



Andrew Wilson

Chief Executive RotoruaNZ and Chair Explore Central North Island

Destination Hauraki Coromandel, Tourism Bay of Plenty, Visit Ruapehu, Destination Great Lake Taupō, Rotorua NZ, Hamilton & Waikato Tourism, Activate Tairāwhiti, and Hawke's Bay Tourism.

THE VALUE OF TOURISM IN THE MIGHTY WAIKATO

Tourism significantly boosts a community's financial and social well-being. It drives local business innovation and growth, creates jobs, and generates revenue, while also contributing to infrastructure development and vibrancy of place. In addition, tourism helps to preserve cultural heritage, encourages social interactions between locals and visitors, fosters a sense of regional pride, and supports environmental conservation.

RTO Regional Statistics

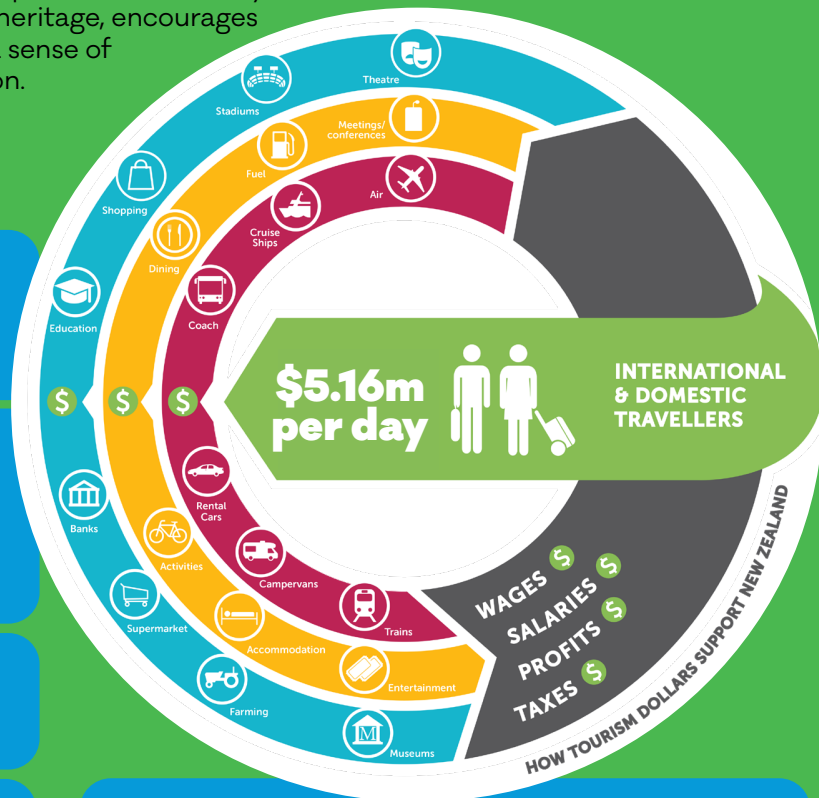
\$1.86b total visitor spend
5th highest in New Zealand
YE October 2023

105,600 delegates hosted across **815** Business Events

12,000+ people directly employed in tourism in Waikato RTO area

1,700,000 average monthly visitors to Waikato

56,000 average daily visitors
2nd highest in New Zealand
8.8% market share



\$1.807m Tourism GDP for Waikato RTO area in 2020 (pre-COVID)

\$216.3m total visitor spend contributed to Waipā District council economy.
YE October 2023

Domestic visitors contributed **\$172.1m**

International visitors contributed **\$44.2m**

211,900 commercial guest nights.
YE January 2024

National



2,902,787

International Visitor Arrivals to New Zealand
170% increase on previous year
YE November 2023

Key Markets:

Australia – 1,266,135
USA – 322,721
UK – 173,286
China – 136,479

Prior to Covid-19, NZ welcomed 3,854,716 international visitors per annum

HWT Activity - Highlights

1 July 2023 - 31 January 2024

13,474,712+ people reached through HWT marketing and PR activity

2 business events marketing campaigns

5 domestic leisure marketing campaigns

36 service requests for event professionals

17 capability building videos

11 operator case studies

8 in-person/online workshops and events and online resources

1353 travel trade trained

17 regional conference bids

From 1 February 2024

4 domestic marketing campaigns

7 capability building videos

14+ familiarisation visits across travel trade, media and business events

6 in-person trade shows, events and expos

430+ travel trade to be trained

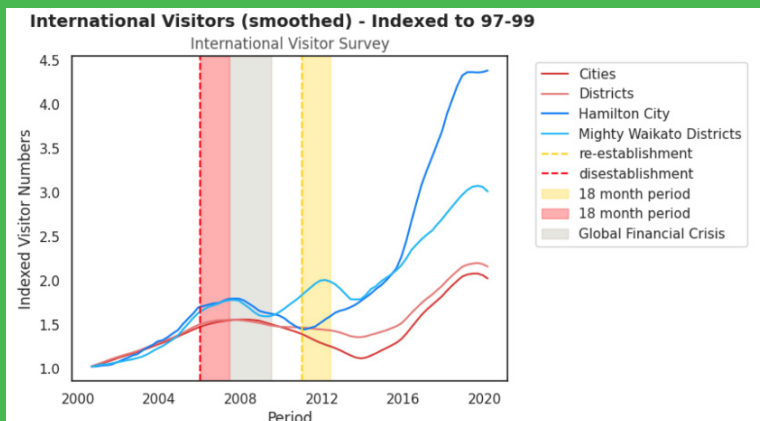
2 NZ Food Story episodes featuring Waikato

6 operator case studies

If we, HWT, conservatively equate our efforts to just 1% of the \$1.86 billion visitor spend in the 12 months to the end of October 2023, that's a total of **\$18.6 million extra** we have brought into the region.

We currently achieve 6.3% market share of visitor spend. With reduced activity from HWT, if the market share should drop just 0.5%, this would mean \$149million less spent in the region per annum; or \$400,000 dollars less per day.

On average, for every \$151,254 spent by visitors equates to one job. Therefore, if our visitor spend reduced by \$149million, this has potential to impact more than **980 jobs** in our community.



SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Ange
<i>Last Name</i>	Holt
<i>Organisation</i>	Te Awamutu and Kihikihi Community Board
<i>Id</i>	538
<i>Full Response</i>	<p>1. <i>What do you think? Do we have the balance right?</i> Based on community feedback, we believe the proposed rates still too tough and unsustainable. See attached for comments.</p> <p>2. <i>Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?</i> b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower</p> <p><i>Are there any further comments you would like to make?</i> Up to the Cambridge community to make the call on if it stays or goes. See attached for comments.</p>

Te Awamutu & Kihikihi Community Board Submission

Based on Community feedback we believe that the average rate rise of 14.8% is unsustainable and too much for many of our community to bare. We would prefer to see it trimmed further and sit an average of between 10% and 12%. Due to recent inflationary rises and continuing rent increases (which a rates hike will only exacerbate) we are starting to see those on low to middle incomes really start to struggle. This rate increase is going to impact them further. After discussing this with some of our rural rate payers at the recent Federated Farmers AGM a nearly 15% increase year on year is not sustainable.

We appreciate that Te Awamutu Residential is currently at 12% (our higher preference) which if passed on will still add another \$55 to \$65 dollars to weekly rents when passed on by landlords. So you can see how important it is to keep our rate increase as low as possible.

We believe that there are opportunities to do this through further cuts in operational expenses including :

- Reduction in project value (approximately \$7M), with a corresponding reduction in staff/consultation costs there needs to be a cut to the cloth to make it fit. Our big ticket items like Te Ara Wai & Cambridge Library etc need to be priced within our means. Having the biggest and best is great if our community can afford it but not if it can't.
- Reducing service levels except for roading but hold to higher account to make sure we are receiving those levels of service.
- Reducing debt - very concerned with the high debt level - can we see sensitivity calculations with higher interest rates on the possibility of that eventuating?
- Push back on Growth? Can we not defer some growth plans? Pay for a percentage of growth (capped) costs before we continue with more growth-related projects. Eg We need to get 50% paid back before we press on and put in the next lot of infrastructure.
- Council actively lobby central government for more support, eg GST goes back to the councils. This may require us to team up with other councils to garner more support and attention.

We would like to acknowledge the very difficult situation we are currently in with getting the waters back at a time where inflation, interest rates and operating costs have all significantly increased. We fully appreciate what council are trying to do and how hard everyone has worked.

Community Funding is an integral part of keeping our community humming along. We would like to see less cuts across this space including our own discretionary funding. The organisations that apply for assistance by in large run largely on volunteer hours and shoestring budgets. With the tightening of the large funding agencies belts (Lotteries apparently down 27%) these small groups will struggle to get funding to continue and losing any of them would truly be a loss to our community. We will most certainly see less community run projects and events, that support our well being and economy.

We would like to see our funding (discretionary) only drop to \$40k. We need this to lead community projects and support our local community initiatives. We are always oversubscribed and generally this is by approximately 3 times what we have to give out. We currently have approximately \$8,000 in the discretionary fund and 16 local worthy applicants asking for \$36,000. Our previous application was 29 and approx. \$56,000. We have had applications for over \$100,000 in the past e.g. town clean-up day \$25 value for money

Projects we would like to lead and get services involved to assist, if we can get permission to do so are:

- Moving the Perfumed Garden in the Te Awamutu War Memorial Park along a little to enable better access to the pathway for the returned servicemen.
- Provide some adult fitness equipment at a couple of parks (funding already available for this at no cost to ratepayers or council).
- Cleaning up the lake in the Te Awamutu War Memorial Park to improve the water quality until such times that funds become available to complete the upgrades.
- Re-establishing the gravelled walkway between Eileen Montiforte and Fonterra, along the edge of the Te Awamutu College Rugby Fields and Te Waananga o Aotearoa.
- Provide some furniture, trees and fix the gate at the new dog park in Pekarau Park.

In regard to the cutting of funding to our iSITES – We would like to support Destination Te Awamutu’s submission, in their request for financial support to cover some of their costs including their new website whilst they find alternative sources of funding. Community that we have spoken to were very disappointed to learn our iSITE may be forced to close and with 60 - to 70% of the people using the iSITE being local it is a well utilised service by the community to book travel, find things to do for visiting family and friends and get general information. They are actively seeking solutions and have a plan in place to become self-sustainable with a couple of years. The least we can do is support them to get there. Again after years of volunteer hours, a volunteer built building it would be a tragedy to abandon them.

This would require KPI reporting and expectations of value for money from spend.

Advocate for the Holmes Garage to be included into the next LTP. We would like to see the Holmes Garage concept supported as an affordable option that provides a usable amenity for Te Awamutu. That we investigate further opportunities to fund it including external funding.

Realistically the affordability of the Becca Plans for the land in and around Selwyn Park is not an investment that we or our rate payers will support – our understanding is it far exceeds what we proposed to be spent upgrading the Holmes Garage. We presented the proposal back in November 2023 and to the best of my knowledge no updates have been provided as yet to the

costs for the transformer pole to be removed or the decontamination of the site. What I do know is that the pole is approximately \$400-500,000 and the glass shelters over the seats shown in their concept drawings are \$200,000 each so that way exceeds our budget with the site clean up, paving, street furniture etc not even included at this point. In addition, the land here was originally gifted by Mana Whenua to the Church and it was taken by the government following the land wars. They are not supportive of council owned land to be privatised again, as outlined in the letter from Bishop Richardson that CB presented with their Holmes Garage proposal last year. So the idea of selling the old Devoy building could also be problematic and not be a funding resource.

Create a footpath/marked walkway in the George St Car Park that provides pedestrians safe passage from the footpath outside McDonalds through to the pedestrian crossing by the toilets and link the crossing with a footpath to the shops on the daycare side of the carpark. This could be done in sections so not to be a big expense in one hit – i.e. section one this annual plan and section two in the next plan.

Bryan Hudson and I looked at this last year and I hoped to see further action, however once again it has been looked at and nothing further has happened.

I would also like to point out that this is not a new community board recommendation, it is in fact an improvement that every Community Board since the 2016- 2019, has requested in each and every Annual Plan and LTP.

We would also like to show our support for the Te Awamutu Business Chamber by supporting their submission. We do however believe there is not as much “fat available to trim” in the actual growth budget as they do and would not like to see too much cutting of rural roading budgets as it is important that our rural roads are safe to drive.

We do strongly support their comments regarding Community Funding continuation, the lack of traction we both have received for projects they have brought to the table and as we have already mentioned here “Our big projects need to be affordable to our community.” We think they make a strong point that large spending on projects that have no/minimal economic benefit such as \$5million on the Te Awamutu War Memorial Park are prudent measures and opportunities to make significant savings.

Cambridge Tower – With historical significance, it is important to preserve the tower if possible. We believe either of the options proposed are ridiculously expensive and had hoped removing the tank off the top to reduce the weight (especially when it rains), would have reduced the costs significantly but have since learnt this is not the case. This largely a Cambridge Community decision however we strongly recommend that whatever happens the cost is recovered via a targeted rate and local fundraising.

SPP Submission

First Name

Ruth

Last Name

Webb

Organisation

Pirongia Ward Committee

Id

480

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

The Pirongia Ward Committee recognise the need to reduce the grant allocation to \$10,000 per annum in these financial times but would not like to see this grant level reduced further and would like to see this increase back up to 2023/2024 levels in the next long term plan.

The committee should retain the ability to decide whether it spends the \$10,000 allocation on its own projects or provides grants to community organisations, recognising that any grant allocations will be on a much smaller scale than currently.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

This item was not discussed by the committee.

SPP Submission

First Name

Mark

Last Name

Morgan

Organisation

Waikato Regional Airport Ltd

Id

372

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Refer to attached submission

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Refer to attached submission

Submission to Waipa District Council Long Term Plan 2025-2035

17 April 2024

Waipa District Council
101 Bank Street
Te Awamutu

Waikato Regional Airport Ltd Submission to Waipa District Council – Long Term Plan

Tēnā koutou katoa

Executive Summary

Mark Morgan as CE of Waikato Regional Airport Limited (WRAL), writes this submission on behalf of the WRAL Board of Directors. WRAL is the sole shareholder of Hamilton Waikato Tourism (HWT). As a fully owned subsidiary of WRAL, the WRAL Board have appointed an independent HWT Board of Directors to govern the organisation in accordance with the Group Statement of Intent having regard for the expectations of the funding councils and industry partners.

Our submission intends to reinforce the importance of the organisation to promote tourism to the region and to indicate the risks associated with a proposed reduction in funding and our strong belief that funding for the organisation should be retained as status quo.

Hamilton & Waikato Tourism (HWT) is the official tourism organisation for the Waikato region. The organisation's role is to attract domestic and international visitors and increase length of stay and expenditure through effective destination marketing, development, and management activity. HWT promotes Hamilton and the Waikato as a preferred destination for domestic and international business, events and leisure travelers and provides leadership in regional product and event development, investment, and sector capability. As passionate ambassadors of the region, HWT aims to ensure visitors enjoy a wide variety of experiences and places throughout the mighty Waikato, in turn contributing to economic, social, environmental, and cultural benefits for the community.

Waipa District Council LTP indicates a 20% reduction in funding to HWT. Any reduction in funding will directly impact service delivery and effective outcomes. However, a proposed reduction of 20% along with the collective reductions proposed by other funding councils will result in a significant review as to the viability of the organisation. Reduction in funding directly impacts on the services provided to the visitor sector. Less resources = less services. Less services will equal less visitors. Less visitors equals less visitors spend. This will impact communities and tourism operators across the mighty Waikato.

In the 12 months ended October 2023 visitors spent \$1.9 billion in our region; of this just **over \$216million is in Waipa** district alone. This equates to **\$591,780 of new money** being spent in the district each day. A portion of this revenue is directly attributable to the activities and co-ordination by HWT and this will now be at risk should the RTO be required to significantly restructure its resources and therefore dilute its service delivery model.

While we acknowledge the council finances need addressing and 'tough decisions' need to be made, our submission to Waipa District Council urges reconsideration of funding allocation to Hamilton & Waikato Tourism. The Waikato Regional Airport Limited (WRAL) Board considers the current proposed 20% reduction in funding to be detrimental to regional economic development and growth aspirations of the district when considered alongside collective funding council's reductions.

Background

1. WRAL opposes the proposed 20% reduction in HWTs funding and requests this be reviewed and returned to the level outlined in the current Service Level Agreement.
2. Tourism Waikato was disestablished in 2006. This resulted in a significant decline in domestic and international visitor expenditure, a drop in overnight stays, lack of national and international tourism profile and destination marketing. Appendix 1 outlines the impacts of the RTO being disbanded in 2006 and established in 2011 in relation to International Visitors.
3. Waikato Regional Airport Limited funded and provided tourism services in 2009/2010 in order to secure Pacific Blue flights into Hamilton.
4. Hamilton & Waikato Tourism (HWT) was formally re-established July 2011 as a wholly owned subsidiary of Waikato Regional Airport Limited (WRAL).
5. HWT is a Limited Liability company, with its own board of directors who are responsible to the WRAL Board.
6. We acknowledge the economic climate is tough and councils need to make savings in operating expenses. We have therefore avoided requesting additional or increased funding. However, a 20% reduction is a step too far as a reduction of funding to this level will require the WRAL Board to assess the viability of the organisation and its ability to provide a credible and effective Regional Tourism Organisation.
7. WRAL currently provides financial assistance for HWT by way of a reduction in the commercial rent for its offices and cost savings for shared services at an approximate value of \$90k, however that financial support has always been capped noting that WRAL is not a core funder of the organisation. Additionally, WRAL and its other subsidiary Jet Park Hamilton Airport Hotel are industry funding partners of HWT, procuring over \$20,000 of HWT services on full commercial rates.

Risk of reduced funding

8. If/when international flights return to Hamilton Airport, a well-resourced RTO is needed to support any business case to secure international flights. The current proposed funding means the RTO would not be sufficiently resourced to assist with the marketing and promotion of international flights during these times and will impact the credibility of the region's response to Airline enquiry and therefore put any business case at risk.
9. Although reluctant to take such drastic actions, as WRAL is HWTs shareholder, the WRAL board will make the ultimate decision on whether the organisations capability and expected work outputs is viable to continue or whether HWT will need to be disbanded entirely. The current collective proposed funding reductions across the six funding councils is -41%. Any reduction in base level funding will result in less services that can be reasonably provided, however, the core viability of the organisation is seriously at risk at this proposed level.
10. WRAL has future considerations for the expansion of the Airport Hotel, currently trading as JetPark Hotel. In order for the potential expansion to be viable, a functioning RTO is required to promote not only the property but the attractiveness of the region for leisure, conferencing and corporate travel. WRAL would be mindful of any significant investment in the hotel without a functioning RTO.

Conclusion

11. For every dollar invested into tourism in the region, there is a significant return, funding of the RTO should be considered as an investment by Waipa District Council and not an expense line to be reduced. At a time when the district needs to encourage and support economic development, this proposal would seek to constrain or remove an organisation that promotes, supports, and drives initiatives to increase tourism receipts and fulfils a role as an economic enabler.
12. Reduced funding will at best result in a reduced and restructured organisation which will flow onto the services provided, with the corresponding reduction in effective outcomes.
13. **WRAL would like to request to speak to this submission at the LTPs hearings.** All enquiries should be made to Mark Morgan, CE of Waikato Regional Airport Limited. mark@hamiltonairport.co.nz or phone 07 848 9027

Recommendation

14. That Waipa District Council continues its partnership with Hamilton & Waikato Tourism in collaboration with other Waikato based councils;
15. We strongly urge Waipa District Council elected members to reconsider funding of Hamilton & Waikato Tourism.
16. That Waipa District Council commits investment to Hamilton & Waikato Tourism to the same level as currently invested (\$183,378) with annual CPI increases in the Long-Term Plan 2025-35.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit to Waipa District Council's draft Long Term Plan 2025-35.

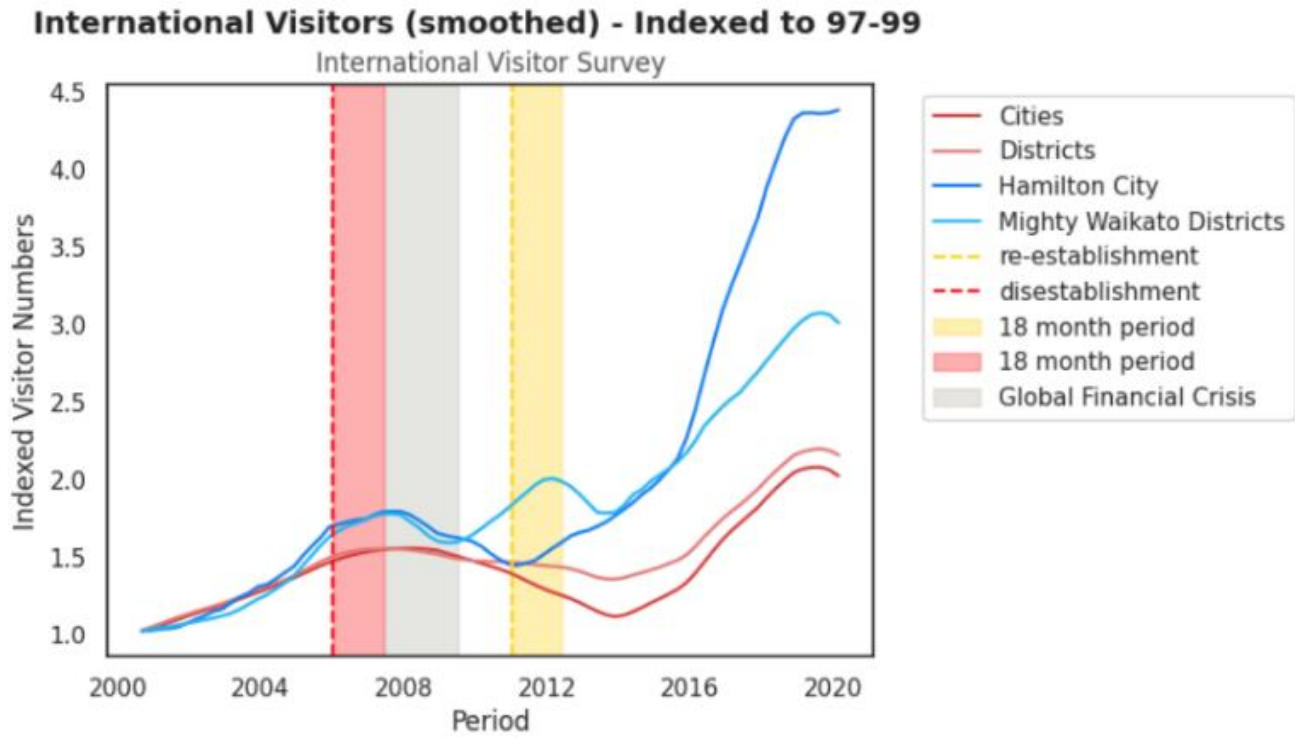
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Barry Harris'.

Barry Harris
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Morgan'.

Mark Morgan
Chief Executive

Appendix 1



SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Ruth
<i>Last Name</i>	Crampton
<i>Organisation</i>	Destination Cambridge
<i>Id</i>	464

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Destination Cambridge is a vital organisation that plays a role in supporting Waipa's \$216 million tourism spending and, as such, needs to remain viable. An overall increase in visitors and events to the region and a strong voice of support from the community against the funding cut, supports the Destination Cambridge members and Board's decision to find a way through. See attached figures supporting this growth.

To enable a continuation of the service, appreciating the Council's current financial position, Destination Cambridge has been working on securing opportunities with two private tourism businesses to create a 'Tourism Hub' to continue to service the visitor and local community needs, both in person and online.

However, in a financial projection for the upcoming year of operation, Destination Cambridge is still \$50,000 short to meet our current desirable outcomes. We are seeking transitional funding for all or part of this \$50,000 amount from Waipa District Council to meet this shortfall in the next financial year. This grant would offset specifically a role to continue to manage the website function, event listings, online enquiries, social activity, product development, support and advocacy of the tourism industry, and give us time to seek further income generation to remain operational, with a desire and projection that no direct Council funding would be required in future years.

At this stage, with all the changes occurring around visitor centres nationally and in the Waikato, the Cambridge Tourism Hub may become an essential component of the wider Waikato tourism visitor experience in the months and years to come.

An additional role of Destination Cambridge is to foster a sense of community and support within our tourism industry – a place to connect and collaborate. This role includes advocacy (e.g. the Coach parks), hosting industry events and updates, support for new operators as they enter the tourism market and seeking new product opportunities. We currently have over 100 tourism businesses affiliated with Destination Cambridge. Their ongoing commitment to the organisation will be vital and they have offered their support for Destination Cambridge via a survey we undertook in January 2024. A very strong 100% of the respondents returned a response that they wanted the information centre to remain open (attached). Our research shows us that tourism numbers are returning (now the second largest export earner for NZ) and we have seen a strong desire for tourists to visit Cambridge and the Waipa region. Reasoning includes:

- Proximity to Auckland (visitors are now staying in Cambridge overnight prior to and after their flight arrival) and basing themselves here for a few days. The Waikato Expressway has meant that Cambridge is an ideal stopover or stay put location for visitors both domestic and international. Aucklanders can literally travel door to door.
- Central position for popular tourism products such as Waitomo Caves, Hamilton Gardens, Hobbiton, even Rotorua.
- Significant increase in B & Bs and the redeveloped Masonic Hotel coming on to the accommodation market, partially meeting a shortfall in accommodation availability in Cambridge and essential to support the event industry.
- Growth in Cambridge visitor product, particularly those wanting to ride the Te Awa River Ride, Dairy Farm visits, glow worm kayak tours, Takapoto's garden tours and wine tasting, Cambridge Distillery gin tasting, Have a go at the Velodrome, horse

riding, Camjet, Sanctuary Mountain, Ross Brothers Museum, Cambridge Stud Heritage Centre and the opening of the Sports Hall of Fame development at the Grassroots Velodrome.

- The visiting friends and relatives' market is growing and is currently quite untapped in Cambridge. We are working with tourism providers to encourage visitors to spend more in our region. For example, we have a booth booked at the inaugural Waipa Home and Leisure show with five operators to promote their products and what's here in our region to our local community to be aware of when they have people staying.
- Events – we work with event organisers once they have confirmed their events in Cambridge. To help them with attracting participants to their events, we provide images, links to accommodation, other destination information, bookings where required, pop up tourism information at events, extensive event listings on our cambridge.co.nz website, noticeboard in town with upcoming events, bookings for their VIP attendees and for some smaller events such as reunions, car rallies, conferences, weddings, we suggest appropriate venues / activities / information and organise familiarisations.
- An extensive event listing of What's on in Cambridge. A Destination Cambridge volunteer seeks information about upcoming events both major, but importantly also those smaller events that are often missed from other sites. An email is sent out every Friday to those seeking upcoming event information. The Major Event section identifies those events that will bring significant out-of-town numbers and assists the hospitality, retail and tourism sector as to what is coming up so they can prepare.
- Local community support is provided for public transport journey planning, including beecard sales, top ups, and troubleshooting, intercity bus bookings, concert bookings, new residents seeking local information, NZ and local gifts when travelling overseas.
- Destination Cambridge owns the website Cambridge.co.nz promoting Cambridge. It has the number one website for those wanting to know more about Cambridge. It houses the extensive event listings as well as things to do and where to stay for those planning a visit to Cambridge. Daily website updates of key tourism information keeps the content fresh and relevant.
- Production of the Cambridge map and visitor guide. Over 14,000 copies distributed to visitors, local accommodation, event participants, retailers and surrounding visitor centres.
- Development of products to meet the interest needs of the visitor – Dairy Farm Tours are very popular. Recently a group of 55 Vietnamese businesspeople booked a dairy farm tour via the Cambridge isite. We currently provide visits to four dairy and alpaca farms around the area.

Thank you for your consideration of the support for this vital service.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

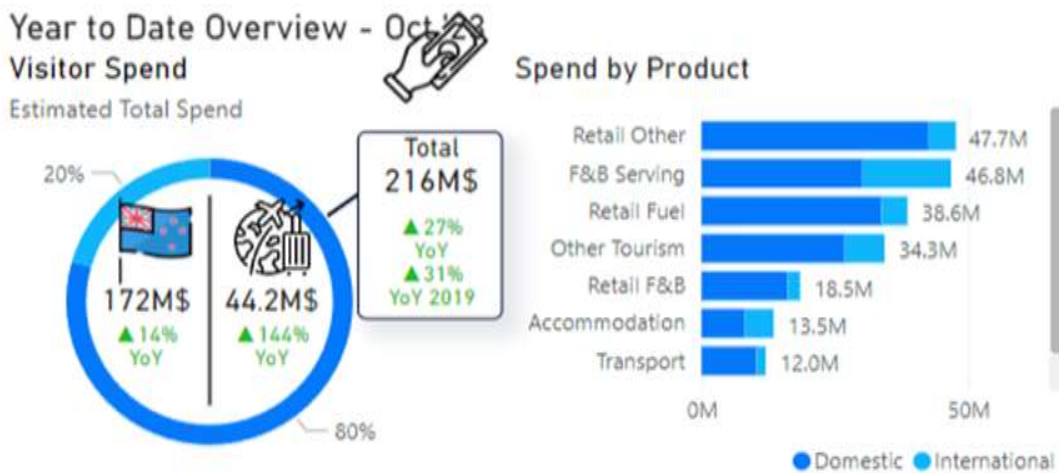
Destination Cambridge Submission to Enhanced Annual Plan April 2024

Supporting figures speak for themselves:

Cambridge.co.nz website results year on year

	Y/E 15 April 2024	Y/E 15 April 2023	Difference
Users	131,045	123,985	+ 5.69%
Sessions	176,464	161,699	+9.13%
Engaged sessions	102,428	83,308	+22.95%
Event count	1,025,737	809,311	+26.74%

Waipa Visitor Spend year to date October 2023 (provided by Hamilton Waikato Tourism). **The graph shows the benefit of tourism to all businesses in the community.**





Source: Stats NZ

Waikato tourism related jobs



Filled Jobs
12.2K
 ▲ 5%
 vs. Feb '23



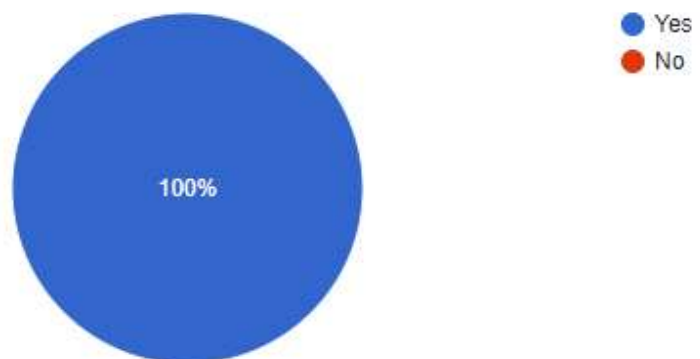
Employment Earnings
43.3M\$
 ▲ 17%
 vs. Feb '23

Survey to Destination Cambridge members in January 2024

32 respondents

Do you see value in an isite operation in Cambridge?

32 responses



If yes, why?

Its the face to the town for visitors/ tourists

For Tourists

Great for those visiting the town, events hub, those new to town

We are a growing destination and local knowledge of the team can not be underestimated for tourists

All Towns and Cities need place to go for visitors to get their bearings

We co-ordinate many projects with them.

Booking agency for retail sales

as a tourism and community connector

Great for people visiting to find out what to do the many tourist destinations waikato has to offer as well as accommodation. Where to eat. Field days info.

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Kirsty
<i>Last Name</i>	Johnson
<i>Organisation</i>	Cambridge Town Hall Community Trust
<i>Id</i>	520
<i>Full Response</i>	<p>1. <i>What do you think? Do we have the balance right?</i></p> <p>-</p> <p>2. <i>Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?</i></p> <p>-</p> <p><i>Are there any further comments you would like to make?</i></p> <p>-</p>

WHARE
TAPERE OO
TE OKO HOROI



Submission to the 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan for Waipā District Council

To: Waipā District Council

Submitter: Cambridge Town Hall Community Trust
79, Queen Street, Cambridge
Waipa

Submission Summary: The Cambridge Town Hall Community Trust, through this submission, requests the provision of a \$500,000 operational grant for the 2024/25 financial year.

Waipā District Council tasks the Cambridge Town Hall Community Trust to actively promote, manage and preserve the Cambridge Town Hall. To do this, the Council provides an annual operations grant to the Trust (as allowed for in the Lease and Service Agreement between the two parties).

Recent discussions have uncovered a significant shortfall in the proposed operations grant to that requested for 2024/25. This shortfall threatens to undermine the trust's capability to continue operating and maintaining the hall, and to fulfil the trust's commitments and deliverables to the community and Council.

Effectively, the grant for 2024/25 shortfall is \$100,000 less than the \$500,000 required for the Trust to:

- invest in necessary maintenance for the hall
- ensure the hall is compliant to legislative requirements
- enable community use of the Cambridge Town Hall (including delivering a wide range of programmes and services)
- attract and retain qualified staff to operate the hall
- meet the Mission and Vision for the Cambridge Town Hall

The uncertainty in operational funding poses a significant risk to the Trust's business and operating model, which is incorporated in the Asset Management Plan, 10-year Strategic Plan and subsequent Statements of Intent. These are significant bodies of work for the Trust and if the operational grant is not increased, it will severely compromise the Trust's strategic initiatives and ability to activate the Cambridge Town Hall.

The Draft Enhanced Annual Plan proposes an operations grant of \$400,000 for the Trust for 2024/25. This is a significant decrease from the grant allocated in 2023/24 which was \$400,000, plus a carry-over of \$100,000 from the 2022/23 year when the Trust was in its infancy.

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info@cambridgetownhall.co.nz

WHARE TAPERE OO TE OKO HOROI



The Trust presented its 10-year strategic plan, supported by the Activity Management Plan (AMP) to Council in August 2023. Within that plan, the budget for the operational grant was outlined at \$536,157.

The Trust works closely with Council staff and following feedback, the budget for 2024/25 was reduced to \$502,999 in the 2024/25 Statement of Intent which will be formally presented to Council in May 2024, but has been a topic of discussion with Council staff since late 2023.

Beyond financial support, the operations grant also represents Council's commitment to upholding its responsibilities for the community's cultural and social wellbeings by preserving local history and fostering a vibrant hub of community activity and symbol of civic pride. The success of Council's and the Trust's commitment to activating the Town Hall within the District has been well-demonstrated in the last sixteen months, supported by developing relationships with Mana Whenua, and various hapori.

Partnership between the Trust and Council is vital for the hall's sustainable future within the community, and each has a vital role in ensuring the hall's continued purpose, relevance, and vitality. To fulfil the trust's responsibility and mission to activate and breathe new life into the hall, the trust requires Council's ongoing active support and collaboration to address the hall's operational needs, and to navigate the challenges presented by past underinvestment in satisfactorily maintaining the building. Only by leveraging our collective expertise, resources and vision can the hall's historical neglect be overcome, and its sustained vitality as a community activator and asset ensured.

The grant does not fully cover the hall's operational costs, and the content of this submission does not in any way diminish the Trust's responsibility and commitment to raise significant funds for both operational and capital improvements, as outlined in the Trust's 10-year Strategic Plan.

In conclusion, the operations grant is a cornerstone of the partnership between Cambridge Town Hall Community Trust and Waipā District Council. It represents the shared commitment to preserving local heritage, fostering community engagement, and ensuring the hall's continued relevance for generations to come. Without a sufficient and appropriate grant, the Cambridge Town Hall Community Trust's responsibility and ability to serve the community and breathe new life into the hall are severely compromised.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit to the Enhanced Annual Plan 2023/24.

On behalf of the Cambridge Town Hall Community Trust:

Kirsty Johnson
Chair
Cambridge Town Hall Community Trust

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SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Shane
<i>Last Name</i>	Walsh
<i>Organisation</i>	Te Awamutu Business Chamber
<i>Id</i>	429

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

THE CHAMBER SUPPORTS | |The Chamber supports council's 'back to basics' approach to the proposed capital works.

The Chamber supports the Enhanced Annual Plan (EAP) pausing key projects this year so that they can be fully considered in next year's 2025-35 LTP. (6 projects listed in the EAP page 11)

- Te Ara Wai – a New Zealand Land Wars Museum planned for Te Awamutu
- A new Cambridge Library
- Cambridge Town Hall upgrades
- The Te Awamutu to Pirongia Cycleway
- Construction of new pensioner housing
- Sports fields improvement

The Chamber supports, the five projects council is planning to do in 2024/25. (EAP page 11)

The Chamber supports, council no longer funding or temporarily reducing the amount spent on some planned renewals. (This includes renewals in cemeteries, libraries, parks and reserves, property, public toilets, community halls, roading and footpaths, water and wastewater.)

The Chamber supports the increase in fees and charges annually, to reflect the true cost of providing services and to ensure an unsubsidised user pay approach.

The Chamber supports a scaled back Te Ara Wai, the New Zealand land war museum destined to go into the old Bunnings Building which will be great for Te Awamutu and the Waipā District.

The Chamber is concerned that contestable projects do not have a cost / benefit assessment.

The Chamber supports the selling of surplus property which would contribute to the available the budget.

The Chamber supports the restoration of the Cambridge Water Tower but submits that this should be by a targeted rate for Cambridge only, if the majority of Cambridge ratepayers want this.

The Chamber suggests a massive scale back in the current projects for a new Cambridge Library, the Cambridge Town Hall upgrades, the Te Awamutu to Pirongia Cycleway and the Te Ara Wai museum, all projects which will be contested in the next LTP.

THE CHAMBER DOES NOT SUPPORT

The Chamber does not support the cutting the funding for local Community organisations, grants and event funding and considers that further cuts be made in capital and growth funding. For clarity: Maintain the existing level of Council discretionary grant funding, District Promotion Fund, Heritage Fund and Community Events Fund. The Chamber considers that this can be achieved by further reduction in capital spending from \$158.4m.

The chamber does not support the quantum of investment allocated to support growth expectations which, according to council's analysis of keys risks, are at best uncertain. The

Chamber is aware of current job losses in the building sector, reduced consent activity and delays in payment of Development Contributions.

The Chamber does not support the total elimination of funding to both iSites. The Chamber requests continued, possibly reduced funding, for the Cambridge and Te Awamutu iSites, to enable both Trusts to transition to a lower cost model, supported by volunteers. The Chamber makes the point that the iSites Board and other volunteers have represented the district to domestic and international visitors and provided services to residents for decades. The cessation of the grants without consultation is unacceptable.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The Chamber is alarmed that it is proposed that the 2024/25 financial year starts with \$296.8m debt and ends with \$398.5m debt.

A big capital expenditure programme of over \$158 million is earmarked for core activities like wastewater (\$47.1 million), roads and footpaths (\$47.3 million), stormwater (\$24.8 million) and water (\$20.7 million).

The Chamber submits that further capital projects especially including projects with limited economic benefit be scaled back to maintain funding for community organisations. Possibly Council has over borrowed in the good times and is now considering huge rate increases in the middle of a recession.

Chamber is concerned about the quantum of capital investment allocated to support growth expectations which, according to council's analysis of keys risks, are at best uncertain. The draft plan notes that at the end of the 2024/25 year, 57.8 percent of council debt is estimated to be growth-related. Growth-related three waters debt makes up 35 percent of the total debt. Infrastructure costs significantly impact council debt levels, especially for high-growth councils that are seeing slowdown based on the current economic climate. This concern is expressed by council in their referenced revised risk assessment.

Council Revised Risk Assessment (ECM_11197751_v6) says:

The economic environment will continue to be uncertain. Interest rates remain relatively high. Economic activity has reduced, with most recent GDP information confirming New Zealand is in an economic recession. Reduced resource and building consent activity reducing the level of vested assets and development contributions. Should actual population growth be less than forecast, a risk is building infrastructure without the ability to recover costs quickly via development contribution revenue.

Appendix

Risks assessed as HIGH by Council for the Enhanced Annual Plan are as follows |(in no specific order)

- The economic environment will continue to be uncertain. Interest rates remain relatively high. Economic activity has reduced, with most recent GDP information confirming New Zealand is in an economic recession. Reduced resource and building consent activity reducing the level of vested assets and development contributions. Should actual population growth be less than forecast, a risk is building infrastructure without the ability to recover costs quickly via development contribution revenue.
- Risk that Projects requiring community funding are not able to proceed because fundraising is unsuccessful either in terms of reaching the agreed target or timeframe. Projects dependent on successful fundraising initiatives include Te Ara Wai and the Pirongia – Ngā Roto – Te Awamutu cycling connection.
- Risk that a significant emergency event occurs during the next 10- year period which Council cannot afford to fund within the current budgets.
- Additional costs and complexity added by legislative change and reform as a result of central government initiatives.
- The risk that the water demand exceeds 190 litres/person/day and capital infrastructure will need to be brought forward to match increased demand. If capital infrastructure is

brought forward to meet increased water demand there will be consequential increases in capital expenditure which will be funded through debt, development contributions and depreciation.

- Risk of insufficient internal and external resources available to undertake capital works and maintain operational needs in the years outlined in the financial statements, over and above resourcing required for business as usual responsibilities.

2024/25 Annual Plan – review of significant assumptions from 2021-31 Long Term Plan ECM_11197751_v6_2024-25 Annual Plan. Revised assumptions from 2021-31 LTP

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

The Chamber supports the restoration of the Cambridge Water Tower but submits that this should be by a targeted rate for Cambridge only, if the majority of Cambridge ratepayers want this.

SPP Submission

First Name

Shane

Last Name

Walsh

Organisation

Destination Te Awamutu

Id

527

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

No, some major projects need to be scaled back to reduce the rate rise.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

Destination Te Awamutu Submission on the Draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan

Destination Te Awamutu
1 Gorst Avenue
Te Awamutu 3800

Waipā District Council
Private Bag 2402
Te Awamutu 3840

26 April 2023

To the Mayor and Councillors

Enhanced Annual Plan – Submission

Destination Te Awamutu wishes to present their submission verbally.

Destination Te Awamutu

Visitor centers are still relevant in today’s town landscape for visitors, events and as a focus for locals wanting to connect, create and enjoy activity in their own town. Visitor spend has recovered to near pre-covid levels and the retailers and the wider business community are appreciating the spend this sector brings on top of local custom.

Hamilton Waikato Tourism reported that Visitor spend in Waipā (for the year-end period of October 2023), totaled \$216m with domestic visitors contributing \$172m (80%) to Waipā economy, and international visitors contributing \$44m. (20%) (F+CC 27 March 2024). Of note is that domestic tourism is on the increase.

Top three visitor spending in Waipā was from Auckland, Waikato, then Bay of Plenty.

Spend by product is shown in the graph (HWT)

Spend by Product



Destination Te Awamutu has been working for the benefit of Te Awamutu for 44 years. It’s trustees who are mainly business owners in the tourism industry, volunteer their time for the benefit of the community. Many businesses and locals benefit from visitors to Te Awamutu and have expressed support for Destination Te Awamutu. Event managers appreciate a helping hand in the planning and delivery of their events.

The Te Awamutu Community Public Relations Organisation (TACPRO) was incorporated 44 years ago in 1980 with the purpose to promote Te Awamutu and districts, to attract visitors, new residents, and new

business. Now operating as Destination Te Awamutu, the board manages the iSite as part of the national chain of iSites under the brand managed by Tourism New Zealand.

Destination Te Awamutu is the obvious place to assist and promote ideas or events which, in the opinion of the Committee are for the benefit of Te Awamutu and the district.

The iSite supports and advertises local events and provides opportunities for community collaboration which adds to the vibrancy of the town. With the completion of the Waikato expressway Te Awamutu is more visited as our drive markets travel through town to the caves, the mountains and Taranaki. Visiting friends and family is also a growth driver for our district.

Keeping a central focus in town supports activation and halts the global trend of retail moving out of the urban heart. "Town centers need things in their middle to anchor them and then other things can come around them", says Nigel McKenna of Templeton Group who have just committed to a main street high rise hotel in Hamilton.

Destination Te Awamutu operate the iSite and recently updated the Te Awamutu web site. They work on strategies to grow visitor numbers to ensure they have a great experience.

Recent decision by council to cease all funding of this community organization will mean closure of iSite (job loss for three staff) and means the work on strategy to grow visitor numbers and keep the Te Awamutu website up to date is unable to continue.

Community feedback is clear they want a Visitor Information Centre and in meeting the community's expectations, Destination Te Awamutu will endeavour to keep operating. This is only possible by using volunteers in the center with a manager who understands the Tourist business and can train and organize volunteers.

The Service Delivery committee in a public excluded meeting, decided to pull the council's annual funding from July 1. The decision was not unanimous. Destination Cambridge registered 23,634 visitors a year and Destination Te Awamutu 11,355 people through the door. Forty per cent of visitors to the Cambridge iSite are visitors are locals, while in Te Awamutu 70 per cent are locals.

Late last year a Bellweather automatic counting system was installed which demonstrates that visitor counting has been underestimated. Over the last five months the monthly average works out at 1385 or approximately 16,000 per year.

(Bellweather numbers Nov 23 – 1404, Dec 23 – 1227, Jan 24 – 1411, Feb 24 – 1317, Mar 24 – 1575)

By comparison the Te Awamutu Museum has a five-year average monthly visitation of 350 people per month or an average of 4,200 per year, excluding programmes.

The Te Awamutu iSite is more than a Visitor Information center and provides local services including travel planning and excursions, local advertising, maps, physical Fieldays and event tickets for those not using online options, local and intercity bus tickets, Fieldays direct bus tickets as well as advertising local events, selling rodent traps for Predator Free Te Awamutu and providing information on local events and the rose gardens. A regularly published local map and visitor guide provides advice and guidance to visitors. Destination Te Awamutu has launched a new website www.teawamutu.nz with fresh and relevant content for those wanting to know about Te Awamutu and district. It covers; Things to do, Eat Drink Shop, Accommodation, What's On, Visitor Essentials, Guides and Updates. The website will be maintained and updated to kept current and relevant, and this has an ongoing cost of \$10,000 per annum.

The decision Council made to stop the funding came as a shock to the organization. Destination Te Awamutu was not given the chance to provide Councillor's with information nor able to offer an alternative funding option. This submission process has occurred five months after the decision was made, so there has been no real opportunity to present a case as quick decisions had to be made to ensure our town's visitor site remains open in Te Awamutu past 30 June 2024.

Destination Te Awamutu knows that full grant funding is no longer desired by council but would appreciate ongoing funding and the opportunity to restructure the operation with volunteers under a new part time manager. The sudden axing of funding, just prior to Christmas and without consultation provided no opportunity for Destination Te Awamutu to discuss or respond as an organisation.

The retention of funding for HWT, albeit reduced, suggests that council still desires that Waipā participates in the visitor sector, which is growing strongly with international visitor activity almost back to pre-Covid levels.

To maintain operations with volunteers will take time and with the existing income stream the center will lose \$60,000 within a year and be forced to close. This does not include resource to keep the web site up to date and relevant which is estimated at \$10,000 pa.

We request \$70,000 for the 2024/25 to give us the time to recruit and train volunteers and for the Manager to find ways to increase other income streams.

The \$70,000 will cover the projected loss next year, plus \$10k to cover keeping web site current and accurate.

The part time Managers time will be 100% spent on trying to organise volunteers and improving income streams.

As a means of reducing cost and increasing the viability of Destination Te Awamutu, we propose to investigate the possibility of the iSite and Chamber co-locating. This would provide a joined up community operation and improve the viability, collaboration and reach of both organisations.

This would provide the Chamber with space for administration and to run business training (by Soda and others) and hold Chamber monthly events using catered in food. Chamber is open to this.

Going forward it will be difficult to secure volunteers to cover the same operating hours, but a new manager and new Chair with the support of the board are focused on producing new visitor collateral, maintaining the website and social media, and upgrading the presentation of the iSite and its connection with the community.

With the opening of Te Ara Wai somewhat delayed and potentially uncertain, it is important to meanwhile retain a public facing organization to support the visitor activity in Te Awamutu and to maintain a presence at the entry to the town. Clearly time has run out on the opportunity to incorporate the visitor center within Te Ara Wai.

With earthquake strengthening and reinstatement of the Roche Street offices and the museum shift, it seems likely that there will be no further council development in the Market Street / Selwyn Park area. Loss of the iSite in this location will have a detrimental effect on the neighbourhood safety and security.

Shane Walsh
Chair, Destination Te Awamutu

APPENDIX The Destination Te Awamutu Board operates on the following strategy.

Purpose: To attract visitors to Te Awamutu and ensure they have a good experience

Facilitate Events

- Continue to organize the Craft Fair
- Facilitate a full calendar of events for Te Awamutu and surrounding areas.
- Facilitate a weekly Saturday morning Farmers market.

Create a great Te Awamutu Visitors Experience

- Reestablish a Heritage Trail
- Ensure Information Centre positively reflects the Te Awamutu brand.
 - Incorporate local Māori cultural ambience.
- Rejuvenate Rose gardens and Te Awamutu Rose Town credentials.

Support Te Awamutu Tourist Businesses

- Develop a website that attracts visitors and promotes local Te Awamutu businesses.
- Send out monthly newsletter to attract visitors.
- Develop social media strategy to attract visitors.

Develop new Tourist Products

- Assist and encourage local businesses to develop new tourist experiences.
 - Emphasis on Maori culture, local history, food, and ecological businesses
- Ensure Hamilton and Waikato Tourism support and actively promotes Te Awamutu tourism.

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Tracy
<i>Last Name</i>	Hampton
<i>Organisation</i>	Waikato Screen NZ
<i>Id</i>	471

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

As a passionate advocate for the growth of our regional screen sector, we ask you to please include Waikato Screen NZ in your Enhanced Annual Plan and in future your Long-Term Plan (LTP). The organisation's sustainability and vitality depend greatly on your continued support and funding.

Supporting our regional film office is not just an investment in the arts and entertainment; it's an investment in our community's future prosperity and cultural richness. The momentum that Waikato Screen NZ has generated in building a thriving screen sector in the Waikato is undeniable, and therefore it is imperative that we have your ongoing backing.

The support of our regional film office means the opportunity for creatives to work where they live and feel connected in their community. Another benefit is the roll-on effect that film expenditure has on supporting our local businesses and positively impacting our region's economy. In hard economic times, it is imperative to work with and continue to invest in organisations that support the growth of the economy and wellbeing of the people - Waikato Screen NZ is such an organisation.

Please prioritise the inclusion of Waikato Screen NZ in your LTP. Your backing is not just an investment in Waikato Screen; it's an investment in our local economy and overall well-being of our community and region.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-



Proposal for Inclusion of Waikato Screen NZ in the Enhanced Annual Plan.

Executive Summary:

Waikato Screen NZ is seeking inclusion in the Enhanced Annual Plan of the Waipā District Council to secure an annual funding allocation of \$19,500. Our organisation plays a crucial role in driving the growth of the screen sector in the Waikato Region, fostering economic development, cultural enrichment, and community engagement through education, work placement and art exposure. This funding will enable us to continue our strategic initiatives, partnerships, and economic development efforts to further enhance the screen industry in the region.

In addition to the substantial economic benefits, it's crucial to recognise the competitive landscape we face. Auckland, with its booming film industry, is our direct neighbour and a formidable contender for productions seeking locations and support services. The significant international investment of 3.5 billion dollars annually in New Zealand, with Auckland alone garnering 1.5 billion dollars per year, underscores the immense potential of the screen sector. By investing in Waikato Screen NZ, we position ourselves strategically to remain tapped into this lucrative market, capturing a share of these productions and bolstering our region's economic vitality. Without adequate funding and resources, we risk losing out to competing regions, forfeiting not only economic gains but also the opportunity to showcase the cultural richness and natural beauty of the Waikato on a global stage. Therefore, we urge the Waipā District Council to recognise the urgency of supporting our organisation and securing the future prosperity of the Waikato Region's screen sector.

Business Description:

The scope of our regional film office encompasses various initiatives aimed at supporting and growing the screen industry in the Waikato Region. Our goals include showcasing the region's unique locations to national and international productions, facilitating collaboration between local government, iwi, and productions, providing support to councils and productions with protocols and permitting advice, and enhancing cultural heritage within the screen industry. We also connect our local film industry with employment opportunities on productions and provide business for local service providers, ensuring productions support our region's economy.

Budget:

On request we can provide a detailed budget breakdown outlining the allocation of the requested funding. This includes costs for operational expenses, HR, marketing and attraction, development, youth and industry workshops, and community engagement initiatives. We are committed to ensuring transparency and accountability in the utilisation of funds, with a focus on maximising the impact of every dollar invested.

Timeline:

We have developed a comprehensive timeline for our organisation's future, highlighting key milestones and deliverables. We have effective, timely processes on reporting to achieve measurable outcomes. We recognise the importance of adhering to project-based objectives and will diligently work towards successful results for our initiatives.

Risk Management:

We have identified potential risks and challenges associated with our business and have developed strategies to mitigate them effectively. These include engaging with stakeholders to address concerns and maintaining open lines of communication. Our proactive approach to risk management ensures that we are well-prepared to navigate any unforeseen obstacles that may arise.

Community Engagement:

Community engagement is at the heart of our initiatives, and we have actively collaborated with stakeholders and community groups. We have also collaborated with local businesses, organisations, and industry guilds to support our initiatives. We actively implement educational workshops and advocate for work placements of locals on film projects in our region. The positive outcomes highlight the importance of our organisation and the value it brings to the region.

Environmental Impact:

We are committed to minimising the environmental impact of the screen sector industry and have incorporated measures to ensure sustainable practices as we work with productions. This includes reducing carbon emissions, minimising waste generation, and promoting eco-friendly production techniques. The film industry is globally aware of its responsibilities, and we support these initiatives.

Social and Economic Benefits:

The social and economic benefits of our project are vast, ranging from job creation and infrastructure development to career pathways for our rangatahi. By attracting national and international productions to the Waikato Region, we stimulate economic growth, create employment opportunities, and showcase the cultural richness of our community to a global audience. The direct economic impact of the screen sector in the region is substantial, and we aim to further amplify this contribution in the long term.

Funding Request:

We are requesting an annual funding allocation of \$19,500 from the Waipā District Council to support the ongoing activities of Waikato Screen NZ. This funding, along with the current support from all other councils in our region, is essential to sustain our operations, drive the growth of the screen sector, and maximise the cultural and economic benefits for the Waikato Region. We firmly believe that this investment will yield significant returns for the community and contribute to the overall prosperity and well-being of the region.

Evaluation and Monitoring:

We have established processes and will continue to develop ways to evaluate and monitor the success of our industry's impact over time. This includes tracking performance indicators, collecting data on key metrics, and conducting regular assessments to measure progress and outcomes. We are committed to transparency and accountability in reporting our results to the Waipā District Council and other stakeholders, ensuring that the investment yields tangible benefits for the community.

Supporting an industry:

We have mapped the industry professionals in our region as a thriving sector offering employment and upskilling our rangatahi. Our crew database and their support demonstrates the viability and importance of the work we provide to the Waikato Region.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the inclusion of Waikato Screen NZ in the Waipā District Council's Enhanced Annual & Long-Term plan is vital to the continued growth and success of the screen sector in the Waikato Region. Our work aligns with the council's strategic priorities, addresses community needs, and offers significant social and economic benefits. The screen industry provides ample work opportunities for locals, and education & upskilling for rangatahi, not to mention the positive economic longevity through screen tourism benefits.

We urge the Waipā District Council to consider our comprehensive proposal and allocate the requested funding to support our ongoing efforts to enrich the community and drive economic growth through the screen sector in the Waikato Region.

Thank you for your consideration and support.



WAIKATO SCREEN NZ

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SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Jeremy
<i>Last Name</i>	Mayall
<i>Organisation</i>	Creative Waikato
<i>Id</i>	548

<i>Full Response</i>	<p>1. <i>What do you think? Do we have the balance right?</i> -</p> <p>2. <i>Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?</i> -</p> <p><i>Are there any further comments you would like to make?</i></p>
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Submission by: Creative Waikato

This submission is made in response to Waipā District Council's Enhanced Annual Plan 2024-25.

1. Council's activities

- Creative Waikato would firstly like to thank Waipā District Council for the work it does. We appreciate that it is complicated and challenging having to balance so many competing priorities. We acknowledge the time and energy that goes into these processes.
- Creative Waikato supports Waipā District Council's Strategic Direction and vision '**Waipā Home of Champions: Building Connected Communities**', and its commitment to community outcomes: 'Socially resilient, Cultural Champions, Environmental Champions, Economically Progressive'. We acknowledge that these outcomes have *community wellbeing at the heart*.
- Creative Waikato has aligned these outcomes with focus areas in the Waikato Arts Navigator - our regional arts strategy - see point 7.
- In addition to this submission, Creative Waikato has provided an LTP Councillor briefing and updated high-level infrastructure plan for your consideration. We outline these briefly in this submission.
- Creative Waikato is keen to ensure Council consults and engages with Creative Waikato as a key strategic partner that focuses on capability building in the arts, culture and creative ecosystem of Waikato.

2. Summary of Feedback in connection to Art, Culture and Creativity

Creative Waikato has identified the following opportunities for Council to consider when finalising the Enhanced Annual Plan 2024/2025. The following relates to projects Council has paused.

Te Ara Wai Museum

- Creative Waikato acknowledges that Te Ara Wai Museum has been in the planning stages for a few years and much work has been undertaken behind the scenes.
- Waipā District Council recognised that this Museum would be of national significance in that it would tell the story of the 1864 Land Wars that is unique to 'Waipā'.
- It would provide places for discovery, questioning and learning, and visitors would be able to take pathways through natural landscapes, battle sites and early settlements that formed the Waipā community and shaped Aotearoa New Zealand as a nation¹.
- This project aligns with Council's community outcomes in that 'it would attract people to Waipā as a great place to work and stay' (Socially resilient), 'would champion the unique history of Waipā' (Cultural

¹ \$1 million boost for Te Ara Wai'

<https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/our-council/news?item=id:27fic2s3r17q9sedv3ip> 10 September 2019.

Champions), and ‘provide new infrastructure as an economic stimulus for our district’ as well as promote ‘Waipā as a great place to invest and do business’ (Economically Progressive).

Cambridge Town Hall upgrades

- Creative Waikato was a key stakeholder in the initial consultation and visioning phase of the Cambridge Town Hall.
- Meaningful engagement with community groups and stakeholders, facilitated well and led by a strong and motivated trust, were pivotal elements in the success of this project.
- It has been pleasing to see engagement with arts, cultural and community groups and ongoing activation.
- It is important to continue to build on this momentum and fund further upgrades, so that the Hall can reach its full potential and remain a ‘Village Heart’ to serve and inspire the whole community.
- It is important to note the importance of reinstating the operational funding to the Cambridge Town Hall to the earlier agreement of \$500k per annum rather than the proposed \$400k. The team at the town hall have been doing remarkable work to activate this space, bring in touring performances, and create a vibrant creative and cultural heart to Cambridge. We encourage the council to continue to support this work.

A new Cambridge Library

- Investment in libraries, in conjunction with investment in soft infrastructure can support community groups and local artists to work in partnership with Council.
- Libraries are community spaces, where people connect and can access education, digital spaces, things like Wi-Fi, computers, printers and scanners, which are necessary in this digital age. It is important that people can access these, even if they do not have them in their own homes.
- A new library would complement the Cambridge Town Hall and other developments providing further vibrancy to this growing area.

The following relates to proposed removal or reduction of funding:

Proposal	Creative Waikato response
<p>No longer funding or temporarily reducing the amount spent on some planned renewals This includes in cemeteries, libraries, parks and reserves, property, public toilets, community halls, roading and footpaths, water and wastewater</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As the Waipā district grows and families move to the district, they need free, accessible spaces to play and connect with others in their communities. • Libraries, parks and reserves and community halls are key community

	<p>assets. They provide connection points and enable social cohesion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is important that these assets are prioritised for the wellbeing of Waipā's communities. • There is opportunity to engage local artists in the development of public play spaces, and to consider how creative activation can contribute to thriving neighbourhoods.
<p>Reduction of discretionary grants funding by \$216,800</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funding to each of the two community boards from \$49,000 to \$20,000 - Reducing the Pirongia Ward committee grant funding from \$27,600 to \$10,000 - Halving the District Promotion Fund from \$150,000 to \$75,000 - Halving the Heritage Fund amount from \$75,000 to \$35,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction of grants to community boards, grant funding (Pirongia Ward), District Promotion and Heritage Funds means that communities have less access to vibrant events and opportunities that enable them to be 'socially resilient'.
<p>Reduction in funding for Te Waka of \$50,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a growing district, it is important to consider the implications of reducing funding to agencies such as Te Waka which is tasked with driving residents and visitors to the district.
<p>Reduction in funding for Hamilton Waikato Tourism from \$183,379 to \$146,703</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism contributes to the sustainability of creative organisations who deliver events and tourism outcomes, as well as contributions to national audience engagement for local creative activity.
<p>No longer providing a Community Events Fund</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not providing a Community Events Fund means that access to vibrant events and opportunities would be impacted, with a risk of losing community events altogether. Particularly those that make Waipā District unique.

<p>No longer funding Cambridge and Te Awamutu i-sites</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I-sites enhance coordination across services and improve access to them, build community and improve interaction, as well as strengthen relationships and collaboration with other agencies.
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Fees and charges

- Creative Waikato acknowledges that there are slight increases for fees and charges (library, library community space, Museum fees and event spaces - Mighty River Domain).
- It is important that fees and charges are kept minimal so that spaces and services are accessible for communities.

Council as a key enabler

- Councils have a responsibility to provide for cultural wellbeing. Reducing already limited funds will have a detrimental impact on community groups and key strategic organisations that work hard to provide opportunities for Waipā communities.

Cambridge Water Tower - removal or restoration

- The Cambridge Water Tower is a Category 2 listed building, which means it is considered to have historical or cultural significance or value. The tower is also identified as a Category B heritage item in Council’s Operative District Plan (ODP), meaning it also has regional and district wide significance.
- The tower, although no longer used, has become an icon for some of the Waipā community.
- Places of heritage tell stories of our past. They are locations we value and connect to as New Zealanders. It is important to protect them.² Once the tower is demolished, it is lost for future generations forever.
- It is important that Council considers these options carefully and strategically, and not only prioritise immediate cost efficiencies at the expense of losing precious heritage assets for future generations.

3. Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan

- The rate of change over the past 10 years has been unprecedented with a global pandemic, climate crises, civil unrest and technological advances.
- There is a need for Aotearoa to have co-ordinated, connected and cross-sector approaches and policies that align with cohesive objectives which will be essential for our social and economic systems if we are to thrive.³

² Tātai Aho Rau - Learnz

<https://www.learnz.org.nz/heritage223/discover/looking-after-heritage-sites>

³ New Zealand Productivity Commission, ‘Looking to the future’

<https://www.productivity.govt.nz/publications/looking-to-the-future/read-online-html/>

- The Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan recognises the important role of the creative sector in helping to grow the liveability of the Waikato region and its communities, and provide financial and economic benefit for the region, through driving increased tourism and local resident demand.

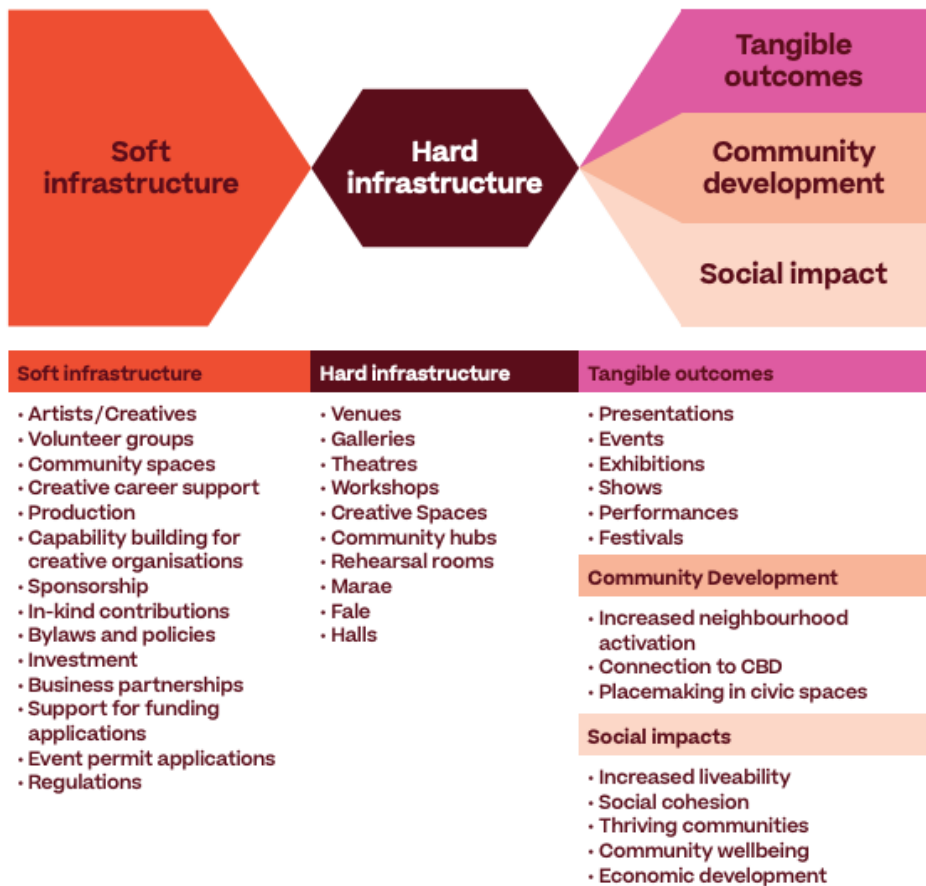
Importance of Soft Infrastructure

- Although the plan includes Hard infrastructure (or Built infrastructure). There is an emphasis on *soft infrastructure* which are the services required to maintain the economic, environmental, cultural and social standards of a society. It includes non-physical assets, such as communication, policies, strategies and regulations, the financing of these systems and services, and the future development of training, capability and resources.
- It is vital to consider issues around growth in the context of living and working in a changing city. Growth of certain kinds (residential) is interwoven with the function of a city which connects both hard and soft infrastructure (events, concerts, activities). The value and impact of creative soft infrastructure strengthens the economic potential of the city, thriving and active communities, and attractiveness for inward investment.⁴

Investing in people

- While investments in hard infrastructure are key to enabling safer, more accessible, sustainable and engaging experiences, it is important to centre people in these developments. It is key then, to not only measure impact in terms of financial return or asset utilisation, but to consider wellbeing measures, and the ways in which these experiences contribute to things like community cohesion, connection to place and land and self.
- It is through the soft infrastructure utilising the space and support of the hard infrastructure that the wider impact occurs (diagramme below).
- We have provided a copy of the 'Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan' as part of our submission.
- We request that Waipā District Council works with Creative Waikato to look at key infrastructure projects to look at ways in which Council can move forward. Specifically looking at soft infrastructure mechanisms that may feed into these projects. This work may provide a more holistic view and inform the development of next year's Long Term Plan.

⁴ Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan



4. Strategic initiatives

Creative Waikato has led key strategic initiatives which have contributed to long-term impact in the areas of arts, culture and creativity in the Waikato Region. These initiatives include:

- **Waikato Arts Navigator 2023** - A shared framework, including a vision and strategy, for supporting and strengthening our arts and culture in the region. It guides planning and decision making.
- **Performing Arts Strategy 2023** - A strategy informed by the performing arts sector which builds on the strengths of local performing arts activity and connects with the new Waikato Regional Theatre.
- **Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan 2024** - A high-level update on the Waikato Creative Infrastructure report originally prepared in 2014.
- **Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in the Waikato 2022** - Social impact reports that assess the impact of arts, culture and creativity on the people of the Waikato region.

Additional Strategic Outcomes: Maintaining relationships with Creative New Zealand, Ministry of Culture and Heritage, NZ Music Commission, Regional Arts Network Aotearoa, and Te Ora Auaha to support positive outcomes through funding and support for Waikato artists.

5. Creative Waikato mahi in the Waipā District

In addition to the above strategic initiatives, Creative Waikato has provided significant capability building support in the Waipā District, which has included a range of targeted offerings. Examples of the programmes we provide are:

- **Elevate** - A funded e-learning programme to provide creatives with resources and tools to build sustainable creative careers
- **Creativity Every Day** - A first-of-its-kind innovative programme designed to bring creativity into daily routine at work or at home. Delivered to many businesses and organisations.
- **ArtReach** - A community-focused creative development workshop series. Presented in an e-learning video format to ensure accessibility, used as an example of good practice nationally. Workshops include: Governance, Strategic Planning, Evaluation, Impact and Insights and more.
- **Things to do** - A community guide to creative events in the Waikato region.
- **Kotahitanga** - A movement and campaign to combat racism and bring the community together through the accessible power of creativity.
- **Creative Acts of Kindness** - A project which commissioned local artists to celebrate kindness using their arts practice.

Creative Waikato has also undertaken work with Wāipa District Council and its communities. Some examples are below:

Engagement with Council

- Prepared 'Waipā District Profile' of hard and soft infrastructure.
- Provision of 'Arts solutions for post-covid recovery' report.
- Local government election roadshow (2022) for Waipā communities, including Councillors.
- Provided creative input into Ahu Ake - Wāipa Community Spatial Plan, as a key stakeholder.

Community engagement

- Capability building support and strategic advice for Rosebank Art Centre.
- Creative business support for 'Kowhai Forge' blacksmithing business.
- Audience development advice for Regent Theatre.
- Strategic Planning workshops for the Te Awamutu Cinema.
- Support and development with Cambridge Town Hall team.

6. **Embedding Arts, Culture and Creativity**

Waipā District Council plays a pivotal role in the wider ecosystem⁵ in supporting arts, culture and creativity to thrive. To achieve the broadest possible impact, it is essential to view the contribution of arts, culture and creativity as part of a system which affects all facets of society. This system-based approach acknowledges cross-sector opportunities to enable effective outcomes and deliver better public services. This ecosystem approach is fundamental to the Waikato Arts Navigator - our regional arts strategy.

7. **Waipā Council's Priority Areas and alignment with the Waikato Arts Navigator**

- The Waikato Arts Navigator is a shared framework that helps community enablers achieve broader impact and focus on community benefit, with a vision and strategy to support and strengthen arts, culture and creativity in the region.
- Waipā District Council's vision is for **'Waipā Home of Champions: Building Connected Communities'**, community outcomes are: 'Socially resilient, Cultural Champions, Environmental Champions, Economically Progressive'

Alignment of Waipā District Council community outcomes and the Waikato Arts Navigator threads are outlined in pages 8-11 below.

⁵ Details on the ecosystem and council's involvement can be found in the Waikato Arts Navigator Regional Arts Strategy, the Creative Waikato Briefing for Councillors, and the Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan, available on the Creative Waikato Website: <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/>

Alignment of Waipā strategic priority areas and the Waikato Arts Navigator threads

Priority Area	This means	Waikato Arts Navigator thread	
<p>Socially resilient <i>He aha te mea nui o te ao? Māku e kī atu he tangata, he tangata! It's all about people</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Waipā is a great place to live, work, play and invest - We invest in hauora and support for the great work community groups do - Waipā provides a high quality of life for current and future generations 	Creative wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hauora and wellbeing - Positive collective and individual identities - Create, grow and strengthen communities - Inspired responses to challenges - Strengthened connection to place
		Creative prosperity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative economies - Attract and retain residents - Tourism opportunities - Positive national perceptions - Increased investment from funders
		Creative experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community and cultural expression - Recreation and interaction - Community engagement and connection - Local pride
		Creative education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participatory art projects - Upskilling creative professionals - Community art classes and projects - Youth development - Audience development
		Creative innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informing local government decision making - Local problem solving - Distinct local expression

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative export opportunities
<p>Cultural champions <i>Protecting our culture and heritage</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We champion the unique history of Waipā - We have a high level of cultural awareness - We partner with tangata whenua - We respect the cultural diversity of our district 	Creative wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hauora and wellbeing - Positive collective and individual identities - Create, grow and strengthen communities - Inspired responses to challenges - Strengthened connection to place
		Creative prosperity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative economies - Attract and retain residents - Tourism opportunities - Positive national perceptions - Increased investment from funders
		Creative experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People experience local, national, international arts - Community and cultural expression - Recreation and interaction - Community engagement and connection - Local pride
		Creative education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participatory art projects - Community art classes and projects - Youth development - Audience development
		Creative innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business partnerships - Informing local government decision-making - Local problem solving - Distinct local expression

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative export expression
<p>Environmental champions <i>Protecting and sustaining our environment</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental awareness and responsibility is promoted within the community - We support programmes that promote environmental sustainability - We are responsive to climate change 	Creative wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hauora and wellbeing - Positive collective and individual identities - Create, grow and strengthen communities - Inspired responses to challenges - Strengthened connection to place
		Creative prosperity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative economies - Attract and retain residents - Positive national perceptions - Increased investment from funders
		Creative experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community cultural expression - Recreation and interaction - Community engagement and connection - Local pride
		Creative education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participatory arts projects - Community art classes and projects - Youth development
		Creative innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business partnerships - Informing local government decision making - Local problem solving - Distinct local expression - Creative export opportunities
<p>Economically progressive</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We have financial sustainable decision 	Creative wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hauora and wellbeing - Positive collective and individual identities - Create, grow and strengthen communities

<i>Supporting a thriving, sustainable economy</i>	making and work programmes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inspired responses to challenges - Strengthened connection to place
	- We provide new infrastructure as an economic stimulus for our district	Creative prosperity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative economies - Attract and retain residents - Tourism opportunities - Positive national perceptions - Increased investment from funders
	- Our services provide excellent value for money	Creative experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People experience local, national and international arts - Community and cultural expression - Local pride
	- We actively promote our district to enable development and business opportunities	Creative education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upskilling creative professionals
	- Waipā is a great place to invest and do business	Creative innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business partnerships - Informing local government decision making - Local problem solving - Distinct local expression - Creative export opportunities

8. Arts, culture and creativity connect across Council department areas

An LTP Councillor briefing document has been provided as part of this submission.

- While this document is cognisant of the current financial situation and social environment, the aim is to present a range of possibilities that may extend current thinking, and explore cross department/sector/locale opportunities for collaborative outcomes.
- The attached briefing document outlines concrete examples of the many and diverse ways that arts, culture and creativity connect across departments within Council.
- Creative Waikato would be keen to work with Council on looking at ways arts, culture and creativity can be integrated across Council departments.

9. Importance of soft infrastructure - people and services

In addition to the LTP Councillor Briefing document, Creative Waikato has also provided an updated Infrastructure Plan which is an initial high-level scan of hard and soft infrastructure in the Waikato. This plan builds on an initial report that was developed in 2014.

A previous lack of data, insight, and sustainable investment have shaped potential issues for the ongoing sustainability of our essential soft infrastructure.

- Soft infrastructure is associated with the development of human and social capital integral to community-building and the promotion of 'high quality' living⁶. It is the mahi and expertise required to activate hard infrastructure. Forms of soft infrastructure include programmes and facilitators in libraries, museums and other community resources.
- Whilst hard infrastructure (facilities, venues etc) is important, it is the people (soft infrastructure) that are most important. Supporting those people and services which activate hard infrastructure contributes to thriving communities.

10. Investing in communities and arts, culture and creativity

The collective toll of Covid-19, climate change and the cost of living crisis on our communities has been immense.

9.a - The Role of Council

- It is Council's role to enable and support creative infrastructure.
- As outlined in your Manaaki Toiora strategy, cultural wellbeing, alongside social wellbeing, are legislated delivery outcomes for local government, and are worthy of prioritised value and sustained investment.

⁶ Brail, S., Mizrokhi, E. and Ralston, S. (2017) 'Examining the transformation of Regent Park, Toronto', in: N. Wise and J. Clark (eds). *Urban Transformations: Geographies of Renewal and Creative Change* pp. 177-194; London: Routledge in Cambridge Centre for Housing & Planning Research 'Infrastructure, placemaking and sustainability' A Report for Places for People (May 2020)

https://www.cchpr.landecon.cam.ac.uk/files/documents/DownloadTemplate_49.pdf

- Arts, culture, creativity and ngaa toi Maaori can make significant contributions to thriving communities if they are supported. The community already makes a significant contribution to these areas through investment, in-kind support, volunteer time, and creative skill; it is essential that the council maintains investment into this sector.

9.b - Economic considerations

- The creative sector is one of the fastest growing sectors for economic development in Aotearoa, with the potential for international export alongside local activation. Community activity creates essential learning and development pathways for creative professionals.
- Artistic activity is a contributor to vibrant and thriving places, and the wellbeing of communities, both now and in the future.
- Engagement in creative activity in and around the workplace makes measurable contributions to productivity, innovation, and mental health.
- Toi Maaori is a significant asset in Aotearoa, and is a contributor to international interest in tourism, and connection to place. Waipā has the potential to increase support to ngaa toi Maaori, and to enhance the skilled practitioners based in this district to highlight this opportunity for growth and development.
- As Council has indicated maintaining relationships with local Iwi, particularly regarding developments with the Te Ara Wa Museum, will be crucial moving forward.

9.c - Wellbeing and Impact

- Impact is not only measured in terms of financial return and asset utilisation, but also wellbeing, and the ways in which these experiences contribute to things like community cohesion, connection to place and land and self.
- Arts activity, like public art, events, concerts and theatrical performances contribute to civic, amenity and cultural value, which has implications for changing perceptions about the city, and supporting future growth.
- Beyond economic measures, the impacts of the creative community on social and cultural wellbeing are also significant. In-depth Waikato-focussed research from 2022 showed that regular access and perceived access to arts, culture and creativity is a significant driver of individual wellbeing. This can contribute to better mental health outcomes, but also shows measurable connection to social cohesion, community connection, civic pride, and sense of identity.

At a time of increased need, now is the time to invest in people. Support the people who provide positive outcomes for diverse communities. Art, culture, and creativity sits alongside social services, kai, health, education, environment, and community connection as interwoven components of thriving communities. These things require civic investment as a part of ensuring community access. This forms part of the public good component of local government.

11. Creative Capability Development

- Creative Waikato wishes to build on its support and service delivery in the Waipā District. However, it requires adequate funding to enable us to do this.
- Services include capability building, strategic advice, research, insights, stakeholder engagement, community support and development.
- Creative Waikato would like to develop a strategic relationship with Waipā District Council in the same way as it has a relationship with other regional entities like Sport Waikato.

12. Specific Recommendations:

We request investment of \$30K per annum, with contribution to:

- a. Development of an 'Arts Action Plan' linked to the Waikato Arts Navigator Strategy, to provide a high-level strategy for how Council can further integrate arts, culture and creativity into what they do
- b. Investment to deliver
 - i. Cultural wellbeing outcomes
 - ii. Regional arts strategic activation
 - iii. Creative capability building in local communities
 - iv. Contribution to local and regional research and insights (including the Creative Infrastructure Plan).
- c. A high-level proposal and scope can be provided if required.

Creative Waikato formally thank Waipā District Council for the opportunity to make this submission.

Creative Waikato wish to be heard in support of this submission at a hearing.

Submitted by:

Sam Cunnane
Board Chair

Dr. Jeremy Mayall
CEO

On behalf of Creative Waikato

hello@creativewaikato.co.nz

Additional attachments:

Creative Waikato Briefing to Councillors 2024

Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan 2024

Briefing to Councillors

2024



**Creative
Waikato
Toi Waikato**

Arts, Culture,
Creativity
and Ngaa Toi
Maaori support
a thriving
Waikato region.

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Arts, culture, creativity and ngaa toi Maaori helps to build resilient and diverse communities and improve our quality of life.

Great art and culture inspires learning, boosts our economy, enhances wellbeing, builds regional and national reputation, and more. The role of arts, culture, creativity and ngaa toi Maaori has powerful potential in enabling councils with tools that enable them to think differently and provide unique solutions to complex issues.

Arts, culture and creativity and ngaa toi Maaori can also be used as ideal problem-solving tools to help us with major and ongoing challenges, aiding recovery and building resilience.

Arts and culture do not sit in isolation, and are woven through all facets of thriving societies. Collaborating with, and taking the leadership of Maaori is key to creating thriving communities. The embedding of arts, culture and creativity in all elements of government influence will add value and increase opportunity.

When arts and creativity is strong and visible, communities are strong and visible.

It is important for government, industry and sector leaders to see artists as a more embedded component within the rest of society. This encourages the creation of a collaborative space where the value of artists in society can be better recognised and utilised. A diverse but interconnected ecosystem of arts infrastructure (both hard and soft) would provide clear pathways for artists and community members at any stage of the journey.

The local context

It is hard to ignore societal, regional and local contexts when considering the role and impact of the decisions and investments made by local governments.

While this document is cognisant of the current financial situation and social environment, the aim is to present a range of possibilities that may extend current thinking, and explore cross department/sector/locale opportunities for collaborative outcomes.

Creative Waikato's intention is to support local councils to embrace imaginative and innovative possibilities for alternative ways of working that can lead to better outcomes, through positive community engagement and alongside sensible investment that considers the impact of our actions on future generations.

Importance of local government

The rate of change over the past few decades with shifting demographics, urbanisation and climate change has and will have a significant impact on the landscape of local government.

The role councils play in delivering outcomes for communities and our society into the future will become critical moving forward.¹

There is an increasing need for councils (both governance and staff)

to engage with communities and encourage community participation in decision-making, and to consider the needs of people currently living in communities and those who will live there in the future.

¹ LGNZ 'Briefing to the Incoming Minister November 2023' p.8 https://d1pepq1a2249p5.cloudfront.net/media/documents/LGNZ-Briefing-to-the-Incoming-Government-2023_1.pdf

Understanding the creative ecosystem

To achieve the broadest possible impact, it is beneficial to view the contribution of arts, culture and creativity as part of a system across all facets of local government activity.

This system-based approach acknowledges cross-sector opportunities to enable effective outcomes and deliver better public services. This ecosystem approach is fundamental to our regional arts strategy.²

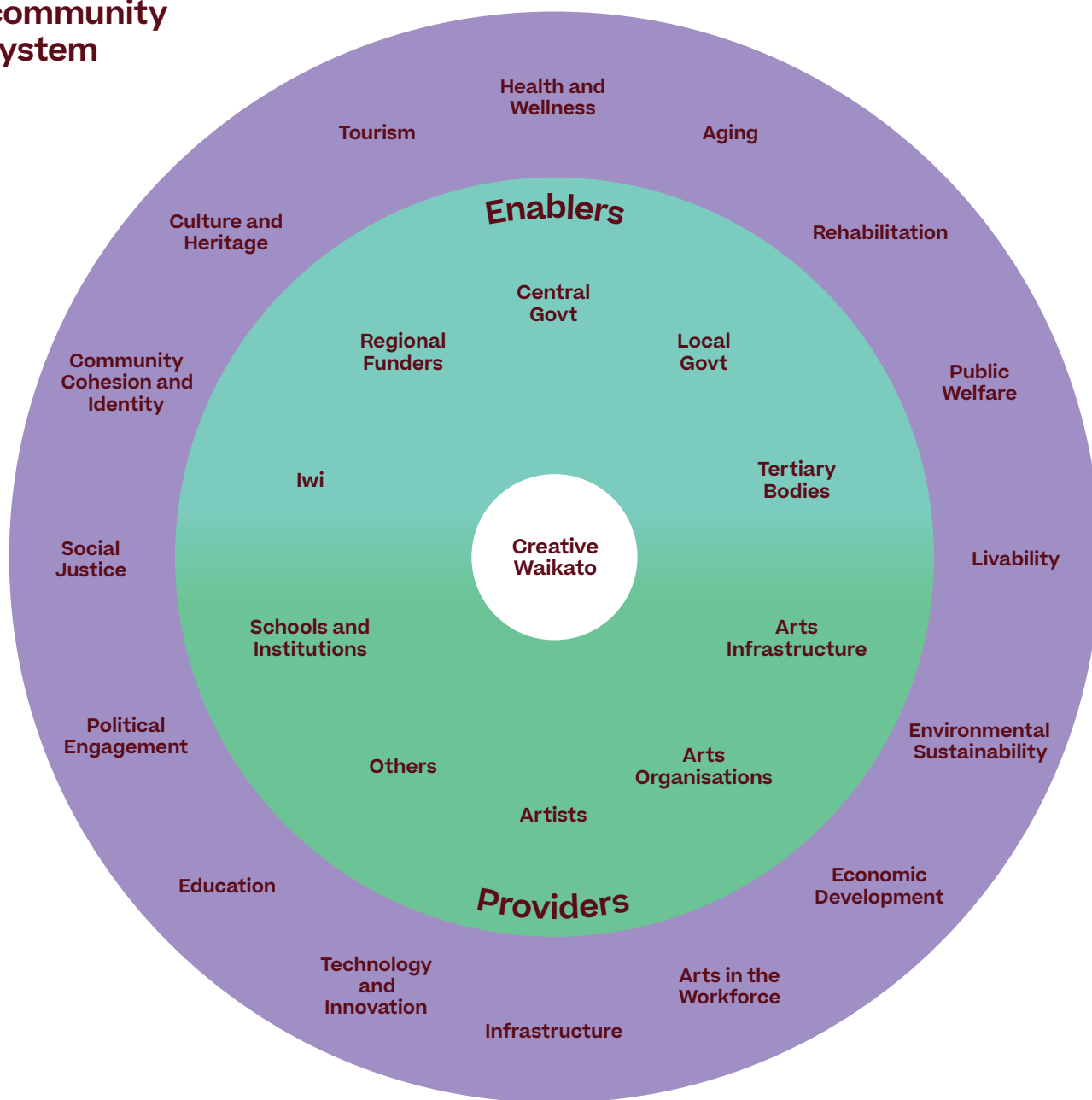
We present this briefing by examining a range of discrete but interconnected elements which can be combined to create more significant impacts than the individual parts. We believe this approach, in partnership

with sector-informed localised delivery, can enable greater outcomes and efficiencies, to better enable robust change in local communities.

Here we present a systems map that highlights opportunities for positive local government influence when working with local and regional partners. This provides a high-level scope for change, with an indication of intersections, and connections into other government systems and structures.

² <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/advocacy/strategy-space>

Arts as part of our community ecosystem



Health and Wellness
 Wellbeing for individuals
 Better care for each other
 Increased quality of life

Aging
 Physical and mental stimulation
 Entertainment
 Social interaction

Rehabilitation
 Purpose
 Self-care
 Social interaction
 Capability development

Public Welfare
 Community pride
 Mutual trust
 Safer and healthier communities

Livability
 Arts create vibrant cities
 Environmental impact
 Quality of life

Environmental Sustainability
 Education and innovation
 Advocating and driving awareness
 Communication

Economic Development
 Economic wellbeing
 Support services and impact
 Sustainable funding
 Workforce development

Arts in the Workforce
 Well-rounded workers who drive innovation
 Creative thinkers
 Effective communicators

Infrastructure
 Advocacy, communication, design, breaking down barriers
 Agriculture, food, transport, housing, planning and community development

Technology and Innovation
 Symbiotic relationship for creation and development
 Technology can be used to create and disseminate art

Education
 Arts are part of a well-rounded education
 Curiosity and exploration
 Important at all levels of education

Political Engagement
 Can encourage political engagement, voting, and activation

Social Justice
 Civic dialogue to discuss issues and policies
 Arts facilitate dialogue

Community Cohesion and Identity
 Binds people together through shared experience
 Creates common vision for the future
 Arts bring people together

Culture and Heritage
 Art activity
 Diversity/access/identity
 History and tradition

Tourism
 Economic impact
 Empathy between communities
 Arts for travel

Arts, culture and creativity is an essential contributor to public infrastructure. It is a core component of vibrant, growing communities, and is a public good. It is an enabler and indicator of a thriving society.

Arts, culture and creativity is best understood not as discrete or siloed activity, but as something which is essential and intrinsic to all aspects of public life. A cross-sector approach will be of best benefit for achieving the goals of this government and the people it serves.

Broad areas of connection to council departments

Health and Wellbeing	10
Liveability	12
Community Cohesion and Identity	14
Culture and Heritage	16
Economic Development	18
Tourism	20
Technology and Innovation	22
Environmental Sustainability	24

The following sections explore some high-level themes that can be implemented throughout the indicated system areas included in the ecosystem map. These elements are presented with a brief discussion

of the key opportunities for positive impact and innovative change. These are matched with local government departments and example initiatives that could be supported through localised investment and activation.

Health and Wellbeing

Creativity is essential to community and individual wellbeing, and can be deployed in health treatments and settings.

There is a wealth of global evidence that reinforces the opportunity to shape better long-term outcomes through the inclusion of arts and creativity as a component of health treatment and recovery plans – this includes mental health.

Creative Wellbeing is a facet of holistic wellbeing, which embraces Maaori understandings of Hauora, as expressed in Te Whare Tapa Whā model.³ It can be a lens through which to address physical, mental and emotional, family and social and spiritual wellbeing, as well as the need to connect with the whenua.⁴

‘On average, Waikato residents who self-report having a high level of engagement with arts, culture and creativity have higher wellbeing than those who have little or no engagement. For all Waikato

residents, engagement with arts, culture and creativity has a positive relationship with overall wellbeing. The more often they attend, create or participate in artistic and cultural events, the higher their wellbeing is likely to be. This holds true regardless of engagement level or relationship with the creative sector.’⁵

In Waikato, those who report being highly engaged with arts, culture and creativity have 5% higher overall wellbeing as compared to those with little or no engagement.⁶

Research has shown that recreational arts can support mental wellbeing. ‘Those who engaged in 100 or more hours/year of arts engagement (i.e. two or more hours/week) reported significantly better mental well-being than other levels of engagement.’⁷

3 Sir Mason Durie, ‘Te Whare Tapa Whā’, Mental Health Foundation <https://mentalhealth.org.nz/te-whare-tapa-wha>

4 ibid.

5 Huber Social, ‘Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in Waikato’ (Sydney: Huber Social, 2022), p.3, <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/advocacy/researchandreports>

6 Huber Social, Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in Waikato, p.22.

7 Christina Davies, Matthew Knuiman & Michael Rosenberg, ‘The art of being mentally healthy: a study to quantify the relationship between recreational arts engagement and mental well-being in the general population, BMC Public Health, vol.16, <https://bmcpublihealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-015-2672-7>

40%

of New Zealanders say that the arts are important to their wellbeing.⁸

26%

shared that the arts have become more important to their personal wellbeing since Covid-19 arrived in Aotearoa.⁹

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Support the activation of diverse art, culture and creativity in local spaces to support community access. This can be through both investment, and in supporting community use of space.

Share stories through council comms channels of local creative activity to support growing audiences and engagement.

Invest in locally-based creative spaces to support access and engagement.

Explore community-based artist-in-residence initiatives to encourage positive community outcomes through creative activity (see [Whiria Te Tangata](#) as an example).¹⁰

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds Libraries Heritage	Plans, Policies and Bylaws Budgets Policies Bylaws Reports Strategies
Venues, Tourism and Events Infrastructure Theatres Community Halls	Communication and Marketing Provision of information to news media and stakeholder Internal communications Supporting engagement and consultation activities Managing online and print channels

8 Creative New Zealand, 'New Zealanders and the Arts 2020', <https://creativenz.govt.nz/development-and-resources/new-zealanders-and-the-arts---ko-aotearoa-me-ona-toi>, p.10.
 9 <https://creativenz.govt.nz/development-and-resources/new-zealanders-and-the-arts---ko-aotearoa-me-ona-toi>, p.10.
 10 Creative Waikato, 'You're going to want to hear about Whiria te Tangata', <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/news/youre-going-to-want-to-hear-about-whiria-te-tangata>

Liveability

Liveability is an important concern in planning for population growth and housing intensification. It is key that our towns and cities contain accessible spaces where communities can connect, and that public spaces are welcoming to ensure that they are fully utilised.

‘Placemaking’ is a powerful governmental tool for engaging communities in the planning, design and management of their shared public assets.

Placemaking shows people just how powerful their collective vision can be. It helps them to re-imagine everyday spaces, and to see anew the potential of parks, city centres, neighbourhoods, streets, markets and public buildings.¹¹ Given that arts and culture increase connection to community and place, the creative sector and their interests should be represented in placemaking discussions.

Arts, culture and creativity provide useful skills and spaces for the creation, development and expression of local identity and stories. These generate a sense of identity and community pride, as well as contributing to communities being a vibrant and safe place to live.¹²

There is a growing public agreement for support for the arts. Agreement with local councils giving money to support the arts has grown significantly from 2017–2020. In Waikato, this has increased 13%.¹³

‘Around six in ten Waikato residents feel the arts are important in creating a vibrant place to live, and in their community’s future. They also want their community to be recognised as a place that supports the arts. [...] Fifty seven percent also feel that the arts benefit communities by contributing to resilience and wellbeing while 50% feel their community would be a poorer place without the arts.’¹⁴

‘Being highly engaged with arts, culture and creativity means that residents are also more likely to have stronger connections to community and to land and place’¹⁵

¹¹ Project for Public Spaces ‘What is Placemaking’ <https://www.pps.org/article/what-is-placemaking>

¹² Ministry of Culture and Heritage, *Valuing the Arts in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand* (2022), <https://www.mch.govt.nz/publications/valuing-arts-australia-and-aotearoa-new-zealand>

¹³ Creative New Zealand, *New Zealand and the Arts: Ko Aotearoa me ōna Toi* (2020), p. 47.

¹⁴ Creative New Zealand, ‘Survey Findings for Waikato Residents’, (2020), p.21 https://creativenz.govt.nz/-/media/project/creative-nz/creativenz/legacy-images/ckeditor/attachments/nzarts_waikato_final.pdf

¹⁵ Huber Social, ‘Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in Waikato’ (Sydney: Huber Social, 2022), p.28, <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/advocacy/researchandreports>.

67%

of New Zealanders agree it is important that where they live is recognised as a place that supports excellence in the arts

66%

believe that major arts facilities are important to create a vibrant place to live¹⁶

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Activate public spaces with arts-based play activities, and the creation of playable spaces that tell stories.

Utilise public art (murals, sculpture, light) to support the creation of safer spaces for all people.¹⁷

Embed artistic expression and cultural narratives in large-scale infrastructure projects to create unique regional identities.

Work with community partners to support the provision of accessible creative spaces and local storytelling.

Advocate to the central government for the development of a Provincial Arts Fund (similar to the Provincial Growth Fund) to support improved community liveability outcomes.¹⁸

Explore and articulate the contribution made by arts activity, festivals and public art to the value of space, place and community in strategies, reports, and public communications.

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

Community Services and Facilities

Parks and Reserves
Open spaces
Playgrounds
Libraries

Heritage

Property Services – Community
Land and Buildings
Housing for the Elderly
Emergency Management

Venues, Tourism and Events

Infrastructure
Theatres
Community Halls
i-sites

Transport, Roading and Footpaths

Roads
Footpaths and Cycleways
Road Safety Interventions and Education

Plans, Policies and Bylaws

Budgets
Policies
Bylaws
Reports
Strategies

Communication and Marketing

Provision of information to news media and stakeholder
Internal communications
Supporting engagement and consultation activities
Managing online and print channels

¹⁶ Creative New Zealand, New Zealand and the Arts: Ko Aotearoa me ōna Toi (2020), <https://creativenz.govt.nz/development-and-resources/new-zealanders-and-the-arts---ko-aotearoa-me-ona-toi>, p.12.

¹⁷ National Opinion Research Centre (USA), The Outcomes of Arts Engagement for Individuals and Communities (2021), <https://www.norc.org/content/dam/norc-org/pdfs/NORC%20Outcomes%20of%20Arts%20Engagement%20-%20Full%20Report.pdf>

¹⁸ Regional Economic Development and Investment Unit | Kānoa, 'The Provincial Growth Fund', <https://www.growregions.govt.nz/established-funds/what-we-have-funded/the-provincial-growth-fund/>

Community Cohesion and Identity

Community cohesion and identity is key to collective wellbeing and a safe and productive society. Participation in community organisations and arts, culture and creative activities positively contributes to community connection.

In these times, community cohesion is an important protective factor in the face of rapid change, polarisation, and disasters. In particular, social inclusion is a powerful determinant of wellbeing.¹⁹

‘Over the next 30 years, Aotearoa New Zealand’s population of seniors will grow from around 850,000 (17 percent of the population) to around 1.5 million (24 percent of the population). And it is not only growing numerically, but also structurally.’²⁰ Artistic, cultural and creative activities can be a powerful way to bring senior and isolated people together, and support wellbeing.

Long-term loneliness has been proven to negatively affect physical and mental wellbeing outcomes.²¹ Worldwide, it is estimated that 25% of older people are isolated.²²

The arts improve inter-generational relationships and connection to family and friends. “The arts act as a catalyst for bridging, bonding and linking social capital—it provides opportunities for engagement that reduce social isolation, encourages community cohesion, mutual support, improved intergenerational relationships and connection to family and friends.”²³

¹⁹ World Health Organization, ‘Social Determinants of Health’, https://www.who.int/health-topics/social-determinants-of-health#tab=tab_1.

²⁰ Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, ‘The long-term implications of our ageing population for our housing and urban futures’, <https://www.hud.govt.nz/news/the-long-term-implications-of-our-ageing-population-for-our-housing-and-urban-futures/>

²¹ World Health Organization, ‘Decade of healthy Ageing, Advocacy Brief: Social Isolation and Loneliness Among Older People’, p.2, <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240030749>.

²² World Health Organisation, ‘WHO Commission on Social Connection’, <https://www.who.int/groups/commission-on-social-connection>.

²³ VicHealth, ‘The arts and creative industries in health promotion’, (2020) p.17, https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/VH_Sax-Arts-Review.pdf.

64%

of surveyed New Zealanders say that ‘The arts help define who we are as New Zealanders’.²⁴

80%

agree: I feel proud when New Zealand artists succeed overseas.²⁵

In Waikato, attending artistic, cultural and creative events or activities results in connections with diverse people.²⁶

“Residents who attend or create artistic, cultural or creative events or activities at least once a month report feeling more connected to culture and community, to land and place, and self... [They] feel that they have more opportunities to meet people who are different from them.”

61% of New Zealanders agree that “the arts contributes to the resilience and wellbeing of their community.”²⁷

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Support community groups who provide accessible group activities through increased investment and/or provision of space or other useful services. Currently, these are often run by passionate and long-serving volunteers, and burnout is a major factor.

Invest in infrastructure including shared and multi-use community spaces, and support their long-term maintenance.

Invest in community-driven expressions of arts and culture through grass-roots festivals, touring performances, and work that connects professional practitioners into remote communities. One option to achieve this is through match-funding the Creative NZ Creative Communities Scheme funding into your local community.

Recognise and support the many arts and culture organisations who serve senior and marginalised communities.

Support the development of local capability building to strengthen and support community organisations and activities.

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds Libraries Heritage Property Services – Community Land and Buildings Housing for the Elderly	Venues, Tourism and Events Infrastructure Theatres Community Halls I-sites Communication and Marketing Provision of information to news media and stakeholder Internal communications Supporting engagement and consultation activities Managing online and print channels
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²⁴ ibid, p.15

²⁵ ibid.

²⁶ Huber Social, ‘Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in Waikato’ (Sydney: Huber Social, 2022), p.50, <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/advocacy/researchandreports>.

²⁷ Creative New Zealand, New Zealand and the Arts: Ko Aotearoa me ōna Toi (2020), p.16, <https://creativenz.govt.nz/development-and-resources/new-zealanders-and-the-arts---ko-aotearoa-me-ona-toi>.

Culture and Heritage

The valuing of culture and heritage is key to a thriving community. When we honour our heritage, we are able to chart a hopeful and ambitious tomorrow.

Maintained or managed cultural (historic) heritage plays an important part in our culture by preserving the past, documenting local and community history, and providing evidence of cultural heritage decision-making.²⁸ The Waikato region is home to many key heritage sites, taonga and histories. Investment in our culture and heritage is investment in our people and our future. Cultural wellbeing is a key social impact outcome of activity enabled by the arts, culture and creative sector.²⁹

²⁸ NZ Local Government Magazine 'Cultural Heritage Information and Councils' (Dec, 2021) <https://localgovernmentmag.co.nz/taonga-heritage-strategy/>

²⁹ Dunphy, K & Smithies, J., 'Outcome schema for cultural engagement' (Melbourne, Cultural Development Network, 2018), <https://culturaldevelopment.net.au/outcomes/about-measurable-outcomes/>

66%

of surveyed New Zealanders agree: 'Arts and culture have a vital role to play in the future of where I live'³⁰

75%

of New Zealanders have engaged with (attended or participated in) the arts in the last 12 months.³¹

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Invest in the continued support of nga toi Maaori and the protection of taonga and maatauranga Maaori as essential expressions of Aotearoa.

Support the sharing of local histories, and supporting cultural education in schools that embrace the stories of local communities.

Where possible, invest in maintaining built heritage and recognising sites of significance to both tangata whenua and tangata tiriti.

Engage the knowledge and insights from local experts, mana whenua, and other national support like the team at the Ministry of Culture and Heritage.

Support and invest in multi-cultural activities that celebrate the diversity of communities living in Waikato.

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

Governance and Corporate Decision-making functions and support	Transport, Roading and Footpaths Roads Footpaths and Cycleways Road Safety Interventions and Education
Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds Public Toilets Cemeteries Libraries Heritage Property Services – Community Land and Buildings Housing for the Elderly Public Swimming Pools Waste Management and Minimisation Emergency Management	Planning and Regulatory Animal Control Building Compliance Development Engineering Environmental Health Resource Consents/Enforcements/Land Information Memorandums
Venues, Tourism and Events Infrastructure Theatres Community Halls I-sites	Plans, Policies and Bylaws Budgets Policies Bylaws Reports Strategies
	Communication and Marketing Provision of information to news media and stakeholder Internal communications Supporting engagement and consultation activities Managing online and print channels

³⁰ Creative New Zealand, New Zealand and the Arts: Ko Aotearoa me ōna Toi (2020), p.13, <https://creativenz.govt.nz/development-and-resources/new-zealanders-and-the-arts---ko-aotearoa-me-ona-toi>.

³¹ Creative New Zealand, New Zealand and the Arts: Ko Aotearoa me ōna Toi (2020), p.16.

Economic Development

The arts, culture and creative ecosystem makes positive contributions to the prosperity of the region, and the country.

As well as generating income for people working in the arts, the creative sector creates tourism opportunities, supports innovation and collaboration, and can be engaged to promote towns and the region.

There is an exciting opportunity for this region to really champion our ngā toi Māori as a key component of our economic offering.

A thriving creative sector also contributes to hospitality industries, information economies and digital export. Supporting districts to develop strong arts, culture and creative presentations can become growth opportunities in the emerging 'experience economy'.³² An emergent experience economy in local communities has the potential to

transform opportunities as tourism flourishes both from national and international engagement.

The number of people employed in the arts is growing. Nationally, there are more than 117,517 people whose primary employment is in the arts and creativity.³³ In Waikato, 7109 people are employed in the arts.³⁴

New Zealand's arts and creative sector contributes \$16.3 billion to New Zealand's GDP.³⁵

32 B. Joseph Pine II and James H. Gilmore, 'Welcome to the Experience Economy', Harvard Business Review (1998) <https://hbr.org/1998/07/welcome-to-the-experience-economy>

33 Ministry for Culture and Heritage, Manatū Taonga, 'Arts and creative sector economic profiles 2023', <https://www.mch.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2024-03/infometrics-1-page-summary-2023.pdf>

34 Ibid; Ministry for Culture and Heritage, 'Arts and Creative Sector Profile 2023 Infometrics report summary' <https://www.mch.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2024-03/infometrics-1-page-summary-2023.pdf>

35 Ibid.

94%

of creative professionals in the waikato region participating in the gig economy find it difficult to secure loans for things like mortgages.³⁶

The creative sector includes many different kinds of work, including: visual arts, architecture, advertising, design, fashion, games, media, music, performing arts, photography, publishing, screen, and software.³⁷

There are 35,955 businesses in the arts and creative sector.³⁸ There are 6,974 creatives employed in the Waikato region.³⁹

Nationally, the Arts Sector has 11,641 self-employed workers — accounting for 42% of the sector’s workforce and more than double the total NZ self-employment rate (16.2%).⁴⁰

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Maintain and increase Investment in local events, public creative activities and organisations that will encourage tourism and local spending.

Engage artists and creatives in the design of civic spaces and new developments, in order to contribute to a unique sense of place, increased liveability, and attract and retain residents.

Support arts and creativity training programmes that support people to move into the industry and develop workforce pathways (for example Creative Waikato’s **ELEVATE** programme).⁴¹

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

Venues, Tourism and Events Infrastructure Theatres Community Halls I-sites Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds	Communication and Marketing Provision of information to news media and stakeholder Internal communications Supporting engagement and consultation activities Managing online and print channels
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36 Kantar Public, 'Creative New Zealand on Air, A Profile of Creative Professionals' (2022), p. 7.
 37 See <https://wecreate.org.nz/> for more information.
 38 Ibid.
 39 Ministry for Culture and Heritage, Manatū Taonga, 'Arts and Creative Sector Profile 2022 Infometrics report summary', <https://mch.govt.nz/sites/default/files/infometrics-report-summary-2022.pdf>.
 40 The Big Idea, 'EXCLUSIVE: Arts & Creativity \$14.9 Billion Sector', (2023) <https://thebigidea.nz/stories/exclusive-new-data-shows-arts-creative-sector-economic-impact>
 41 Creative Waikato, 'Elevate Creative Careers Programme', <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/workshop/elevate-programme>.

Tourism

People travel for unique cultural experiences – this is true around the world. In the Waikato region, Maaori culture contributes significantly to tourism and both national and international reputation.

So, the expression of local culture and shaping of interesting spaces has real potential for local and global tourism. Local events and festivals can share unique components of regional life.

In addition, the designation of cities as UNESCO cities of culture can contribute to local identity and economies, raise civic pride, and promote international collaboration and cooperation.

Creative tourism can help to combat challenges of seasonality and sustainability for the tourism sector.⁴²

Creative activation of city spaces within the framework of UNESCO's city of culture can contribute to economic recovery, additional investment, and boost in tourism.⁴³

Creative tourism can support employment and retention of creative professionals in regional towns and city centres.

⁴² The Creative Tourism Network, 'What do we mean by Creative Tourism?', <http://www.creativetourismnetwork.org/about>.

⁴³ Coventry City Council, 'Evaluation report highlights benefits City of Culture year brought to Coventry', <https://www.coventry.gov.uk/news/article/4818/evaluation-report-highlights-benefits-city-of-culture-year-brought-to-coventry>.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Include creative place-based storytelling in highly-frequented spaces like airports. Work with mana whenua to create powerful narratives and works. (For example, see the Hamilton Airport⁴⁴ and New Plymouth Airport).⁴⁵

Invest and enable a 'City of Culture' programme in regional Aotearoa.⁴⁶

Support the development of Regional Maaori Cultural Tourism initiatives through seed funding and development (See collaboratively funded projects like 'Footprints of Kupe'.)⁴⁷

Integrate creative expressions of te ao Maaori in all development—led by Maaori organisations to share the unique stories of this space. Follow Maaori leadership and cultural frameworks in developing tourism initiatives.⁴⁸

Invest in unique experience-based tourism that combines creativity, tech and hospitality to create immersive artistic experiences that drive global interest (eg. TeamLab—Japan, MeowWolf—USA.⁴⁹ Waikato has the capability to deliver projects like this—also related to the emerging 'experience economy').⁵⁰

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS**Venues, Tourism and Events**

Infrastructure
Theatres
Community Halls
I-sites

Community Services and Facilities

Parks and Reserves
Open spaces
Playgrounds

Communication and Marketing

Provision of information to news media and stakeholder
Internal communications
Supporting engagement and consultation activities
Managing online and print channels

44 Hamilton Airport, 'Our Cultural Journey', <https://www.hamiltonairport.co.nz/our-cultural-journey/#Artworks>.

45 Creative New Zealand, 'Building a whare manaaki that sings with stories', (2023), <https://creativenz.govt.nz/news-and-blog/2023/12/04/02/19/16/building-a-whare-manaaki-that-sings-with-stories>.

46 Gov.uk, 'Government backs Bradford—UK City of Culture 2025—with £10 million funding boost', <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-backs-bradford-uk-city-of-culture-2025-with-10-million-funding-boost>.

47 Manea Tupuwae ā nuku | Footprints of Kupe, 'The Footprints of Kupe Experience', <https://maneafootprints.co.nz/experiences/footprints-of-kupe-experience/>.

48 For example, see: Ash Puriri & Alison McIntosh (2019) A cultural framework for Māori tourism: values and processes of a Whānau tourism business development, DOI: 10.1080/03036758.2019.1656260.

49 Team Lab, <https://www.teamlab.art/>; MeowWolf, <https://meowwolf.com/>.

50 Joseph Pine II and James H. Gilmore, 'Welcome to the Experience Economy', Harvard Business Review, <https://hbr.org/1998/07/welcome-to-the-experience-economy>.

Technology and Innovation

Creativity is key to innovation, and the intersection of arts and technology drives new ideas. Creativity can be found in many facets of modern society, but the arts provides a pure distillation of this process which can be utilised to inspire novel approaches and create new opportunities.

Art-informed innovation has the potential to be a catalyst for transformation – provided the right conditions are created to enable it.

The arts can also contribute to increased liveability in main centres and satellite towns, increasing attraction and retention of tech leaders and organisations.

International research shows that ‘lifelong participation in arts and crafts yields significant impacts for innovators and entrepreneurs. Arts and crafts experiences are significantly correlated with producing patentable inventions and founding new companies.’⁵¹

Art-informed innovation has the potential to be a catalyst for transformation – provided the right conditions are created to enable it. The arts can also contribute to increased liveability in main centres and satellite towns, increasing attraction and retention of tech leaders and organisations.

A creative society fosters innovation and entrepreneurial risk taking.⁵²

⁵¹ Rex LaMore, Robert Root-Bernstein, Michele Root-Bernstein, John H. Schweitzer, James L. Lawton, Eileen Roraback, Amber Peruski, Megan VanDyke, and Laleah Fernandez, ‘Arts and Crafts: Critical to Economic Innovation’,

Economic Development Quarterly, p.1, Michigan State University (USA), 2013, <https://doi.org/10.1177/089124241348618>.

⁵² Shahid Yusuf ‘From creativity to innovation’, Technology in Society vol.31, (2009) pp.1–8.

Innovation springs from the creative application of knowledge. Thus, it has two essential ingredients: creativity – artistic, scientific or other – and a stock of knowledge.⁵³

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Have artists as part of Innovation working groups within council processes to create new ways to solve problems, and to communicate new ideas.

Nurture the intersection of arts and technology and innovation spaces to drive new ideas. (This could be done in partnership with other regional organisations).

Strengthen engagement with regional arts organisations to support strategic initiatives and enable connections between cross-sector organisations.

Encourage an artist-in-residence or ‘Imagination and Creativity Officer’ in council departments to inspire divergent outcomes.

Embed creativity in technological organisations, through initiatives such as [Creativity Everyday](#).⁵⁴

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

<p>Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds Public Toilets Cemeteries Libraries Heritage Property Services – Community Land and Buildings Housing for the Elderly Public Swimming Pools Waste Management and Minimisation Emergency Management Venues, Tourism and Events Infrastructure</p>	<p>Planning and Regulatory Building Compliance Development Engineering Resource Consents/ Enforcements/Land Information Memorandums Plans, Policies and Bylaws Budgets Policies Bylaws Reports Strategies Communication and Marketing Provision of information to news media and stakeholder Internal communications Supporting engagement and consultation activities Managing online and print channels</p>
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⁵³ Shahid Yusuf, ‘From creativity to innovation’, *Technology in Society*, vol.31, Issue 1 (2009), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.techsoc.2008.10.007>.

⁵⁴ Creative Waikato, ‘Creativity Everyday’, <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/creativityeveryday>.

Environmental Sustainability

Climate change is a complex and urgent challenge, and it is essential that we establish new paradigms, collective understandings, and ways of living. In Aotearoa, we will benefit from acknowledging and working alongside Maaori and embracing their knowledge in this pursuit.

The arts can help bring people together to support a united collective vision for environmental sustainability. In addition, it is key to support engagement with local creativity, and to support local creative spaces so that communities can have access to sustainable creative experiences that support local communities.

Human influence is key to halting the climate crisis.⁵⁵ The arts can be employed to influence cultural changes which can prompt urgent action.⁵⁶

Creativity can serve as a useful outlet for anxiety around climate change, and a powerful tool for finding imaginative solutions.⁵⁷ Somatic and physical creative practices can be useful tools for processing ecological grief.⁵⁸

The arts can be used to convey key information to the public and help the public to understand difficult or abstract ideas in affective, impactful ways.⁵⁹

⁵⁵ IPCC, 'Climate Change 2023: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.' ed. H. Lee and J. Romero (Geneva: IPCC, 2023), pp. 35–115, doi: 10.59327/IPCC/AR6-9789291691647.

⁵⁶ Artists and Climate Change, 'Organizations', <https://artistsandclimatechange.com/organizations/>.

⁵⁷ Nilescha Chauvet, Managing Director of GOOD, 'Grantham Institute Annual Lecture' (Imperial College London, 2022), <https://www.goodagency.co.uk/the-role-of-creativity-in-a-climate-crisis/>.

⁵⁸ Melody Schrieber, 'Addressing climate change concerns in practice', American Psychological Association, Vol. 52 No.2, p. 30, <https://www.apa.org/monitor/2021/03/ce-climate-change>.

⁵⁹ Dr Philip Seargeant, Dr Nessa O'Mahony, and Dr Anne Caldwell, 'Climate Creativity: The power of the word to tackle the climate emergency', University of Oxford, <https://www.socsci.ox.ac.uk/climate-creativity-the-power-of-the-word-to-tackle-the-climate-emergency>.

Arts and culture can inspire engagement and action in the fight against climate change. “The arts support the sciences because the arts can reach inside our hearts, not just our minds.”⁶⁰

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Work alongside Maaori organisations and value Maaori art forms including, but not limited to: whakairo, waiata, whakatauki, raranga and ta moko, as key expressions of essential identity and knowledge, key to restoring the whenua.

Ensure that communities can have access to sustainable creative experiences that support local communities.

Support regional arts festivals, local tours, community-based creative activations and local venues and creative spaces, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions related to touring, including transporting large sets and casts.⁶¹

Integrate and value creativity in scientific processes. Include artists and designers in all developments, opening possibilities including using biomimicry in technological innovations for sustainability.⁶²

Invest in local initiatives to explore sustainable public art as a way of redefining green space and creating opportunities for storytelling and engagement through art-based initiatives.

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

Community Services and Facilities

Parks and Reserves
Open spaces
Playgrounds
Public Toilets
Cemeteries
Libraries
Heritage
Property Services—Community
Land and Buildings
Housing for the Elderly
Public Swimming Pools
Waste Management and Minimisation
Emergency Management

Venues, Tourism and Events Infrastructure

Transport, Roading and Footpaths
Roads
Footpaths and Cycleways
Road Safety Interventions and Education

Planning and Regulatory

Building Compliance
Development Engineering
Environmental Health
Resource Consents/Enforcements/Land Information Memorandums

Plans, Policies and Bylaws

Budgets
Policies
Bylaws
Reports
Strategies

Communication and Marketing

Provision of information to news media and stakeholder
Internal communications
Supporting engagement and consultation activities
Managing online and print channels

⁶⁰ Dr James Renwick, Climate Change Commissioner and Professor of Physical Geography at Te Herenga Waka | Victoria University of Wellington, ‘Art as Climate Action, Ministry for the Environment Manatū mō te Taiao (NZ)’, <https://environment.govt.nz/what-you-can-do/stories/art-as-climate-action/>.

⁶¹ Advisory Board for the Arts, ‘The Arts and Environmental Sustainability: A Guide to Key Areas’ <https://www.advisoryboardarts.com/the-arts-and-environmental-sustainability-a-guide-to-key-areas>.

⁶² Lukas Gutierrez, ‘Art and Creativity: Essential Components of Sustainability’, <https://sustainable-earth.org/art-and-creativity/>.

Arts in the workforce

Arts, culture and creativity is essential to a thriving wider workforce. Creativity is a driver for innovation, is a feature of emerging business research and is a vital skill set for many future-focussed employers.

Creativity is embedded in modern technology, it is a way we invent new opportunities, ideas and possibilities. It is also a key tool for sharing stories, solving problems, and expressing ideas.

When creativity is woven into workplaces, employees are happier and more productive. Workplace creativity contributes to employees who are more engaged, which contributes to satisfaction, quality of work, and deliverable outcomes.

Waikato residents who have jobs that require creative thinking or problem solving are more likely to have a higher level of satisfaction with their work.⁶³

Increasingly, organisations are needing to report on Environmental, Social and Governance measures (ESG's) within their work. Arts, Culture and Creativity can contribute to social wellbeing, by enabling cultural wellbeing.

Art activities in the workplace can have notable positive effects on the wellbeing of the staff. The effects exist over a wide range of measures, from brief moments of refreshment to longer-term impact.⁶⁴

And the worlds of creativity in the workplace are being explored by researchers in the field of [business](#), [innovation](#), [wellbeing](#), [education](#), [neuro-science](#), [psychology](#), [leadership](#), and more. It is also being talked about by business sources like [Forbes](#), [Harvard Business Review](#), [Deloitte](#), [McKinsey](#) and [Entrepreneur](#).

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

See creativity as part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Health & Safety (H&S) plans. This will nurture the wellbeing of employees, and generate innovative output for businesses.

Support the development and delivery of creative workplace wellbeing initiatives such as [Creativity Everyday](#), which support creative problem solving, innovation and wellbeing.⁶⁵

Support council staff engaging with local creative activities as part of their own wellbeing and personal development.

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

<p>Community Services and Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds Public Toilets Cemeteries Libraries Heritage Property Services – Community Land and Buildings Housing for the Elderly Public Swimming Pools Waste Management and Minimisation Emergency Management 	<p>Venues, Tourism and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure <p>Plans, Policies and Bylaws</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budgets Policies Bylaws Reports Strategies <p>Communication and Marketing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of information to news media and stakeholder Internal communications Supporting engagement and consultation activities Managing online and print channels
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63 Huber Social, Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in Waikato (Sydney: Huber Social, 2022), p. 41, <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/advocacy/researchandreports>.

64 Heli Ansio, Pia Houni, Piia Seppälä and Jarno Turunen, 'Arts Enhances Well-being at Work', (Finland: Arts Equal, 2017), https://sites.uniarts.fi/documents/14230/0/PB_Arts-enhances-well-being-at-work/51fc5258-4ca6-4866-bd21-cca5c3946a5/.

65 Creative Waikato, 'Creativity Everyday', <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/creativityeveryday>.

Council-specific areas of consideration

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Growth	35
Plans, Policies and Bylaws	38
Arts, Culture, Creativity & Ngaa Toi Maaori	40

The following areas are those which relate specifically to the day-to-day work of Council. There are connections between different areas within Council which facilitate a more holistic and integrated approach to issues and problems and more joined-up solutions. These sections are matched with local government departments

and example initiatives that could be supported through localised investment and activation.

Please note: This will outline a range of local government department areas connected to our sector, and concludes with a specific arts, culture and creativity focus in summary.

Civic Engagement

In the past three decades Aotearoa has undergone a substantive demographic change. This is evident in the ethnic composition of the population, its age structure, and in the increase of those born outside of New Zealand.⁶⁶

In the last two decades voter turnout in Aotearoa, as in other industrial democracies, has been declining.⁶⁷ An added complication is that Aotearoa has a large migrant population with varying experiences of politics and government in their countries of origin.

⁶⁶ Civics, Citizenship and Political Literacy Education for a Diversifying Nation in NZPSA Our Civic Future Civics, Citizenship and Political Literacy in Aotearoa New Zealand: A Public Discussion Paper. <https://nzpsa.com/resources/Documents/Our%20Civic%20Future.pdf>

⁶⁷ Ibid.

Local government is all about community. Councils make decisions about local activity to ensure a healthy environment, thriving families and businesses, safe spaces for all and a culture that supports every individual's sense of belonging.⁶⁸

By collaborating with local government, artists can facilitate processes that amplify the voices of residents, activate neighbourhood assets, and foster a stronger social fabric, building bridges between city staff and communities.

If we want stronger communities with improved outcomes we need councils to work with local storytellers and trusted voices to enhance our collective civics education and understanding. This means engaging with artists to share information in an engaging and accessible way that can communicate effectively with different communities.

The arts contribute uniquely to the works of civil engagement. Validating people's stories and perspectives, and bringing people together around shared goals. The arts are being more consciously and continuously engaged to achieve civic goals, and make change.⁶⁹

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Engage planners, regulatory and community services and artists to create a participatory art project on a particular issue i.e., getting to know your neighbour.

Commission work on a central theme to communicate with diverse audiences (see Kotahitanga⁷⁰ as a local example).

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

<p>Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds Public Toilets Cemeteries Libraries Heritage Property Services—Community Land and Buildings Housing for the Elderly Public Swimming Pools Waste Management and Minimisation Emergency Management</p> <p>Venues, Tourism and Events Infrastructure Theatres Community Halls I-sites</p>	<p>Transport, Roading and Footpaths Roads Footpaths and Cycleways Road Safety Interventions and Education</p> <p>Plans, Policies and Bylaws Budgets Policies Bylaws Reports Strategies</p> <p>Governance and Corporate Decision-making functions and support</p> <p>Communication and Marketing Provision of information to news media and stakeholder Internal communications Supporting engagement and consultation activities Managing online and print channels</p>
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68 LGNZ New Zealand 'Local Government explained' <https://www.lgnz.co.nz/local-government-in-nz/local-government-explained/#:~:text=They're%20responsible%20for%20making,government%20is%20all%20about%20community>

69 The Review 'Art as a creative mode of civic engagement' (Oct, 2021)<https://www.uvureview.com/news/art-as-a-creative-mode-of-civic-engagement/>

70 Creative Waikato, <https://kotahitangagallery.nz/>

Community Services and Facilities

Libraries, museums, reserves, and community amenities are defined under the Local Government Act as core services of Council.⁷¹ These are all important services that enable the community to participate and celebrate. These are core facilities that enable opportunities for learning, play and communities coming together.

Arts, culture and creativity can have an integral role in the design of local amenities. By incorporating local history or other elements that represent your community, these amenities can become an asset that is truly unique. They can also enhance public appreciation of arts and connect artists with communities. Working

with artists is also a great way to activate community spaces and encourage participation and engagement.

The trend toward the establishment of integrated community hubs⁷² and mixed-use developments, provides opportunities for Councils to ensure maximum benefit for our communities.

⁷¹ New Zealand Government Act, 'Section 11a, 2018)
<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0084/170.0/whole.html>

⁷² Hamilton City Council 'Rototuna Village'
<https://hamilton.govt.nz/strategies-plans-and-projects/projects/rototuna/rototuna-village/>

Ensuring facilities include spaces that are accessible to artists and community based arts groups, where they can make and show their work to audiences, is vital for community wellbeing.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Community houses work with local artist(s) to engage migrant communities about their ‘sense of belonging’.

Encourage the inclusion of creative spaces (workshops, rehearsal rooms, studios, etc) in other civic developments (buildings, libraries, sports facilities etc).

Support staff in council facilities to support community access to space (activations in libraries, parks, and other council facilities).

Reduce administrative burden on individuals community groups trying to utilise public spaces for creative activity (event permits, space restrictions, busking permits etc).

Proactively address issues in civic bylaws regarding sound levels in public spaces. Take action to create legislative support (District Plan) that protects creative activity in the central city – this includes noise levels in music/performance spaces in connection with new urban residential developments. (see Ōtepoti Live Music Action Plan 2023 for example)⁷³

Maintain and increase investment into community providers of service including theatres, venues, and community houses.

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

<p>Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds Public Toilets Cemeteries Libraries Heritage Property Services – Community Land and Buildings Housing for the Elderly Public Swimming Pools Waste Management and Minimisation Emergency Management Venues, Tourism and Events Infrastructure</p>	<p>Planning and Regulatory Building Compliance Development Engineering Resource Consents/Enforcements/Land Information Memorandums Plans, Policies and Bylaws Budgets Policies Bylaws Reports Strategies Communication and Marketing Provision of information to news media and stakeholder Internal communications Supporting engagement and consultation activities Managing online and print channels</p>
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⁷³ <https://www.dunedin.govt.nz/services/arts-and-culture/otepoti-live-music-action-plan>

Parks and Reserves

Parks and reserves provide opportunities for people to connect with nature, play and socialise. They also provide space for people to engage in activities that foster community wellbeing.

Arts and culture connect us with our stories, landscapes and places, and New Zealand's history and heritage.⁷⁴ These spaces serve as a hub for community gatherings and events, and often include amenities such as playgrounds, walking trails, and seats.

⁷⁴ Ministry for Arts, Culture and Heritage 'Briefing to the Incoming Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage – February 2023' p.2 <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2023-03/BIM%20-%20Assoc.%20Minister%20for%20Arts%2C%20Culture%20and%20Heritage.pdf>

Artwork in parks can often perform a dual function, such as a seat, fence, or bridges. The opportunity to integrate art into these functions can make this equipment engaging and interesting.

The Waikato community values greater programming and promotion of youth and family-friendly events.⁷⁵

Storytelling through signage, interpretation, and art can provide educational opportunities and protect the unique cultural heritage of Hamilton Kirikiriroa.⁷⁶

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Support local artists and practitioners to create a strong sense of cultural identity, by integrating history and Māori, Pasifika and other communities into the design.

Engage with local artists to create environmentally aware light-based artworks that provide opportunities for storytelling alongside positive safety outcomes for communities.

Work with local artists on the design and development of art-informed play environments. For more ideas around this, please contact Creative Waikato for information, including the emerging ‘Play with Arts, Culture and Creativity’ strategy.

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

<p>Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds Public Toilets Heritage Property Services – Community Land and Buildings</p> <p>Planning and Regulatory Building Compliance Development Engineering Resource Consents/ Enforcements/Land Information Memorandums</p>	<p>Plans, Policies and Bylaws Budgets Policies Bylaws Reports Strategies</p> <p>Communication and Marketing Provision of information to news media and stakeholder Internal communications Supporting engagement and consultation activities Managing online and print channels</p>
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⁷⁵ Huber Social, ‘Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in Waikato’ (Sydney: Huber Social, 2022), p.20, <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/advocacy/researchandreports>.

⁷⁶ Hamilton City Council ‘Open Spaces Strategy’ p.14 <https://storage.googleapis.com/hccproduction-web-assets/public/Uploads/Documents/Strategies/Papa-Ahuareka-o-Kirikiriroa-Hamilton-Open-Spaces-Strategy-2023-2053.pdf>

Growth

Arts, culture and creativity can be woven into key hard infrastructure projects, to provide distinct places of interest and increase community ownership.

Cultural storytelling, and in particular in collaboration with Mana Whenua, can be pivotal in expressing place-specific identities and ideas.

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) can help to protect infrastructure from damage. Public art can contribute to social cohesion, community care, and connectivity, key elements of CPTED.⁷⁷

Culturally relevant art can increase engagement with public spaces and aid urban revitalisation.⁷⁸

Public Art can contribute to feelings of safety and security, and so support engagement and community care within spaces.⁷⁹

Hard infrastructure provides ‘third spaces’ which can be activated in support of community wellbeing, and it is people who create activity and connection in these spaces. There is a demand for this activation, as growing communities look for things to do and ways to connect with one another.

In the community space, much of this activity, connection and positive outcomes is enabled by volunteers and community groups, who donate their time, skills and energy to serving their communities.

77 The International Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Association, ‘Primer: What is CPTED?’ <https://www.cpted.net/Primer-in-CPTED>

78 Siti Syamimi Oma, ‘Bringing the New to the Old: Urban Regeneration through Public Arts’, *Procedia – Social and Behavioral Sciences*, Vol. 234, pp. 515-524, <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1877042816315245>

79 Partners for Livable Cities, ‘Public Art: More than Just a “Picture on the Wall” – a Vehicle for Crime Prevention’, <http://livable.nonprofitsoapbox.com/component/content/article/9-livability-live/474-public-art-more-than-just-a-picture-on-the-wall-a-vehicle-for-crime-prevention>

Community activation of third spaces is referred to as soft infrastructure. This is the central and measurable driving force behind the diversity of cultural expression, the quality of creative output, and the continuously growing local, national and international reputation of the creative storytelling of this region.

Investment in people, and investment from people, contributes to the success, sustainability and strength of the creative ecosystem. This, in turn, can make measurable contributions to a thriving community and society.

These ecosystems make ongoing investments into our community, and contribute positively to civic pride, regional reputation, social value, and collective wellbeing. It is vital that there is civic investment and support for the growth and maintenance of all facets of soft infrastructure – with a central focus on people.

Recent Waikato research shows that creative professionals experience significantly lower access to essential resources than those outside of the sector. This includes 8% lower local Employment, 4% less access to affordable housing, and increased anxiety.⁸⁰

Artists in communities provide direct access to creative activities which can have benefits for wellbeing.⁸¹ Investment in

this soft infrastructure delivers on the core work of local government.⁸²

Government investment in creativity not only delivers economic benefit.⁸³ Having accessible community art can “range from individual to collective betterment, and from, community to broader positive societal impacts”.⁸⁴

Supporting local creatives to deliver local community initiatives supports community wellbeing.⁸⁵

It is key to acknowledge and educate the public about the volunteer labour that enables quality community outcomes.⁸⁶

Hard infrastructure projects can hold space for multiple community uses, and low-cost inclusions can promote use.

Accessibility of creative activity is a key driver of wellbeing, so it is vital to invest in the providers of diverse creative activity to ensure that accessibility is maintained, while recognising the valued contributions made by creative organisations.⁸⁷

80 Huber Social, ‘Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in the Waikato: How to Support Our Creative Professionals’, https://creativewaikato.co.nz/site/uploads/CW-Creative-Professionals-Report-2023_Final.pdf, p.13

81 New Zealanders and the Arts Ko Aotearoa me ōna toi 2020, <https://creativenz.govt.nz/Development-and-resources/New-Zealanders-and-the-arts---Ko-Aotearoa-me-ona-Toi>

82 <https://www.lqz.co.nz/local-government-in-nz/local-government-explained/>

83 <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/govt-investment-arts-delivers-strong-economic-results>

84 Darcy, Clay (2021) ‘Cohesive Magic, Creative Collective Expression: Community Arts in Ireland and Their Beneficial Role in Youth Work and Community Development,’ Irish Journal of Applied Social Studies: Vol.21: Iss.1, Article 6 <https://arrow.tudublin.ie/cji/viewcontent.cgi?article=1382&context=ijass>

85 See Creative Waikato pilot programme ‘Whiria Te Tāngata’ for example: <https://thespinoff.co.nz/society/07-02-2024/creative-waikatos-whiria-te-tangata-bears-the-fruit-of-community-investment>

86 NZ Volunteering data and value: <https://www.volunteeringnz.org.nz/research/volunteering-statistics-nz/>

87 https://creativewaikato.co.nz/site/uploads/HS_Creative-Waikato_Wellbeing-and-Arts-Culture-and-Creativity-in-the-Waikato_FINAL.pdf

It is essential to gather data around the use of community space, and what activities take place within them, and by which local groups.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Combine elements of placemaking with civic infrastructure, such as through using light sculptures on public areas, in order to provide safety, community interest and storytelling.

Establish a Creative Ambassador to promote and facilitate connections and opportunities around infrastructure developments.

Prioritise strength-based investment into the soft infrastructure already delivering in your community. Consider implementing multi-year granting, and streamlining reporting requirements.

Work in partnership with creative leaders in your community to activate council spaces, and provide creative communities with spaces and places to make and create.

Explore the development and support of creative hubs in your communities. Examples include: The Incubator (Tauranga), Toi Poneke (Wellington), Te Atamira (Queenstown).

Support the incorporation of creative elements into essential infrastructure in order to create vibrant urban environments. This plays ‘an important role in supporting social and economic regeneration’.⁸⁸

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

<p>Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds Public Toilets Cemeteries Libraries Heritage Property Services – Community Land and Buildings Housing for the Elderly Public Swimming Pools Waste Management and Minimisation Emergency Management</p> <p>Venues, Tourism and Events Infrastructure Theatres Community Halls I-sites</p> <p>Transport, Roading and Footpaths Roads Footpaths and Cycleways Road Safety Interventions and Education</p>	<p>Planning and Regulatory Animal Control Building Compliance Development Engineering Environmental Health Resource Consents/Enforcements/Land Information Memorandums</p> <p>Plans, Policies and Bylaws Budgets Policies Bylaws Reports Strategies</p> <p>Communication and Marketing Provision of information to news media and stakeholder Internal communications Supporting engagement and consultation activities Managing online and print channels</p>
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⁸⁸ Lisa Wilkie, ‘What is Arts & Creativity in Infrastructure?’, Ara Toi Ōtepoti, <https://hail.to/ara-toi/publication/hKgoah/article/H4HUAhc>

Plans, Policies and Bylaws

Plans, policies and bylaws affect all citizens, including those working in the arts and culture space. There is an opportunity to integrate a holistic approach to these decision making processes which includes and draws on the strengths of the creative ecosystem.

It is also important to have a strategic vision for how city growth may impact and engage with the creative sector – this includes capacity for events in public spaces, development of CBD residential and required sound level consideration and mitigation, provision and support for street performance/busking, public art development and activation, etc.

Creative Waikato is available to support as a strategic advisory partner, in order to provide sector-informed and evidence-based insight to assist council in these developments. For initial information, see our community-led, regional arts and culture strategy, the Waikato Arts Navigator (WAN).⁸⁹ The WAN, alongside the Waikato Performing Arts strategy have been developed to support collective impact in the wider region, while supporting each council to identify their own priorities and focus areas with their communities.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Meet with Creative Waikato to explore how arts, culture and creativity can meaningfully connect with council planning and bylaws.

Adopt the Waikato Arts Navigator as council’s arts and culture policy, and then develop a targeted action plan.

Appoint a Creativity Officer or Creative Ambassador with a purpose to support and deliver positive outcomes for the arts, culture and creative community.

Consider how red tape around live performances and public events can be simplified.

Explore engagement with arts, culture and creative providers for social procurement and positive wellbeing outcomes.

Support the delivery and expansion of the Creative Communities Scheme funding.

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS	
Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Libraries Heritage Property Services – Community Land and Buildings	Planning and Regulatory Building Compliance Development Engineering Environmental Health Resource Consents/ Enforcements/Land Information Memorandums
Venues, Tourism and Events Infrastructure Theatres Community Halls I-sites	Plans, Policies and Bylaws Budgets Policies Bylaws Reports Strategies
Transport, Roading and Footpaths Roads Footpaths and Cycleways	

⁸⁹ Creative Waikato, ‘Waikato Arts Navigator’, <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/site/uploads/Waikato-Arts-Navigator-Regional-Strategy-2023.pdf>

Arts, Culture, Creativity and Ngaa Toi Maaori

As expressed throughout this briefing, arts, culture, creativity and ngaa toi Maaori can and should be woven through all facets of the core work of local government in the vision and delivery of a productive, thriving and flourishing district and region into the future.

It is important that in exploring the work of councils supporting all communities to thrive and be connected, we must acknowledge the vital role of our creative ecosystem in being a contributor to that.

Arts, culture and creativity should be activated by all components of local government as an essential contributor to human capital, social cohesion, positive impact and wellbeing.⁹⁰

Local governments can support local activity by advocating to ministries and the central government for increased regional investment in this sector.

Arts, culture and creativity are a core public good that provides measurable benefits for the mental and physical health of all New Zealanders.

The creative ecosystem contributes to our innovation, and to our regional storytelling, both to ourselves and to international audiences.

Artists are skilled practitioners whose work should be utilised to help develop innovative pathways for future success.

⁹⁰ For national and international evidence of this impact, see: Creative Waikato, 'Briefing to Incoming Ministers, 2023/2024', <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/site/uploads/Creative-Waikato-Briefing-to-Incoming-Ministers.pdf>

WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT?

Increase Investment in the creative eco-system in a sustainable way that supports community impact, and acknowledges the importance of accessibility and wellbeing.

Develop lasting strategic partnership relationships with Creative Waikato as the regional arts organisation to grow capability, and utilise sector-specific insights and impacts.

Embed the Waikato Arts Navigator as a council strategic document and commit to developing a council-specific Arts Action plan in alignment with your LTP, this briefing advice, and community consultation.

THIS STRATEGIC APPROACH SHOULD INCLUDE

Vibrant and diverse arts, culture and creativity that starts in flax roots community activity and develops through into sustainable creative careers.

Telling our stories and embracing te ao maaori and ngaa toi maaori in all its forms as the unique expression of this country.

Enabling accessible creativity and daily creative expression for all people in our communities.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Engage with artists and local advisors, alongside Creative Waikato, to explore the possibilities to embed creative activations across all core council business.

Maintain and increase council investment in the areas of arts, culture and creativity – both within council operational activity, and in community granting and support.

Invest in Creative Waikato as a strategic regional arts organisation (alongside other regional sector organisations in Sport, Economic Development, Tourism etc) to support localised activity, capability and strategic regional impact (in partnership with community trusts and central government).

Work collaboratively to enhance community arts activity and infrastructure through a regionalised partnership approach.

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

<p>Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds Public Toilets Cemeteries Libraries Heritage Property Services – Community Land and Buildings Housing for the Elderly Public Swimming Pools Waste Management and Minimisation Emergency Management</p> <p>Venues, Tourism and Events Infrastructure Theatres Community Halls I-sites</p>	<p>Transport, Rooding and Footpaths Roads Footpaths and Cycleways Road Safety Interventions and Education</p> <p>Planning and Regulatory Animal Control Building Compliance Development Engineering Environmental Health Resource Consents/ Enforcements/ Land Information Memorandums</p> <p>Plans, Policies and Bylaws Budgets policies bylaws reports strategies</p> <p>Governance and Corporate Decision-making functions and support</p>
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Who we are

Creative Waikato is the regional arts organisation for the Waikato region, which includes 10 local authorities — Thames-Coromandel, Hauraki, Matamata-Piako, Waikato, Waipā, Hamilton, Waitomo, Ōtorohanga, South Waikato and Ruapehu.

Our area of activity and engagement also connects with four Iwi — Waikato-Tainui, Hauraki, Raukawa and Maniapoto.

We have been working extensively across Waikato since 2012 and have experience and understanding of the diverse array of artforms found throughout our region. We are navigators who lead the elevation of creativity in our region

and collaborate to provide opportunities for cultural wellbeing. We provide creative capability development for artists and arts organisations, strategic direction and support for sustainable arts, culture and heritage in our region.

Our vision

Waikato
thrives with
diverse and
transformative
creative
activity

What does this mean?

The arts, culture and creativity are valued and celebrated in our communities.

Our region has robust and flourishing pathways for participation and audience engagement and our creative and artistic professionals.

Ongoing sustainable development of a range of artistic and cultural activities throughout the region.

The arts, artists, arts and cultural organisations and arts activity are seen as being a vital part of the Waikato region and the wellbeing of its people.

What we can do for councils, elected councillors and staff

Provide localised insights and facilitate connections with front-line community and facilitators.

Deliver regionalised activity that aligns with our regional strategy (which links to community trusts, philanthropy and local government).

Serve as regional sector advisory to support policy, cross-department planning, outcomes and insight, and to support activation of the regional strategy and local action plan.

Continue to deliver our capability building programmes and strategic sector influence in the Waikato Region. Supporting creatives, organisations, and other enablers to work collaboratively to develop and deliver innovative district and regional outcomes.

Next steps

Meet together to share our current insights, work and impact.

Connect with council executive leadership and staff to support future development and strengthen our strategic relationship.

Support council engaging with 'Creativity Every Day' as our koha to you and your staff.

Please contact

Creative Waikato CEO
Dr. Jeremy Mayall
jeremy@creativewaikato.co.nz

Key links

<https://creativewaikato.co.nz/>

<https://creativewaikato.co.nz/advocacy/waikatoartsnavigator>

<https://creativewaikato.co.nz/news/understanding-the-value-ofarts-cultureand-creativity>

<https://creativewaikato.co.nz/creativityeveryday>

Creativity.
Auahatanga.
Wellbeing.
Hauora.
People.
Ngā Tāngata.

Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan



**Creative
Waikato
Toi Waikato**

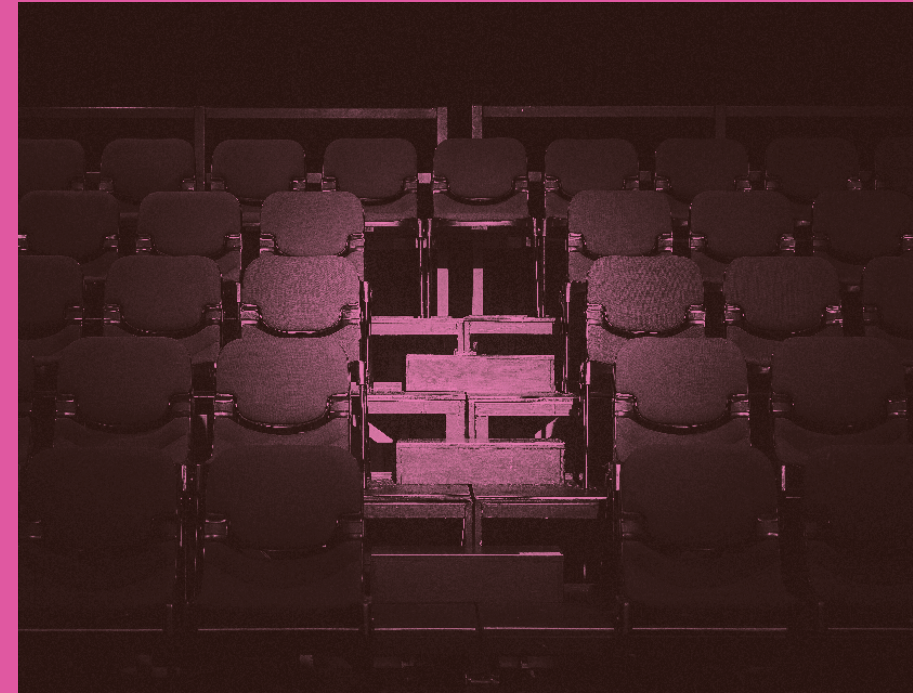
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Background

This plan presents a 2024 strategic overview of Creative Infrastructure in Waikato. It builds upon the foundation of the previous Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan prepared for Creative Waikato by The Stafford Group, in August 2014.

The purpose of this plan was to identify the current facilities available throughout the Waikato, to ascertain any gaps in the facility offering and to determine how to best fill those gaps over the next 30 years. It was the first opportunity for the Waikato region to review current and future creative sector facility needs.



This plan recognised the important role of the creative sector in helping to grow the liveability¹ of the Waikato region and its communities, and provide financial and economic benefit for the region, through driving increased tourism and local resident demand.²

¹ Broad concept which includes a combination of the social, cultural, economic and environmental attributes of a place.

² 'Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan: Summary Document—Prepared for Creative Waikato, August 2014' The Stafford Group & Creative Waikato, p. 1.

The 2014 report included research and analysis which highlighted the most strategic pathway forward – a funding and infrastructure model for the creative sector which offers:

Shared regional facilities (and costs)

Rationalisation of the number of facilities to focus on a fewer number of affordable facilities and venues; and

Ensuring facilities for the next 30 years are more flexible in their design to cater to changing uses and changing market demand needs

This would also include options for non-permanent facilities (pop-ups) which are able to offer far lower capital cost options which avoid the ongoing high annual maintenance and repair cost which existing bricks and mortar facilities create

In addition to recommendations, this report identified some strategic issues and gaps, including:

A lack of asset data management for creative facilities in Waikato

Minimal need for new creative facilities (bricks and mortar) as well as limited interest from funding bodies and Councils willing to fund new development

A lack of rehearsal spaces being the major infrastructure gap identified by creative sector stakeholders which needs to be addressed

The lack of administrative facilities (meeting rooms, back of house supporting facilities) is a further infrastructure gap which also affects the organisational ability of the sector³



Since this report was completed, there has been some progress in areas, but little in others. These will be briefly discussed in this report.

³ 'Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan: Summary Document – Prepared for Creative Waikato, August 2014' The Stafford Group & Creative Waikato, p. 6.

Purpose

The rate of change over the past 10 years has been unprecedented with a global pandemic, climate crises, civil unrest and technological advances.

There is a need for Aotearoa to have “co-ordinated, connected and cross-sector approaches and policies that align with cohesive objectives which will be essential for our social and economic systems” if we are to thrive.⁴

Innovative and cohesive approaches to issues require a long-term approach beyond our current moment and population. The Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan, prepared in 2014, provided useful data and an understanding of the infrastructure needs

at that time. The purpose of this revised plan is to provide current thinking on the future of creative infrastructure within the Waikato region, and outline potential pathways to get there.

⁴ New Zealand Productivity Commission, ‘Looking to the future’ <https://www.productivity.govt.nz/publications/looking-to-the-future/read-online-html/>.

⁵ UCLG, Culture 21: Actions, <https://www.agenda21culture.net/documents/culture-21-actions>

Definitions

Arts

Activities in which individuals and groups engage in the process of making, developing, shaping and sharing objects, images, words, performances, music, or other forms of aesthetic expression to convey emotion, story, ideas or concepts. Artists make art often through the conscious use of skill and creative imagination especially in the production of aesthetic objects.

Art, or “The Arts” may include specific conventions of practice and presentation which are guided by structures, expectations and formalised infrastructure. For the purposes of this plan it can include, but is not limited to: visual art, painting, music, theatre, dance, poetry, circus, craft, media, ngā toi Māori, Pasifika arts, cultural arts and practices, fashion, film, design, puppetry, and sculpture.

This plan is connected to arts infrastructure like: galleries, museums, theatres, venues, concert halls, libraries, studios, rehearsal rooms, workshops, but can include schools, community halls, pop-up spaces, outdoor amphitheatres, parks, and civic spaces – along with groups, organisations and collectives – to provide the frameworks for artistic expression and development.

Culture

Culture is made up of the values, beliefs, languages, knowledge, art and wisdom, with which a person or people, individually or collectively, expresses both their humanity and the meaning they give to their life and its course.⁵

Access to culture is a human right and common good. Culture helps us to understand, interpret, and transform reality and can include a rich array of different things, including our shared stories, traditions, identities, beliefs and ideas. It includes our ability to access and understand the stories we inherit—we sit, watch and listen.

For this plan, cultural infrastructure includes: hapū and iwi, cultural organisations, marae, fale, culturally-specific and culturally-aware spaces, and other cultural or religiously significant spaces.

Creativity

The ability to turn imagination into action. Creativity is connected to art and culture but also expands beyond those frameworks and can operate with flexibility and freedom. Creativity is a process for innovation, curiosity and play. Engagement with creativity is intrinsically motivated, it has no expected or specified outcome. It is spontaneous, joyful, fun, accessible, challenging, social, repeatable, and doesn't require specific space or equipment.

This Plan defines creativity spaces and places as those aligning to arts and culture infrastructure – but creativity is also able to exist in any private, public and organisational space. It ultimately can occur anywhere and the key requirements are time, space, and encouragement.

Soft Infrastructure

Components of core service delivery related to people. This can include organisations, groups, collectives, and encompasses both the seen and unrecognised contributions made towards measurable growth in our cities and civic spaces.

Soft infrastructure is the services required to maintain the economic, environmental, cultural and social standards of a society. It includes non-physical assets, such as communication, policies, strategies and regulations, the financing of these systems and services, and the future development of training, capability and resources.

Hard Infrastructure

Hard infrastructure, also known as built infrastructure, is the physical infrastructure of space and place that should provide safe and accessible opportunities to engage in societal activities.

For the purposes of this plan this includes: galleries, museums, theatres, venues, concert halls, libraries, studios, rehearsal rooms, workshops, schools, community halls, pop-up spaces, outdoor amphitheatres, parks, civic spaces, marae, fale, and other buildings or created environments that serve to provide opportunity for arts, culture and creativity as per the definitions above.



Arts and Culture Organisations

A group, entity, organisation, trust or society who work with a core purpose in the arts, culture and creative ecosystem. This may be for-purpose or for-profit.

Liveability

Liveability is the articulation of provisions that ensure a place is good for living. Liveability is connected to the long-term wellbeing of individuals and communities. It includes the things that make our cities and towns great places to work and live and play. This includes hard infrastructure like buildings and parks, retail, hospitals and schools, as well as the activation of these spaces.

Other important considerations for liveability are environmental quality, safety, cost of living, happiness, social cohesion, friendliness, and community connection.

Benefits

The Plan is the result of a research-based development process. It combines desktop research and multi-faceted community engagement with the support of our strategic partner network.

The plan is presented in order to prioritise and guide investment in both hard and soft infrastructure, enhancing access and participation in arts, culture and creativity in the Waikato region.

Benefits in working with Creative Waikato on this plan include:

An informed planning and decision-making process

Sector-informed insights into ecosystem needs and strategic growth

Advocacy with funders, investors and enablers for planned infrastructure developments that align with the Plan

Sector-specific reviews of facility development concepts, including scope for the development of feasibility and business cases

Insights, knowledge and resource sharing specific to arts, culture and creativity

Insights and knowledge into the essential delivery of both hard and soft infrastructure to support civic development and impact

Support and guidance to facilitate collaborative partnerships

Capability building with communities to encourage collaboration and activate community hubs

Facilitation of information sharing, training and community engagement

Increasing insights into regional infrastructure utilisation data to understand demand and inform future development

How to use

This plan is an evolving advisory document redeveloped in 2024 to address future growth and need in consideration of Waikato infrastructure.

This reference document has been developed to assist our strategic partners and community in both hard and soft infrastructure development, planning, provision and optimisation. Like all high-level plans, this is an initial guide for framing more detailed planning to build from. The Plan is not a replacement for this detailed research and analysis which will be required for future developments (at regional and local levels).

It is recommended that the Creative Infrastructure Plan is considered in alignment with the Waikato Arts Navigator and the Waikato Performing Arts Strategy.

Limitations

The 2024 Plan presents an initial high-level scan of hard and soft infrastructure in the Waikato. This Plan is based on available data at the time of writing, using secondary data and primary data from third parties.

A high-level plan presents scope and proposed future developments that address community needs. The plan is presented as a regularly-evolving summary and as new information is collated, it will be considered for the next iteration.

The Plan does not replace the need for project-specific planning, analysis and community consultation. Each project needs to consider artform, scope, and community needs. As additional providers and partners undertake or update their existing plans and insights, it is envisaged that this Plan will require updating to remain relevant.

The Plan examines issues at a strategic level for the broadest consideration of the arts, culture and creative ecosystem. It recognises that there may be artform-specific needs in different communities and contexts that may require additional insight.

High-Level Considerations

Specific limitations noted in the development of the 2024 Plan include:

Sector-wide infrastructure plans do not currently exist on a national or regional level

The complex balance between artform-specific needs and different health and safety requirements is still to be considered

A reliance on existing community infrastructure information from territorial authorities which is currently limited in scope

The impact of COVID-19 on infrastructure sustainability in the region

The impact on funding inadequacies around facility maintenance and gaps in technical provision

Limited engagement with Waikato Tainui in this review of this plan, and recognition of the need to engage more widely with the other Iwi of the Waikato region to ensure we are capturing their aspirations, roles and needs regarding spaces, places and facilities for arts, culture, creativity and ngaa toi Maaori

This is the first refresh of the plan since its initial development. It is also the first to consider soft infrastructure alongside hard infrastructure. In a future-focused consideration of sector development it is vital that all facets are considered

As part of developing and implementing this Plan there is an expected commitment to:

Consider soft infrastructure needs alongside hard infrastructure development

Continue research and impact analysis on arts, culture, and creativity participation and activation in Waikato and how that informs future development

Work with local communities and organisations to understand emerging needs and requirements for increasing access and participation in an equitable and inclusive manner

Continue alignment to regional strategies that inform the background of this plan – Waikato Arts Navigator, Waikato Performing Arts Strategy

Work alongside local Iwi to identify current and future needs and aspirations for Māori

Recognise the guiding framework in the Local Government Act to “promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing of communities”.⁶ The Plan needs to reflect and inform the essential intergenerational impact of both hard and soft infrastructure for arts, culture and creativity on individual and collective wellbeing

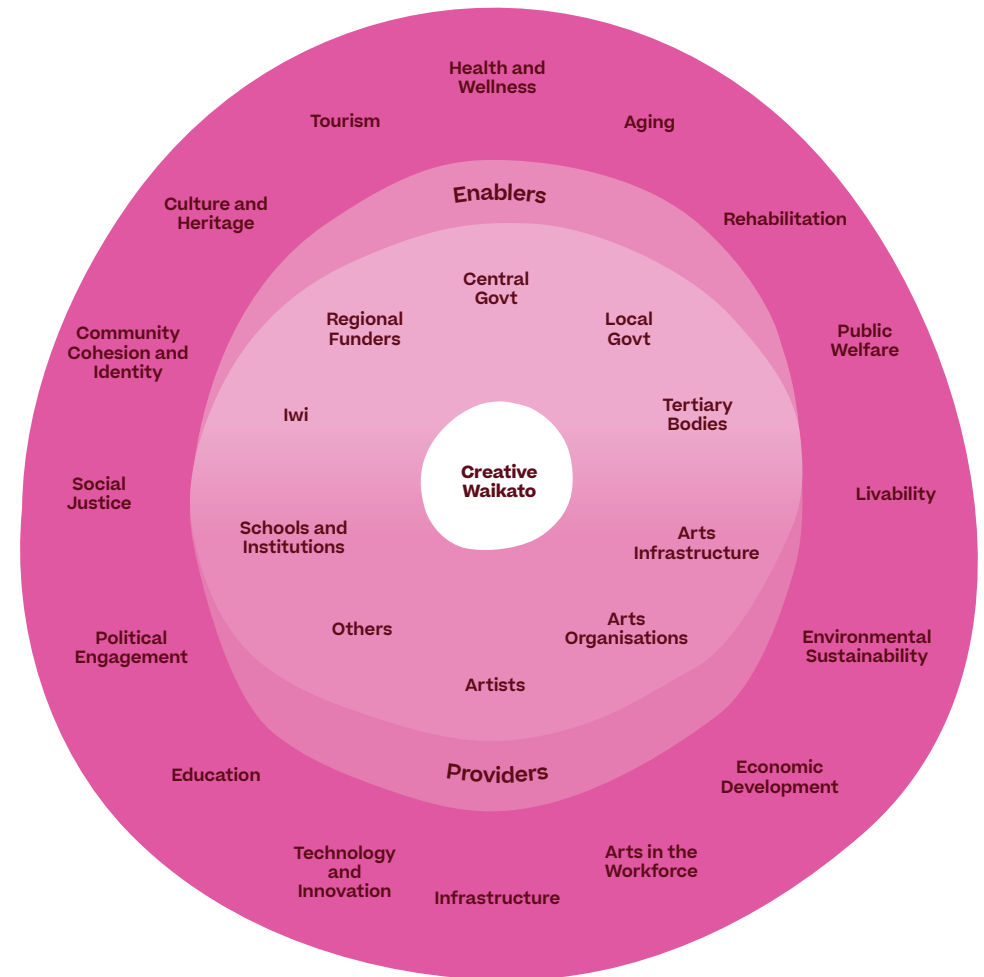
⁶ Taituarā, ‘Community Wellbeings’, <https://taituara.org.nz/community-well-beings>.

Understanding the creative ecosystem

To achieve the broadest possible impact, it is essential to view the contribution of arts, culture and creativity as part of a system which affects all facets of society.

This system-based approach acknowledges cross-sector opportunities to enable effective outcomes and deliver better public services. This ecosystem approach is fundamental to our regional arts strategy.

Arts as part of our community ecosystem



Waikato Arts Navigator

The Waikato Arts Navigator Strategy (WAN) provides an aspirational vision to see the Waikato region become a place with a vibrant arts and cultural sector that thrives with diverse and transformative creative activity.⁷

This means that there is the ongoing sustainable development of a wide range of artistic and cultural activities.

The WAN is a mechanism to help achieve broader impact. It is a shared language, a way to understand and communicate the value of what we do as a sector, and to find ways to work with one another to enhance the role of arts, culture and creativity in the region.



⁷ Find the Waikato Arts Navigator and other strategies on the Creative Waikato Website: <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/advocacy/strategy-space>

Five threads

The five threads of the WAN represent key areas of focus that connect across our broader ecosystem.

The ultimate objective of the WAN is to empower key enablers, funders and community organisations to make decisions with the following outcomes in mind. This would lead to transformational systemic change for Waikato and its people.

CREATIVE WELLBEING	CREATIVE PROSPERITY	CREATIVE EXPERIENCES	CREATIVE EDUCATION	CREATIVE INNOVATION
Hauora and wellbeing	Creative economies	People experience local, national, international arts	Participatory art projects	Business partnerships
Positive collective and individual identities	Attract and retain residents	Community and cultural expression	Upskilling creative professionals	Informing local government decision making
Create, grow and strengthen communities	Tourism opportunities	Recreation and interaction	Community art classes and projects	Local problem solving
Inspired responses to challenges	Positive national perceptions	Community engagement and connection	Youth development	Distinct local expression
Strengthened connection to place	Increased investment from funders	Local pride	Audience development	Creative export opportunities

Performing Arts Strategy

The construction of the Waikato Regional Theatre provided the opportunity to build upon the Waikato Arts Navigator, in order to explore the distinct strengths of local performing arts activity.

The development of the Performing Arts Strategy was an opportunity to meaningfully engage with our diverse communities, and to hear from the people who are already having a great impact on our region, and who also want to see the sector continue to thrive, and help shape the future for this vital ecosystem.



Despite being deeply affected by the covid pandemic, with cancellation of shows, and venues being closed for long periods, the sector showed resilience with its ability to adapt, pivot, and come together to look at pathways forward.

Having a strategy that considers the bigger picture of the sector and provides a shared vision or focus for future development is an important way to move forward in a positive direction.

The performing arts in Waikato has the potential in the next 30 years to build upon its rich and varied history to support sustainable growth in the sector, to engage new audiences, and to tell local stories and create opportunities for new practitioners to share their voice.

The Vision is that:

The Waikato
Performing Arts
ecosystem thrives
through inspiring
communities and
enabling diverse
creative activity.

Drawing from the insights shared by the diverse Waikato community, the pathway for supporting this vision emerged in four strands of focus:



These focus areas provide useful understanding for the future development of this infrastructure plan.

Hard and Soft Infrastructure

A strategic framework with a long-term view point, recognises that transformational change takes time. There are many elements that must coincide to enable such transformation.

This includes the provision of and support for hard infrastructure (physical assets) and soft infrastructure (people and services), arts activity, regeneration, supporting artists and arts organisations, valuing creativity and creative thinking.

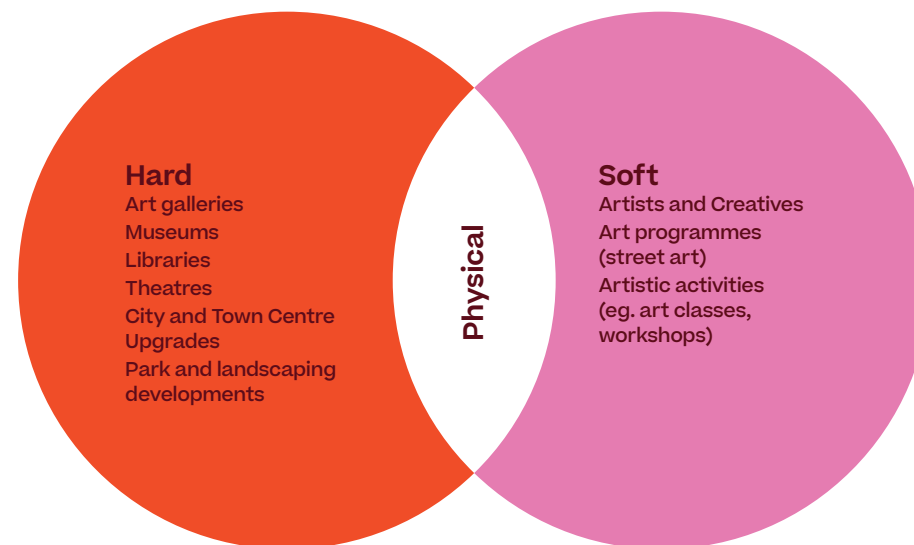
Proactive collaboration and strong advocacy from Councils and other leadership organisations will inevitably empower the broader community to work together towards a common vision.⁸

While hard infrastructure is an important consideration (and formed the basis of earlier iterations of this plan), the 2024 update includes an emphasis on soft infrastructure. A previous lack of data, insight, and sustainable investment have shaped potential issues for the ongoing sustainability of our essential soft infrastructure.

The concept and discussion around soft infrastructure is relatively new.⁹ It is regarded as a fundamental component which forms the basis for a functioning economic, political and/or social system. Most specifically, the function of soft infrastructure has been described as:

“[A] facilitator for the implementation and utilisation of hard infrastructure”

It is important to recognise that our cities and towns have both hard and soft infrastructure. Whilst physical buildings and utilities are critical components of urban development, it is the soft infrastructure that enables the smooth integration of technology and provision of services.¹⁰



⁸ 'Waikato Arts Navigator Strategy' p.43 https://creativewaikato.co.nz/site/uploads/Waikato-Arts-Navigator_Regional-Strategy_ONLINE.pdf

⁹ Turner, C. (2020) 'The infrastructured state: Territoriality and the national infrastructure system'. Edward Elgar Publishing in Sutriadi, R 'Soft infrastructure in Smart Sustainable Cities' p, 200 <http://journal.pubbindiklatren.bappenas.go.id/lib/jisdep/article/view/428/172>

¹⁰ Sutriadi, R 'Soft infrastructure in Smart Sustainable Cities' p, 200. <http://journal.pubbindiklatren.bappenas.go.id/lib/jisdep/article/view/428/172>

Core components of soft infrastructure

Soft infrastructure is associated with the development of human and social capital integral to community-building and the promotion of “high quality” living.¹¹

It is the mahi and expertise required to activate hard infrastructure. Forms of soft infrastructure include programmes and facilitators in libraries, museums and other community resources.

Soft infrastructure encompasses both the seen and unrecognised contributions made towards measurable growth in our cities and civic spaces. Soft infrastructure in the arts, culture and creative sector is a core part of sustainable growth, civic development and placemaking. This directly connects to vibrant communities and this understanding is supported by a wealth of peer-reviewed local and international evidence that demonstrates this impact.

It is vital to consider issues around growth in the context of living and working in a changing city. Growth of certain kinds

(residential) is interwoven with the function of a city which connects both hard and soft infrastructure (events, concerts, activities). The value and impact of this creative soft infrastructure strengthens the economic potential of the city, thriving and active communities, and attractiveness for inward investment. This framing of soft infrastructure supports the understanding that sustainable growth is not just about physical buildings. It must also be about people. People who provide services, activations and community development that deliver core civic outcomes.



¹¹ Brail, S., Mizrokhi, E. and Ralston, S. (2017) Examining the transformation of Regent Park, Toronto. In: N. Wise and J. Clark (Eds). Urban Transformations: Geographies of Renewal and Creative Change. Pp. 177-194., London: Routledge in Cambridge Centre for Housing & Planning

¹² Ibid. Research 'Infrastructure, placemaking and sustainability' A Report for Places for People (May 2020) https://www.cchpr.landecon.cam.ac.uk/files/documents/DownloadTemplate_49.pdf

Sustainable civic growth, community cohesion, social wellbeing and economic development are all served through strategic investment in both hard and soft creative infrastructure.

This connection is specifically articulated in the Waikato Arts Navigator as a regional arts strategy. It is also supported by recent local evidence through the Creative Waikato and Huber Social Wellbeing impact study, as well as recent reports by Creative New Zealand on local government and placemaking, and the Review for the Future of Local Government on the focus for community wellbeing.

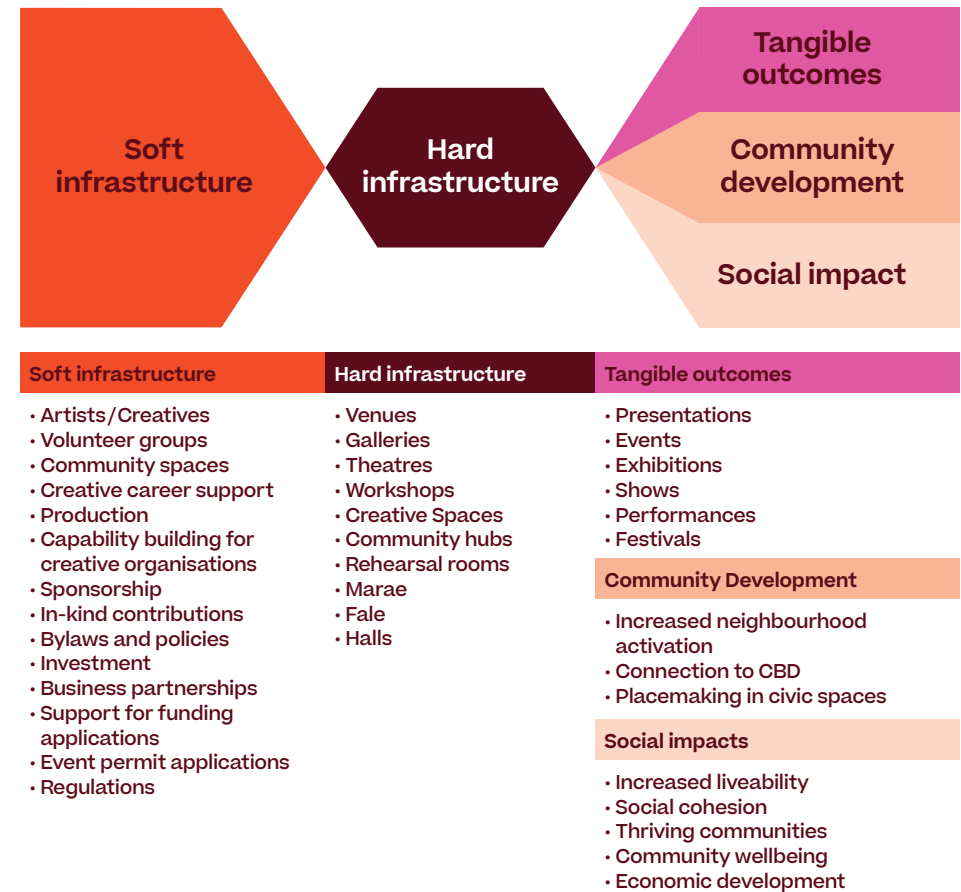
Investing in hard infrastructure means creating safe, accessible and sustainable community spaces. Investing in soft infrastructure means supporting the people who breathe life and vitality into spaces and capital assets. It is essential to have both these things. The community benefits of this activation provides the rationale and social licence for ongoing

future investment and development that enables continued civic, economic and community growth. It is key that the activation, operational and maintenance requirements of all capital projects is proactively included in long term budgeting and project planning.

A place's social and cultural norms, meanings and values are present within their forms of soft infrastructure.¹² Supporting those people who activate hard infrastructure contributes to distinct local expression and social cohesion.

The design and delivery of “good quality” places therefore requires the adequate provision of hard and soft forms of infrastructure in order to support the prospect of “high quality” living within them.

It is through the soft infrastructure utilising the space and support of the hard infrastructure that the wider impact occurs.



The creative sector is enabled by the passion, expertise and care of volunteers, as well as paid employees. This is the case too in sport, community, and cultural spaces. Ultimately, our community mobilises and connects with or without hard infrastructure, and while investments in hard infrastructure are key to enabling safer, more accessible,

sustainable and engaging experiences, it is important to centre people in these developments. It is key then, to not only measure impact in terms of financial return or asset utilisation, but to consider wellbeing measures, and the ways in which these experiences contribute to things like community cohesion, connection to place and land and self.

Waikato Infrastructure Plan

The Waikato Infrastructure Plan prepared in 2014, provided a benchmark in the identification of current and future sector facility needs. However, some of these projects were not realised.



Priority Projects

The table that follows outlines the “Priority Projects” that were recommended. An update on these projects is provided in addition to new projects which were either not considered or realised at the time the initial plan was prepared.

Status

Working well and/or complete	
In progress or needing some future development	
Stalled, cancelled or postponed	
Potential future priority	
Project not listed in 2014 report	*

Project	Location	Types of Uses	Primary Partners	Update 2024	Status
Waikato Regional Theatre (upgrade to Founders Theatre)	Hamilton	Performing Arts	Hamilton City Council and Others	<p>Investigation into remedial and development work for Founders Theatre was undertaken in the 2015-2016 financial year. Founders Theatre closed in 2016 for safety reasons.</p> <p>In 2017, Momentum Waikato worked with support from Creative Waikato to engage in community consultation to develop a new Waikato Regional Theatre (WRT). In 2018 Hamilton City Council funded \$25million and the Hamilton Hotel site on the South end of Victoria Street was identified as the preferred site.</p> <p>Waikato Regional Property Trust (WRPT), which owns the theatre, formed via the appointment of its first trustees in October 2018. Work on the new site began in 2021. Demolition of Founders began in 2023</p>	
Upgrade of The Meteor Theatre	Hamilton	Performing Arts	Community	<p>Ownership transferred from Hamilton City Council to The One Victoria Trust in February 2014. By 2017, the Trust had successfully raised the \$1.1 million necessary to complete required upgrades and earthquake proofing. Meeting the requirement of full transfer of ownership. The Meteor successfully sourced crowdfunding for the refurbishment and installation of new bathrooms in 2021.</p> <p>*** Challenges exist around operational funding where sustainable investment and support will be ongoing. Increased civic investment is required to support future accessibility for communities</p>	
New major performing arts auditorium –NZ Conservatorium of Music	University of Waikato – Hamilton	Performing Arts	University of Waikato Foundation and Others	<p>This was stalled due to covid.</p> <p>The University is adding a much-needed extension to its performance arts building – the Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts.</p> <p>Originally opened in 2001, the Academy is a purpose-built arts building and is regarded as a top facility for teaching and performance. This space is available to local, national and international groups and artists to use for practices, concerts and performances.</p> <p>A proposed extension will include a new art gallery space allowing for larger installations, and additional music practice rooms with the appropriate acoustics, lighting, outlook and arrangements necessary for students to learn and practice in. No timeframe as yet.</p>	
Upgrade for Waitomo Cultural Centre	Te Kuiti	All creative expression but particularly for growing Kapa Haka	Waitomo District Council and Others	<p>Now called the “Les Munro Centre”, there have been some Council funded upgrades since 2014 including the main hall, floor coverings, foyer, stage, bathrooms, gardens and kitchen.</p>	
Upgrade for Clarence St Theatre	Hamilton	Performing Arts and storage	Community Trust and Others	<p>Hamilton City Council gifted Clarence Street Theatre to the Clarence Street Theatre Trust in 2015. Building upgrades including roof refurbishment is still required.</p> <p>Covid was a major hurdle for the theatre as extended lockdowns, limited capacity, and lower audience engagement added complication.</p> <p>Clarence St Theatre has a new manager and is looking at opportunities for future development and activation.</p> <p>*** Challenges exist around operational funding where sustainable investment and support will be ongoing. Increased civic investment is required to support future accessibility for communities</p>	

Project	Location	Types of Uses	Primary Partners	Update 2024	Status
Development of multiple rehearsal spaces	Multiple locations	All forms of rehearsal and production facilities	Councils and Others	This is an ongoing need and has not been fully investigated or realised.	
Creation of cultural, sculptural and art trails linking towns and creative sector venues	Throughout the Waikato to help tell the sub regional and regional history	Visual art form display, event and communication information, Māori creative expression and welcome	Councils and Others	<p>The Sculpture Park – Waitakaruru Arboretum The art-in-nature experience invites families and friends to share a walk, and children to be outdoors on a creative adventure. www.sculpturepark.co.nz</p> <p>Boon Sculpture Trail – Kirikiriroa/Hamilton Boon Sculpture Trail brings together artists from across Aotearoa, to create and install temporary outdoor sculptures in Kirikiriroa Hamilton. www.boonarts.co.nz/bst</p> <p>Te Ara Wai journeys – Wāipa District Self-guided tour of culturally significant sites tearawai.nz</p> <p>Te Ahurei Māori Tourism – Māori Art Walking Tours of Hamilton CBD Celebrating Māori art and storytelling in Kirikiriroa/Hamilton. www.facebook.com/teahureimaoritourism</p> <p>Tainui Waka Tourism – Regional Māori Tourism Organisation (RMTO) for the Tainui Waka region. Vision is: “Sharing our stories with the World”. www.facebook.com/tainuiwakatourism</p> <p>Te Awa River Ride The 65km Te Awa River Ride is one of the most scenic cycling and walking trails in New Zealand. Art component still in development www.te-awa.org.nz</p> <p>Five Waikato River trails – Karapiro, Arapuni, Waipapa, Maraetai, Whakamaru Strategically placed art along trails. www.waikatorivertrails.co.nz</p> <p>Waka Kotahi Waikato expressway Concrete pou and waka erected on historic sites throughout State Highway 1 Huntly bypass route www.monarc.co.nz/latest-work/case-studies/waikato-expressway-huntly-bypass/</p> <p>The Adventure Trail Highway Ruapehu The Adventure Highway Arts Trail is a celebration of creativity. A trail which includes galleries, studios, cafes, restaurants, and art stay accommodations, each telling a story of the region’s cultural heritage and contemporary artistic flair. www.visitruapehu.com/maps/the-adventure-highway-art-trail</p> <p>Hamilton Airport Cultural Transformation Rejuvenation of brand – pekapeka (long-tailed bat). Natural attributes aligned to Ranginui (skyfather), Papatuanuku (earthmother) and everything in-between connection to place, purpose and planet. Meaning interwoven into building. All artists whakapapa back to Waikato www.hamiltonairport.co.nz/our-cultural-journey</p>	

Project	Location	Types of Uses	Primary Partners	Update 2024	Status
Development of multi-purpose facility (all art forms)	Ngāruawahia (possibly as part of Tūrangawaewae Marae)	All creative expression but particularly for growing kapa haka	Tūrangawaewae Trust Board and Others	Globox Claudelands has become a regular venue for kapa haka. Less restrictions around food vendors and minimal entry fee has made this a popular event. Te Matatini has established 12 new Pou Takawenga positions which will be conduits between regions (incl Tainui) and Te Matatini. Possible plans for a Toi Māori Hub for the purpose of housing taonga from the Kingitanga, which have been gifted through generations.	
Upgrade of The Plaza	Putaruru	All creative expression but particularly for performing arts	South Waikato District Council Local/regional Trusts, Foundations and Others	LTP 2020-21 – Putaruru Town Concept Plan included creation of “The Plaza Creative Arts Hub” precinct.	
Outdoor amphitheatre development	Hamilton	All creative expression	Hamilton City Council and Others	Two current proposals – Hamilton Gardens and Founders Theatre site – neither currently confirmed – but Creative Waikato was part of initial community consultation.	
Development of Riverlea Theatre	Hamilton	Performing Arts + storage	Hamilton City Council and Others	Purchased land from Council in 2016 and have been working to fundraise for a new building.	
*Creative Space Development in Otorohanga	Ōtorohanga	To be determined	Ōtorohanga District Council and Others	*Creative Waikato has been engaging in community consultation around this project.	
Development of public art space/gallery	Hamilton (possibly as part of current Museum)	All forms of fine art, craft	Hamilton City Council and others	Initial plans for the Waikato Regional Theatre included provision for a Public Art Gallery. A brief feasibility study was completed for this in 2023 by Creative Waikato, however, it appears that no current provision has been made for this.	
Rehearsal space and artists studios	Hamilton	All forms of rehearsal and studio facilities	Councils and others	Potential for mixed-use artist studios, gallery, venue hire spaces. Examples are Toi Poneke (Wellington), The Incubator (Tauranga), Te Atamira (Queenstown), The Piano (Christchurch).	
Ngaa toi Maaori creator space	Hamilton or location in region	Inclusion of space for carving along with other artforms	Hamilton City Council (and/or other District Councils) and others	Collaborative artist studio space.	
Increased investment in community organisations	Multiple locations	All creative expression	Local trust, foundations, Council and Others	These should be strength-based community led initiatives for arts, culture and creativity outcomes. *** Creative community organisations balance accessibility and sustainability through civic and philanthropic investment. Future growth and long-term activation require long-term investment.	
Development of Storage facility	Hamilton	Costume storage, stage props, lighting equipment, instruments etc	Local trusts, foundations and Others	Potential for storage facilities specifically for performance. Example “Green Green Room” in Wellington.	

Current Landscape

Current Hard Infrastructure Landscape

There is no currently available data that frames the full region. A complete map of the scale and scope of this is still to be developed. Key components include:

Theatres (includes: Waikato Regional Theatre, Clarence Street Theatre, The Meteor Theatre, and a number of local and regional community theatres)

Community halls

Venues (concert halls, bars, alternative venues)

Schools (halls, performing arts facilities)

Museums

Galleries

Marae

Cultural centres

Creative hubs and workshops

Dance schools

Libraries

Community houses

Parks and Gardens

Current Soft Infrastructure Ecosystem

The scope and activation of soft infrastructure in the Waikato is hard to specifically articulate. This work is in continued development. Focused areas of delivery include (but are not limited to):

Toi Maaori organisations (kapahaka, cultural groups, marae, hapu/iwi)

Theatre groups and organisations

Musical theatre groups and organisations

Dance groups and organisations

Societies of arts

Creative community organisations

Visual Arts groups

Music groups and organisations

Literature groups and organisations

Event organisers

Festival organisations

Craft and object organisations

Key Strategic Considerations

The current societal context provides important considerations for future development, including:

Cost of living crisis and impacts on access and engagement

Economic recession and potential reduction in funding for creative community service providers

Negative trends in social cohesion and mental health. Need for additional investment to support positive outcomes

Increased engagement in community creative activities, and increased costs for delivery, with reduced funding opportunities

Changing demand for spaces, places and mixed-use facilities in diverse communities

Multi-agency response required to identify and address needs

Lack of backbone mechanisms to facilitate increased utilisation of available civic spaces (council, school, community spaces)

Collaboration between groups to increase feasibility, optimisation and where appropriate, rationalisation of facilities

Communication, collaboration and advocacy across social sectors, to increase the perspective and understanding of the value and contributions of arts, culture and creativity to community

Exploring shared-use facilities with sports, community and other partners across boundaries, communities, education, and other stakeholders

Increased sector investment and support to navigate funding challenges and the decline in revenue and increased costs due to recent years

Climate change and environmental sustainability and how this can be acknowledged and mitigated by communities, enablers and existing infrastructure

Strengths Analysis

Challenges

Artists, arts groups and venues receive modest amounts of investment which is disproportionate to the value and effort that is provided. The impact of the pandemic and competition for the leisure dollar makes it increasingly difficult for the arts, culture and creative sector to become self-sustaining.

There is an access, participation and equity balance that creates increasing complexities for community infrastructure. Providers of community infrastructure often need to balance the costs of delivering services against the prices that community members can reasonably expect to pay to use and/or engage in the services. If the core service measure is around access, participation and wellbeing for all people in our communities, then it is essential that civic, philanthropic, government and other investment is increased to support.

Aotearoa's arts and cultural sector remains on an emergency footing following the past three years of pandemic disruption.¹³ In 2020, The Ministry of Culture and Heritage provided some respite through various Arts and Culture COVID Recovery Programmes and these did result in some successful outcomes.¹⁴ However, due to these programmes being short-term the potential of these initiatives will not be fully realised, nor their long-term effects measured.

The cost of living is also having an adverse impact on artists and audiences, with inflation continually rising. This directly impacts provision of service, and impacts the communities, artists, creative and organisations who utilise and engage with local hard infrastructure.

¹³ The Conversation 'We need to break the cycle of crisis in Aotearoa New Zealand's arts and culture. It starts with proper funding' February 2023 <https://theconversation.com/we-need-to-break-the-cycle-of-crisis-in-aotearoa-new-zealands-arts-and-culture-it-starts-with-proper-funding-199772>

¹⁴ Beehive.govt.nz 'Govt investment in arts delivers strong economic results' (May 2023) <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/govt-investment-arts-delivers-strong-economic-results>

Insights into the situation for our sector include:

The median total income for Creative Professionals is \$37,000. This is comparable to what self-employed New Zealanders earn (\$39,900), but considerably lower than the median income for those earning a wage or salary (\$61,800)

The median income for creative work is \$19,500. This is lower than total income as nearly half of creative professionals also hold down a job outside of the sector to supplement their income

Overall, only 18% of creative professionals agree they are fairly compensated for their time, with two thirds indicating that they do not feel fairly compensated

Almost all (94%) creative professionals participating in the gig economy find it difficult to secure loans for things like mortgages, and four in five find it difficult to predict how much money they are going to make, and struggle with the lack of holiday and sick pay¹⁵

Other strategic considerations

Core creative civic infrastructure is often managed and maintained by community trusts; This contributes to increased risks to sustainability. Because these trusts do not have the scale of operational support that might exist if spaces were council managed, capital expenditure and upgrades require extensive and intensive fundraising campaigns, contributing to burnout and the closing of key community spaces. There is a need for sustainable long-term investment from council into the future, in recognition of the public good and community wellbeing that community groups facilitate from these spaces. It is important that this is maintained.

There is a lack of safe and reliable rehearsal space. For the health and safety of performers it is important that there are spaces with appropriate flooring, heating, lighting and accessibility. There is a lack of consistent space in Waikato communities for these purposes. It is worth noting that these design features can be of benefit to other users of these spaces too, including whaanau, disabled communities, our elders, and participants in sport and recreation activities.

Social inequity and deprivation is a strategic reality. There are large components of the Waikato region which include deprived and isolated communities. People in those communities often have lower levels of access to and participation in creative activity. They also have limited access

to hard infrastructure. For isolated communities there is often a lack of available infrastructure to provide any opportunity for positive impact.

Post-COVID fiscal cliff. The period of 2020-2023 saw an unprecedented investment in the arts, culture and creative ecosystem from central government. This increase in funding was the largest update in the national arts funding levels in more than a generation. As a result there was increased activation, access and activity. But this funding was fixed until June 2024. Which means many organisations have increased their operation and impact – but there is no ongoing support available. For Waikato, the arts sector Covid Recovery Funding that came into the region via Manatū Taonga was \$10,519,180.

This figure encompasses Recovery funding only (Creative Spaces, Cultural Installations and Events, Cultural Activators, Innovation Fund, Regeneration Fund and Capability Fund). It excludes emergency relief funding (CSERF, Arts and Culture Event Support Scheme)

Some of this funding is also allocated to other regions as there are multi region projects. The approved amount for projects focused solely on the Waikato region is \$5,106,890.¹⁶

This will create a challenge for our communities who have grown used to an increase in available support and the positive impacts that has enabled.

¹⁵ Kantar Public, Creative New Zealand and New Zealand On Air, 'Profile of Creative Professionals', <https://creativenz.govt.nz/-/media/project/creative-nz/creativenz/publicationsfiles/2023-profile-of-creative-professionals/profile-of-creative-professionals---main-report---pdf.pdf>

¹⁶ Figure from Manatū Taonga reporting, see: <https://www.mch.govt.nz/>

Opportunities

Artists, creatives and associated organisations are resourceful groups. They regularly stretch any investment received into creating positive outcomes and serving the liveability of our communities.

The creative ecosystem is currently one of the largest funders and enablers of creative activity when we acknowledge volunteer hours, in-kind support, and provision of service above and beyond market rates.

While this is a positive contribution, it is vital that enablers, civic partners, and investors acknowledge and value that contribution to ensure that sector burnout is reduced and that artists and creatives can have access to sustainable careers and quality of life. If we want to be an innovative and resourceful region we need to embrace imaginative opportunities to work differently and explore creative opportunities to prioritise

investment and support into both hard and soft creative infrastructure, and acknowledge the essential balance between those areas of activity.

The Waikato Arts Navigator provides a useful strategic framework to inform future opportunities that encourage collaborative investment, strategic partnerships, and to explore avenues for embedding creatives into activities beyond the obvious delivery areas.

Other opportunities to strengthen the creative infrastructure of the Waikato can include:

Utilising and repurposing council owned spaces to support community activities

Exploring development of creative spaces as part of civic revitalisation

Working with Sport Waikato to embed creative spaces in Sporting infrastructure

Encouraging the provision of empty commercial space for accessible art activity

Investing in public art as a contributor to civic safety

Investing in public creative programming and events to encourage the development and sharing of local stories

Work with creative organisations to limit red tape and regulation when providing creative services and events

Embed provisions that contribute to the protection of arts, culture and creative activity in city centres and civic environments

Recommendations

This 2024 revision of the Creative Infrastructure plan builds upon earlier insights, but presents new high-level opportunities for shaping a Waikato Region that thrives with diverse and transformative creative activity.

Whilst this plan acknowledges that each different territorial authority will have different requirements, expectations and levels of investment, it is essential for future planning to be established and a prioritisation of the types of infrastructure and service provision that will be required for thriving future communities.

Key recommendations of the 2024 plan are:

Develop an arts action plan in alignment with the Waikato Arts Navigator for each territorial authority (in partnership with Creative Waikato)	1 year
Embed sector-informed policies and guidelines to enhance creative activity in local communities (events, performance, public art, etc)	1-3 years
Contribute to the next stage of development of this plan to provide further insights, scope and location specific data points for further analysis. (This should highlight data around the use of spaces, and prioritise supporting community access and use of these spaces)	1-2 years
Proactively explore the inclusion of creative spaces in all future civic, sport and community infrastructure projects	2-5 years
Encourage the development of multi-use space—but acknowledge the artform specific safety requirements and expectations in the development process	1-5 years
Increase investment into soft infrastructure in the arts, culture and creative sector	1-3 years
Engage with strategic sector advisors to explore opportunities for creative outcomes in connection with placemaking, civic story-telling, parks, CBD developments, and public communications	1-3 years



Disclaimer:

Information, data and general assumptions used in the compilation of this report have been obtained from sources believed to be reliable. Creative Waikato have used this information in good faith and make no warranties or representations, express or implied, concerning the accuracy or completeness of this information.

Interested parties should perform their own investigations, analysis and projections on all issues prior to acting in any way with regard to this project.

All proposed infrastructure approaches made within this document are high level concepts and should be further developed in consultation with any contributing parties. Proposed approaches represent recommendations based on the findings of the research that informed the report.

All final decisions remain the responsibility of the respective property owners.

18 April 2024

E te kaipānui, tēnā koe

Creative New Zealand's Support for Creative Waikato in Long-Term Plans 2024-2034

Creative New Zealand is the national arts development agency of Aotearoa New Zealand, responsible for encouraging, promoting and supporting the arts in New Zealand for the benefit of all New Zealanders. We do this by investing in the arts, developing the arts, advocating for the arts, providing leadership in the arts, and by partnering for the arts.

Arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi Māori are an important part of developing strong and thriving towns and cities, and connected and healthy communities. We encourage Council to recognise in its decision-making the essential role arts and creativity play in the wellbeing of your residents.

We write to offer our support for the great work that Creative Waikato continue to undertake in your region by supporting and strengthening arts and creativity in the Waikato – and, in turn, enhancing the wellbeing of Waikato communities.

The Creative Waikato team play a vital role in providing a diverse range of opportunities for Waikato residents to engage with and participate in the arts. They also provide important support and training for artists, creatives and arts organisations. They have a proven track record of developing initiatives and projects that meet the needs of both the arts community and audiences. We often use the Creative Waikato 'model' to talk about meaningful regional arts development when we are meeting with councils throughout Aotearoa. Last year they were also part of two different panels we hosted with local government leaders to highlight what can be achieved in community wellbeing outcomes by investing in regional arts organisations.

It's exciting to see Creative Waikato continuing to develop strategic resources including the Waikato Arts Navigator, Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in the Waikato, Performing Arts Strategy and the new advocacy resource Joyful Steps to Community Advocacy which offer engaging, insightful and valuable support to both artists, creatives and the wider public.

As your Council works through its Long-Term Plan 2024-2034 budget deliberations, we encourage Council to continue to work with and resource Creative Waikato as the integral pin in your plan to support arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi in your community.

Currently, Creative Waikato are working with Hamilton City Council, Waikato District Council, Waipa District Council, Otorohanga District Council, Ruapehu District Council, South Waikato District Council, Waitomo District Council, Hauraki District Council, Matamata-Piako District Council, Thames-Coromandel District Council and have also made a connection with the Waikato Regional Council, offering a strong framework for how councils can best engage with their local arts communities.

We know through our own research that participating in arts, cultural and creative activities build united and resilient communities, increases community wellbeing, and offers ways to express our unique cultural identities. Importantly, these activities also attract and accelerate economic activity, and can equip people with the skills needed for the workforce of the future.

Creative Waikato as a regional arts organisation offers a strategic and unique opportunity for councils in the Waikato to work collaboratively and undertake collective action that will deliver greater impact for their communities. Creative New Zealand hopes that Creative Waikato will continue to be supported in its role as a vital link between the Council, your arts whānau and the wider community.

Ngā mihi nui, nā



David Pannett

Senior Manager, Strategy & Engagement
Pou Whakahaere Matua, Rautaki me te Tūhono

Support for investment in arts, culture and creativity.

Creative Waikato have engaged our community of supporters, leaders and advocates to share their insights into the role of civic investment in the creative ecosystem.

This is presented as support to our LTP submission.

Arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi Māori are vital parts of the communities and identity of the Waikato. They make valuable contributions to social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing by connecting people to place, shaping community identity, and building social cohesion. As Supreme Court Justice Sir Joe Williams said at Creative New Zealand’s national arts sector conference Nui te Kōrero in 2021, “No meaningful social change occurs without some filmmaker, some songwriter, some artist, some poet, triggering the possibility long before anyone realises what the triggering was.” It is important that councils recognise the essential role of the creative sectors in the wellbeing and resilience of your residents as you make decisions for the future in the LTP.

- David Pannett, Senior Manager, Strategy & Engagement - Creative New Zealand

Arts, culture and creativity are vital in enhancing wellbeing and vibrancy in communities. The arts provide a medium for connection that transcends space, time, and language.

We have seen first hand how projects such as Kotahitanga: United Through Creativity contribute to social cohesion, inspiring conversation in hard times and making sense of difficult concepts. A Huber Social report on subjective wellbeing relating to arts, culture and creativity in the Waikato region found that engagement with and access to the arts correlates with higher overall wellbeing. Whilst there are hard choices to be made, the wellbeing of our communities into the future need to be at the forefront of decisions today.

- Dennis Turton, CEO - Trust Waikato

Arts, culture and creativity are important because they are central to the expression of our values and identities as communities. Whenever we visit a new place and want to understand something of what makes it special and different to other places, we invariably look to its creative expressions to get a sense of that identity. Places that do this well are memorable, and draw people back again, whether that’s to visit repeatedly, or to live in, because they have a clear sense of identity and vibrancy.

Sam Cunnane, Kaiwhakahaere Rōpū Matua – Group Director, Te Pūkenga|Wintec

Beauty is an important part of life and community. At Fosters we work hard to retain beauty in the built environment we create, and we recognise the important role that Arts and Culture plays in placing beauty in our community. We believe this enough to allocate funding each year to local creative organisations to ensure they can continue to create beauty in our community, and stretch and challenge our thinking as a society. Hamilton, for example, would be a much poorer, and less beautiful, place without the significant contribution of BOON through the street art. Art creates stories and connections that reflect and enhance our community. Core infrastructure is important at a functional level, but without an investment into arts and culture in the city, the city is lifeless and barren. We need continued investment in economic good times and bad into arts and culture if we want to maintain and grow the wellbeing of our city.

Leonard Gardner, Director – FOSTER CONSTRUCTION GROUP LIMITED

The creation and promotion of events has become a critical component of urban development strategies across the globe. Cities have become stages for continuous streams of events resulting in places actively hanging their identities on the events that they provide. Two great examples of this are Melbourne who now labels itself as “the worlds event city” and Seoul who claims to be “one of the most eventful cities in the world”. The continuous theme of cities promoting themselves by utilising an event component shows the crucial need for events and activations to be factored into daily life in a modern city.

The thriving arts scene and cultural diversity that makes up Hamilton city, opens the door for a number of activities that contribute to this scene. The interest created with these activities builds on the fantastic organisations that already draw visitors to the central city including Creative Waikato, Waikato Museum, Clarence Street Theatre, The Meteor, the soon to be completed Waikato Regional Theatre and the many local entertainment offerings as well as the multitude of cultural festivals that have become a mainstay on the event calendar.

Vanessa Williams, General Manager – Hamilton Central Business Association

Britain’s war-time leader Winston Churchill was once asked if arts funding should be cut in favour of the war effort. His retort was: “Then what are we fighting for?” Art in communities is as vital as sports parks, libraries, marae, business parks, roads and poo pipes. Churchill’s comment was an astute recognition that art, in its many forms reminds us of our history, allows us to escape the current and reimagine a future. The recent inclusion of art works into infrastructure such as bridge overpasses, even our city’s latest wastewater treatment station provide a sense of place, tell a story, create a reason to stop and contemplate or simply be a place for attraction and congregation. Over centuries, arts has told us of history and stories, heroes and heroines, conflicts and successes, and have been used to mark places of importance to people, our community and our country.

Kelvyn Eglinton
General Manager – Craigs Investment Partners
(Previous CEO of Momentum Foundation Waikato)

Investing in toi Māori is a commitment to safeguard and elevate our pūrākau, our tūpuna, our mātauranga. It gives voice to the silenced echoes of our landscape – not the dominant rhetoric that perpetuates our systems and institutions. The arts? We're the pulse of a thriving society, a stage where we boldly test limits, defy norms, and forge grounding alliances. It's about venturing beyond the ordinary, where we embrace our rangatiratanga in the avant-garde of innovation. Because, really, who doesn't crave that cutting-edge?

Waimihi Hotere, Kaihautū Festival Director – Matariki Ki Waikato

Arts, culture, and creativity are who we are, how we express ourselves and what we do. When you watch a Marvel movie or a netflix show – that's art. When you listen to the Cure or Roddy Ricch – that's art. When you put on clothes – that's culture, when you go to a comedy show and laugh at your everyday experiences being reflected back at you – that's creativity. Like it or not, everything you do is a result of art, culture or creativity. After all, you've gotta be pretty creative to come up with the idea of a car when all you've seen are horses.

Cities that embrace art, culture and creativity for their own sake are great places to live, and great places to live are thriving places. You can't expect a city to continue to grow without growing the number of reasons people want to live there. Hamilton is a great place to live, good playgrounds, good amenities, conveniently located etc etc but the time is coming where these reasons aren't enough to attract new people to Hamilton, either as residents or manuhiri.

Organic growth can't be paused, it either continues or it stops. Arts, entertainment and culture are organic, and they are growing in Hamilton! If we take away the sun and the rain the plant doesn't just wait in the same state, it withers. If council withdraws support, the arts aren't going to be patiently waiting to resume when support returns – you'll have to rebuild everything from the ground up.

Moreover, Hamilton is a proudly diverse city – cultural activities provide platforms for diverse voices to be heard, promoting inclusivity and understanding. What are we saying to our minority groups if we withdraw support for their cultural activities, but the Christmas parade still goes ahead?

Arts and culture investment is not just an investment in the present; it's an investment in the long-term vitality and resilience of our communities, and not just something fun around the edges.

Gus Sharp, General Manager – Waikato Regional Theatre

Arts, Culture and Creativity are important for all of our communities. They enhance our lives in a way that builds our individual and collective health and wellbeing. The joy and connection created through participation with arts, culture and creativity, in any way, is enormous.

They are a critical way that the diversity of who we are as a community can be shown, and for many, is a place where individuals are enhanced because they see themselves in what is represented on walls, in public spaces or on stages.

It is often the creative elements of our city that inspire us as a family to connect with friends. They are also the things that we share with visitors to our city. They are the things that we connect with and are proud of. The investment in arts, culture and creativity is a valuable one. It is an investment in all our people and overall community wellbeing.

Andy Mannering, Community Engagement and Partnerships Manager – Kainga Ora (Waikato)

Art, culture and creativity are an intrinsic part of our local and regional tourism offering and competitiveness as a visitor destination. These sectors are essential vehicles for the realisation of our stated vision “Taakiri tuu te koorero ki te ao” (Sharing our stories with the world). Art, culture and creativity are also invaluable platforms for enhancing social, cultural and economic well-being and these sectors should therefore be funded as a core function and obligation of Councils to their respective communities and to the making of communities.

Craig Muntz, Secretariat, Tainui Waka Tourism Inc.

Arts and culture provide vibrancy and inspiration to a community. A lack of this expression reduces creativity, connection and perspective. Nods to diversity and story-telling build a sense of belonging, empathy and pride of place. Councils need to invest in arts and culture to empower the community to innovate, be inquisitive and to problem solve. Surely a community becomes richer in soul and more desirable with a strong arts and culture offering?

Steve Mills, Head of Client Services – DesignWell

It’s hard to argue with the fact that creative participation nurtures a sense of togetherness, so as we approach this period of Long-Term Plan (LTP) development for our region’s local authorities, communities and elected members can’t simply consider arts, culture and creativity as “nice to haves”.

At the heart of Council responsibilities is the commitment and call to foster ‘community wellbeing’... there is no better way to ensure this through investment (attention, time, resources and funding) in creative projects that broaden collective experiences, harness opportunities for expression and encourage the expansion of ideas and innovation.

In turn, Councils must consider the role of supporting infrastructure (and associated maintenance) to sustain and grow the creative sector as well. After all, these are the assets that drive “community-building”, connection and cohesion, creating value far beyond their ‘bricks and mortar’ status.

A community that can access art and culture is a community that is healthy, aligned and unified, a society that recognises the value of diversity while cultivating empathy and understanding... what more could we want for our region!?!

Amanda Hema, CEO – South Waikato Investment Fund Trust (SWIFT)

Funding through grants and sponsorships is our lifeblood. Without these, our work ceases, and our community will be the poorer for it. There will be less stimulus for our mental well-being, less fun things to do, and creatives will not be able to thrive and will sadly forsake our city for better opportunities elsewhere. Other cities in NZ see the merit of art and are investing strongly in it, yet Hamilton seems hellbent on going backward through its proposed cuts in funding to the Arts and other community groups.

Nancy Caiger, Arts Advocate

The Waikato Society of Arts has been providing and nurturing opportunities in visual arts for 90 years in Kirikiriroa, with art classes, workshops, studio space for artists and community groups, continual free public art exhibitions, artist talks, mentorship, and national art awards. It is these long-term programmes that provide stability for people, well-being, constant purpose, connectivity and dialogue, pride in what they can achieve, confidence to become a valuable member of the wider community and a gateway to higher aspirations in visual art. Recognising the quieter work done by groups like the WSA is important to the role they play in the fabric and culture of our community. Without the support through funding and sponsorship, costs rise to participate in art for all ages, we lose artists who are also employed as art teachers and arts groups who nurture, educate, support, and enrich our environment over a long time. They create the social capital everyone else thrives from, including Council. The artists that pass through our doors are the storytellers of our history, present ideas, dreams, politics, diversity, youth, wisdom, and growth within the Waikato region and Aotearoa, captured for everyone to enjoy and come together with no barriers. Valuing art and those that bring it into the community is what makes a city healthy, vibrant and a place people want to visit and live in.

Julie Johnstone
Operations Manager – Waikato Society of Arts

At Seed Waikato, we listen to and amplify the voices of our young people. We continue to hear how Arts, Culture and Creativity are critical to their growth, development and wellbeing. They share how having access to spaces and places that are safe for them to be courageous in expressing themselves in creative ways has reminded them of their mana and individual gifts. Their confidence then ripples out into the world, giving them the hope that it's worth making this world a better place.

When creativity is shared, it creates the conditions for collective healing, which is critical to our young people believing that everyone's a changemaker. We tautoko the mahi of Creative Waikato as the advocates and navigators of cultural wellbeing in our region, and are honoured to work alongside them in creating a thriving Waikato.

- Tania Pointon, CEO - Seed Waikato

As we move forward it's important to continue to share about the things we care about and celebrate the joy that engagement with arts, culture and creativity brings. And at a time of community consultation it is vital that we use our voices to speak about the things we value.

This is a time to do that.

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Marilyn; Charlie; Jenny
<i>Last Name</i>	Yeates; Coles; Mortland
<i>Organisation</i>	Pirongia Heritage and Information Centre
<i>Id</i>	423

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

We realise that a lot of thought from the WDC has gone into the planning and that spending reductions are necessary in the current climate. Our only comment would be that our Committee consider the Te Awamutu and the Cambridge sites would be more beneficial to local Waipa tourism than the Hamilton Waikato Tourism.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

The Committee's view is that it is up to Cambridge residents to make this decision. We understand that the Cambridge Tower is one of only two remaining in NZ and originally sited on Council parkland. Tourists are always looking for interesting and significant sites to visit.

Additional Information Centre we wish to include:

The Pirongia Heritage & Information Centre is situated on the main street of Pirongia on SH39 highway which is the main route between Hamilton and New Plymouth. The PHIC opened in 2003 on its present site. Previously it had been the original St Saviours Church in Pirongia erected in 1900 on the Alexandra Redoubt. In 1959 it was replaced by the more modern St Saviours Church in Franklin Street. The de-consecrated building was sold and moved to the Waikeria Village. In 2000 the Waikeria Village was closed and the Waikeria and Pirongia communities petitioned for its return to Pirongia site on the Rangimarie Reserve under the agreement with/from Lady Mahuta. From this, we developed a Heritage Centre which is a focal point of the township's history.

We are a Visitors Centre, a museum, an information centre and the gateway to the historic Pirongia Forest Park with its numerous tracks and walks. Our centre is a wealth of information, from the Māori and European history from the 1860's and records, maps and photographs of the settlement of the district as well as valuable artefacts.

We play a very important part in both Pirongia and the wider Waipa district as seen from our visitor numbers. This past year visitor numbers were 2,427 and which included locals, Kiwis and a large number of overseas visitors. In addition, we have a resident research historian, Alan Hall, who fields inquiries for a large range of people, in particular their connections to Pirongia and their family history. He also undertakes tours and talks for various family groups for which he receives donations which are a welcome boost to our Centre funds.

We have an archive room where additional volunteers regularly work on recording acquisitions and are currently digitalising our records of the district from early times to the present. We have an appointed representative on our Committee for both the Purekireki and the Te Kauhanganui, who attend our regular monthly meetings with our executive committee. We have one paid part time Administrator who fills a number of roles together with 14 unpaid volunteers which enables us to be open 6 days a week from 10.30am to 3.30pm including Mondays that fall on Public Holidays.

Financially, we have limited income sources and we have the normal range of expenses any business would have. Without grants, we would not be able to function. We have received

the same amount from the Waipa District Council Operational Grant of \$9,200 (GST Inc) for the last 9 years without any increase with all our costs having increased. Many of these costs are fixed so we are unable to make any reductions in these.

We will need an increase in our Waipa District Council annual grant relating to 2024/2025 inflationary costs so we would like to present our submission verbally to a public Council hearing 20– 21 May 2024 with our workings for the current years and beyond.

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Eileen
<i>Last Name</i>	Hawkins
<i>Organisation</i>	Cambridge Safer Community Charitable Trust
<i>Id</i>	540
<i>Full Response</i>	<p>1. <i>What do you think? Do we have the balance right?</i></p> <p>-</p> <p>2. <i>Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?</i></p> <p>-</p> <p><i>Are there any further comments you would like to make?</i></p> <p>-</p>



Request for Funding Allocation from 2024 Annual Plan for Safer Cambridge Trust

The Cambridge Safer Charitable Community Trust (CSCCT) operates Cambridge Neighbourhood Support and Community Patrol on behalf of our urban and rural communities. We maintain strong partnerships with the NZ Police, Fire Service and Civil Defence and foster their messages in the community. Our Community Patrol bolsters the Police's operation by patrolling 7 nights each week and in the last 12 months contributed 2142 volunteer hours to community safety. We wish to request support from the Waipa District Council for the 2024 Annual and subsequent Long Term Plan. Here is our submission.

Cambridge Neighbourhood Support and Community Patrol have made an impact protecting the health and safety of our community since 2010 partly due to the recognition and support from Waipa District Council and Cambridge Community Board. Our initiatives align closely with the values and objectives of the council.

Our work empowers communities to raise the level of proactive connection, safety and resilience in neighbourhoods. It has a powerful, positive impact and because it is community driven (via Street Coordinators), has the ability to self-propagate, gradually improving the lives of our citizens day by day.

Some of our current programmes (on top of our connection work) are:

- Children's Citizenship programme
- Neighbourhood Emergency Plans
- First Aid classes (heavily subsidized)
- Rural outreach – educating about safety from crime and changes in firearm legislation

How do we know that our work is needed?

Our fundamental purpose is to connect people in neighbourhoods. Our work is evidence based and some compelling examples of this evidence can be seen here:

Importance of Connection

.....the ability to interact is just as important as eating healthily or even being active....

From research undertaken by Clinical neuroscientist Professor Vladimir Hachinski recipient of 2024 Ryman Prize, a grant for the world's best discovery that enhances quality of life for older people.

"Diet, exercise, sleep hygiene, and stress reduction are widely accepted as health-promoting behaviours, but the quality of interpersonal relationships also can have a profound influence on health. In a meta-analysis of 145 studies, social isolation was as big a risk factor for all-cause mortality as smoking and alcohol consumption, and isolation had a larger effect on mortality rates than obesity and physical inactivity.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5536335/>

Importance of our emergency planning work...

"The literature consistently finds that strong social cohesion and networks within communities, and high levels of trust and of social capital as a whole, are strongly predictive of the trajectory of a community's response to an adverse event." (Aldrich & Meyer, 2015; Alonge et al, 2019; Bach et al, 2010; Slemph et al, 2020).



The importance of our work cannot be overstated particularly in the current socio-economic climate where community cohesion and safety are of paramount concern. By fostering a sense of belonging and solidarity, our work acts as a proactive deterrent to crime, reduces social isolation, and promotes overall well-being among residents.

However, despite our commitment, CSCCT faces significant challenges in sustaining our operations and expanding our reach to better serve the evolving needs of our community. The rising crime rate coupled with the influx of new residents poses unprecedented challenges that demand a proactive and sustained response. We find that we need to commit more and more time to fund raising to maintain what we do.

Over the past three years we have been very grateful to receive an annual allocation of funding from the council. We also spend significant time applying for funding and sponsorship in other areas. We need around \$80,000 per year to sustain our current service and more than this to grow to meet the coupled challenges of fast growing population and rise in crime rate.

We recognize that the Council also faces financial challenges which have led to the postponement of long term financial planning at this time. Like us the Council needs to limit spending to essentials.

Why is this spending essential?

- **Community Health and Safety are fundamental necessities:** Proactive investment in health and safety & emergency preparedness measures will prevent costly crises down the line. Strong, well-resourced neighbourhoods, who can communicate readily will be self-reliant for longer and relieve local authorities (Police, Fire, CD, Council, Social Services) of some pressure during and after a civil event.
- **Better Quality of life:** People are more likely to thrive and contribute positively to society when they feel supported and secure in their environment. This, in turn, can lead to increased economic productivity, social cohesion, and overall well-being.
- **Public Trust and Confidence:** Prioritizing the health and safety of the community demonstrates a commitment to the welfare of its residents. This builds trust and confidence in the council's leadership and fosters a sense of security among the populace. When people feel safe and cared for by their local government, they are more likely to engage in civic activities and support community initiatives.
- **Council's core purpose:** The spending fits with the Council's core purpose (from Local Govt Act NZ) to promote the wellbeing of its communities.

Our request

Wise spending decisions for the upcoming Annual and Long Term plans will focus on essentials and furthering the core goals of the Council. It will be logical to support a community organization that works towards the same aims and objectives as the Council. We ask that you



consider allocating the Cambridge Safer Charitable Community Trust a one off grant of \$50,000 this year. We also ask that this same amount be allocated in the Long Term Plan budget for our Trust.

By investing in our work, the council would be undertaking essential spending, demonstrating its commitment to community well-being and also ensuring a safer, more resilient future for all residents. Together, we can create a community where neighbours look out for one another, where safety and security are paramount, and where everyone feels valued and supported.

Thank you for considering our request. We keenly await the opportunity to speak in support of our request in your May meeting.



Our Impact – Cambridge Neighbourhood Support 2024

How do we know that what we provide is needed?

- Our Trust sees community connection as a vital underpinning goal. Studies show that our current epidemic of loneliness has a real and day-to-day impact on the health and wellbeing of our population. Harvard researchers found ***“that people who are more socially connected to family, to friends, to community are happier, they’re physically healthier and they live longer than people who are less well connected,”***. *Brummett and Colleagues (2001) found that “Among adults with coronary artery disease, the socially isolated had a risk of subsequent cardiac death 2.4 times greater than their more socially connected peers!”* Our work connects neighbourhoods encouraging warm, meaningful relationships that can provide day-to-day practical support but also a sense of safety and belonging.
- Our Trust fosters collaborative neighbourhood emergency preparedness. People who know one another can rely on one another, and this is critical during emergency events. In our recent membership survey (April 2023), most respondents felt that out of our three priorities emergency preparedness was most important. A 2021 NZ Ministry for Social Development Community Resilience review noted that ***“The literature consistently finds that strong social cohesion and networks within communities, and high levels of trust and of social capital as a whole, are strongly predictive of the trajectory of a community’s response to an adverse event.”*** (*Aldrich & Meyer, 2015; Alonge et al, 2019; Bach et al, 2010; Slemp et al, 2020*).
- Our Trust helps reduce criminal activity. ***The presence of people has been shown to be one of the most robust factors deterring offenders, including burglars (Coupe & Blake, Citation2006; Cromwell et al., Citation1991; Wright et al., Citation1995).*** ***Crucial for this sense of “guardianship” may be the feeling that someone is watching and could observe criminal behaviour.*** Our active groups, signage, stickers and Community Patrol all provide visible crime deterrence activity.

Human connection improves physical health – other research:

“Diet, exercise, sleep hygiene, and stress reduction are widely accepted as health-promoting behaviors, but the quality of interpersonal relationships also can have a profound influence on health. In a meta-analysis of 145 studies, social isolation was as big a risk factor for all-cause mortality as smoking and alcohol consumption, and isolation had a larger effect on mortality rates than obesity and physical inactivity.”

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5536335/>



Recent programmes:

- Rural meetings - Neighbourhood Support joins with our local Police Officer, Community Patrol Leader and Firearms Manager to host regular meetings for rural communities to educate about firearm legislation changes. We encourage rural communities to report crime and suspicious behaviour and to work together to make their area less attractive and available to criminals.
- Capable Communities Campaign – neighbourhood communities build customized Neighbourhood Emergency Plans. Neighbours identify skills and resources for use during an emergency and this information is shared into a plan. The plan acts as a springboard for further discussions about preventing crime and enhancing safety in the area. These plans enable local communities to be self-sufficient in the first instance during an emergency and in turn relieves pressure on our first line responders.
- Subsidized first aid courses for Cambridge Community – With the support of the Waipa District Council, we are offering 200 subsidized first aid courses to raise the level of overall safety in our community.
- Children’s Citizenship programme. Encouraging good citizenship and safety for primary aged students based on the Manaaki children’s book.

Benefits for the Cambridge community include:

- Improvements in Cambridge community physical and mental health that come from having strong community relationships.
- Lower crime levels, the location of criminals and missing persons and provision of support for local Police. (Suspicious vehicles often leave on upon sighting the Community Patrol)
- Stronger connection between Police and other emergency services and our community are promoted when we bring Police and others to community meetings.
- Emergency and social agencies servicing Cambridge are assisted by a more prepared and proactive community response when an emergency occurs, via our neighbourhood emergency plans, fire escape plans and first aid training.
- Reduction in loneliness as we encourage and support neighbourhood connection. ***(NZ Govt stats 2021 reported 43.4% of our population feels lonely!)***
- Cambridge school children learn early about good citizenship and community service.

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Grey
<i>Last Name</i>	Power
<i>Organisation</i>	Grey Power Cambridge
<i>Id</i>	539

<i>Full Response</i>	<p>1. <i>What do you think? Do we have the balance right?</i></p> <p>-</p> <p>2. <i>Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?</i></p> <p>-</p> <p><i>Are there any further comments you would like to make?</i></p>
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Grey Power
THE ACTIVE ORGANISATION FOR THOSE 50+



Submission on behalf of the Members of Grey Power Cambridge on the 2024 Waipa District Council Enhance Annual Plan

Grey Power Cambridge is an advocacy organization representing 240 residents of Cambridge. Membership is drawn from those over the age of 50. The organization meets monthly with guest speakers drawn from a variety of interests. The objectives of the organization are:

- To advance support and protect the welfare and wellbeing of the aged.
- To affirm and protect the statutory entitlement of every aged New Zealander to a sufficient New Zealand Superannuation entitlement.
- To meet the special needs and interests of all aged New Zealanders by taking appropriate actions on their behalf.
- To be non-aligned with any political party, and to present a strong united lobby to all parliamentary and statutory bodies on matters affecting older New Zealanders.
- To better the lives of aged people through service, advocacy, education and investigation of problems affecting their well-being

We wish to be heard in support of this submission.

Accordingly we wish to submit the following points for your consideration:

1. Affordability of Rates

1. We are extremely concerned at the high rate of increase in Council rates for property and water charges. These increased rates are placing pressure on many of our members who are on a fixed and limited income.

We recommend that Council review all non-essential services and functions with a view to reducing rates to more affordable levels and within the annual cost of living increases.

2. Cambridge Water Tower

We are concerned about the possible demolition of the historic water tower located in Payne Park, adjacent to Resthaven. The water tower plays an important part in the history of Cambridge and is recognised with both national and local heritage status. We would not support its demolition.

We recommend that Council seek independent advice on alternative and less costly remedies to the maintenance and restoration of this building before committing to its demolition.

3. Cambridge I-Site

We are concerned that Council has voted to discontinue the funding of the Cambridge I-Site. We understand that the withdrawal of the funding places in jeopardy the continued operation of this important public facility. Our members have commented on important services they have used:

- help with planning trips outside of Cambridge particularly as they don't have access to their own computer;
- assistance with getting a BEE card and paying for use on the bus service to Hamilton;
- booking tickets on intercity busses to Auckland and other places;
- planning activities for visiting family and providing itinerary sheets;
- having a shop for touristy type of gifts and postcards;
- access to events and what's happening in Cambridge;
- running the Christmas Parade.

We recommend that Council reinstates this funding to enable the i-Site to continue to open.

4. Public Transport

We support the introduction of a public transport system that enables accessibility within the urban area of Cambridge. Many Grey Power members live outside a comfortable walking distance to town and may also not have an active lifestyle that allows them to cycle into town. A local bus service is required that connects those living in the suburbs with the town centre amenities and services such as the library, swimming pool, shops and services, Council Offices, supermarkets, and medical services such as doctors and specialists.

We recommend that Council introduce a local bus service connecting the suburbs with our town centre.

5. Roading Network

We support a local transport network that provides for a safe environment for elderly and less mobile residents. We are concerned about the lack of parking in town and the high level of congestion. Both of these result in a reduction of accessibility for elderly persons who cannot walk into town. We would like Council to consider the following:

- provide more longer term parking in the central retail area. Many parking places are only 1 hour. Many of our members are slightly more sedate in their movement around town. If they have appointments in town or wish to visit a number of shops, the hour limit can be quite a problem. Parking places in the town centre in the side street that are a 5 or 10 minute walk to the shops are not suitable for those of our members who have difficulty walking long distances.
 - Work on managing the congestion in town. The increasing congestion is limiting the time window in which our members consider it is safe to drive in to town.
 - provide more pedestrian crossings on high traffic use streets that do not have formal crossing facility. Please ensure these crossings include a median safety island where possible.
 - erect signage to create an awareness of elderly pedestrians on town centre pathways. Remind youth and adult cyclists of the illegality of cycling on footpaths. Remind cyclists to dismount from cycles and walk cycles across the pedestrian crossings.
 - The establishment of a policy for e-scooter riders that recognises the risk to elderly and particularly those with hearing disability.

We recommend that Council consider the accessibility for elderly persons to our main shopping and service centre.

6. Safe access to Public Reserves

We support the development of recreational reserves that are accessible by all residents but particularly those elderly or mobility challenged. For example the Te Koo Utu development should have access paths for elderly and those disabled community with accessibility vehicles. For many elderly their dog is their only companion. We support the provision of facilities around town which

encourage walking with a dog. For example, the provision of more dog poo bins around the green belt and other reserves.

We recommend that Council consult with the elderly within the community towards providing safe and appropriate access to or public reserves.

7. New Bridge for Cambridge

We are aware of the community concern for the lack of consultation on the third bridge for Cambridge. However, we consider that the Identification of a site for the third bridge is a very important decision for the future of our town. We would support continued active work including community consultation for the determination of this location. We would ask Council to consider the establishment of a roading network that limits commuters using the main shopping area as their main route to cross the town. We are in favour of a town centre that is more people and family focused.

We recommend that Council continue their efforts to identify the location for an additional bridge for Cambridge.

We thank Council for the opportunity to make these recommendations for consideration.

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Simon
<i>Last Name</i>	Brdanovic
<i>Organisation</i>	Te Awamutu AFC Incorporated
<i>Id</i>	511
<i>Full Response</i>	<p>1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right? Please see attached</p> <p>2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower? -</p> <p>Are there any further comments you would like to make? -</p>

TA AFC - submissions on Enhanced Annual Plan 2024/25

Background

The Te Awamutu Association Football (Soccer) Club was established in May 1913 and in 2013 we celebrated our centennial. We are one of the largest providers for junior sport in the Waipa. Our home is at The Stadium in Armstrong Avenue and we also lease the fields at Anchor Park (senior and junior player training/playing area – one full sized field) and Sherwin Park (junior teams playing fields).

The Club made submissions to the last Long Term Plan, outlining the intense pressure on its resources, amongst an increasing number of children, young adults, and seniors playing the game. At that time the club had 17 junior teams, and three senior teams, and was struggling to provide for its members.

The increase in football participation, allied with a strong and forward orientated committee, has meant player numbers have exploded, and are being sustained. For instance, last year there were 30 junior teams – double the number two years earlier – and this year there are 34.

The junior teams three years ago used six fields at Sherwin Park. We are now squeezing in 9 fields, as well as having to enter into an arrangement with TA Intermediate for the use of one of their fields.

The Club now has six senior teams, with the limited field availability proving a major constraint on being able to cater for the demand for more teams.

In addition, there are numerous other programmes provided throughout the year, catering for the very young, through to school going children during the holidays. The popular 5-a-side tournaments are not only for adults in the summer months, but extended to children at other times.

Football now has a 12 month season, and the demand continues to grow for yet more specialised coaching and training programmes. This is a demand from our community, the community which we both serve.

Discussions with Council

It is for this reason that the Club has been in ongoing dialogue with the Mayor and Council staff, trying to establish how the two organisations can together cater for the community's needs. Following the last LTP, the Club were encouraged to consider other options for playing facilities, and so consulted with other groups about space availability. Unfortunately, there has been no success elsewhere.

Last year the Club was advised to make submissions on the forthcoming LTP (now deferred for 12 months) about the possibility of relocating much of its operations to Castleton Park. The Council owned footprint has now been enlarged, and the potential for code sharing facilities exists.

The Club has always been very open to the possibility of sharing facilities, and in the past was a member of Park Road Sports Inc (renamed Castleton Park Inc) along with TA Marist and TA BMX. Unfortunately, at that time it became clear there was no funding forthcoming for the development of playing fields for TA AFC, and so the joint project did not proceed any further.

However, the recent encouragement to make submissions on relocating to Castleton Park was seen as positive by the Club, but the deferral of that process for 12 months has taken significant lustre from that prospect.

This is because the Club needs significant assistance right now, as well as in the long term. The proposal not to contribute to sports fields improvements under the Enhanced Annual Plan will only aggravate the pressure on the Club, and potentially cause significant permanent adverse effects on the Club and its ongoing provision of services.

The Club serves its community, a community which is a vital part of the Waipa, but its ability to do so is limited by the constraints placed on field availability and quality, and support from Council to carry out ongoing maintenance.

Given the Club will have to continue with the ongoing use of current facilities for the short to medium term at least, there are some immediate needs which the Club has to address.

Urgent assistance

Castleton Park – While the LTP has been deferred, the Club is highly supportive of a large area of developed land being made available for sporting and community organisations to use.

Based on its previous experience with Park Road Sports/Castleton Park, the Club notes that the land would require development to be fit for purpose, and a facility which is able to be sustainably used for the long term plan. It is also understood that a scoping assessment will need to be undertaken prior to any development work commencing, and believes it is vital that this be undertaken immediately.

If the scoping study is further delayed, then the newly acquired land, and existing land, simply lays dormant and at risk of being a ‘white elephant’.

The results from the study would then also allow potential users to plan their future, as well as Council to assess how development works relate to budget availability and integrate with strategic planning.

Field maintenance – due to the heavy use, the fields are not in great shape. The Club has been fertilising the fields at its own cost, and engaging the services of specialist consultants to try and prolong the life and use of the pitches as best possible.

However, assistance from the Council is desperately sought still, and has been part of ongoing discussions with Council staff for some time. This includes irrigation to the Stadium field, allowing better grass cover, and the ability to play more games on that field.

Field lighting – the Club has at its own cost been funding the acquisition of light poles and lights, as well as their installation, so as to allow more areas to be available for training purposes. Once again, Council contribution to these significant costs would allow more teams to be able to train regularly in what is otherwise very cramped spaces. Overuse can lead to permanent field damage, and the inability to then use those areas for future trainings, and for games.

The Club has hired mobile light towers in the past at a very high cost, simply to allow for games to take place on another night, and therefore spread the load on fields, but the costs were too prohibitive to continue.

The acquisition by Council of, and responsibility for, lights at the Stadium would be of immense assistance, and assist with balancing the huge pressures on Club resources.

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Dave
<i>Last Name</i>	Peters
<i>Organisation</i>	Leamington Rugby Sports Club
<i>Id</i>	506

<i>Full Response</i>	<p><i>1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?</i> We would like to see Council reconsider pausing the investment into sports field improvements originally planned for 2024/25 and have the budget line reinstated. A more detailed submission is attached.</p>
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2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

25-Apr-2024

Waipa District Council
Private Bag 2402
Te Awamutu 3840

By - Online Submission

To Whom it May Concern

Re: Draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to submit, we appreciate the chance to have our say.

1. Club Background**1.1. Overview**

During 2022 LRSC proudly celebrated being part of the Cambridge community for 125 years. Although the club was initially established as a senior rugby club, it has provided senior netball and squash participation offerings for more than 40 years and has more recently increased club activity by adding junior hockey, netball, rugby and touch three years ago, senior women's sevens rugby in 2022 and senior lacrosse at times during the past decade.

The club is domiciled on the Cambridge Green Belt in Carlyle St, Leamington and has a long-term Council Community Lease over a mixed-use sporting precinct of approx. 7.8 ha. The original clubrooms were built in 1963 and have been developed and upgraded over the past 7 decades and now comprise a main club building of some 1,400 sqm over two levels. Our community facilities currently comprise -

- 3 x Rugby Fields (2 with training lights)
- 1 x Cricket Oval (artificial pitch)
- 2 x Netball Courts (1 x Basketball Court)
- 3 x Squash Courts (1 x Glass Back)
- M & F Squash Changing Rooms
- 6 x Team Sport Changing Rooms and Showers
- Rugby Hall with Bar & Commercial Kitchen
- Squash Lounge with Bar & Kitchen
- Large Sealed Carpark

1.2. Purpose

A local multi-sports club offering a range of sport and recreation opportunities to the wider Cambridge community including –

- Senior Rugby
- Senior Netball
- Junior Hockey
- Junior Netball
- Junior Rugby
- Junior Touch
- Squash

1.3. Vision Statement (Draft)

To provide quality opportunities for the local Cambridge community to participate and compete in a range of sporting activities and to foster a supportive family environment that promotes inclusiveness, respect and fun for all in a safe setting.

¹ The Club is currently developing a new Strategic Plan for 2024-28 which when complete will guide growth and development over the next 5 years.

1.4. Strategic Alignment

As part of our current strategic planning, we have been mindful of aligning where appropriate with Waipa District Council Plans as well as the community strategies of national and regional sport sector stakeholders such as Sport NZ, Sport Waikato, NZ Rugby, NZ Netball.

In particular the community outcomes and strategic priorities outlined in the Waipa Long Term Plan 2021-31 are closely aligned –

Waipa Long Term Plan 2021-31

➤ Community Outcomes

- Socially resilient
 - Waipa is a great place to live, work, play and invest.
 - We invest in hauora and support the great work community groups do.
- Economically progressive
 - Our services provide excellent value for money.

➤ External Strategic Priorities

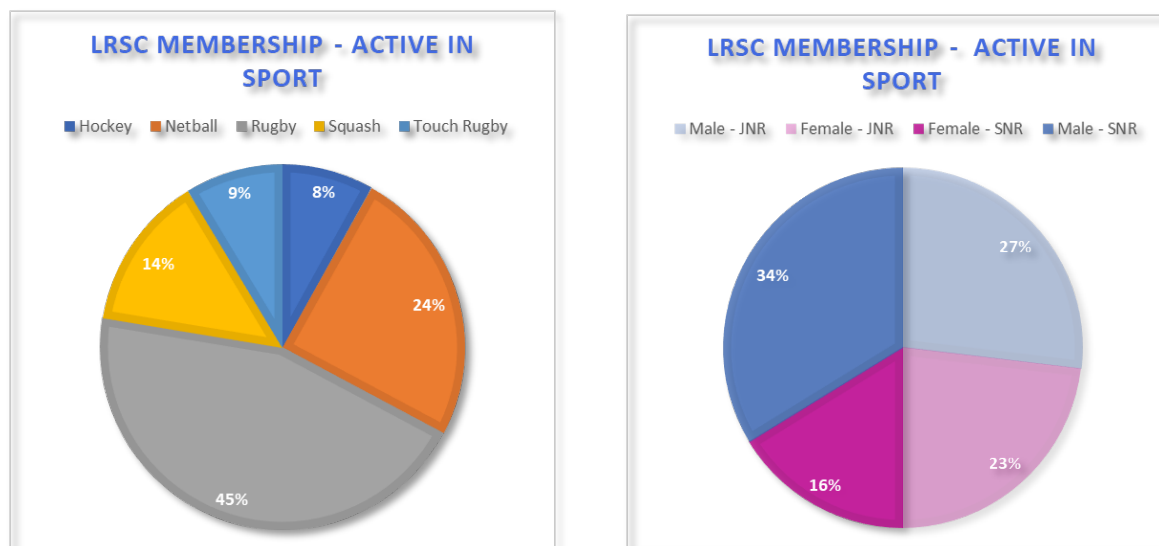
- Creating vibrant communities
 - We celebrate all the things residents love about Waipa and foster connections with people and places.
Develop and upgrade community facilities such as skate parks and sports fields, parks and reserves.
- Effectively planning and providing for growing communities
 - Our population is increasing because Waipa is a highly desirable place to live, work, play and invest. Growth is forecasted to continue, and we need robust planning and infrastructure to create liveable communities.
Large infrastructure projects including roads/transport routes, water supply, wastewater, stormwater and parks to enable residential and industrial development.

1.5. Membership

Activity within the club has significantly increased in recent years following the addition of junior hockey, netball, rugby and touch in 2021, senior women's sevens rugby in 2022 and senior lacrosse at times during the past decade.

In 2023 the club had an active financial membership of 714 (all sporting participants) with a profile outlined in [Figure 1](#).

Figure 1 - Membership Profile



During 2023 the club entered **49 teams** into local and regional sporting competitions across junior and senior age groups comprising more than **600 participants** (excluding squash). This was only possible through the commitment of more than **100 volunteers** who supported as team coaches, managers or organisers behind the scenes.

1.6. Community Connection

Although our focus is mostly on providing for and growing our own membership, the club facilities are available for wider community use and are regularly booked by a wide variety of organisations. These include –

- Cambridge High School Sports
- Cambridge Dance Koru
- Boxing for Parkinsons
- Movement & Stretch Classes
- Corporate Teambuilding
- Waikato Rugby Union
- Cambridge Cricket Club
- Battle of the Bridge
- Various Rowing Clubs
- NZ Motor Caravan Assn

We have strong community support with more than 60 local businesses actively sponsoring the club activities through either cash or in-kind contributions annually.

The club is nothing without its people and our members and supporters are amazing when it comes to supporting each other. During the past 12 months more than \$35,000 has been raised to cover the medical costs and support the whanau of club members in need.

We are also proud of the work we do raising funds for local community organisations. Earlier this year our annual fishing competition raised more than \$8,000 for **The Waterboy** charity and similar sums have been raised for Cambridge Fire Service, Achievement House, Cure Kids and Land SAR in recent years.

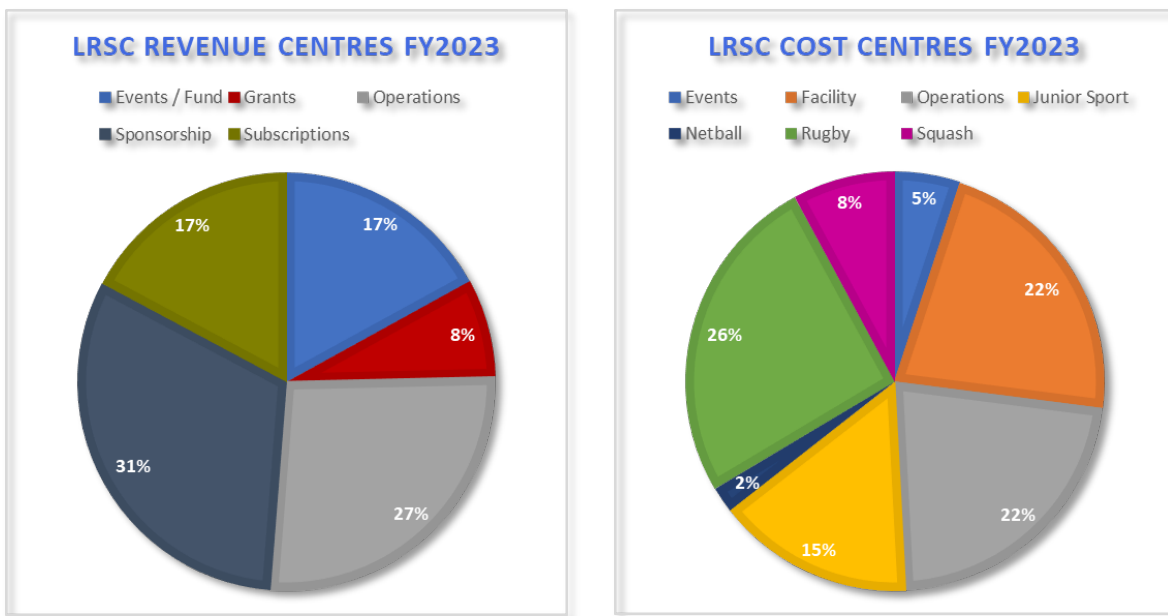
1.7. Financial Snapshot

All revenue generated by the club is invested back into our members either directly through their sporting interests or indirectly through club operations, facilities and events. We have improved financial accountability to ensure that expenses align with our financial objectives of providing a quality club experience, retaining and growing membership and planning for the future.

The change in the local delivery model for Junior Sport in 2021 from Primary Schools to Sports Club has placed significant financial and volunteer pressure on the club from which we are still adjusting, however it has also resulted in a vibrant new feel around the club with half of our active members now of either primary or intermediate age. There is an ever present need to grow revenues which will enable us to provide more opportunities for local tamariki to stay active and connected and ultimately healthier.

During FY2023 gross club revenue was approximately \$307,000 generated from a mix of Club Operations; Events & Fundraising; Grants; Sponsorship and Member Subscriptions. During the same period the annual costs to run the club were approximately \$292,000 and split relatively evenly between costs of delivering our various sports and operating the club and maintaining facilities.

Figure 2 – FY2023 Revenue and Cost Centre Breakdown



2. The Draft Enhanced Annual Plan 2024/25

2.1. What Do We Think?

It is clear there are significant budget challenges, and we can understand why the decision was made to progress with an Enhanced Annual Plan for 2024/25 in place of the normal Long Term Plan process. The issues of rising costs and delayed revenues in a growth district are significant alongside the debt position and three waters impact.

We are however disappointed that the original planned capital investment in sport field improvements during 2024/25 of \$851,000 has been removed. Council studies have indicated that there is a need for more sports field capacity with the Waipa District and with strong population growth expected this problem is only going to get more challenging if regular capital investment is not maintained.

An upgrade to the playing surface of Field #1 at Leamington was part of the original 2024/25 work programme and an exciting prospect for the club. A more durable surface with drainage and irrigation would help with the experience of our current members but would also allow the club to provide more community use during the summer and shoulder seasons which we haven't been able to do due to field condition.

2.2. The Need for Investment

- Sports Field Capacity

Recent Council initiated reports have indicated there is already a shortage of capacity within the Waipa sports field network.

A Waipa-wide review in 2020 identified a shortage of sport parks largely in Cambridge, with rugby and football hardest hit. Council says Cambridge rugby players need access to sports parks an extra 17 hours per week to meet existing demand; footballers need an extra 13 hours a week.

This shortage of available hours is projected to increase to a combined 56 hours per week by 2038 unless something changes.

Waipa District Council 2-Dec-2022

Figure 3 - Extract 1 from Sports Field Options Analysis (GLG) - Jan-2021

2 Future Capacity Surplus / Shortfall

Waipa District – surplus / shortfall capacity in FTE hours per week, per code (2019 – 2038)

		Rugby			League			Football			All codes		
		Weekend	Weekday	Full week	Weekend	Weekday	Full week	Weekend	Weekday	Full week	Weekend	Weekday	Full week
Cambridge	2019	-2	-15	-17	0	0	0	-5	-8	-13	-7	-23	-30
	2028	-9	-19	-28	0	0	0	-7	-12	-19	-16	-31	-47
	2038	-11	-22	-33	0	0	0	-9	-14	-23	-20	-36	-56

The Winter Sports Field Demand Study (2020) identified that by 2038 there is a projected shortfall of 56 hours comprising:

- 30 hours a week to meet current demand
- An additional shortfall of 26 hours a week as a result of population growth.

Figure 4 - Extract 2 from Sports Field Options Analysis (GLG) - Jan-2021

4 Recommendations to Meet the Identified Shortfall

Following the completion of the Winter Sports Field Study a prioritisation workshop was undertaken to identify the options to meet the current and future shortfall.

The workshop identified a number of recommendations to improve the surfaces and condition at a number of existing reserves including:

- John Kerkhof Park** Upgrade the 'middle earth' area (fields 3 – 5) to provide 2 full sized fields instead of 3 small fields.
 Potential increase of 12 - 14 hours per week.
- Cambridge Memorial Park** Upgrade all 3 fields OR Upgrade fields 2 and 3 and secure rugby access to Tom Voyle Park for training.
 Potential increase of 6 hours per week
- Leamington** Upgrade 3 fields with drainage and irrigation to provide additional capacity to rugby.
 Potential increase of 6 hours a week

These studies were based on demand modelling in 2020 and prior to adding the delivery of Junior Rugby at Leamington. Since then, with extra demand there has been an increasing need to manage the use of the fields more closely and ensure they are not overused. Often this results in closing fields or restricting trainings during the week so that matches can take place as scheduled.

- **Sports Field Lighting**

There is also a recognised need to upgrade the capacity and quality of sports field lighting across Waipa. Council recently commissioned a Sports Field Lighting Assessment to ascertain the ownership, condition and performance against relevant code and remaining useful life of each asset. Overall, the assessment found several key issues related to lighting performance –

Figure 5 - Extract from Waipa Sports Lighting Report, Xyst (2023)

Issue	Discussion
Inadequate illumination	The minimum maintained level of illumination for football and rugby on an amateur and semi-professional level for ball and physical training is 50 lux. Most Council's now install 100 lux as a minimum. Only Albert Park and Pirongia are considered to have close to this level of illumination.
Poor Uniformity	The minimum horizontal uniformity for football and rugby on an amateur and semi-professional level for ball and physical training is 0.3 (being the ratio of minimum illumination/average) The low height of columns and use of single sided arrangements will result in low uniformity.
Excessive Glare and Light Spill	Very few of the installations have used columns of sufficient height. The minimum height columns required for a 60m wide football field is 16.5m. The average height of the columns assessed is 11m. This means lights are tilted to increase the light coverage. This creates light spill beyond the boundary (potentially breaching Council lighting rules) and excessive glare for players and considerable light pollution.
Incorrect pole placement	Column placements are sometimes too close to the edge of the playing area (a minimum of 3m (football) 5m (rugby) is recommended)
Lack of maintenance and inspection	There is lack of maintenance including cleaning and inspection of fixtures for damage and security.
Aging technology	Lighting is almost all metal halide floodlighting which has relatively high energy costs and very high maintenance costs with a typical lamp costing several hundred dollars to replace. The use of high quality, sports specific LED sport lights will reduce operating costs and improve overall performance when correctly designed and installed.

The site-specific summary for Leamington indicated the following –

Figure 6 - Extract from a WDC Letter to LRSC dd. 2-Apr-24

LEAMINGTON PARK LEAMINGTON

Ownership
 Leamington Rugby Sports Club Inc. owns the lights and is responsible for maintenance and operating costs.

Description
 The No.1 field is lit with a sub-standard system using short columns. Recent additions of LED luminaires are ineffective due to the height of the columns. The No.2 (training field) is also lit with short columns. A further area near the clubrooms is lit with two short columns and is not to standard for training. The courts are also poorly lit.

Issues

- Columns are too low to meet standards resulting in glare for players and high levels of light spill for neighbours
- All Columns have reached the end of life and may be unsafe.

Recommendations

- Upgrade No.1 Field to a 100 Lux LED installation
- Upgrade the No.2 Field to a 50 Lux LED installation
- Upgrade the court lighting to LED (200 Lux) if justified by sufficient use.

Quality of field lighting is becoming an increasingly important area for investment due to health and safety concerns but also changing trends in how participants prefer to play their sport. The traditional delivery model of training mid-week evenings under lights and matches on Saturday is being challenged, and there is increasing pressure to schedule matches mid-week and keep weekends free for work or other commitments.

2.3. Recent LRSC Initiatives

• **Sport Field Lighting Upgrade**

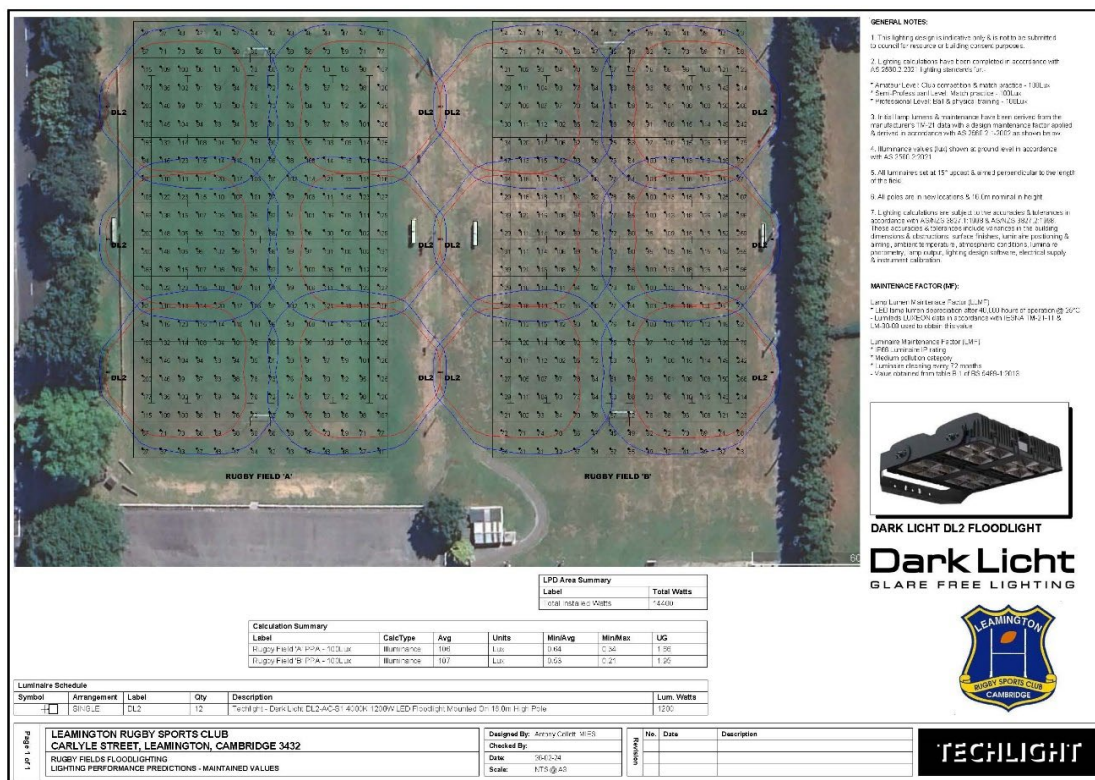
Soon after Leamington was confirmed for a sports field improvement in 2024/25, we began investigating ways to leverage off the Council investment to achieve greater outcomes. This involved engaging a wider group of stakeholders with similar interests under the premise that by pooling resources, we could achieve and provide more for the community.

Our focus became upgrading the Lighting on Field #1 which when combined with the additional capacity from the field upgrade would allow additional training hours and night matches to be scheduled and opening up a range of new possibilities for the club and community. This was all triggered by the field upgrade as lighting improvements without upgrading the field is a pointless exercise with nothing added to the load capacity.

We gathered in principle support from a range of local business who have a similar community focus and were willing to contribute product, machinery and operators with the aim of broadening the scope of what could be achieved.

Lighting plans were also commissioned before the project was paused and will now go on hold.

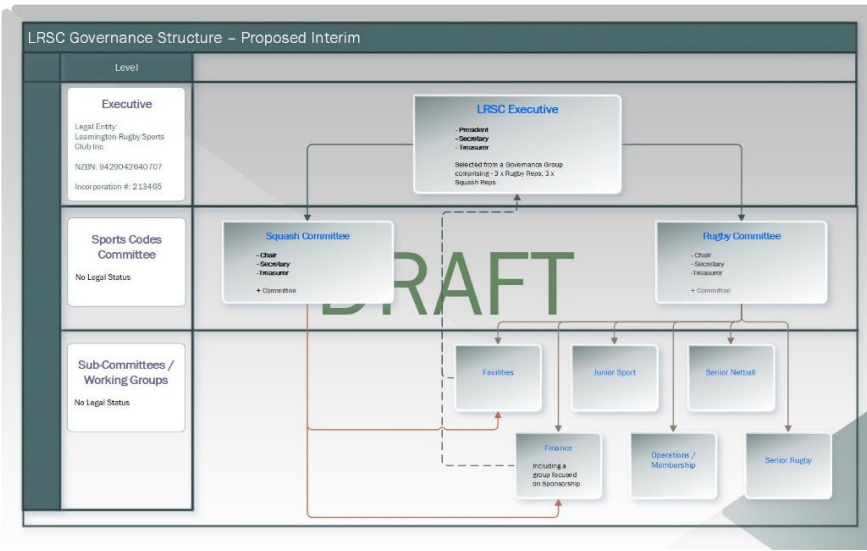
Figure 7 - Concept Lighting Design



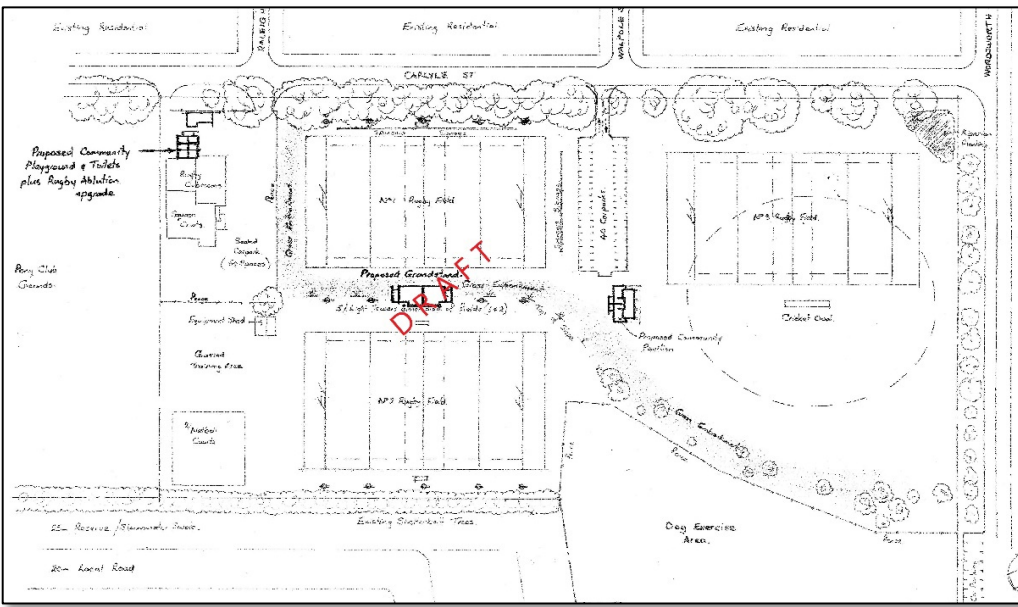
• **Other Initiatives**

During the past 12 months we have started a range of projects to help guide the club through an expected significant period of change over the next 5-10 years including -

- Investment in an external resource to help progress projects and implement change.
- Developing a club wide strategic plan as a community based multi-sport organisation. Wider community input will be part of this process.
- Undertaking a review of current club governance structures.



- Establishing good practice systems and processes across finance functions and operations.
- Developing a precinct masterplan to help guide future facility development and upgrades and determine priorities for investment. This includes understanding the role we can play in meeting local and regional needs and potentially highlighting new opportunities.



3. Our Feedback

We are excited for the future of the club as a multi-sport organisation and the opportunity to provide more for the Cambridge community. The benefits of being involved in organised sport and part of a community club are well documented and we have a great foundation from which to continue to grow.

The investment in sports field improvements is clearly needed and the club has taken a proactive approach by looking to leverage off the initial Council investment with the aim of achieving greater community outcomes. The potential combination of additional weekly sports field capacity and improved field lighting will enable new opportunities for the use of the fields and potentially new growth sports within the club.

Without the Council investment, it will be a far more difficult task to progress and ultimately deliver on these improvements.

We kindly request that you reconsider pausing the investment into sports field improvements originally planned for 2024/25 and would like to see the budget line reinstated.

Thanks again for the opportunity to submit. If offered the opportunity, we would also like to present our submission in a public Council hearing.

Sincerely



Dave Peters

Club Chair
Leamington Rugby Sports Club

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Harvey
<i>Last Name</i>	Brookes
<i>Organisation</i>	Waikato Wellbeing Project on behalf of Waikato For Purpose Sector
<i>Id</i>	495

<i>Full Response</i>	<p><i>1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?</i> See attached</p> <p><i>2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?</i> -</p> <p><i>Are there any further comments you would like to make?</i> N/A</p>
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Thriving Communities Collaboration

c/- PO Box 1367,
Hamilton 3240
Ph: 07 838 1583

For Purpose Sector Joint Submission

A Collective Voice

- This submission is a collaboration between Community Waikato, Creative Waikato, Go Eco, The Waikato Wellbeing Project, Seed Waikato and HMS Trust. It represents the shared vision and aspirations of those of us working to build the capacity, capability and well-being of our local landscape. It includes a holistic approach to building a thriving community

Shaping the future of Waikato District

- There are clear strategic alignments between the work of the community, creative, environment and youth sectors, across both soft and hard infrastructure, to Waikato district's vision of liveable, thriving and connected communities, the 4 community outcomes and 6 strategic priorities. Most significantly, *"celebrating who we are"* *"having well-connected communities"*, *"Our environmental health underpins the health of our People"* and *"we support local prosperity"*, while fairly simple elaborations on the basic purpose of local government, are important wellbeing signposts for the council to follow in its strategy, planning and resource allocation.
- Youth, arts, culture, creativity, Maaori, social services, disability and ethnic communities can and should make significant contributions to 'liveable, thriving and connected communities'. Understanding how our green spaces and biodiversity create healthy communities is critical to underpin good decision making. Shaping a future for the Waikato district needs to be collective, co-designed, and through the numerous lenses of the beneficiaries of the district, present and future.
- A fair and reasonable democratic process is supported by accessible and equal communication pathways and opportunities to influence the decision-makers. Some communities, for example ethnic communities, face additional barriers and relying on traditional feedback methods such as the submission process, does not facilitate engagement from these communities. Strategies should be co-designed with the community they target, especially communities that have traditionally had a limited or absent voice from council, such as our young people.

Valuing communities

- While the community makes a significant contribution to these areas through investment, in-kind support, volunteer time, and creative passion, it is essential that the Council maintains and increases investment into this sector as a core provision of service to our growing community.
- Our future now depends on how we allocate resources, ensuring the needs and well-being of people and nature are central to our budgetary decisions.
- As a district sandwiched between New Zealand's biggest and fastest growing cities, it is vital the Waikato district grows well - this means valuing and investing in art and creativity, culture, community services, our greenspaces and biodiversity, venues, creative spaces and events, development programmes, and opportunities to weave cultural storytelling, placemaking and playful creative expression throughout partnership with the community, and within core council business.
- Community granting makes an important contribution to supporting for-purpose organisations, sustaining community services, local venues, and investing in our whenua. This partnership between council and community is directly connected to cultural and community wellbeing outcomes for the council.





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Impact on social and cultural wellbeing

Beyond economic measures, the impacts of the non-profit community on social and cultural wellbeing is also significant.

- The community and social service sector encompass a broad range of initiatives that offer invaluable support and foster connections within diverse populations. Beyond just alleviating poverty and social isolation, these services bring a plethora of benefits to the community. They promote inclusivity, empower individuals to overcome challenges, and enhance overall well-being. Additionally, they contribute to the development of stronger social bonds, cultivate a sense of belonging, and foster a culture of empathy and compassion.
- In-depth Waikato-focussed research from 2022 highlighted regular access and perceived access to arts, culture and creativity is a significant driver of individual wellbeing. This contributes to better mental health outcomes, and shows measurable connection to social cohesion, community connection, civic pride, and sense of identity.
- Investment in the whenua is critical. Community access to open and accessible greenspaces, even in an ostensibly rural environment, can have profound effects on well-being, promoting physical health, mental clarity, emotional resilience, and social connection.
- Climate-resilient towns and settlements require systemic approaches that address both the physical and social dimensions of resilience. This includes investing in green infrastructure like parks and urban forests, as well as social infrastructure such as community centres and cultural hubs which promote social cohesion and empowerment. By incorporating the voices and perspectives of diverse communities into the budgeting process, we can ensure that our investments reflect the needs and priorities of all residents

Investing in people

- In this current cost of living crisis, a careful and well considered fiscal approach to local government funding and services is supported. At the same time, the Council needs to keep front of mind its responsibility and duty to its people. The Council's vision of "*working together as a district to build liveable, thriving and connected communities*" is functionally appropriate, but lacks appeal to the human spirit. It is a council purpose statement of the here and now, but as a vision it offers very little for our tamariki and rangatahi to be inspired by. Between now and the next LTP, the Council might like to ask its people what their vision for the future is, in their words, and adopt that. This should be done in terms of their lived experienced, not necessarily from the point of view of the Council.
- At a time of increased need, now is the time to invest in people. Support the people who provide positive outcomes for diverse communities. Art, culture, and creativity sits alongside social services, kai, health, education, environment, and community connection as interwoven components of thriving communities.
- It requires civic investment as a part of ensuring community access. Not investing in our social infrastructure will result in the degradation of our community services, arts, culture and environment at a time of a growing population.
- A thriving and prosperous city will always be a combination of physical assets and infrastructure we can see, and the less tangible social, economic, cultural and environmental foundations which we all rely on for our wellbeing. We urge the council, even in difficult fiscal times, to keep a balanced and people-focused approach to all aspects of wellbeing, as is required by the Local Government Act (2022).

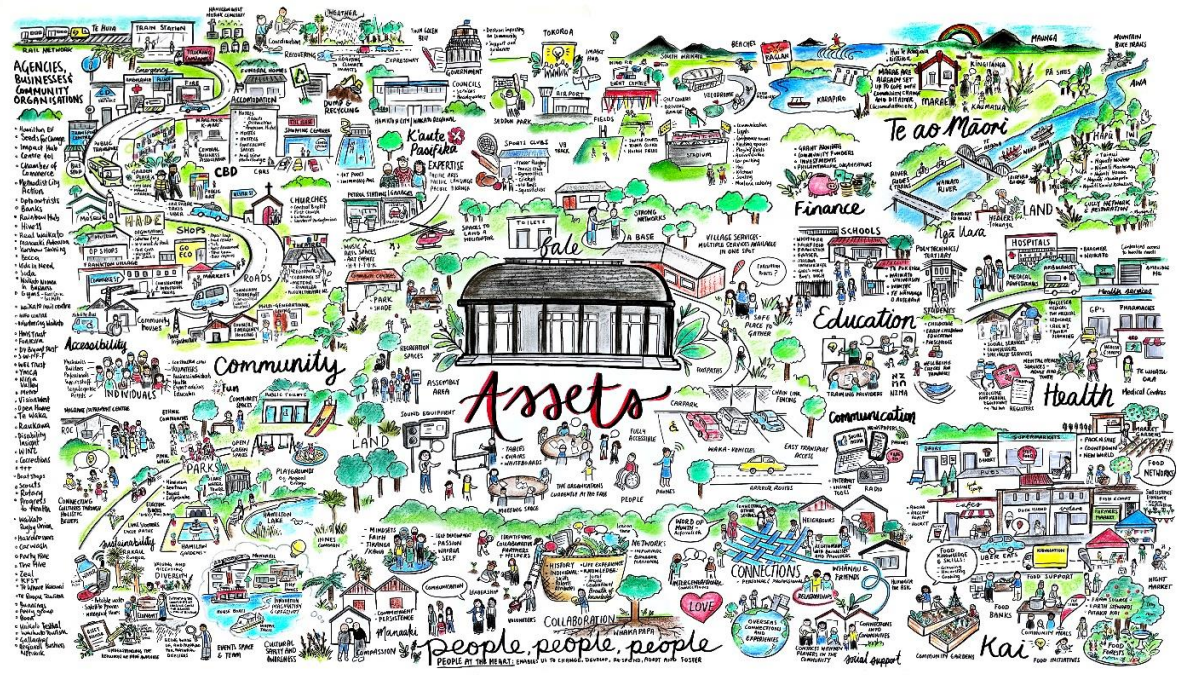




Thriving Communities Collaboration

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- Too many in our community are suffering with hunger, poverty and poor housing – the foundations of a sustainable community. The council should not underestimate its important community leadership role in these issues.
- We encourage Council to activate its leadership role in the food security of the district, joining other cities and towns in Aotearoa bringing their attention to this issue. We request that Council leads and jointly implements a food strategy for the Waikato district which lays out a path to food security and sovereignty. We have made the same submission to Hamilton City and Waipa Councils, so a joint strategy would also be an option.
- Ultimately, creating a prosperous, climate-resilient city with thriving communities is about more than just mitigating the impacts of climate change, the odd art exhibition or Pataka kai stations in communities. It is about building a future where people and nature coexist harmoniously. By putting people at the heart of our budgetary decisions, investing in partnerships and encouraging imagination and creativity, we can pave the way for a more sustainable and resilient future starting now.



Recommendations and Opportunities

- At a time of increased need, commit to maintaining and increasing community funding to support organisations to continue to deliver positive outcomes.
- Work collaboratively with community providers to lead and implement a joint regional food strategy in collaboration with city and district councils and Waikato Regional Council.
- Engage and fund services from relevant community organisations to co-design civic engagement strategies to enable meaningful and reciprocal access and support for vulnerable communities.

The joint signatures to this submission are well-placed and able to work with Council on these initiatives which will help 'our people thrive'.



SPP Submission

First Name

Aksel

Last Name

Bech

Organisation

Housing Czar - Independent Housing Advocacy

Id

445

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

I congratulate Council for their adoption of the Housing Implementation Plan dated April 2024 and the eight key priorities contained therein.

Waipa DC is continuing to show leadership in the area of housing -with affordability at a critical pain point within the district for both homeowners and renters, as well documented in the various agenda items in your Housing sub-committee.

With that in mind, I am concerned however not to see this explicitly reflected in the draft work programme budget; whilst the commitment for the coming years is largely in staff time (deferment of pensioner housing a separate matter), I would hope in the adoption of the Housing Implementation Plan that this becomes one of the priorities of Council and as such needs to be part of someone(s) job and expected performance outcomes, not something to do if there is spare time (spoiler alert - there never is any). Dedicated resourcing allocation will be required to have any chance of the intended outcomes to be achieved; Ms Downey and Ms Russo with others provide excellent leadership but input from multiple other teams within council is required to fully address the key actions required in the identified 8 priorities.

Further as part of the FutureProof Development Strategy, Waipa DC has adopted affordable housing targets (based on your own already adopted HBA) for 2025 and subsequent years which requires significant focus and deliberate action (and therefore resource).

I don't have full insight in to required resource allocation so it may be that this already catered for -and if something has to be cut because it is not allowed for, again, I don't have enough insight to provide further suggestions. However I am submitting that in capturing the actions required, you must now also as governors ensure that staff have appropriate resources to implement your directed strategy - and that I believe could be more explicit in your proposed works programme.

A good example of this is actually achieving the already announced intention of a council initiated plan change to the DP for Inclusionary zoning provisions; as I complete this submission, April is nearly gone and the year passes by. Such an initiative takes time, co-ordination with FutureProof partners -and staff resource that must have capacity to take this on.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Antanas
<i>Last Name</i>	Procuta
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	493

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

It is essential that Waipā District Council - as owners and guardians of Waipā's heritage - is seen to show leadership in the understanding and preservation of the heritage of the District. Importantly, if council takes the position of demolishing the Cambridge Water Tower (a nationally registered heritage item), it will set an indisputable precedent for other owners and custodians of heritage within the district to do the same to their heritage-listed property 'owing to economic circumstances'. In electing the option to restore the tower, alternative and more affordable strategies can be explored and adopted for the long-term preservation of - what is - an iconic historic, architectural, and engineering, landmark of Cambridge.

With three recent seismic strengthening commissions that my practice, PAUA Architects, has undertaken alongside consultant structural engineers, in each of these cases, on structural review, each project cost came down significantly through thorough design examination and resolution. Given this experience - and having spoken to specialist heritage structural engineers, I have no hesitation in recommending to Council that they take the time and commitment to focus their intent on restoring the Cambridge Water Tower. Demolishing heritage cannot be undone, and WDC would be very poorly marked for such an approach.

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Phil
<i>Last Name</i>	Mackay
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	524

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Yes I think the balance is about right.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

The question of what to do with the water tower is being presented as a binary choice – demolish or restore – but I don't think those are the only options. I acknowledge the fact that there are concerns about the safety of the tower but find it frustrating that council feel the need to make an immediate decision with long-reaching impacts, in such a difficult economic time, having had so many years to explore options and find more cost-effective solutions.

I have the following suggestions for alternative options:

1. Engage an engineer with a speciality in heritage restoration and seismic strengthening experience for a second opinion or peer review of the proposed options. I note that at least 3 different engineers have been involved already over the last dozen years or so, however none of these are heritage specialists.
2. Consider a discussion with Resthaven regarding their proposed future developments. It is my understanding that Resthaven intend to build a new 3 or 4 storey wing quite close to the water tower. If there was a willingness from Resthaven to explore the option, perhaps this building could be used to anchor and strengthen the tower. Advice would be required from a specialist heritage engineer on whether this is a viable idea, and this would also require additional design work, and adjusting the proposed location of the new building, but potentially could reduce the cost of strengthening the water-tower. If the decision is made to demolish the tower, I have further suggestions:
 1. Don't waste more time and money with a commemorative structure – just a simple sign with a photo and some history will be more than adequate.
 2. That said, if the bricks can be preserved and reused – perhaps for pathways in the area – I would be supportive of that initiative.

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Carey
<i>Last Name</i>	Church
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	411

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

I note that there is no allowance for future work to be done on Cambridge Connections before a Programme Business Case is submitted to Waka Kotahi for Funding.

As I have noted, the bluetooth modelling that the entire Cambridge Connections is built on was carried out from 24th February to 30th March 2022 when the entire country was in Red Traffic Light Omicron Covid Setting. During this time, on average 31% of the population worked from home.

This is combined with the fact that the bridge crossings did not change between the Beca 2018 report (28,000 daily bridge crossings based on 2016 WRTM data and 28,100 daily bridge crossings based on the 2022 bluetooth modelling), although both Leamington and Cambridge had grown significantly during that time period.

Further, I met with two councillors who expressed their surprise that the results of the modelling showed a strong difference to what was 'previously perceived' by themselves and the public about where people travelled (i.e. hardly anyone travelled to Hamilton compared to what was expected).

It may be that the information is accurate, but there is high degree of uncertainty around this information and I strongly recommend that the Council make an allowance to rerun this data and get accurate information, and then to produce accurate and robust modelling, with all options considered on a like with like basis (instead of Option A having road changes and Option C having all the bells and whistles like modal change to pedestrian, cycle and public transport), and with a range of scenarios modelled with Victoria Bridge open to one way or two traffic as well, so that the work that is put forward to Waka Kotahi for funding for more detailed investigations is as thorough as possible.

Additional funds need to be added into the expenditure to allow for this between 2024 and 2025.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

History is important, but the changed situations with funding for three waters and the economic environment with high construction inflation (and other inflation) mean that it is likely to be unaffordable to retain the Water Tower as it is.

However, I urge the Waipa District Council to be innovative with your 'commemorative structure'. At the very least there should be a smaller structure (maybe 10m high) built as a replica from the bricks. My personal preference would be for the council to investigate (and if cost effective) put in place a permanent hologram of the Water Tower. This requires hologram projectors, and a design programme. The design programme could show the Water tower and life around it from the start until today, could split open the tower to show what is in the middle and could become a modern and innovative tourist attraction.

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Taisha
<i>Last Name</i>	Tari
<i>Organisation</i>	Taisha Music Enterprises
<i>Id</i>	501

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

As a resident, we are not alone either however, we're now facing reductions in funding support for the Town Hall as well as no longer providing a Community Events Fund.

Being a performing artist, I understand and appreciate the maintenance, asset and specialist staff requirements of a performance venue/heritage building being the Cambridge Town Hall.

Adequate funding for the Town Hall should continue so it can continue to be a professional venue, adequately staffed with skilled expertise and being available for local, regional and national performances. Not just bookings, as well as support for more events, a fit for purpose venue and improved operations.

These are things that keep the community together with places and events that we can all enjoy together. Watch our people more so, our children using these venues and events to exhibit their performing arts and to learn and develop their skills with the aspiration of bigger and better things for their futures.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

This land can be better utilised as an asset for the community to use, work at, enjoy, visit or play at. Perhaps plan for something down the track when the balance is right and in line with the growth in Cambridge for something more purposeful. Something that could generate revenue, jobs and a place to visit.

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Peter
<i>Last Name</i>	Fulton
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	468
<i>Full Response</i>	<p>1. <i>What do you think? Do we have the balance right?</i> No comment</p> <p>2. <i>Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?</i> b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower</p> <p><i>Are there any further comments you would like to make?</i> I have attached a file</p>

Further comments;

- I would ask the Waipa District Council to consider a third option which is to leave the Water Tower undisturbed until such time as the economy improves and a review about its future status can be conducted. Both current proposals will cost money. The \$810k allocated to demolish could be used for more urgent and critical projects at a time when this discretionary expenditure would be imprudent. The Water Tower has been there for well over a hundred years now, to leave it alone represents no significant cost and to demolish, short sighted and unnecessary.
- The Waipa District Council is responsible for protecting and enhancing the heritage values, sites, history and built architecture of our region. To demolish the Water Tower is in direct contravention of that mandate and represents a betrayal of constituents' trust in our elected officials and executive staff. Once it is gone, it will not be replaced and a monument to its previous existence is condescending, token and little short of meaningless.
- I would like to present a longer term proposal in respect of restoration of the Water Tower, namely to re-purpose it as a community facility. Over a staged program the Water Tower would become the 'signature' centre piece of an Art Gallery and Cultural Centre commencing with proposed use as a viewing tower, then art gallery, and finally as part of a larger, newly built cultural facility.
- In respect of this I submit the following;
 1. Seismically strengthen the structure. I would ask the Waipa District Council to consider the excellent, under budget and under schedule work done to seismically strengthen the historic Oamaru Courthouse in 2012. Initially the Department of Justice was quoted upwards of \$3 million dollars for this and so abandoned the building. The Waitaki District Council subsequently purchased the building for the nominal sum of \$1. There followed the intervention of two local solicitors, concerned about the emerging situation of 'demolition-by-neglect'. They engaged the services of another engineer who was able to bring the price of seismic strengthening down to about \$300,000. The engineer was able to achieve this saving by removing the roof and strengthening from the top down rather than from the bottom up. The whole project, which included further facilities upgrades, painting and refurbishment was completed under budget and under schedule. The irony was that the Council then leased the building back to the Department of Justice, thus maintaining an important, living and practical aspect of the heritage of the building. I suggest Waipa DC undertake a similar open-minded approach to the Water Tower; as a prominent and respected local architect said to me, 'there is more than one way to skin a cat'.
 2. Retain the steel water tank and make doorway openings.

3. Construct/reinstate the circular walkway and balustrade around the upper Tower, where there are currently the remains of some steel bracing stays.
4. Replace the roof and extend it to the periphery of the circular walkway.
5. Reinstate the spiral staircase including any necessary landings for safety reasons. At the top, visitors should be able to easily and safely access the circular walkway.
6. Glaze the lancet ventilation openings in the brick part of the Tower.
7. Fit stage type lighting to the central vertical pipe with other lighting for safety and ambience.
8. Give consideration to disabled access and bathroom facilities.

Initially the Tower would act as a viewing point and a fee could be charged to offset costs. I imagine the views up there would be nothing short of spectacular and could coincide with local events such as hot air ballooning and cycling.

Subsequently, the Tower would be used as an Art Gallery with art mounted on the inside of the brick walls and steel tank lit by the fittings on the central pipe, or other lighting configurations, with the assistance of a good lighting consultant. Initial 'pop-up' exhibitions could be supplemented with space provided by marquees.

Finally, over time, with community, lottery and sponsor financial assistance, another new building of architectural significance could sit alongside the Tower, serving the community with cultural and artistic values. The two structures could be tied together with some clever architectural devices, creating a facility with an important point-of-difference. The facility would become a destination in its own right. Cambridge is a 'destination' town and a restored and re-purposed Water Tower would enhance that characteristic.

All of the above is possible over time and, as it would be a community venture, there should be little opposition to carrying this out on the Green Belt. It would also sit alongside other amenities, with shops, medical, childcare, school, aged care and cycle ways very nearby. The precinct has undergone a revival in recent years and this would only enhance and complement that dynamic.

When I think about the far-sightedness of Cambridge's early town fathers and the longevity and usefulness of the structures and facilities they built, I cannot dismiss the Water Tower. In terms of its nobility of purpose and aesthetic values, it sits alongside the Town Hall, the Museum, the High Level Bridge, the Domain, the War Memorial, the Gasworks, St Andrew's and so-on. Much of Cambridge's charm comes from the beauty, retention and utility of these structures and it would be short-sighted in the extreme to lose any one of these through deliberate neglect or demolition and that includes the Water Tower.

Let's follow the example of Oamaru where so many heritage buildings were decaying through ignorance and lack of maintenance which now shine as examples of careful intention, being restored and repurposed. Oamaru celebrates its built environment, it gives the town charm, attraction and a healthy income as a 'destination' town. As far as our Water Tower is concerned, we should be conscience-bound to do likewise.

SPP Submission

First Name

Tayla

Last Name

McHardie

Organisation

Id

487

Full Response

1. *What do you think? Do we have the balance right?*

-

2. *Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?*

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

* Do not cut any library funding

* Cut costs on landscaping by replacing all council owned berms (and other land that is not utilised yet requires maintenance) with self-sustaining, native ecosystems. This can be accomplished with basic permaculture techniques using natives. Once established, these ecosystems will mitigate the need for weeding, spraying, replanting, and mowing. This will also reduce the council's carbon footprint. The resulting attraction of native bird and insect life will also make the city more attractive. Partner with local environmental and permaculture organisations and local iwi who can provide knowledge to install the ecosystems.

* Ensure any new parks, gardened roundabouts, or other planted infrastructure built are as low maintenance as possible by planting self-sustaining, native ecosystems (as point above).

* Increase the fine for environmental offences and broaden the scope of what is considered an environmental offence. For instance, the water quality of the Waikato River is terrible due to nitrate contamination of ground water due to dairying ("pastoral farming"). Thus the dairy industry (Fonterra, not the farmers) should pay for the damage they have caused and what it takes to reverse it. The fine should be addressed to the dairy companies like Fonterra and not the individual farmers, as Fonterra is the driver pushing farmers to produce higher yields and the one profiting off of the pollution of our waterways that is a consequence of those yields. Fonterra should be instructed to fund the installation of riparian buffers for the farms with the threat of further fines if not completed, or if they try to pass the fine on to the farmers.

* Install solar panels, wind turbines or other forms of renewable energy on or it council buildings and on council land. This will reduce the council's energy bill and carbon footprint, and any excess energy can be sold back to the grid. There are a number of innovations that use small turbines to generate energy e.g. between lanes of traffic or within down pipes (powered by running water).

* Enable households and businesses to easily capture their own drinking water. Remove or re-write any council rules that inhibit the easy installation of water capture systems. Grant rate rebates for those that capture their own drinking water. This could be supported by partnering with water capture companies and water filtration companies. This will also reduce the amount of storm water accessing the drains, alleviating strain on our water system.

* Enable households and businesses to capture their own energy e.g. solar, wind, or gas from composted food scraps. Remove or re-write any council rules that

inhibit the easy installation of energy capture systems. Grant rate rebates for those that capture their own energy. This could be supported by partnering with a variety of energy capture companies.

* Require all new developments to capture some of their own energy and water.

* Implement low-cost green infrastructure solutions such as rain gardens, bioswales, and permeable pavement to manage stormwater runoff, improve water quality and recharge groundwater systems. This will alleviate strain on the water system by diverting most stormwater runoff away from the drains, instead utilising it to irrigate council berms, council parks, or community gardens. These projects can also enhance walkability. Encourage new developments to implement these solutions by offering rate rebates and information/resources/company contacts for implementation.

* Create fines for how much water enters drains to encourage households to capture their own water and recycle their grey water.

* Allow residents to plant their berms with any plant, not just grass. Encourage the planting of native self-sufficient ecosystems that reduce resident maintenance and help soak up storm water, preventing the storm water from adding additional strain to council pipes.

* Encourage new developments to separate their grey water and black water so that only the black water goes into the sewage system and the grey water is filtered on site and used as irrigation on site. Using permaculture, the grey water can be further filtered by plants on the property. Consideration will need to be given to mitigate harsh chemicals getting into the irrigation system, either through adequate initial filtration or encouraging residents to switch to low toxicity alternatives (e.g. through partnering with Eco Store or similar).

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Tom
<i>Last Name</i>	Davies
<i>Organisation</i>	Ratepayer
<i>Id</i>	281

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

The balance is reasonably ok. However, as the LTP has been deferred on short notice, so the funding for the isites should also be rolled over until the LTP submissions are being discussed.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Re Cambridge water tower. I am not a Cambridge resident however the cost to all is too much to attempt restoration. What is the estimated cost of earthquake strengthening and reinstating the office space and TA Museum in Roche St? How much money did we get from the Labour Government for 3 Waters? How did we plan to spend this money? How has this been spent? When will the TA to Kihī cycleway be resurfaced (concrete / bitumen)? Proposed / discussed more than a year ago. How much has the Te Ara Rimu cycleway project cost? Kihikihi has received a number of 'gentle' road speed bumps as part of the Te Ara Rimu cycleway project. When will Rewi St and Hazelmere get 'gentle' road speed bumps?

How much longer will the TA to Pirongia Cycleway be paused?

Please update Ahu Ake? When will we see increased investment in the West side of Waipa?

The growth in the two towns continues so isites are even more important now to assist both citizens (especially Māori e.g. Rangiaowhia, Ōrakau, our NZ Wars Commemoration 28 October, Te Ara Wai and the Te Wānanga o Aotearoa) and visitors. The long promised Te Ara Wai Discovery Centre has, once again, been paused! I strongly believe it is much more reasonable if the isites funding was reduced by no more than the 20% reduction as is the Hamilton Waikato Tourism funding.

As the LTP has been deferred on short notice, so the funding for the isites should also be rolled over until the LTP submissions are being presented, accepted and discussed.

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Tom
<i>Last Name</i>	Davies
<i>Organisation</i>	ratepayer
<i>Id</i>	519

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

This submission is in addition to my previous submission. This is mainly about the total withdrawal of funding for the two isites. This balance is not right or reasonable.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

In the Draft Enhanced Annual Plan presentation to Te Awamutu (TA) Business Chamber members and guests on Friday 19 April, there were, in my opinion, two misconceptions voiced by the Deputy Mayor. The first was a statement to the effect that TA isite has known for a long time that WDC funding of the TA isite was to cease. Although we had regular meetings with the WDC Customer and Community Services Group Manager there was no stated or recorded advice that the WDC support for the two isites was likely to be entirely stopped. The TA isite would not have recently invested \$10,000 in upgrading the website if there was even a hint that the entire WDC funding would be stopped at 30 June 2024. The first the TA isite had a hint of this was in a phone call from the Customer and Community Services Group Manager (Sally Sheedy) to the isite manager in December. A lengthy delay ensued before this was followed up with an email. Having stood down from the committee I am not clear if the TA governance committee was advised in writing. However, what is clear is that the isite management and governance committee understood there would be an opportunity to make submissions to the mayor and councillors before the funding proposal was confirmed.

The Draft Enhanced Annual Plan suggests the WDC Councillors have approved the halt to funding the TA isite without the isite management and governance committee being given the courtesy of making a timely submission to mayor and councillors before this action was taken.

The Deputy Mayor also made a statement to the effect that TA isite competes with local business for retail sales. I've been involved with the TA isite for about 20 years and we have always only stocked products that no other retailer in TA stocks. My memory is that on one or perhaps two occasions when a local retailer decided to stock a product the isite had previously stocked, the isite stopped carrying that product / range.

The comment regarding Hamilton isite closing, I found misleading. Yes the isite has closed but when we consider the whole picture we find that the Hamilton isite Team are HCC employees and the isite continues to have a website (Visit Hamilton), phone and email presence with members of the isite Team continuing to offer visitor information, referrals, and assistance through their visitor centre operations at the Waikato Museum, Hamilton Zoo and Hamilton Gardens.

The West side of Waipa and in particular TA has for some years been poorly supported by Hamilton Waikato Tourism (HWT). The isite governance committee's concern about this issue is on record. Given this situation and the above comments I find it particularly disappointing that HWT have maintained funding at 80% while according

to the Draft Enhanced Annual Plan, TA isite will lose all of the WDC support. What is the basis for this proposal?

Yes, as the Deputy Mayor noted she employed Beate Schiller as the isite manager in September 2017. At that time Marcus was chair and Liz secretary of TA Community Public Relations Organisation; the governance committee of the TA isite. It is relevant to note, and on record, that about September 2017 the TA isite chair and secretary expressed full confidence that the isite would become part of WDC in December 2017. That didn't happen; nor did the proposal to house the museum and isite in the Stuart Law / Pitcon building; nor, apparently, did the proposal to operate the isite in association with the museum in the ex-Bunnings building.

As we have paused the museum in the ex-Bunnings building so we should pause the isite at the current funding level until we are clear about the role of the isite in relation to the Bunnings building museum.

Cambridge water tower

As noted previously; I am not a Cambridge resident however the cost to all ratepayers is too much to attempt restoration. I prefer we pause this activity and review as part of the LTP.

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Sharon
<i>Last Name</i>	Stirling
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	555

<i>Full Response</i>	<p>1. <i>What do you think? Do we have the balance right?</i> -</p> <p>2. <i>Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?</i> b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower</p> <p><i>Are there any further comments you would like to make?</i> -</p>
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Draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan

Sharon Stirling

495 Mutu St

Te Awamutu 3800

sharon.stirling@xtra.co.nz

027 280 4010

I wish to speak to Council.

S D Stirling

Submission to Council

Enhanced Annual Plan 2024/2025

Cambridge Water Tower

DO NOT demolish this listed Heritage Structure

I'm hearing from a number of Cambridge people I'm in contact with, that they are about as **unhappy** at the idea of their Historic places being demolished, as we are here in Te Awamutu.

The report you received from BCD in August 2023 offers 3 possible solutions. May I suggest choosing one of the slightly less expensive options to temporarily secure the Water Tower.

Alternatively, I'd like to suggest you fund this full restoration project from asset sales, as you preferred to do 3 years ago, in regard to a variety of unpopular projects you wanted our permission to embark on.

DO NOT demolish this listed Heritage Structure

Have we got the balance right?

Not quite

Please rethink your decision to withdraw all funding to the 2 Information Centres (Te Awamutu and Cambridge). Maybe halve their funding, and encourage them to find other sources of income or cost savings.

Please rethink your funding of Community Board's discretionary funds. These funding rounds help so many smaller community groups, with a myriad of proactive good ideas to keep our communities entertained and enlightened. This is the stuff thriving communities are made of.

The tens of thousands of dollars you are saving by cutting funding to these two sectors is piddly in comparison to your tens or hundreds of millions in glamorous projects, but is the end of the world for many small community groups.

From page 11 of your consultation document – the things you've paused...

Te Ara Wai, Cambridge Library, Te Awamutu – Pirongia cycleway, can all stay on hold until we are in a much better position in regard to rates increases, and borrowing beyond what we will ever repay.

Sports field improvements should be higher priorities as soon as practical, provided they remain under control of the local groups currently leasing them.

Pensioner housing, along with basic standard housing is an ongoing issue. Please find a way to make it easier for developers to build simple affordable houses for ordinary New Zealanders of all ages to live in. We don't all need marble floors and diamond encrusted sink taps.

The things you're pressing on with...

I'm pleased to see some sort of Resource Recovery Centre is underway. And that brings me to the next topic I'd like to say something about...

Refuse (rubbish) collection

Late last year you were workshopping some ideas about rubbish collection. This is a core responsibility of Council, which WaipaDC should never have ceased to perform. I'm disappointed you haven't asked us in this "consultation" for guidance on what we'd like you to do in this "space".

My response to the questions you were planning to ask is, Yes, Council should take responsibility for waste disposal. I would choose the "pay as you throw" wheelie bin option, assuming it will be cheaper than commercial operators who need to make a profit. Please try to achieve economy of scale by being the best price/best service option available.

I imagine you will be taking responsibility for all waste and recycling, and therefore be able to better sort the recyclables and reduce landfill waste. Please continue planning this with a view to implementing ASAP.

A couple of topics I raised 3 years ago...

Mangaohoi and Mangapiko stream erosion control

From my LTP submission 2021:

Repair and restoration of our riverbanks is absolutely vital, and long overdue. I'm mildly excited to examine the **Mangaohoi/Mangapiko: Erosion Control and Amenity Enhancement** project PR 2217, and am pleased to see Anna McElrea's name attached to this project. I have stated on numerous occasions that our riverbanks are a complete disaster, and in urgent need of repair and restoration. I would like to see this project proceed at a slightly faster pace. Please complete reaches 4, 5 & 6 during the first 2 years, reaches 7, 8, 9 & 10 in years 3 & 4. Reaches 1, 2 & 3 could be done in year 5. I'm unable to find the detail of this project as far as retaining existing healthy trees, but surely this will be appropriate.

I'm so disappointed to report that in the 3 years since, nothing has happened, except more erosion, more trees falling into the streams during storms, and more large litter such as fence panels and bicycles have been deposited in our stream. The longer you put this off, the greater the mess to be cleaned up, and the more expensive everything becomes.

Please make the repair and restoration of our streams a greater priority. Thank you.

Climax Engine

From my LTP submission 2021:

*Please attend to the **relocation of the Climax Engine**. I understand talks are underway. This has taken far too long. The people of Te Awamutu need to see our "Train" on display.*

The talks that were underway at the time resulted in a MOU where you promised to continue to try to find a place to display our Climax Engine, but gave yourself an escape clause to give up if it all got too hard. That has been the Modus Operandi of WaipaDC for as long as anyone can remember. That is why this community are becoming increasingly disillusioned with Council.

Please just "get on with it". Thank you.

Nearly there, just a couple of more items to offer you my thoughts...

Heritage Trail

This has been discussed a few times at Community Board meetings, and other places. Please stop procrastinating over this. We don't need to wait another ten years for a multi zillion dollar hundred year project. Please organise something much simpler, and reasonably priced, so local people can have input, and erect a collection of signage around our town, to advise and inform visitors, and newer members of the community, just what we have, and how we got this far. May I suggest a smaller fund offered to both Community Boards, with permission to get this done, along with a contingency fund for annual inspection and repairs, replacements or additions.

It is my view that a lot of the dereliction, damage and erosion of so many of our precious possessions could have been avoided, if newer Council Staff had been educated as to just what it is they were expected to care for. Examples being War Memorial Park, Information Centre, Cambridge Water Tower, Borough Council buildings on Roche st, the list goes on and on.

War Memorial Park

WaipaDC are responsible for the perpetual maintenance of this, our town's War Memorial. I'm pleased to know you are pausing your unwanted demolition and replacement projects for this most sacred place. It would be nice to hear about your routine maintenance budget.

Maybe over the coming year your staff could take some FREE guidance from the community as to the routine maintenance required to keep our property in good order. This would save all of us a lot of money and distress. This brings me to my last topic.

Money making / cost saving schemes

Please develop a habit of taking your first advice from this community. That advice will be freely offered, and is the best advice you will get anywhere. This would enable you to curtail your habit of spending hideous amounts of our money on poor quality advice from “experts” who live and work elsewhere, and have no idea of our requirements.

Take a good hard look at the number of staff who spend their time planning, and re-planning, and re-re-planning all kinds of ideas we don't want or need, which end up not happening anyway. *Mangaohoi/Mangapiko: Erosion Control and Amenity Enhancement* for example. By the time you get around to doing any work, the situation will be so much worse, and you'll have to start again. I'm not demanding you sack anyone straight off, maybe when people leave, don't replace them straight away.

Seriously consider enforcing your own bylaws, eg Dog Control, if you were to impose the fines available on individuals who intentionally let their dogs loose in areas which are not dog exercise areas you would have pots of money available to erect more appropriate signage, install new doggie-do bins, properly fence the dog exercise areas, install seating and plant trees in those areas etc... I wouldn't suggest imposing fines where there has been an accidental escape or malicious release. These situations are already distressing for dog owners.

Save us all a fortune by not putting fluoride in any WaipaDC water supplies.

In conclusion

Please focus on the things that are important to this community. The simple things we need such as clean water, and safe passage to go about our regular business.

Please get the little things right, the first time!

And before you decide to embark on any more multi zillion dollar big city projects, please prove you are able to take proper care of what we already have.

Thank you

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Kira
<i>Last Name</i>	Krieg
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	263

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

No, the cycle paths have been a complete waste of money and have actually caused more hazards than what they were proposed to curb. Would have been cheaper to build a sky bridge for the kids to cross or a tunnel under if it was truly about safety of the kids biking to school. Just a search through the community pages of Te Awamutu, Cambridge, and Kihikihi that show residents frustrations including pictures with descriptions. They are also not feeling heard.

Cost of living is through the roof and yet council seems to be spending frivolously on aesthetic projects, rather than addressing the issues needing addressed; such as actually fixing the reoccurring pot holes, new schools in Te Awamutu area as well as medical facilities, help with police the increasing crime due to poverty. There is an initiative to push us more towards public transport but the state of safety using it is a concern.

The rise of rates increasing is pushing people out of their homes that have lived here for generations, as it is driving rental prices up as well as rates. Due to the cost of living crisis people are choosing between paying their power bills or feeding their children. Meanwhile council wants more money to keep up with the Joneses. Long time residents are being forced to move as they can no longer afford to live in the area. A community is only as strong as their most vulnerable citizens.

Why is there not more of an incentive to preserve our heritage buildings? We are a relatively young country and yet since the 60's in Te Awamutu in particular seems to pull down its heritage. This is including zoning that is ripping out a lot of large orders homes to make way for small compact town houses. Being from overseas I know what problems condescend housing brings. We are in no way set to handle the ramifications this path is taking.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Why would removal be your preferred action?

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Brian
<i>Last Name</i>	Winter
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	287

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Council is making some decisions which are short sighted and appear to making up for mistakes made by Council and staff.

The idea that the policy around 3 Waters suddenly changed in December 2023 without warning is deliberately misleading. With a General Election to be held, it was more than clear that the policy could change. Council should have run an alternative budget incorporating the water infrastructure.

In relation to projects paused and planned, by pausing Te Ara Wai the Council is stalling a great economic opportunity to promote our history through tourism. At the same time Te Ara Rimu is being continued to satisfy a select few yet will provide little return. The museum currently has a temporary home while its old home is being strengthened. What is the purpose of strengthening given Te Ara Wai is the long term plan?

All cycleway projects should be halted, they are a nice to have. Some communities don't want them, and we are imposing what is a primarily urban model on a rural district. We are not Hamilton, nor should we strive to be.

Cutting funding for community projects, cuts community connections. Not only this, it also severs another opportunity for economic return, particularly the decision to reduce funding to Hamilton Waikato Tourism.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

While it would be nice to retain the water tower, there needs to be a discussion on what kind of value maintaining this heritage gives Waipa.

In regards to measuring of outcomes, it is disturbing to read that no measure of the cycleways is taking place given the amount of money council is putting into this.

The target for heritage is quite high and more than the 2 main secondary schools combined. Until there is a co-ordinated strategy for heritage in the wider Waikato, we will struggle to bring in new interest.

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Lorraine
<i>Last Name</i>	Marsh
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	525

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

I support the delay of development of some planned growth cells specifically, if this allows Council to plan for transport corridors before houses are built on greenfield sites. I request that additional funding is provided for technical work (e.g. health and environmental impacts) to determine future transport options including potential bridge locations.

I further request that additional transport modelling is complete before a business case is submitted to Waka Kotahi NZTA*. I support protection and maintenance of our green spaces. This support is subject to clarification on the funding of parks and reserve planned renewals (pg 13). *as per presentation to Cambridge Community Board by Carey Church, 17 April 2024.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

I do not have sufficient information to provide feedback on the tower. I am concerned that the demolition option underestimates the potential costs of consenting and disposal. Cambridge Water Tower is one of two brick towers remaining in NZ. The other is in Invercargill. I suggest Council talk to Invercargill Council and Heritage NZ about seismic strengthening funding options before demolition.

SPP Submission

<i>First Name</i>	Robert
<i>Last Name</i>	McQueen
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	393

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

No, you don't have the balance right. My short and sharp suggestions:

1. Freeze all spending on Cambridge cycleways. Cancel existing partially completed cycleway projects. WDC have been unduly influenced by the cycling lobby.
2. Review the performance and decisions in transportation taken by Dawn Inglis and Bryan Hudson and take steps to correct this going forward.
3. Install traffic lights at the present roundabout at Victoria and Hamilton Road immediately. Plan for replacement of that roundabout with traffic lights and intersection redesign over the next couple of years. Hire the people who designed the Hillcrest Road roundabout/lights redesign in Hamilton which has had amazing results.
4. Refocus on CBD parking improvements and additions, such as angle parking on Lake St.
5. Slash the spend on the bloated communications/spin doctors department, and refocus on collecting ratepayer feedback, and taking note of that feedback.
6. Scrub the rule that councillors cannot express opinions in public on council matters. Councillors should be out there and representing the views they hold, rather than supposedly being biased.
7. Make council debate and decision-making happen during public sessions, not workshops, not "commercially sensitive" off-the-record meetings.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

- a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

SPP Submission

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Jennie
<i>Last Name</i>	Gainsford
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	386

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

On current form the answer must be no. Infrastructure comes first before the nice to have. Point cycleway - necessary in these hard economic times - no. I have lived in Cambridge for 33 years and this has to be the most controversial time. It is at your peril when you do not listen (and mean the majority not 30 or 35) to your community. Councillors and staff work for the community and paid by the community but we are being listening to. It is good to plan for the future but take the community with you and not do things in secret.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

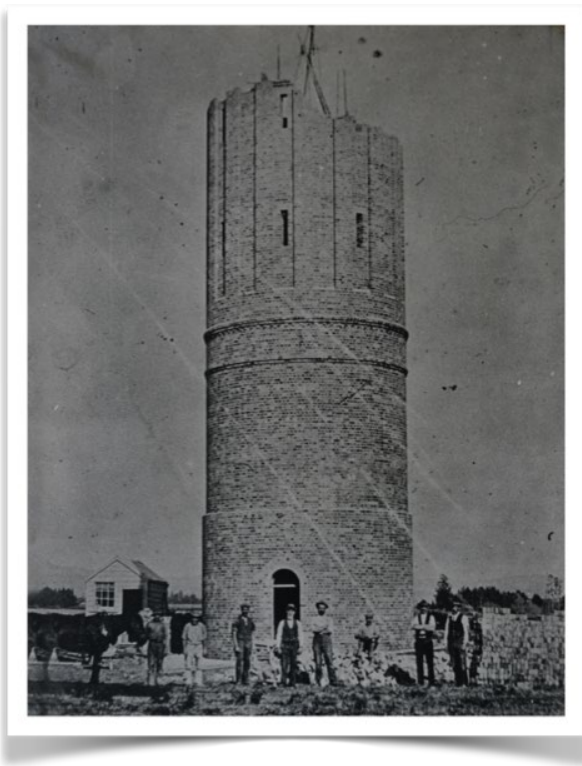
I oppose the demolition of the water tower. Refer attachment.

Cambridge Water Tower

No to Demolition!

The Cambridge Water Tower is a quintessential and important architectural landmark in the town of Cambridge. Protected by Waipa District Council with the highest ranking indicating the importance placed on this structure. Heritage New Zealand also gives an important ranking category 2; the information on the heritage register reflects its importance nationally. All this is clearly defined in the information stated by Heritage NZ.

I am appalled this is even coming up for discussion by the WDC. When I was a member of the WDC Heritage Council there was a definite commitment by the WDC to protect heritage buildings and structures. In the District Plan those selected have protection including the water tower. A considerable amount of effort was made by the WHC members during the selection process to maintain the special character of Cambridge. The WDC through the heritage councils gained a lot of knowledge of the town's history - we were all volunteers with lots of local knowledge.



Water Tower under construction

Contractor: J.J. Holland

Bricklayer: George Russell Fellows

Cost £1077

Robert Morse of Cambridge used a pulley system to lift the bricks up to the bricklayer

The photograph depicts the construction of the tower on the green belt. It clearly shows no buildings on the surrounding land. It was when Resthaven was allowed to build a rest home on the greenbelt and then was later given permission to extend closer to the water tower, issues arose. The tower came first, perhaps Resthaven could remove their cottages that are close to the tower.

I oppose the demolition as do many of my friends. As a ratepayer there seems at present a lot of ratepayer money is/has been wasted on ideological projects.

It appears you have lost the trust of the community when it is your job to listen, consult and pay attention to them - not hide away. Trust is hard won and it may take some time for the community to actually trust what you say in the future.

The Water Tower is an important historical landmark in Cambridge. Protecting our heritage is paramount.

Jennie Gainsford (MARCH)

COMMITTEE REPORT



To: The Chairperson and Members of the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee

From: Manager Strategy

Subject: **Fees and Charges 2024/25 Deliberations and Adoption**

Meeting Date: 20 May 2024

1 PURPOSE - TAKE

The purpose of this report is to enable deliberations and adopt the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25.

2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

The Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 was consulted on from 25 March to 26 April 2024.

Staff have reviewed all feedback from this consultation. A total of 31 submissions were received, including one that was presented virtually during the Fees and Charges 2024/25 hearings held on 20 May.

All submissions received on the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 are attached as Appendix 1 (document number 11224950) to this report. Themes raised and staff responses are detailed in this report. The Committee is now asked to consider all feedback and make decisions in respect of that feedback, before adopting the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25.

3 RECOMMENDATION – TŪTOHU Ā-KAIMAHI

That the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee

- a) **RECEIVES** the report of Melissa Russo, Manager Strategy, titled 'Fees and Charges 2024/25 Deliberations and Adoption' (document number 11219439); and
- b) **CONSIDERS** verbal and written submissions received on the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 (Appendix 1, document number 11224950); and
- c) **APPROVES** amendments to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 as included in the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 – post consultation draft

(Appendix 2, document number 11112185) to incorporate changes as a result of submissions received and staff recommendations as detailed in this report; and

- d) **ADOPTS** the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 (Appendix 2, document number 11112185), to take effect from 1 July 2024; and
- e) **DELEGATES** to the Group Manager Strategy authority to make any final minor editorial amendments to the 'Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25' (Appendix 2, document number 11112185).

4 BACKGROUND – KŌRERO WHAIMĀRAMA

Council's fees and charges are reviewed and updated annually as part of the Annual Plan / Long Term Plan processes.

At the 5 March 2024 Strategic Planning and Policy Committee (the Committee) meeting, elected members supported a 10 per cent increase to most fees and charges. Fees and charges have not had a comprehensive review since 2021 and the average overall increase across all fees and charges is 2 per cent since 2021/22. As fees and charges are not inflation adjusted year-on-year, this would suggest there is a gap between the costs to deliver services and the costs recovered. A more thorough review of fees and charges will be completed alongside the 2025-34 Long Term Plan.

The Committee resolved on 5 March 2024 to adopt the Statement of Proposal for public consultation on the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 (Fees and Charges). Consultation was open between 25 March and 26 April 2024. A total of 31 submissions were received with one submitter requesting to speak to their submission.

Support of proposed fees and charges

(Submissions 217, 219, 220, 231, 236, 556, 557)

Of the 31 submissions received, 7 were in support of the proposed fees. Reasons for support included:

- Fees seem reasonable, in line with general inflation
- Fees should reflect 100% cost recovery
- Supportive of the Traffic Management Plan (TMP) costs
- Although generally supportive of Council fees, request that Council adopt an Alcohol Fees Bylaw which recovers the costs incurred from the licensing activity.

Staff note that an Alcohol Fees Bylaw is currently being developed as part of a separate project.

Opposition to proposed fees and charges

Of the 24 submissions opposing the proposed fees, the following reasons were provided:

Cemetery fees

- Charge for burials seems high (submission 558)
- Culturally insensitive (submissions 228, 557, 558)
- The current difference between ash and casket burials will already drive behaviour change (submission 557)
- Cost of dying should not be expensive (submission 459)

Dog registration fees

- Shouldn't be adding additional financial pressure on people at this time / affordability (submission 457, 461)
- Increase will result in unregistered / abandoned dogs (submissions 457, 459, 460)
- Lead to an increase in pound costs and work for staff (459)
- Increased amount is excessive (submission 456)

Library fees

- Lost book fees need to specify a time limit for when the fees are applied (ideally 3 months). Fees act as an overdue fine with a cap (submission 296)

Traffic fees

- Changes to wording for TMP fees (submission 231)

Food registration fees

- Adds pressure to businesses in a tough economy (submission 228)

Health fees

- Increase health premises fees as these seem low (submission 219)

Mileage fees

- Cost saving measures need to be considered first (submission 221)

General

- No increase in service levels (submission 223, 475)
- Fees do not reflect cost of services delivered (submission 215, 219, 249)
- Adding to higher cost of living / affordability (submission 212, 213, 218, 221, 222, 227, 228, 245, 268, 396, 458, 459, 461)
- Increase is higher than / not in line with inflation (submission 212, 213, 216, 228)
- Stop unnecessary spending on projects (submissions 214, 222, 468, 245)
- Unessential services should be cut to cover the funding shortfall (submission 245)
- Too many staff / after-hours pay (submission 228)
- Stronger focus on noise control (submission 219)
- Make available a gold-card discount on fees (submission 218)

- Privatised services (submission 214)

Staff comments and recommendations in response to public submissions

Noting the average overall increase in fees since 2021/22 is 2 per cent, staff believe the proposed increases are reasonable and are therefore not recommending any significant changes to what was consulted on. However, staff are recommending some minor amendments after consideration of the submissions. These are detailed below and shown in tracked-changes in Appendix 2 to this report (*Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 – post consultation draft document number 11112185*).

Traffic Management Plans

Staff recommend amending the wording for Traffic Management Plans to include the utilities code as suggested in submission 231.

Library fees

Staff recommend updating the wording for the 'Lost book' fee to specify that 'once an item is more than 25 days past its final due date, a lost fee and processing fee will be applied'. This will clarify for the public when such a fee is payable.

The inflationary increase has led to some of the printing/copying fees having a \$0.05 charge. Printing/copying is often requested through our libraries with quite a few customers paying in cash.

Staff accordingly recommend rounding Administration fees to the nearest 10 cents.

Cemetery fees

Staff recommend updating the wording to provide clarifying detail, footnotes and a breakdown of natural burial fees that exist but had not been included in previous Schedules (refer to Appendix 2 for the specific amendments).

Staff recommend revising (reducing) proposed Te Awamutu and Hautapu internment fees so that internment fees are the same for all district cemeteries.

Staff recommend no changes to the proposed fees for casket burials. The fees proposed keep Waipā District Council in line with similar size councils' fees and charges. A capacity study showed that nationally, the percentage of burials to ashes is 30/70, but that split in Waipā is 70/30. As such, Waipā cemeteries are nearing capacity.

Dog registration fees

Staff recommend not amending the dog registration fees for what was proposed through the consultation. Costs associated with the animal control activity of Council increased by 35% from 2021/22, with a marginal increase in the dog registration (and other) fees. It should be noted that the revenue expected to be generated through these fees and charges does not allow for full cost recovery of the activity. Based on the proposed fees, only 52% of the costs associated with this activity is expected to be covered by dog registration (and other) fees. This already sits outside the 60% to 70%

range required by the Revenue and Financing Policy which is a matter that will require addressing in the development of the 2025-34 Long Term Plan.

Note: The 'and other' is for impound fees/penalties etc.

Staff recommend the following amendments, correcting two figures in the 'Urban Fee' section of the dog registration table (penalty rate column), as those figures were rounded down to the nearest dollar. Revise the 'No rebates' fee from \$151.00 to \$151.50 and the 'Neutered Rebate (\$10.00) fee from \$136.00 to \$136.50. Staff also recommend adding back the footnote, 'Replacement registration tags are available for \$3.00 each.', as it had been removed.

5 SIGNIFICANCE & ENGAGEMENT – KAUPAPA WHAI MANA ME NGĀ MATAPAKINGA

Staff have considered the key considerations under the Significance and Engagement Policy, in particular sections 7 and 8 and have assessed that the matters in this report have a medium level of significance. As such, the draft Fees and Charges Schedule was subject to public consultation.

Deliberations are a key part of the consultation process and some of the matters raised through this report may be considered controversial.

6 OPTIONS – NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA

Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
Option 1: Accept staff recommendations and adopt Schedule of Fees and Charges as proposed in Appendix 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff recommendations are based on business and financial data and community feedback. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff recommendations may not fully satisfy all matters raised by the community.
Option 2: Adopt Schedule of Fees and Charges as consulted on	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no opportunity to make further changes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not allow for minor changes to wording and the rounding of fees for clarification and ease of application. Does not allow for feedback received to be incorporated into Fees and Charges

7 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS – HEI WHAIWHAKAARO

Vision and Strategic Priorities

Fees and charges are set in accordance with Council’s Revenue and Financing Policy 2021 and enable Council to continue funding and meeting the levels of service agreed with the community in the Long Term Plan 2021-2031.

Legal and Policy Considerations – Whaiwhakaaro ā-Ture

Staff confirm that the public consideration of all submissions complies with Council’s legal and policy requirements.

Financial Considerations – Whaiwhakaaro ā-Pūtea

The total costs to complete this project have been budgeted for in the current year when the costs have been incurred. No further costs are anticipated.

Risks - Tūraru

There are no known significant risks associated with the decisions required for this matter.

8 NEXT ACTIONS

Action	Responsibility	By When
Public notification of adoption of the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25.	Strategy	June 2024

9 APPENDICES - ĀPITITANGA

No:	Appendix Title
1	Submissions to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 (document number 11224950)
2	Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 (post consultation) (document number 11112185)



Melissa Russo
MANAGER STRATEGY



Reviewed by Kirsty Downey
GROUP MANAGER STRATEGY



Approved By Ken Morris
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE/ GROUP MANAGER BUSINESS SUPPORT



Jolanda Hechter
MANAGER FINANCE

APPENDIX 1

Submissions to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 (document number 11224950)

Submission/Event 558

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
The only item I wish to have my say about is the price of dying!|The charges for plots, and for interment seem exorbitant. Your reason for increasing these prices is about as culturally insensitive as you can get.|From "Fees and Charges statement Proposal" page 135 of Community Board agenda, 24 April 2024. | Cemetery fees: Fees remain the same for ashes but increase for casket burials to|incentivise interment of ashes.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
Please reconsider these fees. Thank you

I have attached additional information
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	33
<i>First Name</i>	Sharon
<i>Last Name</i>	Stirling

Submission/Event: 557

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?

-

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
On balance we support the Draft Schedule of Fees & Charges but would like to see burial fees reduced.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
The document states that it is using the increase in the cost of burial fees to "incentivise" people towards ashes interment. This could be seen as culturally insensitive and potentially force people to make a decision that does not align with their cultural beliefs. However, most people will follow their beliefs and pay, making the increase even more unfair. | | There is such a huge difference between ashes and burial that if cost is an issue for someone it will already be having the desired outcome. | | We appreciate the costs associated with burials are more and that land/space is limited however we feel it is morally wrong to use increasing fees of an option to "incentivise" people, as the reason for an increase. If it is simply a supply and demand issue, then say that. Otherwise, if we need to put fees up for interments then it needs to be consistent across the board. | | We would like to see the increase for the burials removed or that ashes also go up by the same percentage to maintain consistency and cultural sensitivity.

I have attached additional information

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	179
<i>First Name</i>	Ange
<i>Last Name</i>	Holt

Submission/Event: 556

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we support

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges Alcohol Healthwatch supports the review by Waipā District Council of the Fees and Charges Policy, and we note the increase in those alcohol-related fees that are listed in the 2024/25 financial year. | We support a full cost recovery approach for alcohol licensing, as while full cost recovery was envisaged by the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, the fees set under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013 have not kept pace with the costs incurred by Council. This inevitably means that without setting realistic fees the Council (and ratepayers) would be subsidising the costs associated with alcohol licensing.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges We note that while fees are set by set by regulation, the Council has the ability to make a bylaw under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fee-setting Bylaws) Order 2013 and alter these nationally fixed amounts and set fees that reflect the Council’s actual costs as a licensing authority, and in respect of its inspection and enforcement functions. | We support a comprehensive review of all the costs incurred with licensing, not just those listed in the Fees and Charges Policy, which includes costs associated with administration, monitoring and enforcement to ensure that these are met by the sector. | Revising fees in a timely manner would we believe meet the policy objectives of the licensing fees regime, namely: | (a) To recover the total reasonable costs incurred by the Council in administering the alcohol licensing system | (b) To ensure that those who create the greatest need for regulatory effort bear the commensurate costs | (c) To allow local circumstances to be reflected in the fees paid by operators and income received by the Council | (d) To minimise alcohol-related harm, to the extent that this can be achieved through a cost recovery regime. | The alcohol licensing regime and fee-setting is part of a package of measures which, when used comprehensively, can create safer environments and significantly minimise rates of hazardous drinking and subsequently alcohol-related harm. This includes the recently-reviewed Local Alcohol Policy and the Public Places Alcohol Control Bylaw and similar policies. | We further note that under the section 404 of the 2012 Act, the Ministry of Justice is required to undertake a five-year review of alcohol licensing fees and of cost recovery by councils. However, this review is overdue, and we would encourage the Council to advocate to Central Government for a timely review of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013. | In a similar vein, we note that remuneration of District Licensing Committee members is also generally determined by the Ministry of Justice under the Cabinet Fees Framework (CO(22)2). We understand that the current fee for members is set at \$51 per hour or \$78 per hour for the DLC chairperson. We consider that these rates should be reviewed to ensure that a greater pool of applicants may be attracted to undertake this work if remunerated adequately.

I have attached additional information
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
Yes

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	169
<i>First Name</i>	Alcohol Healthwatch
<i>Last Name</i>	Andrew Galloway

Submission/Event: 472

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
I am not in favour of raising any fees or charges or rates at Waipa District Council as the fee/rate payer is seeing less benefit from their fees/rates even though they are increasing. What benefit does the dog owner get from their registration fee? What does the person who applies for building consent get for the money they pay to you? What benefits (other than shoddy road repairs that will need to be re-repaired) do rate payers get from paying their rates? If I pay a fee, I expect a service in return.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
-

I have attached additional information
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
-

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	380
<i>First Name</i>	Simone
<i>Last Name</i>	Hight

Submission/Event: 461

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
Unfortunately the cost of living, petrol, food and all the other increases to insurances, interest rates etc are just compounding challenges for Waipa residents. Your reasoning for increasing fees for a one off regulatory fee NOT a service do not sit well with your residents and are unfair.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
Dog registrations and other regulatory fees should be frozen at this time to avoid placing more financial pressures on residents particularly retired people on limited incomes.

I have attached additional information

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	370
<i>First Name</i>	Megan
<i>Last Name</i>	Frandi

Submission/Event: 460

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
Dog registration increases will only result in more dogs abandoned and left unregistered on the streets. This is definitely not a good solution

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
-

I have attached additional information
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	369
<i>First Name</i>	Felicity
<i>Last Name</i>	Noble

Submission/Event: 459

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges I understand everything else is going up, but if it really nessasary? Charging hundreds to dig a small hole for Ashes to be buried, dying shouldn't be expensive! What about how many people don't register their dog now? do you think they will suddenly want to with this increase?| More dogs will be unregistered, making the pounds jobs harder in trying to get them back to the owners, OR the owners will just leave them at the pound because it's too expensive to pay rego and pound fees, leaving it up to the pound to try rehome, giving them another job to add to their list. Which hasn't been paid for because that dogs owner couldn't post that fine!!

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges Just think about the people of this district. You have already ruined Kihikihi roads, don't ruin others lives for money.

I have attached additional information
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	368
<i>First Name</i>	Dana
<i>Last Name</i>	Kidd

Submission/Event: 458

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
We are in a cost of living crisis and there is just no more money, no matter how far you dig

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
At most a 5% increase seems reasonable

I have attached additional information

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	367
<i>First Name</i>	Brendan
<i>Last Name</i>	Vink

Submission/Event: 457

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
I understand that life is getting more expensive how ever raising dog registrations I personally don't think it is a good idea. I am a shepherd and have a lot of dogs - all registered, this is a cost I know comes with the type of job I have but it is a big cost that comes every year. I wouldn't have a job without my dogs but raising the price makes it more and more difficult. Vet bills are expensive, dog food is expensive. I look after my dogs, they are all well mannered, in good condition and if any have any problems they are straight to the vet. People with pets that are looking after them well and some people with pets that don't make much money but want the best for the pets may struggle with the raise in dog registration making them not register their dogs which a lot of people don't do. For example all my dogs are registered and microchipped most of my money goes on my dogs (not complaining- it's my choice to do this type of work) how ever, a price raise may effect some people's dogs life as it's just another cost that they have to pay which is going up. In conclusion I think the Waipa DC should not raise dog registrations if they want to see more dogs registered as I think less dogs will be registered if the price keeps being raised. ||Note: I understand what the registration fee covers but for some people it's another cost that if you want people to cover should not be raised.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
-

I have attached additional information
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
-

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	366
<i>First Name</i>	Claudia
<i>Last Name</i>	Lyons

Submission/Event: 456

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
I believe the increase in fees, especially dog registration fees, is excessive. I may support a small increase at or below the rate of inflation, but given the ridiculous rates increase, these more nominal amounts could be absorbed within that.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
Zero, or at max the current rate of inflation

I have attached additional information

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	365
<i>First Name</i>	Vicki
<i>Last Name</i>	Fleming

Submission/Event: 396

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
Our cost of living has increased and I am already struggling financially to support myself.
Paying extra taxes will only bring about more depression and hopelessness as we are already
living in a crisis. No Reira,, he aha te mea nui o te Ao....he tangata he tangata he tangata.
What is the most important thing in the world? It is people it is people it is people.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
How do we stop all this craziness that you propose? You need to listen to what the people
want with your heart not your pocket. People are suffering. Me whakarongo!!!

I have attached additional information

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing

-

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	306
<i>First Name</i>	Deanne
<i>Last Name</i>	Paerata

Submission/Event: 296

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
Please see changes we would like to see in next box.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
The CCB acknowledges and applauds the removal of overdue fines in Waipa District Libraries. However we note the continued inclusion of a lost book fee of \$10. In the current Schedule of Fees and Charges there is no specified time limit for when the lost book fee is applied. This implies that the lost book fee will apply only and if the book is indeed, lost ie. the book cannot be recovered. ||Members of the community have encountered a different reality, incurring lost book fees within 25 days of having a book beyond its due date - of note is that this lost book fee stands even after a book is returned. We acknowledge that the replacement book fee is removed when an overdue book is returned, however the lost book fee remains on the users account. This does not make logical sense in relation to a lost-book fee and in fact ends up acting as a 'capped' overdue fine. ||Under the previous overdue fines model of .50c per day, 25 days overdue would equate to \$12.50 in overdue fines. We note that incurring a lost book fee of \$10 at 25 days overdue in reality, is very similar to the previous model of overdue fines. It acts more as an "overdue fine cap" with a 24 day grace period, rather than a true removal of overdue fines. ||We submit that the lost book fee only be applied when a book is unable to be returned due to the fact that it is, indeed lost. Failing this, we would recommend that the timeframe of a lost book fee being applied to a library user be extended to 3 months. ||We understand the need for the library to have tools to encourage return of books in a timely manner and refer to Fine Free Library Aotearoa who quote other options implemented by libraries around the world, such as blocking future issues while books are overdue.

I have attached additional information
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
Yes

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	220
<i>First Name</i>	Elise
<i>Last Name</i>	Badger

Submission/Event: 268

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
The very fragile economy we are living in , people can't afford more to dumped down the drain every week| |WDC is the only business model than can spend what it wants and just past it cost over to the user next year | |Learn to spend within your budget!

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
Better use of the speeding ! There are some absolutely wasteful project under way

I have attached additional information

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	194
<i>First Name</i>	Blake
<i>Last Name</i>	Garrick

Submission/Event: 249

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
You already overcharge for these services. You should charge no more than the actual costs incurred.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
I would like to see charges that reflect costs, for example, you charge \$446 for a minor charge, for a 0.75 hour inspection, and \$688 for minor building works inspection, I doubt your inspectors are paid anything like this. Most tradesmen are charged out at a rate 3x their hourly pay. ||You charge \$450 for a LIM report which constitutes pushing a print key and handing over some paper. Often when a house is on the market, you will charge this fee to multiple people. This could be replaced by a more suitable \$5.00 fee.

I have attached additional information
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	126
<i>First Name</i>	don
<i>Last Name</i>	sanders

Submission/Event: 245

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
I oppose the draft for two main reasons. | 1. The current economic situation and general cost of living situation does not allow for further increases to people cost. | 2. Not until the council has cut all it spending to the essential infrastructure support for the district. I will give some examples of things that are nice to have but not essential- bike paths, beautification project, skateboard parks, signs telling us to drive safe, road lights, and spending at the end of the budget year simply to use all your budget so it is not cut the next year.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
There should be no fee increases and the council should cut all services needed to cover the shortfall that are not essential infrastructure services like road and water.

I have attached additional information

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	176
<i>First Name</i>	Sam
<i>Last Name</i>	Page

Submission/Event: 236

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we support

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
Appear reasonable, changes in line with external factors and general inflation

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
-

I have attached additional information
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	57
<i>First Name</i>	Andrew
<i>Last Name</i>	Richards

Submission/Event: 231

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we support

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
I am only looking at the TMP cost changes, and support that the costs accosted to managing all of these goes up and works increase.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
the last fee on the TMP section says, "failure to return site to pre-existing conditions as per the TMP" but should say as per the "utilities code" or maybe even as per the local government act.

I have attached additional information
https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/117

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

Id | 164
First Name | Jessie-James
Last Name | Mount

Submission Attachment

Late Completion of Works or failure to return sites to pre-existing conditions as per TMP	\$405.00	\$445.00
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Submission/Event: 228

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
Inflation is only 7% why are rates going up 14%. | There are too many staff in council and they get paid to do their job, why do they need more to do what they are paid for? After-hours is their choice and we should not pay if they do after-hours.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
Keep rates as they are. | The cost of living is affecting everyone, rates increase gets passed on to tenants, and this can cause homelessness and the closure of businesses. | Don't increase charges to be buried in a casket, this is a personal choice and has always been. | Some cultures require burial in a casket not, cremation. | Registration of Premises under the Food Act 2014: should not go up as this will negatively impact businesses that are already finding it hard with the cost of living and the impending rates rise.

I have attached additional information

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	161
<i>First Name</i>	Tania
<i>Last Name</i>	Cochrane

Submission/Event: 227

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
We are in a cost of living crisis - spend the money more wisely instead of constantly increasing everything!

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
-

I have attached additional information
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	160
<i>First Name</i>	Emma
<i>Last Name</i>	Clark

Submission/Event: 223

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
I don't see why a self efficient property needs to pay all the additional charges. I think it's unfair to charge a blanket 10% to everyone. | We are on tank water, smart effluent, we maintain our own driveways and outside section, rubbish gets collected once a fortnight, to be brutally honest I think it's way too expensive and paying Waikato Region on top! | Just ridiculous !

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
Puketaha unchanged

I have attached additional information
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
-

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	78
<i>First Name</i>	Desire
<i>Last Name</i>	Grobbelaar

Submission/Event: 222

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges Rates are getting very hard to pay as my wife Deborah doesn't work and I'm the only one paying the rates, My elderly mother-in-law Judith Ann Murray owns the back part of the property and I know financially she is only just surviving as well

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
A clear indication what they are for, Earning small wages means we have a tight budget, Money must be spent wisely by the council and issues thought through carefully, And any money spent must be used to get our town and community going in the right direction

I have attached additional information

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing

-

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	156
<i>First Name</i>	Timothy
<i>Last Name</i>	Smith

Submission/Event: 221

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
As we are in a cost of living crisis nation wide, increases like these come at a bad time. Milage being the main point where a move to hybrid or EV are present within councils, this comes across in poor taste.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
Milage charge to remain the same. Review of price increases to see whether cost savings can be made first before increases are implemented

I have attached additional information

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	45
<i>First Name</i>	TeUira
<i>Last Name</i>	Barton

Submission/Event: 220

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we support

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
-

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
-

I have attached additional information
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	155
<i>First Name</i>	Kathleen
<i>Last Name</i>	Bell

Submission/Event: 219

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we support

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
100% of cost/ fee should be recovered from business rather than rate payers.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
Fee for health premises sounds very low should be higher and there should be more focus on
noise control. | Getting a simple resource or building consent costing couple of thousands is
just too much for a simple application

I have attached additional information

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	154
<i>First Name</i>	Anonymous
<i>Last Name</i>	Anonymous

Submission/Event: 218

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
Everyone is having a really hard time at present, especially we elderly. Can you ease up or at least discount with the gold card ? | Surely the amount of elderly with a dog are in the minority and we get nothing for registration except a little piece of plastic.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
I prefer nothing to change.

I have attached additional information

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing

-

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	153
<i>First Name</i>	Barbara
<i>Last Name</i>	Keesing

Submission/Event: 217

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we support

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
The fees seem reasonable and understandable.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges

-

I have attached additional information

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing

No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	152
<i>First Name</i>	Joseph
<i>Last Name</i>	Poultney

Submission/Event: 216

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
To review every year there needs to be a formula or it be pegged against something. Picking 10% as a number is not good enough. The increase should only be the same as the inflation rate for that year. Some of the reasons given in the introductory blurb are weak at best. To improve an organisation one needs to improve systems within a budgetary framework.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
As above

I have attached additional information

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing

-

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	151
<i>First Name</i>	Jill
<i>Last Name</i>	Lunn

Submission/Event: 215

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
Fees are already far to high for the services provided

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
A drop in annual council rates. It costs me \$72/week. | For me that is far too expensive for
the quality of services provided

I have attached additional information
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	150
<i>First Name</i>	Shaye
<i>Last Name</i>	Clark

Submission/Event: 214

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges Council is pursuing projects that shouldn't be the responsibly of the council to pursue. I feel like the council should have to produce the true balance sheet so the public can see exactly how their money is being spent. If people could see the project costs and how much money is being allocated to these projects they would be amazed. The council should do more to reduce costs.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
Privatise some if not all of the services the council has responsibly over so they can be run on a for profit basis with the council simply overseeing operations. If the services were run at a for profit model then more would be done to reduce unnecessary spending. Please remember you are using other peoples money, not your own money.

I have attached additional information
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	149
<i>First Name</i>	Jonathan
<i>Last Name</i>	Ellis

Submission/Event: 213

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
I don't think any of the costs detailed in the proposal justify such a massive increase.
Furthermore, the CPI for the last year wasn't even close to 10%

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
-

I have attached additional information
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	148
<i>First Name</i>	Mariano
<i>Last Name</i>	Castellon

Submission/Event: 212

Full Response

Do you support or oppose the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges?
I/we oppose

The reasons for my/our support or opposition of the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges CPI & Superannuation increase is only in the region of 4.66 - 5%. You cannot justify an increase in fees of 10%.

I would like to see the following changes to the Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges
Fees & charges should increase by no more than 5%.

I have attached additional information
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing
No

Stakeholder

<i>Id</i>	147
<i>First Name</i>	Patricia
<i>Last Name</i>	Towers

APPENDIX 2

Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 (post consultation) (document number 11112185)

Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25

Post consultation

May 2024

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Administration fees

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Fee for issuing a refund for an overpayment in rates and/or user fees and charges	\$23.00	\$25.30
Printing / copying		
Scanning – per page	\$1.00 for first page, then \$0.50 for each additional page to a maximum charge of \$10.00	\$1.10 for first page, then \$0.55 <u>\$0.60</u> for each additional page to a maximum charge of \$10.00
Single sided – per page A4 (black and white)	\$0.40	\$0.50
Double sided – A4 (black and white)	\$0.80	\$0.90
A4 – per page/side (colour)	\$1.00	\$1.10
Double sided (colour)	\$2.00	\$2.20
A3 – per page (black and white)	\$1.50	\$1.65 <u>\$1.70</u>
A3 - double sided (black and white)	\$1.50	\$1.65 <u>\$1.70</u>
A3 – per page (colour)	\$2.00	\$2.20
A3 - double sided (colour)	\$4.00	\$4.40

Building control fees

	Project Category	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25	
No mileage charged for these categories	1 Solid Fuel Heater	\$456.75	\$502.43	
	2 Minor Works (1 inspection hour) Plumbing or drainage – External Drainage only Insulation Garden shed (10m ² to 20m ²) Solar heating panels	\$503.50	\$553.85	
		Project Information Memorandum (PIM)	\$130.00	\$143.00
		3 Minor Building Work (1.5 inspection hours) Carports Demolition (any building size) Swimming pool/Spa pool fence only (swimming pool exempt under schedule 1) Decks/pergolas Shade-sails/archgolas Effluent tanks Fence/signage Retaining walls Marquee inspection (over 100m ² floor area)	\$798.50	\$877.90

Project Category		Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
4	Project Information Memorandum (PIM)	\$185.00	\$203.50
	Other Buildings (2 inspection hours) Garages Hay barns Implement sheds Swimming pool/spa pool Conservatories	\$863.50	\$949.85
	Project Information Memorandum (PIM)	\$185.00	\$203.50
5	Detached habitable buildings – up to 30m ² no plumbing or drainage, e.g. sleep out, office, studio. (2 inspection hours) Alterations and additions up to 30m ² – no plumbing or drainage Cowshed extensions	\$1025.00	\$1127.50
	Project Information Memorandum (PIM)	\$253.00	\$278.30
6	Detached habitable buildings Up to 30m ² with plumbing and drainage, e.g. sleep out with toilet and shower. (4 inspection hours) Alterations and additions up to 30m ² with plumbing or drainage	\$1655.00	\$1820.50
	Project Information Memorandum (PIM)	\$253.00	\$278.30
7	Alterations and additions up to 60m ² (5 inspection hours) Other new buildings up to 60m ² , e.g. industrial workshop, commercial office (excludes dwellings). <i>Note: for work over 60m², dwelling or commercial/industrial fees apply</i>	\$2061.75	\$2267.90
	Project Information Memorandum (PIM)	\$253.00	\$278.30
8	Dairy sheds (5 inspection hours)	\$2155.00	\$2370.50
	Project Information Memorandum (PIM)	\$253.00	\$278.30
9	Re-sited dwellings (6 inspection hours)	\$2601.50	\$2861.65
	Project Information Memorandum (PIM)	\$350.00	\$385.00
10	Dwelling single storey – up to 100m ² (8 inspection hours)	\$3138.00	\$3451.80
	Project Information Memorandum (PIM)	\$350.00	\$385.00
11	Dwelling single storey – up to 250m ² (9 inspection hours)	\$3588.00	\$3946.80
	Project Information Memorandum (PIM)	\$350.00	\$385.00
12	Dwelling single storey – in excess of 250m ² (10 inspection hours)	\$4038.00	\$4738.80
	Project Information Memorandum (PIM)	\$350.00	\$385.00
13	Multi-unit dwelling single storey - first unit as per fees above. Plus per unit charge after 1 st unit	\$1170.00 + \$180 per Inspection charge	\$1287.00 +\$198 per Inspection charge
14	Dwelling two storey or more – up to 250m ² (10 inspection hours)	\$4308.00	\$4441.80
	Project Information Memorandum (PIM)	\$350.00	\$385.00
15	Dwelling two storey or more – in excess of 250m ² (11	\$4848.00	\$5332.80

	Project Category	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
	inspection hours)		
	Project Information Memorandum (PIM)	\$350.00	\$385.00
16	Multi-unit dwelling two storey or more - first unit as per fees above. Plus, per unit charge after 1st unit	\$1440.00 +\$180 per Inspection charge	\$1584.00 +\$198 per Inspection charge
17	Small commercial/industrial – up to 300m ² (8 inspection hours)	\$3948.00	\$4342.80
	Project Information Memorandum (PIM)	\$470.00	\$517.00
18	Commercial/industrial – in excess of 300m ²	\$180.00 per hour	Actual staff time
	Project Information Memorandum (PIM)	\$630.00	\$693.00
19	Transportable Build (partnership fee)	\$2030.00	\$2233.00

Building consent

Description		Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
BRANZ	For every consent with an estimated value of \$20000 and over	\$1.00 per \$1000	\$1.00 per \$1000
MBIE	For every consent with an estimated value of \$20444 and over	\$1.75 per \$1000	\$1.75 per \$1000
Inspections	Additional inspections when a client requests an inspection but project was not ready, inspection was not covered by the standard fee.	\$180.00	\$190.00
Secondhand building	Inspection of secondhand building to be relocated in the District: Additional travel costs of \$0.95 per km apply to inspections outside the District	\$519.00	\$570.90
Travel costs	Applies to inspections in excess of 5km from the office where the consent was issued.	\$0.83 per km	\$0.95 per km
Section 77	Certificate for construction over two or more allotments (Section 77 Building Act 2004)	\$260.00	\$286.00
	Internal process by council staff Council's solicitor to prepare notice	At cost	At cost
Section 73	Notice when building on land subject to a natural hazard (Section 73 Building Act 2004)	\$260.00	\$286.00
	Internal process by council staff Council's solicitor to prepare notice	At cost	At cost
Certificate of Acceptance	Applications for Certificate of Acceptance (Section 97 Building Act 2004). In addition to the fees that would have been payable had the owner or previous owner applied for a building consent before carrying out the building work.	\$180.00 per hour plus BC fees	Actual staff time plus BC fees

Description		Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Certificate for Public Use	Applications for Certificate for Public Use (Sections 363A and 363B Building Act 2004)	\$550.00	\$605.00
Certificate for Public Use (CPU) extension of time	Applications for Certificate for Public Use extensions (Sections 363A and 363B Building Act 2004)	\$180.00	\$185.00
Building Consent Exemption	Exemption from requirement to obtain a building consent under Schedule 1 clause 2	\$180.00 + officers hourly rate	\$190.00 + Actual staff time
Compliance Schedules	New compliance schedules (Section 111 Building Act 2004)	\$360.00	\$396.00
	Amendments to existing compliance schedule (Sections 106 and 107 Building Act 2004)	\$180.00	\$185.00
BWOF	Building Warrant of Fitness (BWOF) audit inspections (Section 111 Building Act 2004)	\$180.00 per hour	Actual staff time
Variations	Applications for variations to a Building Consent (Section 45 Building Act 2004)	\$150.00 + \$180.00 per hour processing time	\$165.00 + \$190.00 per hour processing time
Peer review	Peer review of specific designs by external agents, e.g. Structural Engineer, Fire Engineer, Lift Engineer, Mechanical Engineer	Cost plus 5% handling fee	Cost plus 5% handling fee
Pool inspection	First inspection	\$108.00	\$108.00
	Subsequent inspections	\$60.00	\$60.00
Waivers or modifications	Applications for waivers or modifications in relation to means of restricting access to residential pools (Section 67A Building Act 2004)	\$780.00	\$780.00
Extension of time requests	Application to extend time for which a building consent is valid - Fee covers application only, processing time will be charged separately at the applicable hourly rate.	\$180.00	\$185.00
Amusement device permits	For one device, for the first seven days	\$11.50	\$11.50
	For each additional device operated by the same owner for the first 7 days	\$2.30	\$2.30
	For each device for each further period of seven days. Section 11 Amusement Device Regulations 1978. These fees are set by the Regulations	\$1.15	\$1.15
Exemption to carry out seismic work	Process application for exemption from requirement to carry out seismic work on a building subject to an earthquake-prone building notice. (Section 133AN Building Act 2004)	\$519.00	\$570.00
Building Consent Checks	Check building consents for planning compliance under the Resource Management Act	\$100 fixed	\$110 fixed

Notes:

1. Fees are to be paid in full.
2. All references herein to Section and Schedule matters are to the Sections and Schedules of the Building Act 2004 unless otherwise specified.
3. Should any particular job significantly exceed the stated fee, an additional charge will be payable.
4. Where external expertise is necessary in processing building consents, the charge for those services will be passed onto the applicant.
5. This scale of fees does not include a structural checking fee.
6. Fees for project categories 1, 2 and 3 are to be paid in full on application. For all other categories paid on granting of consent.
7. Marquees over 100m² floor area require a building consent, and therefore require inspection. Marquees of less than 100m² floor area may be inspected at the erector's request; the same fee will apply.
8. Building consent exemptions can be applied for in respect of marquees that have been professionally erected.
9. Travel costs of \$0.95 per km will apply to categories 4 – 15, where the project is located in excess of 5kms from the nearest Council office.
10. "Actual staff time" is charged at the rate in the Council Professional Fees section.
11. Building Consent fees include the cost of the Code Compliance Certificate.
12. Project Information Memorandum fees are payable in full on application.
13. Council is required to collect fees on behalf of others:
 - a. **Building Research Association Levy**
 - i. For every building consent with an estimated value of \$20000 and over, \$1.00 per \$1000 is payable.
 - b. **Building Levy**
 - i. For every building consent with an estimated value of \$20444 and over, \$1.75 per \$1000 is payable.

Cambridge council meeting room charges

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24		Fees & charges 2024/25	
	Profitable Organisation / Private Function	Non-Profit Organisation	Profitable Organisation / Private Function	Non-Profit Organisation
Bond (payable when booking is outside business hours)	\$255.00	\$102.00	\$285.00	\$112.00
Removal/reinstatement of furniture by Council staff (optional)	\$102.00	\$102.00	\$112.00	\$112.00
Half day or less				
Whole facility	\$90.00	\$60.00	\$99.00	\$66.00
Committee room (per room)	\$45.00	\$30.00	\$49.00	\$33.00
Meeting room (per room)	\$40.00	\$25.00	\$44.00	\$27.00
Kitchen	\$25.00	\$10.00	\$27.00	\$11.00
Full day – 8.00am to 5.00pm				
Whole facility	\$175.00	\$115.00	\$192.00	\$126.00
Committee room (per room)	\$80.00	\$50.00	\$88.00	\$55.00
Meeting room (per room)	\$70.00	\$40.00	\$77.00	\$44.00
Kitchen	\$50.00	\$20.00	\$55.00	\$22.00
Night – 5.00pm onwards				

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24		Fees & charges 2024/25	
	Profitable Organisation / Private Function	Non-Profit Organisation	Profitable Organisation / Private Function	Non-Profit Organisation
Whole facility	\$90.00	\$60.00	\$99.00	\$66.00
Committee room (per room)	\$45.00	\$30.00	\$49.00	\$33.00
Meeting room (per room)	\$40.00	\$25.00	\$44.00	\$27.00
Kitchen	\$25.00	\$10.00	\$27.00	\$11.00
Day and night – 8.00am to late at night				
Whole facility	\$220.00	\$132.00	\$242.00	\$145.00
Committee room (per room)	\$107.00	\$56.00	\$117.00	\$61.00
Meeting room (per room)	\$40.00	\$30.00	\$44.00	\$33.00
Kitchen	\$35.00	\$20.00	\$38.00	\$22.00
Weekend – Friday 5.00pm to Sunday 10.00pm				
Whole facility	\$325.00	\$215.00	\$357.00	\$236.00
Committee room (per room)	\$170.00	\$90.00	\$187.00	\$99.00
Meeting room (per room)	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$55.00	\$33.00
Kitchen	\$50.00	\$40.00	\$55.00	\$44.00
Security token (replacement or lost)	\$50.00		\$55.00	
Furniture damage	Whole bond (minimum) or cost		Whole bond (minimum) or cost	
Extraction carpet clean	\$160.00		\$176.00	
Damage to facility	Whole bond (minimum) or cost		Whole bond (minimum) or cost	
Call out fee for insecure building	\$170.00	\$170.00	\$187.00	\$187.00
Cleaning and re-stocking toilet consumables (for bookings longer than 1 consecutive day)	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$55.00	\$55.00

Cambridge Town Hall

Fees and charges for Cambridge Town Hall room hire are no longer set or administered by Waipā District Council. They are now the responsibility of the Cambridge Town Hall Trust.

External lighting of the Cambridge Town Hall façade and Cambridge Clock Tower remain the responsibility of Waipā District Council. The lighting of both can be changed as part of community events.

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Event lighting changes: Cambridge Town Hall façade only	\$250.00	\$275.00
Event lighting changes: Cambridge Clock Tower only	\$250.00	\$275.00
Event lighting changes: combined Town Hall façade and Clock Tower	\$500.00	\$550.00

Cemetery fees

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Interments		
Te Awamutu casket (Burial) interment	\$1050.00	\$1260 1155.00
Hautapu casket (Burial) interment	\$1050.00	\$1260 1155.00
All other casket (Burial) interment	\$1050.00	\$1155.00
Stillborn	\$88.00	\$88.00
Children under nine	\$146.00	\$146.00
Ashes	\$116.00	\$116.00
After hours extra fees (see note 4) After 2:00pm Monday – Friday. After 12:00 noon Weekends / Public Holidays. Before 10.00am Monday or the day after a public holiday. <i>All interments in the Waipā District Council will be double depth (2.27m) unless stated</i>	\$150.00 + any additional hours	\$180.00 +any additional hours per additional hour
Disinterment/Reinterment		
Within 12 months	At cost	At cost
After 12 months	At cost	At cost
Ashes	At cost	At cost
Reopening fee	At cost (+ Interment fees)	At cost (+ Interment fees)
Plot purchase (including maintenance)		
Te Awamutu adult plot	\$2109.00	\$2530.00
Hautapu adult plot	\$2109.00	\$2530.00
Adult plots (all other cemeteries)	\$2109.00	\$2320.00
Children's plots (aged under nine years)	\$554.00	\$554.00
Ashes <i>(This fee does not include a plaque – the plaque shall be supplied by the applicant and shall be of such dimensions to fit on a standard berm)</i>	\$500.00	\$500.00
RSA (see note 5)	No charge	No charge
Surcharge on reserved plots	\$167.00	\$167.00
Natural burial		
Natural burial plot	\$1948.00	\$2143.00
Natural burial interment	\$1050.00	\$1155.00
Eco ashes plot	\$500.00	\$500.00
Eco ashes interment	\$116.00	\$116.00
Add 50% to all costs for persons that have lived less than five years within Waipā District during their lifetime		
Memorial installation		
Permit processing fee	\$50.00	\$55.00

Notes:

1. All internments in the Waipā District Council will be double depth (2.27m) unless stated.
2. Plot fees do not include a memorial – upon approval by Council, a plaque or headstone shall be supplied and installed through a qualified mason. This is the responsibility of the applicant and shall be of such maximum dimensions as stated in our guidelines.
3. Add 50% to all costs for persons that have lived less than five years within Waipā District during their lifetime.
4. Internments outside these hours are accepted at the discretion of council.
5. While no fee is charged for an RSA plot, standard council interment fees apply.

Council professional fees

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Manager (any)	\$245.00/hr	\$258.00/hr
Team Leader (any)	\$230.00/hr	\$243.00/hr
Principal Policy Advisor		
Consultant Engineer		
Senior Planner	\$216.00/hr	\$228.00/hr
Senior Policy Advisor		
Senior Engineer		
Project Planner		
Biodiversity Planner/Ecologist		
Principal or Senior Building Inspector or Processor		
Development Contributions Officer		
Senior Environmental Health Officer	\$200.00/hr	\$211.00/hr
Intermediate Engineer		
Intermediate Planner	\$194.00/hr	\$205.00/hr
Planner		
Policy Advisor		
Reserves Planner		
Engineer		
Environmental Health Officer		
Building Inspector/ Processor (Compliance Officer)		
Senior Enforcement Officer	\$156.00/hr	\$165.00/hr
Property Advisor	\$151.00/hr	\$159.00/hr
Graduate Planner		
Graduate Policy Advisor		
Duty Planner		
Graduate Engineer		
Technical Officer		
Monitoring and Enforcement Officer		
Other Staff	N/A	
Senior Technical Administrative Officer		
Development Contributions Officer		
Building Support and Quality Officer		
Governance Officer	\$105.00/hr	\$110.00/hr
Administrative Officer		

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Technical Administrative Officer	\$105.00/hr	\$110.00/hr
Mileage	\$0.83/km	\$0.95/km
Disbursements	At cost as charged to Council by the provider	At cost as charged to Council by the provider

Development contribution fees

Description of service	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Development Agreement preparation and negotiation Development Contribution pre-application estimates and advice	Actual staff time	Actual staff time
Development contributions objections	All actual and reasonable costs in accordance with section 150A of the Local Government Act 2002	All actual and reasonable costs in accordance with section 150A of the Local Government Act 2002

Notes:

1. Development contributions are not actual fees, but are contributions paid towards the costs of infrastructure development. For more information on Development Contributions, please refer to the Development Contributions Policy: <https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/our-services/planning-and-resource-consents/development-contributions>

Dog registration and impounding fees

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24		Fees & charges 2024/25	
	Standard if paid by 31 July 2023	including 50% penalty if paid on or after 1 August 2023	Standard if paid by 31 July 2024	including 50% penalty if paid on or after 1 August 2024
Urban Fee (for full year):				
No rebates	\$92.00	\$138.00	\$101.00	\$151.00
Neutered Rebate (\$10.00)	\$82.00	\$123.00	\$91.00	50
Fencing Rebate (\$15.00)	\$77.00	\$115.50	\$86.00	0
Fencing and Neutered Rebates (\$25.00)	\$67.00	\$100.50	\$76.00	\$136.00
				50
				0
				\$129.00
				\$114.00

Rural Fee (for full year)	\$53.00	\$79.50	\$58.00	\$87.00
Out of District Fee (for impounded dogs only)	\$53.00	\$79.50	\$58.00	\$87.00

Notes:

1. Dog registration fees are due by 30 June 2024, and must be paid by 31 July 2024.
2. The above fees are prescribed and apply to all dogs over the age of 3 months.
3. A penalty will apply for late payment each year, from 1 August, the applicable fee will increase by 50% as provided for in the Dog Control Act 1996.
4. The penalty does not apply within 14 days of acquiring a dog, or within 14 days of the dog attaining three months of age.
5. No fee is payable in respect to certified assistance dogs provided re-registration is completed by the due date, after which the standard fees apply.
6. Registration fees for dogs re-homed by Council, or dogs in the care of any registered charity organisation approved by the Animal Control Team Leader for subsequent rehoming, may be waived.
7. Urban and rural areas for the purpose of dog registration fees are shown on Council maps and may be subject to adjustment.
8. A pro-rata rate will apply to any puppy aged less than 3 months after the penalty date, based on the number of complete months remaining in the registration year.
9. To receive the fencing rebate, an application must be made to Council prior to 1 April and the property must be inspected by an Animal Control Officer and approved as suitable for the type of dog. Applications received after 1 April may be processed but rebate will not apply until the following registration year.
10. To receive the neutered dog rebate, a veterinary certificate must be provided at the time of, or prior to, registration.
11. Dogs classified as dangerous pursuant to the Dog Control Act 1996 will pay an additional 50% of the usual fee that would apply to that dog if it was not classified.
12. Any owner entitled to a refund of a registration fee may choose to donate that fee to Council for use in rehoming activities, or a welfare organisation approved by the Animal Control Team Leader.
13. Application forms are available from Council offices or application may be made online at www.waipādc.govt.nz

Definitions

14. "Property" means a property or a collection of properties under common occupancy or ownership, and in a single record of title.

Impounding fees for dogs

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Fee for seizure/custody or first impounding	\$75.00	\$82.00
Fee for each subsequent impounding within the current registration year	\$100.00	\$100.00
Fee for micro chipping	\$28.00	\$30.00
Sustenance (per day)	\$10.00	\$11.00
Sundry Items (when available)		
Slip Leads/Clip Leads - 3/8 inch width	\$18.00	Actual cost
Slip Leads/Clip Leads - ½ inch width	\$20.00	
Doggy Doo Bags – x4 rolls (12 bags per roll)	\$3.00	Actual cost

Notes:

15. *The destruction or disposal fee for any unwanted/unclaimed/surrendered/ impounded dog is \$55.00 plus applicable sustenance fees.*
16. *The owner of an impounded dog that is not claimed or signed over to Council remains liable for all impounding and sustenance fees irrespective of the fate of the dog.*
17. *Micro chipping is to be booked and paid in advance and will occur at times and locations specified by Council. Other arrangements may incur additional fees.*

Kerbside recycling service

Recycling bin

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
240L Mixed Recycling Wheelie Bin	\$79.00 per bin	\$86.00 per bin
140L Glass Only Wheelie Bin	\$68.50	\$75.00
Partial charge for new rated properties	Full months of rating year remaining ÷ annual charge	Full months of rating year remaining ÷ annual charge
Administration Fee (where the annual recycling rate is not levied)	\$33.50	\$36.80

Any replacement wheelie bins needed because of customer damage or loss will be charged at the fee indicated above.

Notes:

1. *The cost of the bins is included in rates if they're paid by 1 July. Where a new property has been rated for the service after 1 July, they will be required to pay a partial charge for the recycling service. The partial charge is based on the remaining full months in the rateable year divided by the current annual kerbside recycling targeted rate.*
2. *In all other cases the bins will charged at the fee indicated above.*

Library fees

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Annual library subscription for non-resident patron (per family)	\$70.00 (plus item charges)	\$77.00
Monthly library subscription for non-resident patrons (per family) <i>Applies only to months when library services are used.</i>	\$6.00 (plus item charges)	\$6.60
Rest Homes/Private Hospitals annual subscription (<i>alternatively residents may opt to pay charges on each item borrowed</i>)	\$105.00	\$105.00

Description	Loan Period	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
New adult book fee – adult books up to 2 years old (determined by original copyright date) *	21 days	\$1.50	\$1.50
Adult books over 2 years old*	21 days	\$0.00	\$0.00

Description	Loan Period	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Magazines (excluding children's and teens magazines) up to 1 year old	7 days	\$1.00	\$1.00
Magazines (excluding children's and teens magazines) over 1 year old	7 days	\$0.50	\$0.50
Children's and teenage books	21 days	No charge	No charge
Children's and teenage magazines	7 days	No charge	No charge
Audio books (for non-print disabled patrons) <i>Print disabled patrons entitled to free use of audio books on presentation of suitable proof</i>	21 days	\$2.00	\$2.00
Jigsaw puzzles	21 days	\$1.00	\$1.00
Children's jigsaw puzzles	21 days	\$0.50	\$0.50
DVDs	7 days	\$2.50	\$2.50
E-audio book fee	21 days	\$2.00	\$2.00
Renewals	Same charge as original issuing of item		

Services	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Replacement library card	\$3.00	\$3.00
Internal reserves (Waipā Libraries) – adult items	\$1.50	\$1.50
Internal reserves (Waipā libraries) – children's / teen items	\$1.00	\$1.00
Interloan requests (from other libraries)	\$8.00 to \$25.00	\$8.00 to \$25.00
Sale books	Prices as marked	Prices as marked
Library bags	\$2.50	\$2.50
Internet access (public computers) – per 30 minutes or part thereof	\$0.00	\$0.00
Book covering service	\$5.00-\$10.00	\$5.00 to \$10.00
Event costs	As advertised	As advertised
Laminating – A4 – per page	\$2.00	\$2.00
Laminating – A3 – per page	\$4.00	\$4.00

Note:

1. For all photocopying / printing / scanning fees please refer to the "Administration fees" section.

Overdue charges	2023/24	2024/25
Adult books (two days grace)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Magazines (one day grace)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Audio books (two days grace)	\$0.00	\$0.00

Overdue charges	2023/24	2024/25
DVDs (one day grace)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lost and/or damaged materials notice. Once an item is more than 25 days past its final due date, a lost fee and processing fee will be applied.	Account for cost of items plus \$10.00 processing charge	Account for cost of items plus \$10.00 processing charge

Library community space (Te Awamutu)

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24		Fees & charges 2024/25	
	Commercial Use or Private Hire	Event or Community Use	Commercial Use or Private Hire	Event or Community Use
Bond (payable when booking is outside business hours)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Deposit payable on booking	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Community room and adjacent kitchen				
Full day hire (maximum 12 hour use)	\$325.00	\$175.00	\$357.50	\$175.00
Half day hire (maximum 4 hour use)	\$215.00	\$110.00	\$236.50	\$110.00
Sundry charges associated with use of complex				
Security token (replacement or lost)		\$50.00		\$55.00
Client preparation or pack down time before or after booking (if available)		\$18.00 per hour flat rate		\$19.80 per hour flat rate
Furniture damage		Whole bond (minimum) or cost		Cost of replacement
Extraction carpet clean		\$160.00		\$176.00
Damage to facility		Whole bond (minimum) or cost		Cost of replacement
Call out fee for insecure building		\$170.00		\$187.00
Cleaning and re-stocking toilet consumables (for bookings longer than 1 consecutive day)		\$50.00		\$55.00

Mapping/GIS charges

Map prints and photo maps

Existing Maps Printed By Council Staff – colour print	Paper Size	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Includes: Street/Ward maps District maps Recycling/Refuse maps Non-aerial and aerial photo maps any custom map prepared by GIS staff	A4	\$1.00	\$1.10
	A3	\$2.00	\$2.20
	A2	\$10.00	\$11.00
	A1	\$17.50	\$19.30
	A0	\$30.00	\$33.00
Additional charge where labour is 30 minutes or more		\$78.00 per hour or part thereof	\$85.80 per hour or part thereof
Maps for Emergency Services (Police, Fire & Ambulance), schools and students (using maps as part of their study): Maps Labour (30 minutes or more)		Free \$40.00 per hour or part thereof	Free \$44.00 per hour or part thereof

Maps - Produced from INTRAMAPS – colour print	Paper Size	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Any map produced directly from INTRAMAPS	A4	\$1.00	\$1.10
	A3	\$2.00	\$2.20

Unprocessed aerial photography digital data	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
High Resolution Aerial Imagery Tile (georeferenced TIFF)	\$68.00 each	\$75.00 each
Medium Resolution Aerial Imagery Tile (georeferenced TIFF)		
High Resolution Aerial Imagery for individual locations of Cambridge/Karapiro, Te Awamutu/Mystery Creek, Te Miro, Ohaupo, Pirongia, Waipā SE or Waipā West (georeferenced ECW)		
High Resolution Aerial Imagery for complete Waipā District (georeferenced ECW)	\$135.00 each	\$150.00 each
Any Aerial Imagery produced by GIS staff (georeferenced ECW, JPEG or TIFF)	Actual staff time	Actual staff time
Collation of digital data and writing to media (no charge for organisations undertaking work on behalf of Council)	\$78.00 per hour or part thereof	\$85.80 per hour or part thereof

Note:

1. All maps are available in either paper or digital formats. Digital format refers to Adobe PDF or JPEG images of the maps.

Mighty River Domain – Lake Karāpiro – Room Hire

Sir Don Rowlands Centre	Fees & charges 2023/24		Fees & charges 2024/25	
	Corporate or Private Function	Event or Community Use*	Corporate or Private Function	Event or Community Use*
Booking deposit	Payable on request		Payable on request	
Bond	Payable on request		Payable on request	
Main Hall (includes car parking and Main Kitchen, if required)				
Full day hire (maximum 12 hour use)	\$1670.00	\$915.00	\$1837.00	\$1006.00
Main Kitchen (if Main Hall is not hired)				
Full day hire (maximum 12 hour use)	\$255.00	\$247.00	\$280.00	\$271.00
Half day hire (maximum 4 hour use)	\$190.00	\$185.00	\$209.00	\$203.00
Foyer and/or Servery (stand-alone hire)				
Full day hire (maximum 12 hour use)	\$170.00	\$117.00	\$187.00	\$128.00
Ground level Event/Conference Room (Waipā Room)				
Full day hire (maximum 12 hour use)	\$363.00	\$157.00	\$399.00	\$172.00
Half day hire (maximum 4 hour use)	\$133.00	\$92.00	\$146.00	\$101.00
First floor Event/Conference Room and adjacent kitchen (Karāpiro Room)				
Full day hire (maximum 12 hour use)	\$520.00	\$274.00	\$572.00	\$301.00
Half day hire (maximum 4 hour use)	\$244.00	\$156.00	\$268.00	\$171.00
Kitchen – stand-alone hire (maximum 12 hour use)	\$173.00		\$190.00	
Te Manawa O Matariki Room				
Full day hire (maximum 12 hour use)	\$458.00	\$268.00	\$503.00	\$294.00
Half day hire (maximum 4 hour use)	\$239.00	\$143.00	\$262.00	\$157.00
Sundry charges associated with use of complex				
Access to facility for set up etc. prior to hireage period	By negotiation		By negotiation	
Staff assistance with event organisation/ venue set up	Quotation prepared on request		Quotation prepared on request	
Hireage of additional furniture/equipment	Quotation prepared on request		Quotation prepared on request	

Sir Don Rowlands Centre	Fees & charges 2023/24		Fees & charges 2024/25	
	Corporate or Private Function	Event or Community Use*	Corporate or Private Function	Event or Community Use*
Stage & Lectern hire	\$132.00		\$145.00	
Post hire clean-up (if required – per staff member per hour)	\$27.00		\$30.00	
Scissor Lift – equipment hire only (up to 6 hours use)	\$132.00		\$225.00	
Scissor Lift – operator hire (per hour, minimum 1 hour charge)	\$39.00		\$42.00	
Carpet deep clean (if required)	Full cost to be passed onto complex user		Full cost to be passed onto complex user	
Internet service during hire period	Full cost to be passed onto complex user		Full cost to be passed onto complex user	
Repair or replacement of damaged/lost equipment	Full cost to be passed onto complex user		Full cost to be passed onto complex user	
Repair of damage to facility	Full cost to be passed onto complex user		Full cost to be passed onto complex user	
Security call out (if required)	Full cost to be passed onto complex user		Full cost to be passed onto complex user	
Replacement of key/access card	Full cost to be passed onto complex user		Full cost to be passed onto complex user	
Security staff attendance at function	Full cost to be passed onto complex user		Full cost to be passed onto complex user	

Perry Community Water Sports Centre, Home of the Cambridge Yacht Club	Fees & charges 2023/24		Fees & charges 2024/25	
	Corporate or Private Function	Event or Community Use*	Corporate or Private Function	Event or Community Use*
Booking deposit	Payable on request		Payable on request	
Bond	Payable on request		Payable on request	
Full day hire (maximum 12 hour use)	\$394.00	\$196.00	\$433.00	\$215.00
Half day hire (maximum 4 hour use)	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$220.00	\$110.00
Sundry charges associated with use of complex				
Access to facility for set up etc. prior to hireage period	By negotiation		By negotiations	
Staff assistance with event organisation/venue set up	Quotation prepared on request		Quotation prepared on request	
Hireage of additional furniture/equipment	Quotation prepared on request		Quotation prepared on request	
Post hire clean-up (if required – per staff member per hour)	\$27.00		\$30.00	

Internet service during hire period	Full cost to be passed onto complex user	Full cost to be passed onto complex user
Carpet deep clean (if required)	Full cost to be passed onto complex user	Full cost to be passed onto complex user
Repair or replacement of damaged/lost equipment	Full cost to be passed onto complex user	Full cost to be passed onto complex user
Repair of damage to facility	Full cost to be passed onto complex user	Full cost to be passed onto complex user
Security call out (if required)	Full cost to be passed onto complex user	Full cost to be passed onto complex user
Replacement of key/access card	Full cost to be passed onto complex user	Full cost to be passed onto complex user
Security staff attendance at function	Full cost to be passed onto complex user	Full cost to be passed onto complex user

Notes:

1. Facility users are required to complete a hire contract prior to using the facility. Bookings are accepted and/or prioritised as stipulated in the 'hire protocols' for the site.
2. 'Event or Community Use' charges apply to event hosts who are using the site for an event and have hired one or more zones and not for profit community organisations that are based and operate in the Waipā District. Out of District not-for-profit community organisations may apply to receive 'Event or Community Use' hire rates. The merit of such applications will be considered on a case by case basis.

Mighty River Domain – Lake Karāpiro – Accommodation and camping charges

Accommodation and Camping charges	Fees & Charges 2023/24	Fees & Charges 2024/25
Camping		
Non-Power Site		
Adult (per night)	\$20.00	\$22.00
Child (12 and under per night)	\$17.00	\$19.00
Minimum site charge per night (1 Nov – 30 April)	\$60.00	\$66.00
Deposit (per site)	Full charge for first night and 50% charge for each subsequent night	Full charge for first night and 50% charge for each subsequent night
Powered Site		
Adult – per night	\$22.00	\$24.00
Child – (12 and under per night)	\$17.00	\$19.00
Minimum charge per site per night (1 Nov – 30 April)	\$66.00	\$72.00
Deposit (per site)	Full charge for first night and 50% charge for each subsequent night	Full charge for first night and 50% charge for each subsequent night
Rob Waddell Lodge		
Adult – per night	\$33.00	\$35.00

Accommodation and Camping charges	Fees & Charges 2023/24	Fees & Charges 2024/25
Child (12 and under) – per night	\$27.00	\$29.00
Minimum charge per night (non-event)	\$330.00	\$350.00
Minimum charge per night (event)	\$924.00	\$980.00
Deposit for Lodge	Full charge for first night and 50% charge for each subsequent night	Full charge for first night and 50% charge for each subsequent night
Full day use of Lodge (to 5pm)	\$330.00	\$350.00
Late check-out/half day use of Lodge (to 1pm)	\$170.00	\$190.00
Chalets 1-5		
Adult – per night	\$33.00	\$35.00
Child (12 and under) – per night	\$27.00	\$29.00
Minimum charge (non-event) – per Chalet, per night	\$99.00	\$105.00
Minimum charge (event) – per Chalet, per night	\$198.00	\$210.00
Deposit (per Chalet)	Full charge for first night and 50% charge for each subsequent night	Full charge for first night and 50% charge for each subsequent night
Late check-out (per Chalet)	\$98.00	\$105.00
Sundry charges		
Internet service during hire period	Full cost to be passed onto accommodation user	Full cost to be passed onto accommodation user
BBQ hire (per use) (preference given to accommodation users)	\$27.00	\$35.00
Power adapter hire (per day)	\$14.00	\$16.00
On-site caravan storage (per day) (not connected to power)	\$9.00	\$10.00
Non Resident dump station charge	\$6.00	\$8.00
Use of shower (per shower) (preference given to accommodation users)	\$6.00	\$8.00
Repair or replacement of damaged/lost equipment	Full cost to be passed onto accommodation user	Full cost to be passed onto accommodation user
Repair of damage to facility	Full cost to be passed onto accommodation user	Full cost to be passed onto accommodation user
Replacement of key/access card	Full cost to be passed onto accommodation user	Full cost to be passed onto accommodation user

Note:

1. Bookings are accepted and/or prioritised as stipulated in the 'hire protocols' for the site. Cancellation of bookings later than 45 days prior to booked dates will forfeit the deposit. 10.00am check out applies.
2. Fees were last updated in the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2020/21.

Mighty River Domain – Lake Karāpiro – Domain & Lake Use charges

Domain and Lake use	Fees & Charges 2023/24				Fees & Charges 2024/25			
	Local/ Small	Regional/ Medium	North Island/ Large	National/ Very Large	Local/ Small	Regional/ Medium	North Island/ Large	National/ Very Large
Lake								
Lake water Zones 3 – 10	\$85.00	\$167.00	\$250.50	\$335.50	\$94.00	\$184.00	\$275.50	\$370.00
Additional Zones (each)	\$85.00	\$85.00	\$85.00	\$85.00	\$94.00	\$94.00	\$94.00	\$94.00
Domain								
Main spectator ground	\$433.00	\$865.00	\$1297.00	\$1730.00	\$477.00	\$952.00	\$1426.00	\$1903.00
Main parking area	\$185.00	\$464.00	\$692.00	\$920.00	\$203.50	\$510.40	\$761.00	\$1012.00
Parking area near sand court	\$185.00	\$368.00	\$551.00	\$735.00	\$203.50	\$510.50	\$761.00	\$1012.00
Lower camping ground (charge for use other than camping)	\$185.00	\$464.00	\$692.00	\$920.00	\$203.50	\$510.50	\$761.00	\$1012.00
Upper camping ground (charge for use other than camping)	\$185.00	\$464.00	\$692.00	\$920.00	\$203.50	\$510.50	\$761.00	\$1012.00
Lawn beside Rob Waddell Lodge	\$185.00	\$464.00	\$692.00	\$920.00	\$203.50	\$510.50	\$761.00	\$1012.00
Event booking fee								
Standard charge for all bookings – per event	\$169.00				\$185.00			

Non-Event Domain use	Fees & Charges 2023/24		Fees & Charges 2024/25	
	Commercial Use/Private Hire	Community Use*	Commercial Use/Private Hire	Community Use*
Groups of 20 – 49 people	\$170.00	\$64.00	\$187.00	\$70.00
Groups of 50 – 149 people	\$323.00	\$323.00	\$355.00	\$355.00
Groups of 150+ people	\$441.00	\$441.00	\$485.00	\$485.00

Other Charges	Fees & Charges 2023/24	Fees & Charges 2024/25
Power supply use and associated refuse collection (from food vendors)		
Per connection, per day/night– 10% discount applies when user requires two or more connections at once		
32 Amp connection	\$100.00	\$100.00
16 Amp connection	\$60.00	\$60.00
10 Amp connection	\$35.00	\$35.00
Water use		
Continuous hose supply, per day (maximum 12 hour use)	\$35.00	\$40.00
Traffic management boards (per day)		
Small events (0-600 people on site)	\$40.00	\$180.00
Large events (600-6000 people on site)	\$225.00	\$400.00
Traffic management set up cost	\$107.00	\$150.00
Post event site clean-up (if required)		
Per staff member, per hour	\$27.00	\$35.00
Rubbish disposal above the maximum threshold (refer the Mighty River Domain Event Management Guide), per 3m ³ skip	\$54.00	\$120.00
Repair or replacement of damaged/lost equipment	Full cost to be passed onto site user	Full cost to be passed onto site user
Repair of damage to facility	Full cost to be passed onto site user	Full cost to be passed onto site user
Staff assistance with event organisation	Quotation prepared on basis of necessary staff skills and hours involved	Quotation prepared on basis of necessary staff skills and hours involved
Outdoor pursuits		
Challenge ropes courses (high & low)	Quotation prepared for all events on basis of instructors' hours and equipment levy	Quotation prepared for all events on basis of instructors' hours and equipment levy
Team building, orienteering, raft building		

Other Charges	Fees & Charges 2023/24	Fees & Charges 2024/25
Internet service during hire period	Full cost to be passed onto site user	Full cost to be passed onto site user
Security staff attendance at event	Full cost to be passed onto site user	Full cost to be passed onto site user

Notes:

1. Bookings are accepted and/or prioritised as stipulated in the 'hire protocols' for the site.
2. *'Community Use' charge applies to not-for-profit community organisations that are based and operate in the Waipa District.
3. 'Local/Small' events are those predominantly attended by local residents, involving up to 500 persons on the site for the event in one day.
4. 'Regional/Medium' events are those predominantly attended by residents from within the Waikato region, involving between 500 and 2000 persons on the site for the event in one day.
5. 'North Island/Large' events are those predominantly attended by residents from within the North Island, involving between 2000 and 5000 persons on the site for the event in one day.
6. 'National/Very Large' events are those predominantly attended by NZ residents, involving more than 5000 persons on the site for the event in one day.
7. Fees were last updated in the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2020/21.

Museum fees (Te Awamutu)

Description	Fees & charges 2024/25	Fees & charges 2024/25
Minimum fee for public programmes	\$2.00	\$2.00
Self-research	No charge	No charge
Research Service time including searching, retrieval, reproduction, distribution and replacement material – no charge for the first 15 minutes.	\$25.00 per half hour	\$27.50 per half hour
Charges additional to research time as above		
Digital images (per image) <i>Charges are dependent on factors such as image format, quality and delivery</i>	\$10.00-\$40.00	\$10.00-\$40.00
Publication Fees (local history and education publications)		\$15.00 per image + \$22.00 for half hour of staff
Publication Fees (NZ Rights)	\$50.00-\$250.00 + \$20 per half hour for staff	\$50.00-\$250.00 + \$22.00 per half hour for staff
Publication Fees (World Rights)	\$50.00-\$200.00 + \$20 per half hour for staff	\$50.00-\$500.00 + \$22.00 per half hour for staff

Description	Fees & charges 2024/25	Fees & charges 2024/25
Photographic prints <i>Charges are dependent on factors such as image format, quality and delivery</i>	\$5.00 - \$40.00	\$5.00 - \$40.00

Note:

1. For all other photocopying / printing / scanning fees please refer to the "Administration fees" section.

Enriched Local Curriculum (ELC) (fees set within MoE contract)

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Education Entry Rate for students	\$3.00 per student	\$3.00 per student
Accompanying Adult for Education programme	No charge	No charge
Cancellation Fee – charged to the school if programme is cancelled less than 2 days prior to booking without just cause	\$20.00	\$20.00

Official Information Requests (LGOIMA)

In line with the Local Government and Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA), Council is required to make available certain public or personal information which it holds.

The Act also makes provision for Council to make a charge for this information, but the charge must be reasonable and is for the cost of labour and materials involved in making the information available. If the request is urgent then the Council may have to use additional resources to gather the information promptly and the Act permits Council to charge for these extra resources.

The Council will advise the applicant of the likely charges, if any, before it commences with the request and will give the applicant the opportunity to decide whether or not to proceed with the request. In such cases, the Council may require that the whole or part of the charge be paid in advance before commencing to process the request.

The following charges and procedures for the provision of official information are approved by Government and endorsed by the office of the Ombudsman.

Existing charges to remain

There are currently areas where access to official information is given free of charge or pursuant to an existing charging arrangement.

Fixing the amount of charge

The amount of charge will be determined by:

- Establishing whether or not the request is made by an identifiable natural person seeking access to any personal information about that person.

- Such requests are **not** subject to any change.
- The aggregate amount of staff time exceeding one hour spent in actioning the request.
- This will include search and retrieval of information, the provision of transcripts and the supervision of access.
- The number of pages of A4 sized of foolscap photocopy to be provided exceeding 20.
- For any other cost, the amount actually incurred in responding to the request.
- This will cover the provision of copies of video, audio and film tapes, computer time or other situations where a direct charge is incurred.

Where repeated requests are made in respect of a common subject over intervals of up to eight weeks, the Council will aggregate these requests for charging purposes. This means that the second and subsequent requests will not be subject to half an hour of free time and 20 free standard A4 photocopies.

The charge should represent a reasonable fee for access given. It may include time spent:

- In searching an index to establish the location of the information.
- In locating (physically) and extracting the information from the place where it is held.
- In reading and reviewing the information.
- In supervising the access to the information.

The charge should **not** include any allowance for:

- Locating and retrieving information which is not where it ought to be; or
- Time spent deciding whether or not access should be allowed and in what form.

Where the free threshold is only exceeded by a small margin it is a matter of discretion whether any fee should be paid and, if so, how much.

Staff time

Time spent by staff searching for relevant material, abstracting and collating, copying, transcribing and supervising access where the total time is in **excess of one hour** should be charged out as follows:

- An initial charge of \$38.00 for the first chargeable half hour or part thereof; and
- Then \$38.00 for each additional half hour or part thereof.

The rate of charge applies irrespective of the seniority or grading of the officer who deals with the request.

Time spent in deciding whether or not to approve access and in what form should **not** be charged.

Photocopying

Photocopying on standard A4 or foolscap paper should be charged out as follows:

- No charge 0 to 20 pages.
- After the first 20 pages, printing costs will be charged as per the administration fees outline in this Schedule.

Actual costs

- All other charges incurred should be fixed at an amount, which recovers the actual costs involved.
- Producing a document by the use of a computer or other like equipment.
- Reproducing a film, video or audio recording.
- Arranging for the applicant to hear or view an audio or visual recording.
- Providing a copy of any map, plan or other document larger than A4 or foolscap size.

Remission of charges

The liability to pay any charge may be modified or waived at the discretion of the department or organisation receiving the request under delegated authority. Full or partial remissions may be considered. Any request for remissions must be made in writing and must include:

- the requester details
- the legal status of the requester (e.g. individual, incorporated society, company, charitable trust etc)
- the reasons for the request
- the amount of remission that is requested.

Such decisions should have regard to the circumstances of each request. However, it would be appropriate to consider inter alia:

- Whether payment might cause the applicant financial hardship.
- Whether remission or reduction of the charge would facilitate enhanced relations with the public or assist the Council or applicant organisation in its work.
- Whether remission or reduction of the charge would be in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding or of effective participation in the operations or activities of local government, and the disclosure of the information is not primarily in the commercial or private interest of the requester.
- Whether the applicant has formal charitable status under the Charities Act 2005, or otherwise provides a recognised service to the community.
- Is the use of the information, activity or service likely to make a significant contribution to operations and activities of local government?
- Is the use of information, activity or service likely to improve or enhance the understanding of the subject by the public at large as opposed to the individual understanding of the requester or a narrow segment of interested people?
- Is the information relating to the charge meaningful or informative about operations and activities of government that have a direct connection to the reason for the request?
- Is the information relating to the charge already in the public domain in either the same or similar form, which the requester could acquire without substantial cost?
- Is the public at large the primary beneficiary of the expenditure of public funds or is it the requester or a narrow segment of interested people?
- Are there elements of the charges that will have a public benefit and/or is there a public/private benefit split that could be attributed to the charges?
- Is the information, activity or service primarily in the commercial or private interest of the requester rather than the public interest? While it might appear on initial consideration that requests for information, for say, research purposes or to write a book or to have available in a

library, might be considered in the 'public interest' and answer some of the criteria; this may not necessarily be so. There should still be reasonable evidence to show that the wider public benefit will accrue as a result of the research, or book or library depository. In the case of the media however, it can be reasonably assumed that they do have access to means of public dissemination. Each request should be considered on a case-by-case basis in light of all relevant information.

Members of Parliament may be exempted from charge for official information provided for their own use. In exercising this discretion, it would be appropriate whether remission of charges would be consistent with the need to provide more open access to official information for Members of Parliament in terms of the **reasonable** exercise of their democratic responsibilities.

Deposits

A deposit may be required where the charge is likely to exceed \$90.00 or where some assurance of payment is required to avoid waste of resources. A deposit may only be requested after a decision has been made to make the information available.

The applicant should be notified of the amount of deposit required, the method of calculating the charge and the likely final amount to be paid. Work on the request may be suspended pending receipt of the deposit.

The unused portion of any deposit should be refunded forthwith to the applicant together with a statement detailing how the balance was expended.

Review of decisions on charges

Section 27(1)(b) of the Official Information Act 1982 provides that the Ombudsman may investigate and review any decision on the charge to be paid in respect of a request for access to official information.

A record should be kept of all costs incurred. Wherever a liability to pay is incurred the applicant should be notified of the method of calculating the charge and this fact noted on the record.

Overweight permit fees

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Single Overweight Permit fee (5 day processing) - per application	\$140.00	\$140.00
Single Overweight Permit fee (24 hour processing) - per application	\$165.00	\$165.00
Overweight Permit fee (24 month period) - per application	\$235.00	\$235.00

Note:

1. Charged in accordance with the *Waka Kotahi Overweight Permit Manual*.

Permits under Waipā District Public Places Bylaw 2023 and Public Places Alcohol Control Bylaw 2015

Mobile traders

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Fee - New application	\$160.00	\$175.00
Annual Permit fee	\$320.00	\$350.00
Site assessment fee	\$160.00	\$175.00
Temporary (up to three months)	\$320.00	\$350.00

Notes:

1. Definition of **Mobile Trader** – means any person who in a public place (a) solicits for orders; or (b) offers, distributes, or sells any goods or services by foot or from any vehicle or stall or part thereof.
2. The annual permit fee is applicable to any individual or business issued with a permit to trade from a public place (new application or renewal). New applications will also incur the new application fee due to the extra administration involved.
3. The application fee is required to be paid at the time the application is submitted. The authorised council officer has discretion to determine if a full refund or partial refund is applicable in the event that the application is declined.
4. The site assessment fee is charged by actual staff time. It applies to assessment of requested trading sites for new permit applications or inquiries (annual or temporary) and for changes to existing permit locations.
5. The above fees only cover permission to trade from a public place. Traders applying to sell food and beverages may also require a food registration permit under the Food Hygiene Regulations 1974 (see Registration of Premises section).
6. Organisers of markets or large events may, under the bylaw, apply for a single permit to cover all participating mobile traders. All participating traders must be listed on the permit and must adhere to the terms and conditions of that permit. Participating traders are not required to hold individual mobile trading permits in addition to the event permit.

Café tables and chairs and displays of goods for sale

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Fee – new permit application	\$257.00	\$283.00
Annual fee – permit renewal	\$85.00	\$93.00
Annual occupation fee – per 1m ² occupied	\$23.00	\$25.00

Signs in public places

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Fee – new permit application	\$257.00	\$283.00
Annual fee – permit renewal	\$85.00	\$93.00

Dispensations under Waipā Public Places Alcohol Control Bylaw 2015

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Charge for dispensations	\$85.00	\$90.00

Property file information

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Simple property file (in electronic media form)	\$30.00	\$33.00
Property file viewed at counter	\$30.00	\$33.00
Complex property file (in electronic media form) e.g. business or industrial establishment	\$60.00	\$66.00
Material cost e.g. USB	\$27.00	\$30.00
Postage of e-link e.g. USB to NZ address	\$5.00	\$5.50
Property file administration e.g. scanning, printing, postage etc	Charges may apply as per the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 section earlier in this schedule	Charges may apply as per the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 section earlier in this schedule

Property and lease charges

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Lease and License charges		
Annual administration fee for Community Leases	\$357.00	\$392.00
Renewal of commercial lease/s Council owned land	\$306.00 administrative charge plus reimbursement of Council's legal expenses, DoC fees and Resource Consent Application fees (where applicable)	\$336.00 administrative charge plus reimbursement of Council's legal expenses, DoC fees and Resource Consent Application fees (where applicable)

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
New lease/assignment or licence to occupy Council land	\$612.00 administrative charge plus reimbursement of Council's legal expenses, DoC fees and Resource Consent Application fees (where applicable)	\$673.00 administrative charge plus reimbursement of Council's legal expenses, DoC fees and Resource Consent Application fees (where applicable)
Charges related to temporary occupation of Reserve Land (including Road Reserve)		
Commercial use	\$255.00 per day (12 hours maximum) or \$125.00 per half day (4 hours maximum) plus \$550.00 deposit (refundable if reserve left undamaged)	\$280.00 per day (12 hours maximum) or \$137.00 per half day (4 hours maximum) plus \$605.00 deposit (refundable if reserve left undamaged)
Community group	No charge	No charge
Property services		
First ½ hour spent on enquiry/request	No charge	No charge
Subsequent time spent on enquiry	Minimum charge of \$76.50 per ½ hour (\$153.00 per hour). Actual and reasonable costs will be calculated on a case by case basis and reimbursement of Council's legal expenses, DoC fees and Resource Consent Application fees (where applicable)	Minimum charge of \$83.00 per ½ hour (\$168.00 per hour). Actual and reasonable costs will be calculated on a case by case basis and reimbursement of Council's legal expenses, DoC fees and Resource Consent Application fees (where applicable)

Registration of Premises (Food/Health)

Food Act 2014 – Food Control Plans and National Programmes

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Fees applicable to all registration types		
All administration and verification activities including pre-registration assistance, annual audit, reporting, non-conformance visits and any activity not specified in the schedule below for operators based in the Waipā District.	\$168.00 per hour plus \$0.83 per km	Actual staff time plus \$0.95 per km
All administration and verification activities including pre-registration assistance, annual audit, reporting, non-conformance visits and any activity not specified in the schedule below for operators based outside the Waipā District.	\$224.00 per hour plus \$0.83 per km	\$228.00 per hour plus \$0.95 per km
Cancellation of scheduled verification within 24 hours or key personnel not available for the verification.	\$168.00	\$185.00
Fees applicable to Food Control Plans		

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Application for registration of template Food Control Plan	\$418.00 plus hourly rate after the first hour	\$440.00 plus Actual staff time after the first hour
Application for renewal of registration of template Food Control Plan	\$326.00 plus hourly rate after the first hour	\$336.00 plus Actual staff time after the first hour
Application for a significant amendment [section 45(3)] of registration of template Food Control Plan, or move from Food Control Plan to National Programme during registration year	\$168.00 plus hourly rate after the first hour	\$170.00 plus Actual staff time after the first hour
Application for a minor amendment [section 45(2)] of registration of template Food Control Plan,	\$76.00 plus hourly rate after the first hour	\$80.00 plus hourly rate after the first hour
Voluntary suspension of food control plan	\$87.00 plus hourly rate after the first hour	\$95.00 plus hourly rate after the first hour
Fees applicable to National Programs		
Application for registration of National Program	\$418.00 plus hourly rate after the first hour	\$428.00 plus Actual staff time after the first hour
Application for renewal of registration of National Program	\$326.00 plus hourly rate after the first hour	\$336.00 plus Actual staff time after the first hour
Application for significant amendment [Section 81] of registration of National Program or move from National Program to Food Control Plan during the registration year.	\$168.00 plus hourly rate after the first hour	\$170.00 plus Actual staff time after the first hour
Voluntary suspension of National Program	\$88.00 plus hourly rate after the first hour	\$88.00 plus Actual staff time after the first hour
Issue of improvement notice, or review of an improvement notice	\$168.00 plus hourly rate after the first hour	\$185.00 plus Actual staff time after the first hour
Exercising any power referenced by and for the purposes expressed in Section 298 of the Act (except for Sections 302 and 303), which results in a sanction(s) being imposed by the Food Safety Officer or some form of corrective action being required of the operator.	\$168.00 plus hourly rate after the first hour	\$185.00 plus Actual staff time after the first hour
Application for statement of compliance	\$168.00 plus hourly rate after the first hour	\$185.00 Actual staff time after the first hour
Copies of Food Control Plan folder and documents	\$30.00	\$30.00

“Actual staff time” means the applicable hourly rate as specified in the Council Professional Fees Section.

Temporary food premises in Waipā District

Holders of Food Control Plans (FCP) or National Programs (NP) registered with their home authority will be permitted to trade at events or locations in the Waipā District provided the mobile / off site retail activity is included in that FCP/NP. Any tasks related to these will be charged as per Food Act 2014 fees above. Such traders will require separate Public Places Bylaw approval where appropriate.

Registrations under Health Act 1956

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Renewal Offensive trades (Health Act 1956)	\$144.00	\$168.00
New Offensive trades (Health Act 1956)	-	\$252.00
Renewal Camping grounds (Camping Ground Regulations 1985)	\$144.00	\$168.00
New Camping grounds (Camping Ground Regulations 1985)	-	\$252.00
Renewal Hairdressers (Health (Hairdressers) Regulations 1980)	\$144.00	\$168.00
New Hairdressers (Health (Hairdressers) Regulations 1980)	-	\$252.00
Renewal Funeral Directors/Mortuaries (Health (Burial) Regulations 1946)	\$144.00	\$168.00
New Funeral Directors/Mortuaries (Health (Burial) Regulations 1946)	-	\$252.00
Change of occupier/owner – All registration groups	\$85.00	\$90.00
Replacements or copies of certificates	\$50.00	\$55.00
Hourly rate (for additional inspections etc)		\$168.00

Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Request for excerpts of sale of alcohol database (section 66(2))	\$50.00 as per regulation	\$50.00 as per regulation
Applications for waiver pursuant to section 208 of the Act (Deducted from licence application fee)	\$50.00	\$60.00

Other fees and charges

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Pre-purchase inspections and/or reports	\$168.00 per hour plus \$0.83 per km	\$185.00 per hour plus \$0.95 per km
Pre-application meetings and consultation (food or sale of alcohol)	\$168.00 per hour	\$185.00 per hour

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
General inspection fee where not stated above (e.g. swimming pools, housing)	\$168.00 per hour plus \$0.83 per km	\$185.00 per hour plus \$0.95 per km
Information requests other than the above	As per official information request charges	As per official information request charges
Replacements or copies of certificates (Food, Health, Alcohol etc)	\$50.00	\$55.00

Regulatory – Other fees and charges

Type	Description		Fees & charges 2024/25
Land Information Memorandum (LIM) pursuant to LGOIMA			
Urgent (5 working days)			
Properties Zoned Residential, Rural, Deferred Residential	Prepare and issue LIM	\$485.00	\$533.00
Non Urgent (10 working days)			
Properties zoned Residential, Rural, Deferred Residential	Prepare and issue LIM	\$336.00	\$370.00
All other Zones in District Plan not listed above	Prepare and issue LIM	\$430.00	\$473.00
Overseas Investment Certificates			
	For determining and issuing	\$320.00	\$352.00
Section 348 – Right of Way (ROW)			
Application for ROW under LGA 1974	Processing ROW application	\$715.00	\$787.00
Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act			
Section 100(f) certificates certifying that the proposed use of the premises meets the requirements of the RMA	Existing premises	\$163.00	\$179.00
	New or altered premises	\$255.00	\$280.00
Advertising of alcohol licence applications on Council's website		\$134.00	\$150.00
Alcohol licence hearing costs not associated with the application itself (e.g. translation services etc) will be charged at actual cost.			
Hazardous activities and industries list determinations (HAIL)			
For supplying specific information to determine if a potentially contaminating activity has occurred on a property.		\$82.00	\$90.00
Record of Title search			
For searching for Records of Title through Land Information New Zealand (LINZ).		\$20.00	\$25.00

Resource management fees and charges

Type	Description	Fees & charges 2023/24 "F" are fixed charges, all others are deposits	Fees & charges 2024/25 'F' are fixed charges, all others are deposits
General			
Pre application	Pre application meeting	Actual staff time except for the first half hour of the first meeting, which will not be charged	Actual staff time except for the first half hour of the first meeting, which will not be charged
Pre-hearing meeting	For any meeting or mediation held (s99)	Actual staff time	Actual staff time
Joint subdivision and landuse	For any joint application <i>Note – for joint applications, this is the only deposit that applies.</i>	\$5100.00	\$5610.00
Limited notified consent (land use and subdivision)	Any resource consent that requires limited notification	\$7300.00	\$8030.00
Notified consent (land use and subdivision)	Any resource consent that requires public notification	\$11800.00	\$12980.00
Landuse Consents			
Non-notified	All landuse consents, except as otherwise provided below	\$2550.00	\$2805.00
	Resource consents for a Controlled or Restricted Discretionary Activity with non compliance with <u>one</u> bulk and location rule only <i>Note: if you are unsure whether this deposit is applicable, please discuss with a member of the Planning team before submitting your application.</i>	\$1225.00	\$1345.00
	Non complying (excludes road boundary setbacks which will require the standard\$2550.00 deposit)	\$3570.00	\$3925.00
	Cultural landscape area	F \$1225.00	F \$1345.00
	Character precinct		

Type	Description	Fees & charges 2023/24 "F" are fixed charges, all others are deposits	Fees & charges 2024/25 'F' are fixed charges, all others are deposits
	Protected trees <i>Note: a remission up to the full cost of the fixed fee, including the cost of an arborist assessment, will apply where the maintenance of a protected tree is assessed by a qualified arborist as being necessary for safety reasons, or to maintain the health of the tree</i>	F \$900.00	F \$990.00
Resource consent exemptions (Section 87 (B)(a) and Section 87 (B) (b) notices)	Boundary activities	F \$305.00	F \$335.00
	Marginal or temporary rule breaches	\$640.00	\$700.00
Subdivision consents			
Non-notified	≤ 9 lots, where no road/reserves proposed	\$3980.00	\$4380.00
	≤ 9 lots, where roads and/or reserves are proposed	\$5100.00	\$5610.00
	≥ 10 lots, (including roads and reserves)	\$9000.00	\$9900.00
	Non-complying activities	\$4600.00	\$5060.00
Subdivision processes (post approval)			
Section 221	Consent notice - preparation, authorization, change or cancellation	\$305.00	\$335.00
Section 223 certification	For subdivisions ≤ 2 lots	F \$305.00	F \$335.00
Section 223 certification	For subdivisions ≥ 3 lots	F \$640.00	F \$700.00
Section 224C certification	All subdivisions	\$340.00 +actual staff time	\$370.00 + actual staff time
Section 226	Restriction upon issue of record of title	\$510.00	\$560.00
Section 241	Cancellation/partial cancellation of amalgamation condition	\$510.00	\$560.00
Section 243	Easement approval or revocation	\$510.00	\$560.00
Subdivision miscellaneous			
Engineering	For inspections of any works for conditions, including checking engineering plans and any amendments	Actual staff time	Actual staff time
	RAMM Collection (minimum of 2km carriageway)	\$835.00 per day	\$918.00 per day

Type	Description	Fees & charges 2023/24 "F" are fixed charges, all others are deposits	Fees & charges 2024/25 'F' are fixed charges, all others are deposits
Technical costs	CCTV data uploaded to Reticulation Manager (minimum 100 metres)	Minimum \$245.00 plus \$2.45 per lineal metre	Minimum \$245.00 plus \$2.45 per lineal metre
Cross lease	Amendments to flats plan	\$640.00	\$700.00
Urgent signing fee for subdivision post approval processes	To sign any documentation within a 24 hour period <i>Note: This does not guarantee urgent signing will be possible, refer to notes below for further information.</i>	\$100.00	\$110.00
	Asset collection, ≤ 9 lots	\$2170.00	\$2385.00
	Asset collection, ≥ 10 lots	\$4180.00	\$4600.00
Other resource management activities			
Section 125/126	Applications for extensions of consent periods	\$870.00	\$955.00
Section 127	Change or cancellation of a condition/s of consent (non-notified only)	\$1630.00	\$1790.00
Section 128 - 132	Review of consent conditions (non-notified only)	\$870.00	\$950.00
Section 134	Transfer of holder's interest in a consent	F \$200.00	F \$220.00
Section 138	Application to surrender resource consent	\$670.00	\$735.00
Section 139	Application for certificate of compliance	\$2360.00	\$2600.00
Section 139A	Existing use right determination	\$2360.00	\$2600.00
Section 357	Objections pursuant to section 357(A) or (B) of RMA <i>Note: Not invoiced if objection upheld in full. A part charge may be made if the objection is upheld in part.</i>	\$510.00	\$560.00
National Environmental Standards	Confirmation of compliance with National Environmental Standards	Actual staff time	Actual staff time
Other	Any application pursuant to the RMA not listed elsewhere	\$1615.00	\$1775.00
Designations			

Type	Description	Fees & charges 2023/24 "F" are fixed charges, all others are deposits	Fees & charges 2024/25 'F' are fixed charges, all others are deposits
Public or Limited notified	Notice of Requirement for designation	\$11200.00	\$12320.00
Non-notified	Notice of Requirement for designation	\$5900.00	\$6490.00
Section 176	Application for outline plan	\$815.00	\$900.00
Section 176A(2)	Waiver of requirement for outline plan	\$185.00	\$200.00
Sections 177, 178	Request to the Requiring Authority responsible for an earlier designation Application to do anything which would prevent or hinder the public work or project	\$660.00	\$725.00
Section 180	Transfer of rights and responsibilities for designations	\$1120.00	\$1230.00
Sections 181, 182	Requirement for alteration or removal/partial removal of a designation	\$1735.00	\$1910.00
Section 184/184A	Application to determine designation lapsing	\$3370.00	\$3710.00
Heritage Orders			
Sections 189/189A, 196, 177	Requirement for Heritage Order Requirement for removal of Heritage Order Request to Requiring Authority responsible for the earlier heritage order	\$1600.00	\$1760.00
Private Plan Change application to amend the District Plan			
1 st Schedule	Processing, considering and determining a private plan change application	\$59600.00	\$65560.00
Compliance and monitoring			
General	Administration, review, correspondence	Actual staff time	Actual staff time
Inspections (excluding engineering)	To monitor progress with giving effect to any resource consent, and compliance with consent conditions	\$160.00 per inspection	\$170

Type	Description	Fees & charges 2023/24 "F" are fixed charges, all others are deposits	Fees & charges 2024/25 'F' are fixed charges, all others are deposits
Monitoring permitted activities (National Environmental Standard for Freshwater 2020 - councils may charge for monitoring of permitted activities including land uses relating to farm activities, vegetation clearance and earthworks).	Monitoring costs relating to permitted activities, if recovery of costs is authorised under any under National Environmental Standard, National Policy Statement, national direction, or other regulation	\$160.00 per inspection	\$170
Engineering	For any inspection required	Actual staff time	Actual staff time
Miscellaneous charges			
Legal instruments	Search for easement documents, covenants, encumbrances or any other document registered on Records of Title	Actual staff time + LINZ costs	Actual staff time + LINZ costs
Affixing Council's seal/ authorising document	For administration costs incurred in affixing Council's seal and/or signature to any document where a charge is not otherwise listed	\$180.00	\$185.00
Variation/cancellations	Variation or cancellation of any legal instrument not otherwise listed	\$480.00	\$520.00
Public notice	Costs associated with public notices	Actual staff time + advertisement fees	Actual staff time + advertisement fees
Signs	Affixing signs on site	\$35.00 per sign	\$40.00 per sign
Delegated approvals	Staff decision on application, acting under delegated authority	\$115.00	\$127.00
Bonds	Preparation, release and signing of any bond (excluding engineering)	\$320.00	\$350.00
	Preparation, release and signing of any bond - Engineering (roading and servicing works)	\$430.00	\$470.00
	Partial Bond release	Actual staff time	Actual staff time
Consultants	The applicant will reimburse Council for any fees paid by Council to any consultants.	Actual consultant costs + actual costs	Actual consultant costs + actual costs

Type	Description	Fees & charges 2023/24 "F" are fixed charges, all others are deposits	Fees & charges 2024/25 'F' are fixed charges, all others are deposits
Noise control	Application fee for the consideration of the return of equipment seized under RMA. Costs incurred in rendering noise source inoperable (e.g. removing vehicles, disabling alarms etc)	F \$160.00 Actual costs	F \$175.00 Actual costs
Hearings			
Attendance – Council Staff or Consultant	A charge will be made for the costs of all staff and/or consultants required to attend a hearing	Actual staff/consultant time	Actual staff/consultant time
Attendance – Commissioner / Regulatory Committee Members / Hearing Panel members	A charge will be made for the costs of all Commissioners, Committee or Hearing Panel members required to attend a hearing	Actual costs	Actual costs
Postponement/withdrawal or cancellation	If applicant fails to give a minimum of 5 working days written notice of a request for cancellation, withdrawal or postponement of a scheduled hearing	Actual costs	Actual costs
Venue	Hiring a venue for hearing	Actual costs	Actual costs
Request for information and supply of resource management documents			
Providing general advice	Providing advice and considering proposed applications <i>May include, but is not limited to: administration costs, research, meetings (including pre-lodgement), written correspondence.</i>	Actual staff time except for the first half hour of the first meeting, which will not be charged	Actual staff time except for the first half hour of the first meeting, which will not be charged
Providing information	Any request to provide information in respect of the District Plan or any consent	Actual staff time	Actual staff time
Providing copies	For the copying of information relating to consents and Council's resource management functions under Section 35 of the RMA, and the supply of any document	Actual staff time + photocopying charges	Actual staff time + photocopying charges
Waipā District Plan	Full printed copy of text	\$200.00	\$220.00
	Planning maps	\$150.00	\$165.00

Type	Description	Fees & charges 2023/24 "F" are fixed charges, all others are deposits	Fees & charges 2024/25 'F' are fixed charges, all others are deposits
Hazardous Activities and Industries List (HAIL) determinations			
Investigation fee		\$155.00	\$160.00

Application for Public Benefit Remission of Resource Management Act Charges

Council is able to recover actual and reasonable charges under the Resource Management Act 1991. Resource Consent applicants occasionally seek a remission or reduction in resource consent fees on the basis of public benefit. Applicants also have the ability to formally object to additional resource management charges under section 357B of the Resource Management Act.

Applications for public benefit remission of resource consent fees and charges (other than formal objections to additional charges under s357B of the Resource Management Act) will be considered as follows. Applications which do not relate to a public benefit will not be considered.

- a. The application for public benefit remission must be in writing, and be submitted either on a form provided by council, or must include the following information:
 - a. Applicant's contact details
 - b. The legal Status of the applicant.
 - c. The amount of remission being sought (in full or in part).
 - d. The reasons for the remission.
- b. Applications which are in accordance with the requirements above will be assessed based on the following criteria:
 - a. Will the proposal result in a clear public benefit, whether entirely or in part?
 - b. If there is a clear public benefit, what apportionment of this could be reasonably applied to the proposal?
 - c. Is the applicant a charitable trust, incorporated community group, or otherwise delivering a public benefit?
 - d. Is there any impact on Council's budgeted operational costs of remitting all or part of the charge?
- c. The decision whether to accept an application for a remission in part, or in full, will be made under the relevant delegated authority.

Notes:

1. *These fees and charges become Operative on 1 July 2024 and will apply for all work carried out and decisions issued on or after 1 July 2024 irrespective of when the application was lodged with Council.*
2. *Where an "F" is noted in the charges column, this means the fee is a fixed rate, and no additional charges will be made for that activity. Where there is no such notation, the charge is a deposit only and actual staff time (plus mileage where relevant) incurred over and above the deposit will be charged.*
3. *The fixed charge ("F") for non-notified land use consents will only apply when there is no other matter of non-compliance with the District Plan, where other rules are breached, the full deposit will apply.*
4. *"Consultant" includes any Commissioners, consultants, advisers, solicitors and any other creditors related to any matter connected with a resource consent or certificate application.*
5. *Where "actual staff time" is noted, this:*
 - (a) *Will include a charge for any mileage incurred as a result of any inspections required; and*
 - (b) *Includes any consultant engaged by Council; and*
 - (c) *For the avoidance of doubt, "actual costs" also includes "actual staff time".*
6. *Where legal fees are incurred by Council for the registration of any documents required due to any process, the actual legal costs will be charged in full (i.e. for registration of consent notices, bonds, easement cancellations etc.).*

7. *For the avoidance of doubt, any application which requires either limited or public notification, will be charged the limited or public notification fee, as applicable (regardless of the type of consent, or the section of the RMA the application is made under).*
8. *Urgent signing fee: When a request is made to sign documentation urgently for subdivision processes (post subdivision consent approval), an additional charge will be made. A request will be considered urgent if the return of the signed document is sought within a 24 hour period. Note: This does not guarantee documents will be able to be signed urgently. An Authorised Officer must be available to sign documentation and may not always be available. Please check with Council's Planning administration team prior to any request.*

Fixed charges

9. *The charges set out in the Schedule are charges which are fixed pursuant to Section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA).*
10. *All fixed charges are payable in full in advance. Pursuant to Section 36AAB(2) of the RMA, Council will not perform the action or commence processing the application to which the charge relates until it has been so paid.*
11. *Documentation or certificates will not be issued until payment of charges have been cleared.*

Additional charges

12. *Where a fixed charge is in any particular case inadequate to enable Council to recover its actual and reasonable costs in respect of the matter concerned, Council will require the applicant to pay a deposit, followed by an additional charge to cover actual and reasonable costs.*
13. *The following may also be included as additional charges:*
 - (a) *If it is necessary for the services of a consultant to be engaged by Council (including their attendance at any hearing or meeting) then the consultant's fees will be charged in full to the applicant as an additional charge;*
 - (b) *If any legal fees are incurred by Council in relation to legal advice obtained for any particular application, including any fees incurred if Council's solicitor is required to be present at any hearing, mediations or meetings, these fees will be charged in full to the applicant as an additional charge; and*
 - (c) *If any Commissioner hearing fees and associated costs are incurred in considering and determining any particular application, these fees will be charged in full to the applicant as an additional charge.*

Charge-out rates for Council officers and mileage

14. *Charge-out rates for Council officers are set out in this Schedule and:*
 - (a) *Are fixed charges;*
 - (b) *If reference is made in the schedule to actual staff time, it will be charged in accordance with the relevant hourly charge-out rates;*
 - (c) *The charge-out rates for Council officers and for mileage will apply to all matters listed in the Schedule so that:*
 - i. *if the fixed charge which has been paid in advance is greater by more than \$20.00 than the actual and reasonable costs incurred by Council relating to that application, a refund will be given when those costs are finally assessed; and*
 - ii. *if the actual and reasonable costs incurred by Council relating to that application are inadequate to enable Council to recover its actual and reasonable costs then additional charges calculated for staff time at the same rate will be payable (as well as any other items of additional charge which may have been incurred).*

Additional fixed fees

15. *At any time after the receipt of an application and before a decision has been made Council may fix a fee pursuant to Section 36(1) of the RMA which is in excess of the fixed charge set out in this schedule. In that event:*
 - (a) *Council may require that no further action will be taken in connection with the application until that fixed fee is paid in accordance with Section 36AAB(2) of the RMA; and*
 - (b) *May also, pursuant to Section 36(5) of the RMA make additional charges.*

Remission of fees

16. Staff with delegated authority may consider a reduction in any charge, on application to the Council. Any remissions will be in accordance with Section 36AAB(1) of the RMA.

Rural Address Property Identification System number plates

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Application for new rapid number (includes plate)	\$84.00	\$92.00
Supply (only) number plate	\$20.00 per plate	\$22.00 per plate

Stock droving and crossings

Description		Fees & charges 2024/25
Application for permit	\$405.00	\$445.00
Re-inspection fee	\$210.00	\$231.00

Notes:

1. Permit for stock droving on a road must be in accordance with Waipā District Public Places Bylaw 2023.
2. Stock crossings are dedicated positions along a road where stock is moved from one side of the road reserve to the other.
3. All stock crossings must be installed in accordance with the Waipā District Public Places Bylaw 2023 and any other conditions set.

Stock impound fees

First impounding

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24		Fees & charges 2024/25	
	First animal	Per animal thereafter	First animal	Per animal thereafter
Horses, cattle, mules, asses, deer and pigs	\$69.00 plus, transport costs	\$24.00	\$75.90 plus, transport costs	\$26.40
Sheep, goats and others	\$69.00 plus, transport costs	\$24.00	\$75.90 plus, transport costs	\$26.40
Subsequent impounding within the same financial year involving animals owned by the same person or organisation	Number of impoundings x relevant fee		Number of impoundings x relevant fee	
Additional after-hours fee (5pm to 8am, weekends and statutory holidays)	\$71.00		\$78.00	

Driving charges

Responding to complaints, driving stock from road to pound or owner's property or another place.

\$163.00 per hour per officer and mileage at \$0.95 per km local government rate for Animal Control Officer's/Ranger's time plus any other reasonable costs incurred.

Grazing per day

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Horses, cattle, mules, ass, deer and pigs	\$8.00	\$8.80
Sheep, goats and others (plus costs of any hard feeds, i.e. hay, grain)	\$2.00	\$2.20

All other costs incurred as the result of impoundment are payable by the owner on release of the animal/s. Such costs may include cartage, droving, advertising, feed, veterinary attention, etc.

Stormwater connections

Stormwater connection approval and inspection fee

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Domestic standard connection (100mm diameter)		
Stormwater application	\$380.00	\$418.00
Stormwater inspection	\$360.00	\$395.00
Manhole reconstruction	\$520.00	\$572.00

Notes:

1. All new stormwater connections require an application, investigation to ensure the existing system capacity, approval of a plan, confirmation of approval or otherwise, site inspection pre-back fill and recording of connection on Waipā District Council records.
2. The application fee is for processing the application and is non-refundable.
3. The inspection fee would be refundable if the application is unsuccessful.
4. An inspection fee of \$353.00 also applies to every subsequent inspection until the connection is accepted as complete.
5. The above fees may apply to each:
 - a) Dwelling; or
 - b) Separate building; or
 - c) Paved area in excess of 250m² (or part thereof) catchment area.
6. A single domestic connection fee will be accepted after an approved retention system is constructed. All other connections will be separately quoted.
7. All connections must be installed by a registered Drain Layer.

Structures on the road reserve

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Erect a structure on road reserve		
Application for permit to erect structure	\$665.00	\$731.00

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Annual safety inspection of structure (per annum) if required as condition of permit.	\$405.00	\$445.00
Erection of temporary fence on road reserve for stock grazing		
Application for permit	\$405.00	\$445.00

Notes:

1. *The above fees apply for applications to construct private structures located on or under roads on the Waipā District Roading Network. Examples could include Private bus shelters; Stock underpasses; Fence encroachments; Property access ramps or stairs.*
2. *Application must be made, and consent gained from Waipā District Council to ensure the structure is safe, not a hazard to travelling public, is durable and has a nominated owner responsible for maintenance and removal when no longer required.*
3. *Application for permit includes an initial inspection. If the structure is erected for less than twelve months as per its permit, no annual safety inspection fee will apply. If a building consent is required for the structure, then a separate building consent fee will also apply.*

Exclusions:

4. *Standard rural mailboxes and shop veranda required by the District Plan do not require a permit.*

Stock underpass

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Application for stock underpass.	Actual staff time will be charged but with a minimum of \$955.00	Actual staff time will be charged but with a minimum of \$1050.00
Non-compliance	\$470.00	Actual staff time + mileage

Note:

1. *Stock underpass is a dedicated permanent structure for the passage of stock under a road. All stock underpasses must have a lease agreement or licence to occupy with Waipā District Council*

Te Awamutu council room charges

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24		Fees & charges 2024/25	
	Profitable Organisation / Private Function	Non-Profit Organisation	Profitable Organisation / Private Function	Non-Profit Organisation
Bond (payable when booking is outside business hours)	\$255.00	\$100.00	\$280.00	\$110.00
Removal/reinstatement of furniture by Council staff (optional)	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$110.00	\$110.00
Half day or less				
Whole facility	\$138.00	\$66.00	\$151.00	\$72.00

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24		Fees & charges 2024/25	
	Profitable Organisation / Private Function	Non-Profit Organisation	Profitable Organisation / Private Function	Non-Profit Organisation
Council Chamber	\$60.00	\$40.00	\$66.00	\$44.00
Committee rooms (per room)	\$40.00	\$25.00	\$44.00	\$27.00
Kitchen	\$25.00	\$10.00	\$27.00	\$11.00
Full day – 8.00am to 5.00pm				
Whole facility	\$265.00	\$122.00	\$291.00	\$134.00
Council Chamber	\$112.00	\$71.00	\$123.00	\$78.00
Committee rooms (per room)	\$71.00	\$40.00	\$78.00	\$44.00
Kitchen	\$50.00	\$20.00	\$55.00	\$22.00
Night – 5.00pm onwards				
Whole facility	\$138.00	\$66.00	\$151.00	\$72.00
Council Chamber	\$60.00	\$40.00	\$66.00	\$44.00
Committee rooms (per room)	\$40.00	\$25.00	\$44.00	\$27.00
Kitchen	\$25.00	\$10.00	\$27.00	\$11.00
Day and night – 5.00pm onwards				
Whole facility	\$377.00	\$163.00	\$414.00	\$179.00
Council Chamber	\$220.00	\$92.00	\$242.00	\$101.00
Committee rooms (per room)	\$97.00	\$50.00	\$106.00	\$55.00
Kitchen	\$102.00	\$35.00	\$112.00	\$38.00
Weekend – Friday 5.00pm to Sunday 10.00pm				
Whole facility	\$643.00	\$337.00	\$707.00	\$370.00
Council Chamber	\$480.00	\$245.00	\$528.00	\$270.00
Committee rooms (per room)	\$138.00	\$76.00	\$151.00	\$83.00
Kitchen	\$209.00	\$76.00	\$230.00	\$83.00
The bond is refundable – items covered by the bond are key, breakage of equipment, damage to facility and/or theft of equipment or extraction clean.				
Deduction as follows				
Key (replacement or lost)		\$26.00		\$29.00
Security access token (replacement or lost)		\$50.00		\$55.00
Furniture damage	Whole bond (minimum) or cost		Whole bond (minimum) or cost	
Extraction carpet clean		\$160.00		\$176.00
Damage to facility	Whole bond (minimum) or cost		Whole bond (minimum) or cost	
Call out fee for insecure building		\$170.00		\$187.00

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24		Fees & charges 2024/25	
	Profitable Organisation / Private Function	Non-Profit Organisation	Profitable Organisation / Private Function	Non-Profit Organisation
Cleaning and re-stock of toilet consumables fee (for bookings longer than 1 consecutive day)		\$50.00		\$55.00

Town Hall hire – Kihikihi and Pirongia

Town Hall Hire – Kihikihi and Pirongia	Fees & charges 2023/24		Fees & charges 2024/25	
	Corporate or Private Function	Community Group Use	Corporate or Private Function	Community Group Use
Bond payable on booking	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$220.00	\$110.00
Deposit payable on booking	25%	25%	25%	25%
<i>Community Group bookings longer than 3 consecutive days will receive a 25% discount</i>				
Kihikihi Town Hall – Whole complex				
Half day hire (4 hour use)	\$50.00	\$20.00	\$55.00	\$22.00
Full day hire (maximum 12 hour use)	\$132.00	\$65.00	\$145.00	\$71.00
Pirongia Hall – Whole complex				
Half day hire (4 hour use)	\$50.00	\$20.00	\$55.00	\$22.00
Full day hire (maximum 12 hour use)	\$132.00	\$65.00	\$145.00	\$71.00

Notes:

1. Facility users are required to complete a hire contract prior to using the facility.
2. Community use charges apply to not for profit organisations that are based and operate within the Waipā District providing a benefit for the Waipā Community.

Trade waste

Administration Charges	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Application fees		
Application fee – Permitted/controlled discharge (including final inspection)	\$224.00	\$257.00
Application fee – Conditional consent (covering 4 hours work including final inspection, including tanker disposal)	\$417.00	\$479.00
Hourly rate for applications	\$118.00	\$135.00
Temporary discharge (including final inspection)	\$224.00	\$257.00
Renewal fee for controlled, permitted or conditional trade waste consents (plus additional hourly rate for more than 1 hour of time noting that site inspection charges may also apply)	\$111.00	\$127.00

Administration Charges	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Variation/Change of Details Request for permitted or conditional consents (plus additional hourly rate for more than 30 minute time noting that site inspection charges may also apply).	\$59.00	\$68.00
Special Trade Waste agreements, variations or renewals. Actual costs recovered including but not limited to consultant or legal fees	Actual cost	Actual cost
Site inspection fees		
Permitted/Controlled Discharge – Site Inspection/audit (per site visit)	\$158.00	\$182.00
Conditional Consent – Site Inspection (per site visit)	\$252.00	\$290.00
Temporary Discharge – Inspection / audit (per site visit)	\$252.00	\$290.00
Site Inspection / audit -non-compliance (per site visit)	\$252.00	\$290.00
Annual charge		
Permitted/Controlled/Special/discharge	\$59.00	\$68.00
Conditional/Special/discharge- Risk Class 3	\$1763.00	\$2027.00
Conditional/Special/discharge - Risk Class 2	\$1005.00	\$1155.00
Any temporary discharge	\$224.00	\$257.00
Independent Monitoring (per sample collected)	\$241.00	\$277.00
Tankered discharge	\$769.00	\$885.00
Tankered Waste Disposal		
Tankered waste disposal to Wastewater Treatment Plant or reticulation in accordance with Trade Waste Bylaw \$/m ³	\$78.00	\$90.00

Notes:

1. Tankered waste may not be accepted at the Waters Manager's sole discretion.
2. Tankered waste disposal to Wastewater Treatment Plant or reticulation not in accordance with Trade Waste Bylaw will require a conditional or special agreement in accordance with the Trade Waste Bylaw.

Charging formula

The formula for calculation of the load based trade waste charge is as set out below.

$$(V \times V_c) + (SS \times SS_c) + (BOD \times BOD_c) + (TKN \times TKN_c) + (TP \times TP_c)$$

Parameter	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
V _c Flow Volume	\$1.37/M ³	\$1.57/M ³
SS _c Suspended solids	\$1.17/kgSS	\$1.35/kgSS
BOD _c Organic Loading	\$1.31/BOD	\$1.50/BOD
TKN _c Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	\$1.37/kgTKN	\$1.57/kgTKN
TP _c Total Phosphorus	\$5.57/kgTP	\$6.40/kgTP
Connection or disconnection fee	\$480.00	\$552.00

Table of parameters with descriptions			
V	The volume discharged	BOD_c	The unit BOD Charge \$/kg
V_c	The unit volume charge \$/ M^3	TKN	The mass of Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN) discharged
SS	The mass of suspended solids discharged	TKN_c	The unit TKN charge \$/kg
SS_c	The unit SS charge \$/kg	TP	The mass of Total Phosphorus (TP) discharged
BOD	The mass of BOD discharged	TP_c	The unit TP charge \$/kg

Traffic Management Plan (TMP) reviews

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Approval of simple TMP for Vehicle Crossings	\$195.00	\$215.00
Approval of complex TMP	\$195.00 per hour (excludes travel allowances)	\$215.00 per hour (excludes travel allowances)
Actions required to address non-compliance with TMP conditions	\$195.00 per hour (excludes travel allowances)	\$215.00 per hour (excludes travel allowances)
Non-compliance for not having a TMP or an approved TMP	\$425.00	\$468.00
Extension of TMP application	\$95.00	\$105.00
Issue of Stop Work Order	\$135.00	\$148.00
Late Completion of Works or failure to return sites to pre-existing conditions as per TMPthe utilities code .	\$405.00	\$445.00

Notes:

1. TMP require evaluation and approval by the Council Traffic Management Coordinator to ensure public safety, the costs of which are charged to the applicant.

Utility access requirements

Description		Fees & charges 2024/25
Single Occurrence Permit		
Isolated street opening permit application (plus the applicable trenching fee and Traffic Management Plan fee)	\$175.00	\$195.00
Multiple occurrence permit for utility maintenance works		
Multiple opening permit application covering a 12 month period (One off set up fee then occurrence fee plus the applicable trenching fee)	\$350.00 + \$60.00 for each occurrence	\$385.00 + \$66.00 for each occurrence

Description		Fees & charges 2024/25
Excavation, trenching or drilling		
1 – 99m (This is the minimum fee in conjunction with the permit fee)	\$95.00	\$105.00
100 – 499m	\$170.00	\$187.00
> 500m	\$285.00	\$314.00
Non-compliance with conditions	\$195.00 per hour	\$215.00
Additional inspections required for complex projects, changes to project extents and conditions, or as required to address non-compliance with conditions.	\$195.00 per hour (includes travel allowances)	\$215.00 per hour (includes travel allowances)
Extension of Work Access Permit (WAP) application	\$95.00	\$105.00
Issue of Stop Work Order	\$135.00	\$148.00
Late Completion of Works or failure to sign off completed works as per WAP.	\$405.00	\$445.00

Notes:

1. For all work to be undertaken on road reserve (including within footpaths, berms and carriageways) a Corridor Access Request (CAR) is required. The CAR allows Council to approve, track and ensure proper reinstatement to works undertaken in the street.
2. The Utilities Access Act 2010 provides for applications for permission to excavate in streets and roads for services such as electricity, three waters, gas, telecoms etc.
3. Under certain circumstances Waipā District Council will accept 12 month access opportunities under our multiple occurrence coverage formats. This is for maintenance works only not new projects.
4. All access requests may be inspected by Council staff or agents at any time for compliance with permit conditions
5. Trenching costs are in addition to the Permit application fee and reflect the work involved in doing completion and maintenance inspections based on length of work sites.

Vehicle crossing applications

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Vehicle – Application fee – Urban and Rural	\$440.00	\$480.00
Re-inspection fee	\$200.00	\$220.00
Mileage if site visit required	\$0.83 per km	\$0.95 per km

Notes:

1. A Traffic Management Plan and/or Corridor Access Request is required for a vehicle crossing application to be processed.
2. Entrance ways can only be installed with the permission of Council.

Wastewater connections

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
<i>Domestic standard gravity connection (100mm diameter)</i>		
Wastewater connection application and approval	\$390.00	\$430.00
Wastewater inspection	\$360.00	\$395.00

Notes:

1. All new wastewater connections require an application, investigation to ensure the existing system capacity, approval of a plan, confirmation of approval or otherwise, site inspection pre-back fill and recording of connection on Waipā District Council records.
2. The application fee is for processing the application and is non-refundable.
3. The inspection fee would be refundable if the application is not approved.
4. An inspection fee of \$360.00 also applies to every subsequent inspection until the connection is accepted as complete.
5. All connections must be installed by a registered drain layer, inspected by the Assets Team and As-Builts provided to the Asset Team.

Water connections and bulk water sales

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Water connection application fee		
Urban	\$470.00	\$517.00
Rural	\$865.00	\$951.00
	Ordinary supply – install new standard single 20mm diameter residential connection, up to 4 metres from a Council owned reticulated main (excluding bulk mains). All other connections will require a fixed quote from Waipā District Council).	
Urban	\$1630.00	\$1793.00
Rural	\$2138.00	\$2352.00
Restrictor adjustment	\$370.00	\$407.00
Meter and/or restrictor testing fee (if tests show compliance, then applicant shall be liable for fee. If out of adjustment no fee shall apply)	\$410.00	\$451.00
Final water meter reading		
Conduct and process final reading	\$60.00	\$65.00
Disconnection fees		
Disconnection from rural water supply scheme	\$810.00	\$891.00
Disconnection from water supply upon removal or demolition of a building	\$810.00	\$891.00

Note:

1. Statutory public health requirements prevent anyone other than authorised Council employees or authorised contractors from carrying out any work on water reticulation services.

Purchase of water by permit

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Administration fee	\$25.00/month	\$27.50/month
Water per cubic metre (1000 litres)	\$3.10/cu metre	\$3.41/cu metre

Notes:

1. A permit must be obtained before removing water from a Council system. A permit is to be obtained for each 12-month period that water is drawn from a designated bulk fill point.
2. Rural water supply, where the service is available at the gate, may be restricted in area or flow. All other connection sizes and/or configurations will require quotation from Waipā District Council.

Backflow Prevention Devices

Description	Fees & charges 2023/24	Fees & charges 2024/25
Connection, disconnection and replacement of backflow prevention devices	Staff time and actual and reasonable costs	Staff time and actual and reasonable costs
Administration fee	\$375.00	\$410.00

COMMITTEE REPORT



To: The Chairperson and Members of the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee

From: Manager Strategy

Subject: **2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan deliberations**

Meeting Dates: 20 May 2024

1 PURPOSE - TAKE

The purpose of this report is to enable deliberations on Waipā District Council's 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan.

2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

The 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan was consulted on from 5 to 26 April 2024. A total of 292 submissions were received. 32 submitters requested to attend the hearing.

The Committee will need to consider the submissions and deliberate on potential changes to the draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan. Once a decision is made, the draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan, as amended following such deliberations, will be recommended for adoption by Council on 25 June 2024.

As set out in the report staff recommend only minor amendments are made to draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan.

3 RECOMMENDATION – TŪTOHU Ā-KAIMAHI

That the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee:

- a) *Receives the report of Melissa Russo, Manager Strategy titled '2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan deliberations' (ECM #11214512);*
- b) *Receives the written submissions for the draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan as outlined in Appendix 1 (ECM #11225244);*
- c) *Notes that verbal submissions on the draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan were heard by the Committee on 20 May 2024;*

- d) *Considers all verbal and written submissions on the draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan as referred to in recommendations b) and c) and summarised further in this report;*
- e) *Approves the draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan subject to the following changes and considerations:*
- i) *Council proceeds with the Cambridge Water Tower option 1 - removal;*
 - ii) *Additional funding requests are declined, except for:*
 - *additional Cambridge Community Board funding of \$7,500 (excluding GST) for ANZAC day commemorations;*
 - *increased funding for the Cambridge Town Hall for total operating funding of \$502,999 (excluding GST);*
 - iii) *No other significant changes are made to budgets;*
- subject to any further changes agreed by the Committee after consideration in accordance with recommendation d); and*
- f) *Recommends to Council that it adopts the draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan, as amended under recommendation e).*

4 BACKGROUND – KŌRERO WHAIMĀRAMA

At its 3 April meeting, the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee approved the 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan Consultation Document and supporting information for consultation. Consultation on the draft enhanced annual plan commenced on 5 April 2024, and feedback was specifically sought on whether Council had the balance right in terms of financial decisions made under difficult circumstances and whether the Cambridge Water Tower should be removed or restored to address health and safety concerns.

A total of 292 submissions were received with 32 submitters requesting to attend the hearing.

4 CONSULTATION TOPIC 1 – DO WE HAVE THE BALANCE RIGHT?

Council asked the community whether we had the balance right between meeting the cost of necessary renewals and maintenance and planning for the future. A total of 197 submission points were made on this topic.

Submitters were fairly split on whether Council has the balance right. Out of those submitters who explicitly answered ‘yes’ or ‘no’ to the question, 29 answered ‘no’ and 25 answered ‘yes’.

Key themes identified in submission responses were:

- Look for cuts elsewhere for example speed humps, cycleways, third bridge, Leamington Domain upgrade;

- Focus on the basics;
- Stop spending on aesthetics/nice to have projects;
- Be mindful of the cost of living crisis;
- Spend money on things that will make living in the district better;
- More projects should be halted to save money;
- Should look at staff cuts/salary caps;
- There has been too much growth without the required planning;
- Concern that growth is occurring too quickly in the district leading to financial issues;
- Increase development contributions to help fund shortfall;
- Further cuts could be made to the proposed grants programme;
- The rates increase is unsustainable for communities;
- Concern over rising debt levels;
- Acknowledgement of the difficult position Council is in;
- The economy will improve, and funding will become more affordable.

Staff comment and recommendation

Like many businesses and households, Council has been impacted by high inflation, increased depreciation expense and increased interest costs. To minimise the rates increase for the 2024/25 financial year, \$5.5m of reserve funding has been used to reduce the average rate increase to 14.8 percent. Many of the big 'nice to have' projects like the Cambridge Town Hall upgrades, Te Ara Wai, the Cambridge Library and the Te Awamutu to Pirongia Cycleway have been deferred for consideration as part of the 2025-34 Long Term Plan.

Staff do not recommend any significant changes to the proposed budget.

5 CONSULTATION TOPIC 2 – SHOULD WE DEMOLISH THE CAMBRIDGE WATER TOWER?

Council presented two options for the community to provide feedback on:

Option 1 – remove the water tower

Option 2 – restore the water tower.

A total of 223 submissions were received on this topic with 62% supporting option 1 and 38% supporting option 2.

157 submissions were received from Cambridge residents with 93 submissions for option 1 and 64 submissions for option 2.

Submissions were also received from residents in the following areas:

- Ōhaupō;
- Pirongia;
- Pukeatua;

- Rukuhia;
- Te Awamutu.

From submitters outside of Cambridge, 32 submissions preferred option 1 and nine preferred option 2.

The key themes identified in submissions favouring option 1 included:

- The tower is unsafe;
- The tower isn't aesthetically pleasing;
- Demolish the tower but should be funded via a targeted rate for Cambridge residents only.

The key themes identified in submissions favouring option 2 included:

- There is limited risk of earthquakes in Cambridge;
- The tower isn't unsafe, just needs to be regularly maintained;
- Need to preserve local heritage;
- Iconic Cambridge building;
- Turn the tower into a tourist attraction;
- Sell it or allow someone to turn it into a house/café/restaurant;
- Residents of Resthaven enjoy looking at the tower;
- Restore the tower once the economy improves;
- Restore the tower but reduce in height;
- Use funds from paused projects to pay for the upgrade;
- Seek external funding to cover the costs;
- Seek independent advice on alternative and less costly remedies to the maintenance and restoration of this building before committing to its demolition;
- Seek a peer review of the proposed options.

Other comments in relation to this topic included:

- Creating a permanent hologram of the tower;
- Ideas on what should be done with the bricks/where the tower stood;
- Questions around the accuracy of the cost of restoring or removing the tower;
- Suggesting that the tower wasn't maintained hence we have the issue we have now.

Staff comment and recommendation

While acknowledging its heritage status, the Cambridge Water Tower is earthquake prone. In its current state, it poses risks to life and property in the event of seismic or other structural failure. Significant time and cost have been expended on seeking independent expert advice exploring options for its protection, over several years. The strengthening options have most recently been shown to be cost prohibitive, in the order of \$6 million. Ultimately, the most practicable option for eliminating the identified risks is demolition.

Staff recommend that Council proceeds with option one, to remove the Cambridge water tower with a budget of \$810,000 for resource consent and demolition already provided for the 2024/25 year.

6 DISCRETIONARY GRANTS AND FUNDING

The consultation document proposed the following in terms of discretionary grants and funding:

- No longer funding the Cambridge and Te Awamutu isites saving \$315,550;
- No longer funding Te Waka: Waikato's Regional Economic Development Agency saving \$50,000;
- Maintaining the level of funding to various local community organisations through grants, with a slight increase of \$1,080 to a total of \$11,080 for the Waipā Mountain Bike Club;
- No longer providing a contestable Community Events Fund of \$30,000;
- Reducing Council discretionary grant funding by \$216,800. That includes:
 - o reducing funding to each of the two community boards from \$49,600 to \$20,000;
 - o reducing the Pirongia Ward committee grant funding from \$27,600 to \$10,000;
 - o halving the District Promotion Fund from \$150,000 to \$75,000; and
 - o reducing the Heritage Fund amount from \$75,000 to \$35,000.
- Reducing funding to Hamilton & Waikato Tourism from \$183,379 to \$146,703.

Staff comment and recommendation

Given Council's constrained financial position and the level of rates increase already required, staff do not recommend any amendments to what was proposed in the 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan Consultation Document and supporting information.

isites

(Submission IDs 255, 280, 281, 283, 317, 319, 357, 376, 399, 400, 423, 429, 440, 433, 434, 443, 445, 450, 455, 463, 464, 483, 489, 519, 526, 527, 528, 529, 538, 539, 539, 548, 554, 555)

A total of 34 submissions were received on the proposal to remove funding to the Cambridge and Te Awamutu isites with them all opposing Council's proposal to remove funding for the following reasons:

- The isites provide valuable services for example selling Bee cards, booking Intercity tickets, drafting itineraries, running the Christmas parade, tourist shop;
- The services they provide are necessary as we move towards pre-COVID tourist numbers;
- There is plenty of demand for the services;

- Balance isn't right when Hamilton & Waikato Tourism funding has been cut to a lesser extent;
- Fund the isites by spending less on other projects such as cycleways;
- Isites bring visitors to the district which has economic benefits;
- Risk in duplicating the isite service by increasing staffing at WDC as opposed to funding this locally run and volunteer supported organisation.

Destination Te Awamutu (submission ID 527) requested ongoing funding to allow for the restructure of the operation with volunteers and a new part time manager. Specifically, \$70,000 was requested for 2024/25 to allow time to recruit and train volunteers, find ways to increase other income streams and keep the website current.

Destination Cambridge (submission ID 464) requested transitional funding for all or part of the \$50,000 shortfall the isite will experience in the next financial year. This funding would offset a role to continue to manage the website function, event listings, online enquiries, social activity, product development, support and advocacy of the tourism industry, and give the isite time to seek further income generation to remain operational, with a desire and projection that no direct Council funding would be required in future years.

Cambridge Community Board (submission ID 440) requested that funding proposed for the Council communications team to do 'online visitor promotional activity' could instead be directed to the Cambridge isite.

Staff comment and recommendation

The Service Delivery Committee resolved on 5 December 2023 to not enter into any new third-party agreements for the provision of visitor information services following the expiry of any existing agreements. Recommendations from a review of the services (completed under Section 17A of the Local Government Act 2002) were worked through with both isites which resulted in a request for additional funding from Council.

Considering a continued decrease to in-person visitor use of these services, growth in direct online bookings with providers, Council's financial position, and the level of rates increase already required, there is no funding allocated within the 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan to the district isites trading as Destination Cambridge and Destination Te Awamutu.

If Council wishes to include funding for both isites to the 2023/24 level, there would be an increase in rates of 0.32 percent. As this is operational funding, there would be no impact on Council's debt levels, however a higher level of average rates increase would be required.

Grants and funding

Hamilton Waikato Tourism (HWT)

(Submission IDs 282, 283, 287, 288, 370, 402, 430, 443, 522, 526, 545, 548, 549)

A total of 13 submissions were received on Council removing Hamilton Waikato Tourism's funding with them all opposing the proposal for the following reasons:

- HWT is effective in showcasing and promoting our region;
- HWT ensures that tourism contributes value and benefit to Waipā's communities;
- Continuing to fund HWT will ensure the district benefits socially and economically;
- A funding cut will have a significant impact on HWT's ability to continue to perform its role and functions effectively;
- A reduction in funding will require the Waikato Regional Airport Limited Board to assess the viability of HWT and its ability to provide a credible and effective Regional Tourism Organisation;
- A decrease in funding would have a significant impact on HWT's ability to continue to perform its role and functions effectively;
- HWT's ability to secure tourism operator investment would decrease due to reduced level of activity and impact;
- Previous cuts to HWT funding were detrimental;
- Loss of tourists to other districts;
- Direct impact on businesses and the economy of the district;
- With the demise of isites in the region, there is a risk we have no tourism promotion at all.

Community board funding

(Submission IDs 369, 427, 429, 440, 466, 480, 510, 523, 528, 538, 548, 555)

Twelve submissions were received on the proposal to reduce funding to the Cambridge and Te Awamutu community boards and the Pirongia Ward Committee. All but two opposed the proposal.

The Cambridge Community Board (submission ID 440) accepted the cut to its discretionary fund in the 2024/25 year but requested that it is reviewed as soon as possible for future years.

The Cambridge Community Board also requested additional funding for Council delegations to the board for example, Sister Cities and ANZAC Day and Armistice Day commemorations. With a smaller discretionary fund, it would be challenging to fund community projects if it is required to fund Council delegations from the smaller discretionary fund.

The Te Awamutu and Kihikihi Community Board (submission ID 538) requested that its funding is decreased to the higher level of \$40k due to demand always being higher than what's available to provide community groups.

The Pirongia Ward Committee recognised the need to reduce its grant allocation to \$10,000 per annum but requested that it be returned to 2023/24 levels in next year's long term plan. The ward committee also noted that it should retain the ability to decide whether it spends the funding allocation on its own projects or provides grants to community organisations.

Community Events Fund

(Submission IDs 261, 440, 429, 443, 501, 514, 548)

Seven submissions were received on the proposal to remove the Community Events Fund, all opposed to the proposal for the following reasons:

- the savings proposed by cutting the fund are miniscule compared to the broader financial issues Council faces;
- the grants offer a lifeline to community organisations;
- potential loss of events and opportunities;
- impact on wellbeing of our people;
- economic benefit of events potentially lost.

Heritage Fund/District Promotion Fund

(Submission IDs 283, 369, 429, 440, 500, 523, 548)

There were a handful of submissions commenting on the cuts made to the Heritage and District Promotions Fund both for and against.

The Cambridge Community Board specifically requested that the criteria of the District Promotion Fund are changed so that community events can apply.

Te Waka funding

(Submission IDs 261, 283, 548)

Three submissions were received on the proposal to stop funding Te Waka. Two submissions were against and one for.

Funding for Pirongia Mountain Bike Club

(Submission IDs 261, 292, 293, 319, 376, 395, 503, 523, 563)

Nine submissions specifically mentioned funding provided to the Pirongia Mountain Bike Club and the increase in funding provided for 2024/25. Six submissions were against the funding and three for. Those against the proposal felt that the funding was better spent elsewhere in tight economic times.

Staff comment and recommendation

In light of the current financial landscape, Council's discretionary funding has been reviewed as this was seen as an opportunity to provide operational cost savings which directly translate into rate requirement. Reductions have been made to Community Board and Ward Committee discretionary funds, the District Promotion Fund, and the

Heritage Fund. The Community Event Fund was removed. Funding for Hamilton and Waikato Tourism has been reduced and the funding for Te Waka has been removed. The Pirongia Mountain Bike Club received an increase of \$1,080, up from the \$10,000 it received in 2023/24.

Continuation of a small amount of existing community group funding has been retained as these groups are seen to benefiting the wider community through their services and are also impacted by the current financial landscape.

Staff recommend retaining the funding levels as proposed in the 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan Consultation Document and supporting information, however it is recommended that additional funding be provided to the Cambridge Community Board to deliver ANZAC Day commemorations. The additional funding will be provided via an existing budget. Currently Armistice Day commemorations are funded from the Sister Cities budget which is separate to the community boards discretionary funds.

7 FUNDING REQUESTS

ID #	Submitter	Details	Staff response
423	Pirongia Historic and Information Centre	Request for an increase in the annual grant – has been \$9,200 (GST included) for the last nine years despite increasing costs. No specific amount requested.	Staff recommend retaining the proposed funding levels for 2024/25. Any increase can be reconsidered as part of the 2025-34 Long Term Plan.
443, 446, 449, 452, 474, 484, 530	Predator Free Cambridge	Seven submissions were received (including from Predator Free Cambridge submission ID #446) requesting additional funding for Predator Free Cambridge. Funding would provide for the continuation of a pest control coordinator position and operational support.	Staff recommend operational funding remains as it is for the current level of service in the Enhanced Annual Plan. Any additional funding or level of service will need to be considered in the 2025-34 Long Term Plan.
444	Sport Waikato	Requested that Council continues to fund Sport Waikato at \$50k plus GST per annum to help provide the Regional Connectivity Coordinator position.	Staff recommend retaining the proposed funding levels for 2024/25.
471	Waikato Screen	Requested \$19,500 grant for 2024/25 to sustain operations, drive growth of the screen sector, and maximise the cultural and economic benefits for the Waikato region.	Staff do not recommend providing funding to Waikato Screen in 2024/25.
511	Te Awamutu Association Football Club	Requested funding for field maintenance and irrigation to the stadium field, allowing better grass cover and the ability to play more games on that field. Also,	Staff recommend that this funding request is declined. As part of the lease agreement, Council is only responsible for the mowing of fields. Staff have

ID #	Submitter	Details	Staff response
		Council purchasing and being responsible for lights at the stadium. This funding was requested in the context of the sportsfields improvement programme being paused and urgent work being required in the meantime.	acknowledged the costs of field maintenance to clubs, which is covered in the Lease Model Review and this can be considered at a future long term plan.
526	Sanctuary Mountain	Requested an increase in funding from \$305k to \$349,399 in line with inflation. Budgets and resources are very stretched.	Staff recommend retaining the proposed funding levels for 2024/25. Any increase in funding can be reconsidered as part of the 2025-34 Long Term Plan.
535	Kakepuku Mountain Conservation Society	Currently receive \$5k a year. Would like Council to consider an increase to this due to rising costs and having to use savings.	Staff recommend retaining the proposed funding levels for 2024/25. Any increase in funding can be reconsidered as part of the 2025-34 Long Term Plan.
540	Safer Communities Cambridge	Requested a one-off grant of \$50k to assist Cambridge Neighbourhood Support and Community Patrol on behalf of the district's urban and rural communities. Also want \$50k in funding in the 2025-34 Long Term Plan.	Given financial constraints, staff do not recommend a one-off grant to Safer Communities Cambridge.
548	Creative Waikato	Requested \$30k per annum towards the development of an 'Arts Action Plan' to provide a high-level strategy on how Council can further integrate arts, culture and creativity into what we do. Funding would also help to deliver: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Cultural wellbeing outcomes; ii. Regional arts strategic activation; iii. Creative capability building in local communities iv. Contribution to local and regional research and insights. 	Given financial constraints, staff do not recommend providing any funding to Creative Waikato.
551	Pirongia Community Hub Executive Committee	Requesting funding for a feasibility study into a new Pirongia Community Hub. Quoted at around \$104k.	Staff met with the Pirongia Rugby and Sports Club (PRSC) in October 2023 to discuss their proposal as it was aligning with the Pirongia

ID #	Submitter	Details	Staff response
			<p>Halls feasibility project that staff were conducting.</p> <p>Staff have provided PRSC with industry expertise for the project that they are embarking on. This consisted of engaging Sport Waikato, Sport NZ and Global Leisure Group, who authored the Sport NZ Sport Hub Guide, as well as other funding agency opportunities.</p> <p>Most external funding agencies require submitters to have at least 33.33% of the funding grant application amount before showing interest in their application.</p> <p>Given this Council could contribute from \$34,664 (33.33%) to \$104,000 (100%). As this would be an operational cost, there would be no impact on Council's debt levels. The rating impact would be an additional 0.04% for a 33.33% contribution or an additional 0.12% for a 100% contribution.</p>

8 OTHER SUBMISSION POINTS

Airport wastewater rate

(Submission IDs 550 and 552)

A new targeted wastewater rate for properties within the Waikato Regional Airport Industrial Precinct was proposed as part of the draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan. The rate will be used to cover the cost of transporting wastewater to the Cambridge Wastewater Treatment Plant. Historically, the property owners have been responsible for wastewater removal themselves.

The two submissions received were opposed to the proposal due to properties utilising wastewater services at different rates rather than the volume of waste originating from each property, and there being no mention of the wastewater service costs reverting to property owners on 1 July 2024 and no prior knowledge of the wastewater agreement.

Staff comment and recommendation

The Titanium Park development located at the airport is provided with reticulated water supply for which the occupiers pay volumetric water charges in line with the rest of the district. The development is also provided with a wastewater network which transmits the wastewater from industrial units to wetwells (future pump stations). Wastewater is transported from these wetwells via sucker trucks to Cambridge wastewater treatment plant where it is treated and discharged.

Currently the developer pays for the transportation cost but from 1 July 2024 this will transfer to Council (until such time as the sub-regional wastewater treatment plant is constructed when the wetwells will be converted to pump stations (at the developers cost) and the wastewater will be pumped to and treated at the new facility).

The operating cost of the network and treatment cost of the wastewater has been met by Council with no cost recovery from the Industrial units since the development was first completed. Hence the cost of operations (maintaining the network, funding depreciation for the installed Council assets) and the cost of treatment have been subsidised by the current wastewater connected properties across the district. To correct this, it is proposed to charge wastewater rates for connected properties in the development (and any future properties) in line with the wastewater charges current industrial areas pay. This is via a pan charge at a rate of \$925.75 per pan (inclusive of GST) for pans 1 to 3. Different rates apply for properties where there are more than 3 pans.

Pausing of the Te Ara Wai project

(Submission IDs 287, 360, 424, 429, 434, 440, 465, 467, 475, 512, 515, 538, 555)

A total of 13 submissions were received on the pausing of the Te Ara Wai project. The majority of submissions noted the following sentiments:

- agreed with Council's decision to pause the project;
- that the project should go ahead when it's affordable;
- is lower priority than other capital projects such as the Cambridge library;
- should be rescoped or scaled back to be more affordable;
- should be scrapped completely;
- is an entirely different project to what was initially consulted on.

Two submissions noted that the museum progressing is important for cultural vitality and that it was a good economic opportunity.

Staff comment and recommendation

The preferred option (non-inflated) included in the business case required \$23.1 million in capital funding, \$8.5 million in external funding and \$1 million operational project funding.

Given financial constraints, staff recommend confirming the pause on the Te Ara Wai project and that this be reconsidered as part of the 2025-34 Long Term Plan.

Pausing of the new Cambridge library project

(Submission IDs 286, 364, 365, 429, 440, 465, 466, 487, 538, 548, 555)

Eleven submissions referred to the pausing of the new Cambridge library project. Themes in these submissions included:

- Cambridge does not need a new library;
- Libraries are outdated;
- New library should be priced within Council's means;
- Disagreed with the library project being paused;
- A new library is a 'nice to have';
- A new library would bring more vibrancy to Cambridge and provide community connections;
- A new library would offer better value for residents than other projects;
- The current library is not fit for purpose.

The Cambridge Community Board (submission ID 440) requested that planning continues on the project including land acquisition.

Staff comment and recommendation

There was no funding indicated in the Enhanced Annual Plan and the project was not planned to start until the 2025/26 year. Given financial constraints, staff recommend confirming the pause on the Cambridge library project and that Council reconsider it as part of the 2025-34 Long Term Plan.

Pausing of sportsfield improvements

(Submission IDs 286, 359, 429, 465, 466, 506, 511, 542, 555)

Nine submissions were received on the proposal to pause the sportsfield improvement programme. Three submitters supported the proposal stating it was not a priority right now and that clubs can raise their own funds. Six submitters opposed the proposal for the following reasons:

- Will negatively impact on clubs' ability to provide ongoing services;
- There is a need for more sports field capacity due to strong population growth;
- The problem will only get worse if investment isn't maintained;
- Pressure on sportsfields is growing because of winter and summer sports seasons coming closer together and, in some cases, overlapping;
- Waikato sport parks are susceptible to poor condition in several locations based on an underlying peat base;
- Increasing the quality and capacity of sports fields helps to meet current and future demand for field sports and in turn participation and physical activity levels.

Submitter 417 (Te Awamutu AFC) also noted their disappointment in the relocation to Castleton Park and noted that it was supportive of the park being developed for a

variety of sporting and community organisations to use. It encouraged Council to undertake a scoping assessment to allow future development to keep progressing.

Staff comment and recommendation

The preferred option included in the business case required \$1.614 million in capital funding and \$88,640 operational project funding for the 2024/25 year.

Given financial constraints, staff recommend confirming the pause on the sportsfields improvement programme and reconsidering it as part of the 2025-34 Long Term Plan.

Pausing of Cambridge town hall upgrades

(Submission IDs 412, 429, 440, 465, 466, 548)

Six submissions were received on the decision to pause funding for proposed 2026/27 upgrades to the Cambridge Town Hall. Two submitters supported the proposal and four submitters opposed. Those who supported the proposal noted it was prudent to do so given the Council's difficult financial position however, the Cambridge Community Board (submission ID 440) noted that the investment should be put back in the early years of the next long term plan.

Those who opposed the proposal stated that the repairs need to be completed with no delays and should be given priority.

Staff comment and recommendation

The preferred option (non-inflated) included in the business case required \$19.8 million, of which \$6 million was being sought from Council. There was no funding indicated in the Enhanced Annual Plan as the project was not planned to start until the 2026/27 year.

Given financial constraints, staff recommend confirming the pause to the 2026/27 Cambridge Town Hall upgrades and to reconsider them as part of the 2025-34 Long Term Plan.

Cambridge town hall operational funding

(Submission IDs 414, 416, 420, 421, 425, 428, 435, 448, 454, 465, 466, 473, 476, 477, 478, 479, 485, 488, 491, 496, 497, 501, 502, 504, 514, 520, 521, 533, 534)

A total of 29 submissions were received opposing the reduced amount of operational funding provided to the Cambridge Town Hall Trust. Reasons for opposing the reduced funding included:

- The town hall is an important asset;
- The town hall is the heart of the community and brings people together;
- The Trust is doing great work;
- Reduced funding could impact the level of service provided;
- Recognises the value the town hall provides to the Cambridge community.

The Cambridge Town Hall Community Trust's submission (submission ID 520) specifically stated that the shortfall could jeopardise the trust's capability to continue operating and maintaining the hall, and to fulfil the trust's commitments and deliverables to the community and Council.

Staff comments and recommendation

An operating grant of \$400,000 has been included for the Cambridge Town Hall Trust in the draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan. Staff anticipate the level of service provided to the community will drop if the Trust does not receive a higher amount. Staff have worked with the Trust to reduce the required amount to \$502,999 (excluding GST).

To ensure that the Lease and Service Agreement between the Trust and Council is met, to support the Trust's 2024/25 Statement of Intent and 10-yr Strategic Plan and to ensure the Asset Management Plan for the Hall can be delivered upon without service level cuts, staff recommend increasing the operational grant to \$502,999. This would have a rating impact of an additional 0.12% for the 2024/25 year. This is operational funding and would not have an impact on Council's debt levels.

New third bridge in Cambridge

(Submission IDs 321, 380, 411, 413, 424, 494, 523, 525, 531, 533, 544, 560)

A total of 12 submissions commented on the third bridge in Cambridge. Six submissions were received requesting funding is allocated to progress Cambridge Connections, specifically to sort the third bridge location.

Two submissions stated that Council cannot afford a third bridge. One submission stated that adding new on/off ramps for Leamington traffic would push out demand for a third bridge. Another submission said a third bridge should be built next to the high level bridge.

Several submissions noted their preferred location of the new bridge.

Staff comments and recommendation

Council has decided to reset the Cambridge Connections project and to continue third bridge investigations once a funding commitment from the NZ Transport Agency is secured. Any decisions relating to Cambridge Connections will be considered once the initial feedback period closes on 24 May 2024.

Miscellaneous

Thriving Communities Collaboration

(Submission ID 495)

Harvey Brookes on behalf of Thriving Communities Collaboration requested that Council:

- commits to maintaining and increasing community funding to support organisations to continue to deliver positive outcomes;
- works with community providers to lead and implement a joint regional food strategy in collaboration with other local authorities;
- engages and funds services from relevant community organisations to co-design civic engagement strategies to enable meaningful and reciprocal access and support for vulnerable communities.

Creative Waikato
(Submission ID 548)

Creative Waikato requested that Council works with it to consider key infrastructure projects and ways in which Council can move forward, specifically how soft infrastructure mechanisms could feed into these projects with a view to it potentially informing the development of the next long term plan.

Housing affordability
(Submission ID 445)

One submission was received on Council's Housing Implementation Plan and concern that it was not explicitly reflected in the draft Enhanced Annual Plan. Furthermore, dedicated resource allocation was requested to ensure intended outcomes are achieved.

Cycle path/pedestrian infrastructure
(Submission IDs 277, 279, 294, 295, 440)

Four submissions noted concerns around a lack of connectivity to cycle paths and footpaths when connecting from Leamington for example, at the Shakespeare/Cook Streets roundabout. Submitters noted that a pedestrian crossing or traffic light system would enable people to safely cross at this busy intersection. Another submitter also requested a crossing between Kingsley Street and the high level crossing.

A further submission from the Cambridge Community Board noted that there is no allocation for new walking and cycling infrastructure adding that such safety improvements add value to our community, especially school children.

Te Awamutu and Kihikihi Community Board
(Submission ID 538)

The Te Awamutu and Kihikihi Community Board requested that it leads and get services involved to assist in the following projects:

- Moving the Perfumed Garden in the Te Awamutu War Memorial Park along a little to enable better access to the pathway for the returned servicemen;
- Provide some adult fitness equipment at several parks (funding already available for this at no cost to ratepayers or council);

- Improve water quality in the lake at the Te Awamutu War Memorial Park until funds become available to complete the upgrades;
- Re-establishing the gravelled walkway between Eileen Montiforte and Fonterra, along the edge of the Te Awamutu College Rugby Fields and Te Waananga o Aotearoa;
- Provide furniture, trees and fix the gate at the new dog park in Pekarau Park.

Staff will liaise with the community board to discuss these requests.

The community board also requested a new footpath/marked walkway in the George Street, Te Awamutu carpark to provide pedestrians with safe passage from the footpath outside McDonalds through to the pedestrian crossing by the toilets and link the crossing with a footpath to the shops on the daycare side of the carpark.

Council staff agree with this submission point and will look to progress this work in stages from current and future maintenance budgets.

Staff comments and recommendation

Staff do not recommend any changes to what was proposed in the draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan in relation to the matters raised in the Miscellaneous section of this report as well as all other submissions received as part of the 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan consultation process.

7 FINANCIAL CHANGES

As a result of staff reviewing the draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan, some changes have been requested. These changes are largely transfers between project codes with no significant impact. Some changes relate to forecast changes for the 2023/24 financial year leading to a change in the draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan budgets and add to an overall increase in capital expenditure for the 2024/25 year of \$1.663 million. Because these are carry-forwards with funding already provided in the 2023/24 year there is no ultimate impact on debt levels, these are simply timing shifts.

Changes to the requirements around Better Off Funding has seen revenue previously earmarked to be used in the Resource Recovery Centre project being reallocated to waters projects. This will mean a change in the incidence of where the rates increases are seen i.e. between general rates and water services rates. Similarly, with changes in the timing of projects where Better Off Funding would be used, this would lead to an increase in the revenue to be recognised in 2024/25. This will not influence the rate requirement as it will be offset against capital cost, however it will contribute to an increase in debt headroom for Council in the 2024/25 year.

8 SIGNIFICANCE & ENGAGEMENT – KAUPAPA WHAI MANA ME NGĀ MATAPAKINGA

Staff have considered the key considerations under the Significance and Engagement Policy, in particular sections 7 and 8 and have assessed that the matters in this report have a high level of significance.

9 OPTIONS – NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA

Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
<p>Option 1: Accept staff recommendations and approve the 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The budget for 2024/25 can be finalised and rates set. Statutory timeframes will be met. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No further opportunity for debate on issues raised in submissions.
<p>Option 2: Do not accept staff recommendations and further consult on the draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further consideration of issues raised in submissions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 30 June 2024 statutory deadline to adopt the Enhanced Annual Plan will be missed. Rates will not be able to be set for the 2024/25 year.

The recommended option is Option 1. The reason for this is there is a requirement for the 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan to be adopted by 30 June 2024. Missing this deadline would mean rates could not be set for the next financial year.

10 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS – HEI WHAIWHAKAARO

Legal and Policy Considerations – Whaiwhakaaro ā-Ture

Staff confirm that staff recommendations comply with Council's legal and policy requirements.

Risks


There are no known significant risks associated with the decisions required for this matter.

11 NEXT ACTIONS

Based on the Committee’s recommendations following hearings and deliberations, the 2024/25 Annual Plan will be presented to Council for adoption on 25 June 2024 followed by the setting of rates.

12 APPENDIX- ĀPITITANGA

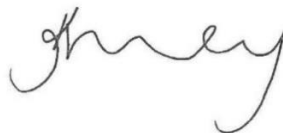
No:	Appendix Title
1	Submissions received on the draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan (ECM #11225244)



Anthea Sayer
SENIOR STRATEGIC POLICY ADVISOR



Melissa Russo
MANAGER STRATEGY



Kirsty Downey
GROUP MANAGER STRATEGY



Ken Morris
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE / GROUP MANAGER BUSINESS SUPPORT

APPENDIX 1

Submissions received on the draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan (document number 11225244)

Submission/Event: 563

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No. The WDC needs to be more focused on supplying essential services only. 1. Cancel any increase in grants including Mountain Bike Club. 2. Cancel all grants/funding for museum, heritage, art sites and their collections. These can be funded by entry fees. The entry free return will determine if ratepayers want to maintain and keep these facilities/nice to have but not essential. 3. Playground and public toilets must be maintained - essential for physical and mental health. 4. Stop cycleway projects. 5. All money saved to be spent on roads, three waters, resource recovery and growth of essential services.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
The councils purpose is to supply roads, three waters, cemeteries, waste disposal. All else is 'nice to have' but not the council's function. In a crisis time these items are excess and must be put aside until the crisis has passed. | WDC is in a crisis! Stick to essential services.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Sandra Gail
<i>Last Name</i>	Holmes
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	461

Submission/Event: 562

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
The water tower is an historic structure. It was Cambridge's first public water supply build to hold water piped from the Moon Spring, itself an historic site to tangata whenua. |At the beginning of its life at the start of the 20th century a local fire brigade had a reliable water source for fighting fires. |The structure itself has Heritage NZ category listing. |Is a time of financial constraint a good time to make these decisions? Once it's gone it's gone.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Restoration to a reasonable level is still possible. |There was talk of removing the heavy steel tank from the top to help stabilize the structure. |Is there a rush to make a decision? |Heritage NZ has funds available for helping to retain historic structures.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Margaret
<i>Last Name</i>	Gasquoine
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	460

Submission/Event: 561

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
There appears to be a lack of appreciation in the growth of C4. Kotare paid Council \$500,000 for the playground in Kotare Park 12 months ago. That work doesn't appear on your capital programme. | Very little if any money no transportation funds for C4 Te Awamutu/Cambridge Road roundabout. We are about to consent 130 sections in C4. Council wants to use our land for construction laydown area. However, are we just to wait until Council tells us when they want it?

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Restoring the tower is dependent on cost. It may be we can't afford it.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	John
<i>Last Name</i>	Illingsworth
<i>Organisation</i>	Kotare Properties
<i>Id</i>	459

Submission/Event: 560

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I personally think that there is a lot of talking about the future Waipa eg bridge that I in my late 70s will never see, discussions re spending millions of dollars in this instance the 'water tower'. I would rather see any future developments to have a beginning and ending on projects to have a maximum time constraint of not more than 10 years max.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
We should be looking into projects that we as residents ie ratepayers and renters now so that most of the elder people will at least get some benefit from changes to Waipa. In the near future I believe Council should be concentrating of purchasing land for the bridge now not in 20 or 30 years time, choose 2 or 3 possible sites, inform the residents of Waipa, as to where they are and stick to it - what about a bypass similar to what happened in Taupo. Now if you want to go to Napier you don't have to go through Taupo. Just a thought.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	David George
<i>Last Name</i>	Wilson
<i>Organisation</i>	Cambridge Grey Power
<i>Id</i>	458

Submission/Event: 559

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Cambridge Federated Farmers does not support the view that WDC has the balance right with an average rates increase of 14.8%. This is very much above recent inflation rates and mortgage interest rates. Every business both urban and rural and households have costs they haven't control over. But just like WDC they do have costs they do have control over and have to exercise this cost cutting to survive. The WDC is no different with this exercise. Ratepayers have to be told and have explained that their expectations of standards of service and amenities has to be lowered according to budget restrictions.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	R
<i>Last Name</i>	Myers
<i>Organisation</i>	Cambridge Federated Farmers
<i>Id</i>	457

Submission/Event: 555

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/186

Stakeholder

First Name

Sharon

Last Name

Stirling

Organisation

Id

33



Draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan

Sharon Stirling

495 Mutu St

Te Awamutu 3800

sharon.stirling@xtra.co.nz

027 280 4010

I wish to speak to Council.

S D Stirling

Submission to Council

Enhanced Annual Plan 2024/2025

Cambridge Water Tower

DO NOT demolish this listed Heritage Structure

I'm hearing from a number of Cambridge people I'm in contact with, that they are about as **unhappy** at the idea of their Historic places being demolished, as we are here in Te Awamutu.

The report you received from BCD in August 2023 offers 3 possible solutions. May I suggest choosing one of the slightly less expensive options to temporarily secure the Water Tower.

Alternatively, I'd like to suggest you fund this full restoration project from asset sales, as you preferred to do 3 years ago, in regard to a variety of unpopular projects you wanted our permission to embark on.

DO NOT demolish this listed Heritage Structure

Have we got the balance right?

Not quite

Please rethink your decision to withdraw all funding to the 2 Information Centres (Te Awamutu and Cambridge). Maybe halve their funding, and encourage them to find other sources of income or cost savings.

Please rethink your funding of Community Board's discretionary funds. These funding rounds help so many smaller community groups, with a myriad of proactive good ideas to keep our communities entertained and enlightened. This is the stuff thriving communities are made of.

The tens of thousands of dollars you are saving by cutting funding to these two sectors is piddly in comparison to your tens or hundreds of millions in glamorous projects, but is the end of the world for many small community groups.

From page 11 of your consultation document – the things you've paused...

Te Ara Wai, Cambridge Library, Te Awamutu – Pirongia cycleway, can all stay on hold until we are in a much better position in regard to rates increases, and borrowing beyond what we will ever repay.

Sports field improvements should be higher priorities as soon as practical, provided they remain under control of the local groups currently leasing them.

Pensioner housing, along with basic standard housing is an ongoing issue. Please find a way to make it easier for developers to build simple affordable houses for ordinary New Zealanders of all ages to live in. We don't all need marble floors and diamond encrusted sink taps.

The things you're pressing on with...

I'm pleased to see some sort of Resource Recovery Centre is underway. And that brings me to the next topic I'd like to say something about...

Refuse (rubbish) collection

Late last year you were workshopping some ideas about rubbish collection. This is a core responsibility of Council, which WaipaDC should never have ceased to perform. I'm disappointed you haven't asked us in this "consultation" for guidance on what we'd like you to do in this "space".

My response to the questions you were planning to ask is, Yes, Council should take responsibility for waste disposal. I would choose the "pay as you throw" wheelie bin option, assuming it will be cheaper than commercial operators who need to make a profit. Please try to achieve economy of scale by being the best price/best service option available.

I imagine you will be taking responsibility for all waste and recycling, and therefore be able to better sort the recyclables and reduce landfill waste. Please continue planning this with a view to implementing ASAP.

A couple of topics I raised 3 years ago...

Mangaohoi and Mangapiko stream erosion control

From my LTP submission 2021:

Repair and restoration of our riverbanks is absolutely vital, and long overdue. I'm mildly excited to examine the **Mangaohoi/Mangapiko: Erosion Control and Amenity Enhancement** project PR 2217, and am pleased to see Anna McElrea's name attached to this project. I have stated on numerous occasions that our riverbanks are a complete disaster, and in urgent need of repair and restoration. I would like to see this project proceed at a slightly faster pace. Please complete reaches 4, 5 & 6 during the first 2 years, reaches 7, 8, 9 & 10 in years 3 & 4. Reaches 1, 2 & 3 could be done in year 5. I'm unable to find the detail of this project as far as retaining existing healthy trees, but surely this will be appropriate.

I'm so disappointed to report that in the 3 years since, nothing has happened, except more erosion, more trees falling into the streams during storms, and more large litter such as fence panels and bicycles have been deposited in our stream. The longer you put this off, the greater the mess to be cleaned up, and the more expensive everything becomes.

Please make the repair and restoration of our streams a greater priority. Thank you.

Climax Engine

From my LTP submission 2021:

*Please attend to the **relocation of the Climax Engine**. I understand talks are underway. This has taken far too long. The people of Te Awamutu need to see our "Train" on display.*

The talks that were underway at the time resulted in a MOU where you promised to continue to try to find a place to display our Climax Engine, but gave yourself an escape clause to give up if it all got too hard. That has been the Modus Operandi of WaipaDC for as long as anyone can remember. That is why this community are becoming increasingly disillusioned with Council.

Please just "get on with it". Thank you.

Nearly there, just a couple of more items to offer you my thoughts...

Heritage Trail

This has been discussed a few times at Community Board meetings, and other places. Please stop procrastinating over this. We don't need to wait another ten years for a multi zillion dollar hundred year project. Please organise something much simpler, and reasonably priced, so local people can have input, and erect a collection of signage around our town, to advise and inform visitors, and newer members of the community, just what we have, and how we got this far. May I suggest a smaller fund offered to both Community Boards, with permission to get this done, along with a contingency fund for annual inspection and repairs, replacements or additions.

It is my view that a lot of the dereliction, damage and erosion of so many of our precious possessions could have been avoided, if newer Council Staff had been educated as to just what it is they were expected to care for. Examples being War Memorial Park, Information Centre, Cambridge Water Tower, Borough Council buildings on Roche st, the list goes on and on.

War Memorial Park

WaipaDC are responsible for the perpetual maintenance of this, our town's War Memorial. I'm pleased to know you are pausing your unwanted demolition and replacement projects for this most sacred place. It would be nice to hear about your routine maintenance budget.

Maybe over the coming year your staff could take some FREE guidance from the community as to the routine maintenance required to keep our property in good order. This would save all of us a lot of money and distress. This brings me to my last topic.

Money making / cost saving schemes

Please develop a habit of taking your first advice from this community. That advice will be freely offered, and is the best advice you will get anywhere. This would enable you to curtail your habit of spending hideous amounts of our money on poor quality advice from “experts” who live and work elsewhere, and have no idea of our requirements.

Take a good hard look at the number of staff who spend their time planning, and re-planning, and re-re-planning all kinds of ideas we don't want or need, which end up not happening anyway. *Mangaohoi/Mangapiko: Erosion Control and Amenity Enhancement* for example. By the time you get around to doing any work, the situation will be so much worse, and you'll have to start again. I'm not demanding you sack anyone straight off, maybe when people leave, don't replace them straight away.

Seriously consider enforcing your own bylaws, eg Dog Control, if you were to impose the fines available on individuals who intentionally let their dogs loose in areas which are not dog exercise areas you would have pots of money available to erect more appropriate signage, install new doggie-do bins, properly fence the dog exercise areas, install seating and plant trees in those areas etc... I wouldn't suggest imposing fines where there has been an accidental escape or malicious release. These situations are already distressing for dog owners.

Save us all a fortune by not putting fluoride in any WaipaDC water supplies.

In conclusion

Please focus on the things that are important to this community. The simple things we need such as clean water, and safe passage to go about our regular business.

Please get the little things right, the first time!

And before you decide to embark on any more multi zillion dollar big city projects, please prove you are able to take proper care of what we already have.

Thank you

Submission/Event: 552

Full Response

- 1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-
- 2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 Your letter 11204822 of 8 April refers. || My Company Hypur Investments Limited owns 2 properties in Ossie James Drive and I am totally disgusted at the Council's decision to introduce a Pan Tax in the manner stated in your letter. || Many of the buildings in this area are utilised as storage facilities or contain activities that often mean that they are un-occupied by people and therefore create little in the way of wastewater. For example the toilets in both of my buildings have not been used at all during the past 4 months! || You say that your system is the fairest way to ensure all properties pay their fair share of the cost of waste disposal, but the arbitrary basis you have settled on could not be further from the truth. || If the system is to be fair then it has to be based on the volume of waste originating from each property and whilst I realise this is not currently measured, the practice that is used in some other centres of using the amount of water delivered to the property as a tool should have been considered. || To scale the fees based on the number of toilets is also unrealistic because it assumes that each toilet will be less frequently used the more there are. On what basis can you make such an assumption. || One also has to question how Council permitted this large development to proceed without proper consideration being given to a sustainable long term system being installed by the Developer that was not going to add to Council's on going costs. || It is almost beyond belief that the Airport are now passing this cost over to the Council, and you have accepted it, although I guess they have probably by now completed most of the land sales and reaped all the massive profits. || But then perhaps maybe it's not so surprising given that the Airport is owned by you along with other Councils and see this as an easy way to take in more funds. || I believe you have a duty to reveal your costings and assumptions to all property owners affected so we can properly consider the alternative options. || I look forward to receiving the additional information and explanations that should be forthcoming to justify your conclusions and final policy.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 No

I have attached additional information
 -

Stakeholder

First Name	Doug
Last Name	O'Hagan
Organisation	Hypur Investments Ltd
Id	454

Submission/Event: 551

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/183

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/184

Stakeholder

First Name

Michael

Last Name

Earwaker

Organisation

Pirongia Community Hub Executive Committee

Id

453

Pirongia Community Hub Executive Committee
C/- M Earwaker
408 Ormsby Rd
RD6
Te Awamutu
0272 818 931

23rd April 2024

Dear Waiapā District Councillors

Please see attached a proposal for the re-development of the existing Pirongia Rugby Sports Complex. The goal is to develop a modern, functional and flexible space for all members of the Pirongia and the wider community to come together to enjoy sports, social and cultural activities now and in the future.

We feel this project fits well with the Waipā District Council's goals and long-term plan of building vibrant, connected and livable communities that are well-planned and provide recreation areas for health and social well-being.

As such the Pirongia Community Hub Executive Committee is asking for consideration for funding assistance for the feasibility study of this project. This study has been quoted at \$104,000 by DMC (Design Management Consultants Ltd). We also hope to bring this project to your attention as further support from the council now and into the future would be appreciated.

I can be contacted at any time to further discuss this project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Michael Earwaker
Pirongia Community Hub Executive Committee.

Pirongia Community Hub Proposal

Overview

This project aims to develop the existing Pirongia Rugby and Sports Club (PRSC) into a modern, functional and flexible space for all members of the Pirongia and wider community to come together to enjoy sports, social and cultural activities now and in the future.

Need and Justification

The population of Pirongia is growing, another 230 households are expected by 2050 (Waipā, 2020). This project aims to support and improve the quality of life for Pirongia's residents and add to the assets of the community. The current Waipā District Council's long-term plan aims to build vibrant, connected and liveable communities. The re-development of the PRSC would support the provision of recreational facilities that in turn provide for the health and social well-being of the community. The aim is to develop a modern facility that can support a wide range of sports, cultural and social activities, which in turn will enhance hauora in our community as well as providing a resource so that we can continue to produce top athletes supporting Waipā as the home of champions.

Objectives

- To create modern, flexible spaces for new and existing sports and community organisations.
- To create collaborative spaces, maximise facility usage and ensure efficient use of resources.
- To serve the village and its visitors.
- To provide recreation for youth who may struggle to find opportunities for recreation and support in smaller rural towns.
- To grow youth participation in sport. To keep young people engaged in sport so when they leave high school they have a home club and facility to return to.
- To foster a love of being active no matter a person's age or stage, by providing a facility that supports inclusivity in sports.
- To be a professional, well governed and managed facility that is sustainable now and into the future.

Implementation Plan

A staged plan has been created (Appendix 1)

We predict the project to be completed in 6 years. Year one will see the completion of a feasibility study, structural assessment and seismic review, (currently underway),

structural assessments of the existing building, community consultation (completed), development of new plans and fundraising (aim to raise \$30,000).

Budget

The budget has been broken into stages following the staged implementation plan. This allows fundraising, sponsorship and grant applications to be manageable.

The sources of income are

- Sponsorship and Partnerships; PRSC has a strong history of creating lasting connections with local organisations who share and support its vision.
- Funding opportunities; the project supports our community and we feel is a great candidate for many existing funding opportunities.
- Fundraising; again the existing PRSC has a strong history of support for its fundraising endeavours. A separate fundraising sub-committee has been formed to target three \$10,000 fundraising events in the first year. The aim of these events is not only to raise funds but to share the vision of the redeveloped facility and to be an opportunity for the community to come together and enhance community spirit and well-being.

There has already been exceptional support from local businesses when this idea has been discussed. \$6000 of concept plan drawings has already been donated.

Community Engagement

An online and paper survey was carried out from the 11th of December 2023 until the 31st January 2024 (see Appendix 2). This survey asked respondents about their use of the current PRSC facility and what they would like to see in a redeveloped facility. 86 responses were received. From these responses, 84% of people currently use the existing complex. The current use consists mostly of sporting activities with rugby, squash and netball being the most frequent sports respondents were involved with. The complex is also currently used for social events. Respondents were asked what they would like to see in a redeveloped community hub. In addition to the current sports catered for there was a demand for basketball and gym facilities. Other facilities such as meeting rooms, a skate park and medical rooms were also requested. 92% of survey respondents stated they would use a redeveloped facility 10 or more times a year.

The project is supported by the clubs currently using the PRSC.

The community will be kept informed of the progress of the project through the Facebook page, advertising and through our fundraising events.

Sustainability

Our goal is that this facility is sustainable into the future. For this to happen it needs to be managed and planned correctly from the outset. The executive committee in charge

of planning and implementation is committed to this. The aim is for the facility to be professionally managed and overseen by a board of directors who will provide governance and strategic direction.

Risk and Mitigation

This project is a large and lengthy undertaking and as such there are risks.

Financial:

The financial risk is we do not receive enough funds through either fundraising, funding sources or sponsorships to complete the project. To mitigate this risk a stage approach has been adopted. Each stage costed and budgeted and to be completed and financed before the next stage is undertaken.

Community Support

This project relies on the support of the local community. As our community engagement survey showed there is large interest and support in the community for a redeveloped facility. We will be relying on the community for financial support as well in the form of fundraising and sponsorship. The fundraising committee has incorporated consideration of requests for financial assistance in its fundraising proposals.

Fundraisers are planned to also increase community involvement and well-being.

The other risk is that the community involvement in sport and other recreational activities decreases over time meaning the facility is no longer utilised to its full potential. While we see the decrease in participation in sport as a real risk we feel that having a modern and accessible facility in our community as a major mitigation to this risk.

Conclusion

Pirongia is well known for its close-knit community ties and community spirit. A re-developed community hub facility will only strengthen this existing spirit and ensure it endures into the future. The well-being of all people in our communities from youth to the elderly relies on the ability to participate in a variety of sports, social and cultural activities, this facility will provide an opportunity for the Pirongia community to do this.

References

Waipā District Council. (October 2020). Pirongia village concept plan refresh.

Waipā District Council (October 2022). Long-term plan. Version 7.

Appendix 1

PIRONGIA SPORTS AND RECREATION CENTER

STAGE OUTLINE

STAGE		NOTES include timelines, milestones, any partnership/collaborations needed throughout each phase.	CHECK
1. Project initiation	Define Objectives	Goal: This project aims to develop the existing Pirongia Rugby and Sports Club (PRSC) into a modern, functional and flexible space for all members of the Pirongia and wider community to come together to enjoy sports, social and cultural activities now and in the future.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Feasibility Study	<input type="checkbox"/> Engaged with Livingstone Brothers point of contact Sarah Livingston (cost involved) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Feasibility study - DMC <input type="checkbox"/> Structural assessment - DMC <input type="checkbox"/> Seismic assessment - DMC 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Project Team Formation	<input type="checkbox"/> Steering committee - Micheal Earwaker, Jo Earwaker, Don Grey, Layne Kerr, Dona Hobbs <input type="checkbox"/> Project Manager: (Livingstons) <input type="checkbox"/> Architect: Tim Gizler <input type="checkbox"/> Engineer: Dmc Ltd <input type="checkbox"/> Accountant: Layne Kerr - Bailey Ingham (time donated)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Budget	Based on Scope and objectives	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Site Selection and Acquisition	Site Analysis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pirongia Recreation Sports Ground <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community needs assessed <input type="checkbox"/> Accessibility assessed - existing club rooms to be used during the build. <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental impact (minimal - existing grounds used)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Land Acquisition	Approval from Pirongia Recreation Sports Committee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. Design and Planning	Architectural Design	<input type="checkbox"/> Concept plans drawn up - Tim Gizler (time donated) <input type="checkbox"/> Final Plans drawn up - Tim Gizler (cost involved)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Engineering Design	Develop detailed engineering plans for construction and infrastructure (cost involved)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Regulatory Approvals	Obtain permits from Waipa District Council	<input type="checkbox"/>

		<input type="checkbox"/> Building permit (<i>would council be willing to waive payments for this process?</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Road and transport permit (<i>would council be willing to waive payments for this process?</i>)	
	Community Input	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey completed seek needs and preferences <input type="checkbox"/> Feedback information night	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Construction	Contract Selection	Choose after a bidding process <i>Options could be to use different builders from community to do different stages of build - ask for sponsored time - permanent signage as payment.</i> <i>Need a project manager - we have lots of builders, plumbers, brickies in the community that may be willing to give time to the build.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Construction kick off	Begin construction with groundbreaking ceremony - working bee,	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Regular inspections	To ensure quality and adherence to plans - checkpoints discuss these checkpoints with project manager, architect and engineer.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Project Management	Project Manager Track progress and manage timelines	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Facility Equipment and Furnishings	Procurement	Sports equipment cost - assigned to sports clubs using the facility Furniture: Sports and Recreation cost Miscellaneous: Sports and Recreation cost	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Installation	Sports and Recreation working bee organised	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Testing and Quality Assurance	Systems Testing	Final sign off	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Quality Control	Final sign off	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Training and Staffing	Staff Recruitment	Board of Trustees for the Sports and Recreation facility Facility Manager (staff management, facility/grounds maintenance, facility operations) Cleaning staff Bar staff Office Staff (bookings officer, wages, cashflow) Grounds staff	<input type="checkbox"/>
	User Training	Operations manual for staff User manual for users of venue Performance monitoring - Board of Trustees	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Marketing and Community Outreach	Official Opening	Grand opening event to showcase the facility.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Marketing Campaigns	Acknowledge sponsors, partners Attract users and members	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Community Engagement	Ongoing programs and events	<input type="checkbox"/>

9 Evaluation and Feedback	User feedback	Collect feedback to make improvements	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Performance Evaluation	Evaluate facility performance against initial objectives	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Sustainability Measures	Green Initiatives		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Community Impact		<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>

Appendix 2

Results from Pirongia Rugby Sports Club Complex redevelopment community survey.

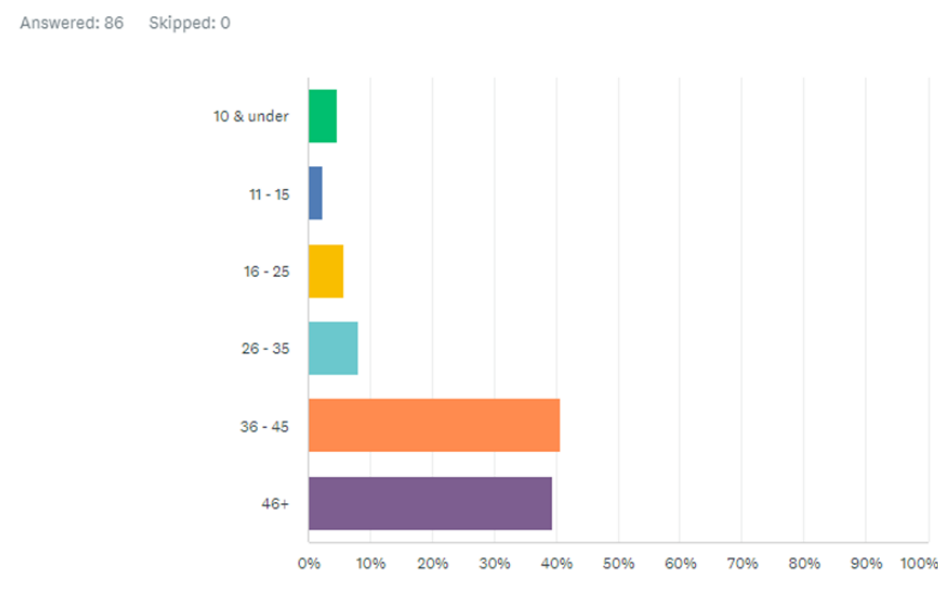
Survey open from 11 December 2023 until 31 January 2024. Electronic survey monkey shared via local Facebook pages and paper copies available through sports clubs and at local Four Square.

86 total responses

Where do you live?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ Pirongia	83.53% 71
▼ Ngāhinapouri	4.71% 4
▼ Ngutunui	3.53% 3
▼ Hamilton	2.35% 2
▼ Ōhaupō	2.35% 2
▼ Te Pahu	3.53% 3
▼ Ōtorohanga	0.00% 0
Total Respondents: 85	

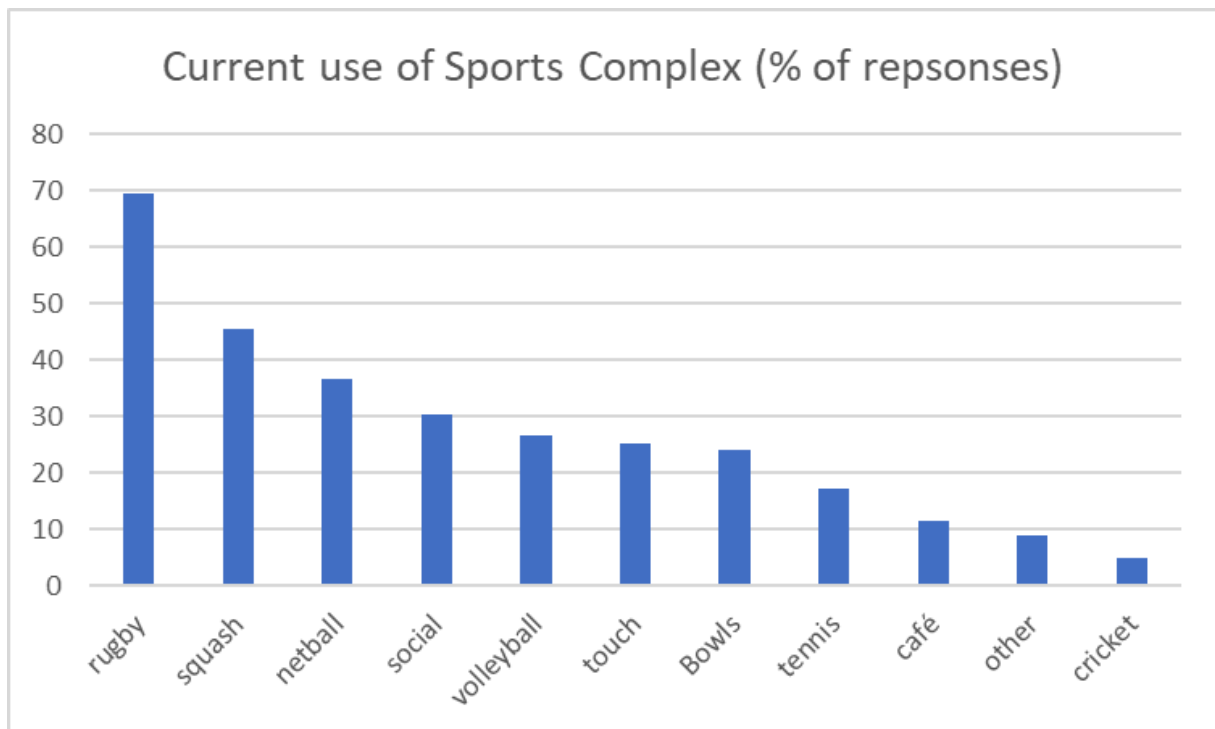
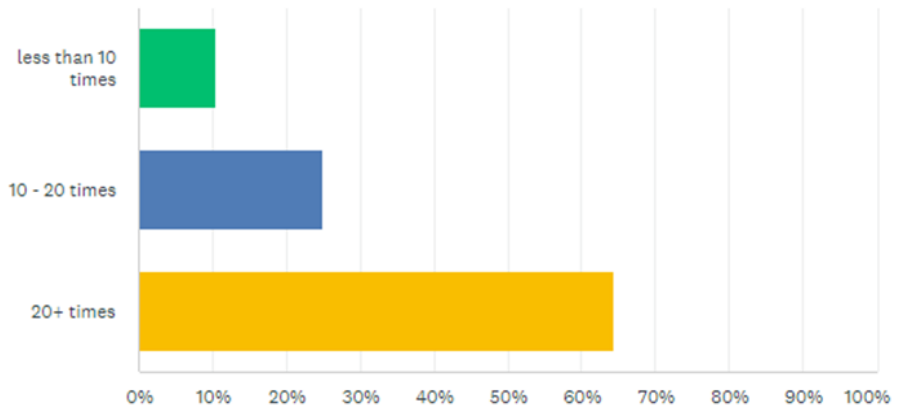
Age breakdown of respondents:



83.5% of respondents currently use the existing sports complex.

If you currently use the sports centre how often annually?

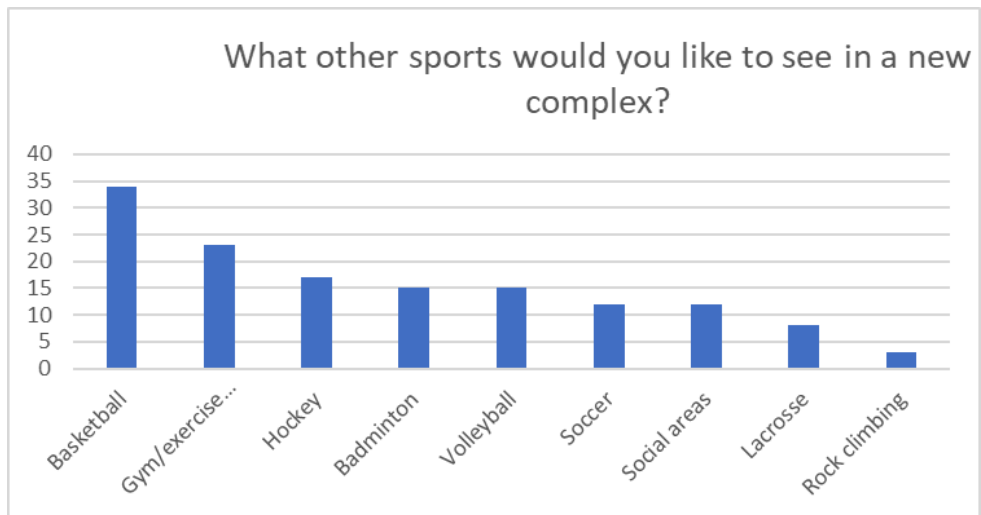
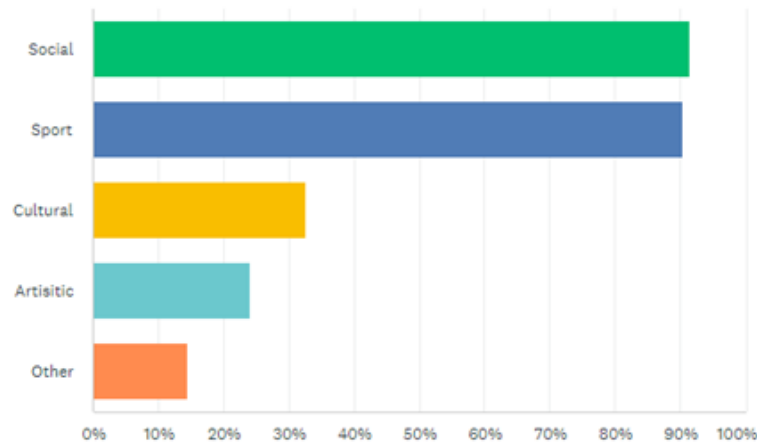
Answered: 76 Skipped: 10

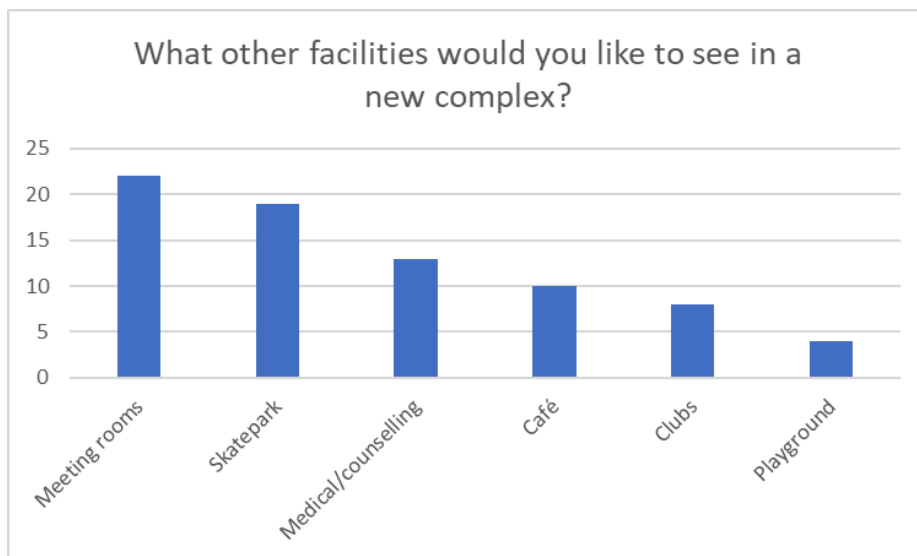


96.7% of respondents would use a newly developed sports complex

If you would use a re-developed community hub, what activities would you participate in?

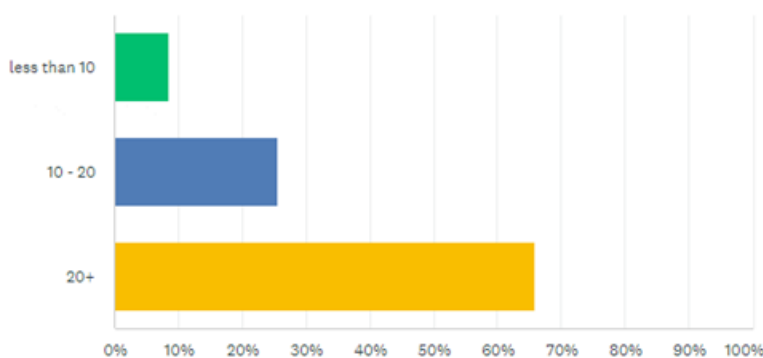
Answered: 83 Skipped: 3





How often do you think you would use a re-developed facility (annually)?

Answered: 82 Skipped: 4



92% of respondents would use the facility if it was suitable for weddings/funerals etc.

There were 2 respondents not in favour of redeveloping the complex. Their responses:

Leave it as is Enough facilities in our local town (Te Awamutu) that we need to support!

There are so many facilities in the Waipa that are under utilised and cost the community to fund and maintain. Why do these groups not work together to ensure they can meet the needs for the community but not be wasteful?

Submission/Event: 550

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

I'm the owner of two properties on Ossie James drive and I have not received a letter from you outlining your intent to charge for wastewater but instead found out at our recent AGM. || As an owner and therefore a rate payer I would have expected that this letter of intent would arrive in a timely manner so that we could respond accordingly. || I strongly object to the addition of extra rates simply because some arrangement that we are not privy to has become inconvenient. || The developer paid developer fees and I pay my rates. The configuration and agreed terms of configuration for wastewater treatment in the subdivision consent were made between the council & the land owner. || No mention of the wastewater service costs reverting to property owners on 1 July 2024 whether by agreement or because the airport have sold the land on and don't want to honour the deal now that they have the cake, is anywhere to be found on any document available to purchasers. || Had this shady deal and ridiculous wastewater scheme been known to us we would never have purchased the property. || The whole subdivision currently has its waste water stored in ponds which are pumped into trucks and driven to a treatment plant! In Cambridge! || My god man, what on earth were you lot thinking. Ill-conceived, shortsighted, idiocy. || The council took shortcuts and made this mess so the council can foot the cost. || I make formal my objection to the council's intent to cover the cost of their blunder by charging unfair, unreasonable and ludicrously expensive amounts to property owners. || So stop your negotiations with the original land owner and enforce the costs or pay them from the council wastewater budget. || Either way this is not my problem and I refuse to accept the financial burden. The burden of these costs remain with the council & the owner, Hamilton airport. || Who by the way owns the Hamilton Airport by chance? Oh that's right the 5 councils do. || What a joke. I'll hear nothing more of it.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Mike

Last Name

Ahern

Organisation

Id

452

Submission/Event: 549

Full Response

- 1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-
- 2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
I'm deeply concerned about the proposed funding cuts to Hamilton Waikato Tourism (HWT). These cuts threaten our region's competitiveness and ability to attract visitors. Travellers have choices and we must make Hamilton and Waikato compelling options. Timely investment is essential to maintain our market advantage. Council funding leverages additional investment, driving economic growth across the region. Without it, we risk reduced marketing, support, and visitor spending. The Hamilton Waikato region benefits greatly from tourism, making continued funding crucial for our prosperity. Please reconsider|these cuts and prioritize our tourism sector's long-term success.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Dan
<i>Last Name</i>	Adlington
<i>Organisation</i>	The Red Barn
<i>Id</i>	451

Submission/Event: 548

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/178

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/179

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/180

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/181

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/182

Stakeholder

First Name

Jeremy

Last Name

Mayall

Organisation

Creative Waikato

Id

450

Submission by: Creative Waikato

This submission is made in response to Waipā District Council's Enhanced Annual Plan 2024-25.

1. Council's activities

- Creative Waikato would firstly like to thank Waipā District Council for the work it does. We appreciate that it is complicated and challenging having to balance so many competing priorities. We acknowledge the time and energy that goes into these processes.
- Creative Waikato supports Waipā District Council's Strategic Direction and vision '**Waipā Home of Champions: Building Connected Communities**', and its commitment to community outcomes: 'Socially resilient, Cultural Champions, Environmental Champions, Economically Progressive'. We acknowledge that these outcomes have *community wellbeing at the heart*.
- Creative Waikato has aligned these outcomes with focus areas in the Waikato Arts Navigator - our regional arts strategy - see point 7.
- In addition to this submission, Creative Waikato has provided an LTP Councillor briefing and updated high-level infrastructure plan for your consideration. We outline these briefly in this submission.
- Creative Waikato is keen to ensure Council consults and engages with Creative Waikato as a key strategic partner that focuses on capability building in the arts, culture and creative ecosystem of Waikato.

2. Summary of Feedback in connection to Art, Culture and Creativity

Creative Waikato has identified the following opportunities for Council to consider when finalising the Enhanced Annual Plan 2024/2025. The following relates to projects Council has paused.

Te Ara Wai Museum

- Creative Waikato acknowledges that Te Ara Wai Museum has been in the planning stages for a few years and much work has been undertaken behind the scenes.
- Waipā District Council recognised that this Museum would be of national significance in that it would tell the story of the 1864 Land Wars that is unique to 'Waipā'.
- It would provide places for discovery, questioning and learning, and visitors would be able to take pathways through natural landscapes, battle sites and early settlements that formed the Waipā community and shaped Aotearoa New Zealand as a nation¹.
- This project aligns with Council's community outcomes in that 'it would attract people to Waipā as a great place to work and stay' (Socially resilient), 'would champion the unique history of Waipā' (Cultural

¹ \$1 million boost for Te Ara Wai'

<https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/our-council/news?item=id:27fic2s3r17q9sedv3ip> 10 September 2019.

Champions), and ‘provide new infrastructure as an economic stimulus for our district’ as well as promote ‘Waipā as a great place to invest and do business’ (Economically Progressive).

Cambridge Town Hall upgrades

- Creative Waikato was a key stakeholder in the initial consultation and visioning phase of the Cambridge Town Hall.
- Meaningful engagement with community groups and stakeholders, facilitated well and led by a strong and motivated trust, were pivotal elements in the success of this project.
- It has been pleasing to see engagement with arts, cultural and community groups and ongoing activation.
- It is important to continue to build on this momentum and fund further upgrades, so that the Hall can reach its full potential and remain a ‘Village Heart’ to serve and inspire the whole community.
- It is important to note the importance of reinstating the operational funding to the Cambridge Town Hall to the earlier agreement of \$500k per annum rather than the proposed \$400k. The team at the town hall have been doing remarkable work to activate this space, bring in touring performances, and create a vibrant creative and cultural heart to Cambridge. We encourage the council to continue to support this work.

A new Cambridge Library

- Investment in libraries, in conjunction with investment in soft infrastructure can support community groups and local artists to work in partnership with Council.
- Libraries are community spaces, where people connect and can access education, digital spaces, things like Wi-Fi, computers, printers and scanners, which are necessary in this digital age. It is important that people can access these, even if they do not have them in their own homes.
- A new library would complement the Cambridge Town Hall and other developments providing further vibrancy to this growing area.

The following relates to proposed removal or reduction of funding:

Proposal	Creative Waikato response
<p>No longer funding or temporarily reducing the amount spent on some planned renewals This includes in cemeteries, libraries, parks and reserves, property, public toilets, community halls, roading and footpaths, water and wastewater</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As the Waipā district grows and families move to the district, they need free, accessible spaces to play and connect with others in their communities. • Libraries, parks and reserves and community halls are key community

	<p>assets. They provide connection points and enable social cohesion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is important that these assets are prioritised for the wellbeing of Waipā's communities. • There is opportunity to engage local artists in the development of public play spaces, and to consider how creative activation can contribute to thriving neighbourhoods.
<p>Reduction of discretionary grants funding by \$216,800</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funding to each of the two community boards from \$49,000 to \$20,000 - Reducing the Pirongia Ward committee grant funding from \$27,600 to \$10,000 - Halving the District Promotion Fund from \$150,000 to \$75,000 - Halving the Heritage Fund amount from \$75,000 to \$35,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction of grants to community boards, grant funding (Pirongia Ward), District Promotion and Heritage Funds means that communities have less access to vibrant events and opportunities that enable them to be 'socially resilient'.
<p>Reduction in funding for Te Waka of \$50,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a growing district, it is important to consider the implications of reducing funding to agencies such as Te Waka which is tasked with driving residents and visitors to the district.
<p>Reduction in funding for Hamilton Waikato Tourism from \$183,379 to \$146,703</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism contributes to the sustainability of creative organisations who deliver events and tourism outcomes, as well as contributions to national audience engagement for local creative activity.
<p>No longer providing a Community Events Fund</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not providing a Community Events Fund means that access to vibrant events and opportunities would be impacted, with a risk of losing community events altogether. Particularly those that make Waipā District unique.

<p>No longer funding Cambridge and Te Awamutu i-sites</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I-sites enhance coordination across services and improve access to them, build community and improve interaction, as well as strengthen relationships and collaboration with other agencies.
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Fees and charges

- Creative Waikato acknowledges that there are slight increases for fees and charges (library, library community space, Museum fees and event spaces - Mighty River Domain).
- It is important that fees and charges are kept minimal so that spaces and services are accessible for communities.

Council as a key enabler

- Councils have a responsibility to provide for cultural wellbeing. Reducing already limited funds will have a detrimental impact on community groups and key strategic organisations that work hard to provide opportunities for Waipā communities.

Cambridge Water Tower - removal or restoration

- The Cambridge Water Tower is a Category 2 listed building, which means it is considered to have historical or cultural significance or value. The tower is also identified as a Category B heritage item in Council’s Operative District Plan (ODP), meaning it also has regional and district wide significance.
- The tower, although no longer used, has become an icon for some of the Waipā community.
- Places of heritage tell stories of our past. They are locations we value and connect to as New Zealanders. It is important to protect them.² Once the tower is demolished, it is lost for future generations forever.
- It is important that Council considers these options carefully and strategically, and not only prioritise immediate cost efficiencies at the expense of losing precious heritage assets for future generations.

3. Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan

- The rate of change over the past 10 years has been unprecedented with a global pandemic, climate crises, civil unrest and technological advances.
- There is a need for Aotearoa to have co-ordinated, connected and cross-sector approaches and policies that align with cohesive objectives which will be essential for our social and economic systems if we are to thrive.³

² Tātai Aho Rau - Learnz

<https://www.learnz.org.nz/heritage223/discover/looking-after-heritage-sites>

³ New Zealand Productivity Commission, ‘Looking to the future’

<https://www.productivity.govt.nz/publications/looking-to-the-future/read-online-html/>

- The Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan recognises the important role of the creative sector in helping to grow the liveability of the Waikato region and its communities, and provide financial and economic benefit for the region, through driving increased tourism and local resident demand.

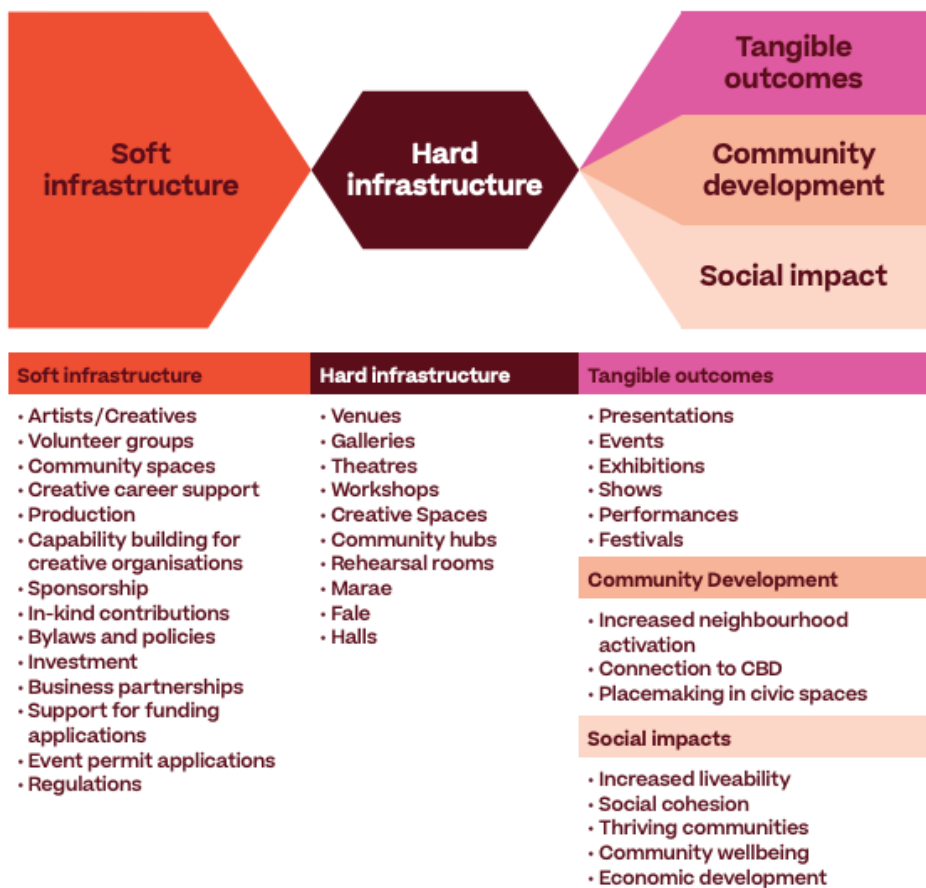
Importance of Soft Infrastructure

- Although the plan includes Hard infrastructure (or Built infrastructure). There is an emphasis on *soft infrastructure* which are the services required to maintain the economic, environmental, cultural and social standards of a society. It includes non-physical assets, such as communication, policies, strategies and regulations, the financing of these systems and services, and the future development of training, capability and resources.
- It is vital to consider issues around growth in the context of living and working in a changing city. Growth of certain kinds (residential) is interwoven with the function of a city which connects both hard and soft infrastructure (events, concerts, activities). The value and impact of creative soft infrastructure strengthens the economic potential of the city, thriving and active communities, and attractiveness for inward investment.⁴

Investing in people

- While investments in hard infrastructure are key to enabling safer, more accessible, sustainable and engaging experiences, it is important to centre people in these developments. It is key then, to not only measure impact in terms of financial return or asset utilisation, but to consider wellbeing measures, and the ways in which these experiences contribute to things like community cohesion, connection to place and land and self.
- It is through the soft infrastructure utilising the space and support of the hard infrastructure that the wider impact occurs (diagramme below).
- We have provided a copy of the 'Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan' as part of our submission.
- We request that Waipā District Council works with Creative Waikato to look at key infrastructure projects to look at ways in which Council can move forward. Specifically looking at soft infrastructure mechanisms that may feed into these projects. This work may provide a more holistic view and inform the development of next year's Long Term Plan.

⁴ Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan



4. Strategic initiatives

Creative Waikato has led key strategic initiatives which have contributed to long-term impact in the areas of arts, culture and creativity in the Waikato Region. These initiatives include:

- **Waikato Arts Navigator 2023** - A shared framework, including a vision and strategy, for supporting and strengthening our arts and culture in the region. It guides planning and decision making.
- **Performing Arts Strategy 2023** - A strategy informed by the performing arts sector which builds on the strengths of local performing arts activity and connects with the new Waikato Regional Theatre.
- **Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan 2024** - A high-level update on the Waikato Creative Infrastructure report originally prepared in 2014.
- **Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in the Waikato 2022** - Social impact reports that assess the impact of arts, culture and creativity on the people of the Waikato region.

Additional Strategic Outcomes: Maintaining relationships with Creative New Zealand, Ministry of Culture and Heritage, NZ Music Commission, Regional Arts Network Aotearoa, and Te Ora Auaha to support positive outcomes through funding and support for Waikato artists.

5. Creative Waikato mahi in the Waipā District

In addition to the above strategic initiatives, Creative Waikato has provided significant capability building support in the Waipā District, which has included a range of targeted offerings. Examples of the programmes we provide are:

- **Elevate** - A funded e-learning programme to provide creatives with resources and tools to build sustainable creative careers
- **Creativity Every Day** - A first-of-its-kind innovative programme designed to bring creativity into daily routine at work or at home. Delivered to many businesses and organisations.
- **ArtReach** - A community-focused creative development workshop series. Presented in an e-learning video format to ensure accessibility, used as an example of good practice nationally. Workshops include: Governance, Strategic Planning, Evaluation, Impact and Insights and more.
- **Things to do** - A community guide to creative events in the Waikato region.
- **Kotahitanga** - A movement and campaign to combat racism and bring the community together through the accessible power of creativity.
- **Creative Acts of Kindness** - A project which commissioned local artists to celebrate kindness using their arts practice.

Creative Waikato has also undertaken work with Wāipa District Council and its communities. Some examples are below:

Engagement with Council

- Prepared 'Waipā District Profile' of hard and soft infrastructure.
- Provision of 'Arts solutions for post-covid recovery' report.
- Local government election roadshow (2022) for Waipā communities, including Councillors.
- Provided creative input into Ahu Ake - Wāipa Community Spatial Plan, as a key stakeholder.

Community engagement

- Capability building support and strategic advice for Rosebank Art Centre.
- Creative business support for 'Kowhai Forge' blacksmithing business.
- Audience development advice for Regent Theatre.
- Strategic Planning workshops for the Te Awamutu Cinema.
- Support and development with Cambridge Town Hall team.

6. **Embedding Arts, Culture and Creativity**

Waipā District Council plays a pivotal role in the wider ecosystem⁵ in supporting arts, culture and creativity to thrive. To achieve the broadest possible impact, it is essential to view the contribution of arts, culture and creativity as part of a system which affects all facets of society. This system-based approach acknowledges cross-sector opportunities to enable effective outcomes and deliver better public services. This ecosystem approach is fundamental to the Waikato Arts Navigator - our regional arts strategy.

7. **Waipā Council's Priority Areas and alignment with the Waikato Arts Navigator**

- The Waikato Arts Navigator is a shared framework that helps community enablers achieve broader impact and focus on community benefit, with a vision and strategy to support and strengthen arts, culture and creativity in the region.
- Waipā District Council's vision is for '**Waipā Home of Champions: Building Connected Communities**', community outcomes are: 'Socially resilient, Cultural Champions, Environmental Champions, Economically Progressive'

Alignment of Waipā District Council community outcomes and the Waikato Arts Navigator threads are outlined in pages 8-11 below.

⁵ Details on the ecosystem and council's involvement can be found in the Waikato Arts Navigator Regional Arts Strategy, the Creative Waikato Briefing for Councillors, and the Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan, available on the Creative Waikato Website: <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/>

Alignment of Waipā strategic priority areas and the Waikato Arts Navigator threads

Priority Area	This means	Waikato Arts Navigator thread	
Socially resilient <i>He aha te mea nui o te ao?</i> <i>Māku e kī atu he tangata, he tangata!</i> <i>It's all about people</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Waipā is a great place to live, work, play and invest - We invest in hauora and support for the great work community groups do - Waipā provides a high quality of life for current and future generations 	Creative wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hauora and wellbeing - Positive collective and individual identities - Create, grow and strengthen communities - Inspired responses to challenges - Strengthened connection to place
		Creative prosperity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative economies - Attract and retain residents - Tourism opportunities - Positive national perceptions - Increased investment from funders
		Creative experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community and cultural expression - Recreation and interaction - Community engagement and connection - Local pride
		Creative education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participatory art projects - Upskilling creative professionals - Community art classes and projects - Youth development - Audience development
		Creative innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informing local government decision making - Local problem solving - Distinct local expression

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative export opportunities
<p>Cultural champions <i>Protecting our culture and heritage</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We champion the unique history of Waipā - We have a high level of cultural awareness - We partner with tangata whenua - We respect the cultural diversity of our district 	Creative wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hauora and wellbeing - Positive collective and individual identities - Create, grow and strengthen communities - Inspired responses to challenges - Strengthened connection to place
		Creative prosperity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative economies - Attract and retain residents - Tourism opportunities - Positive national perceptions - Increased investment from funders
		Creative experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People experience local, national, international arts - Community and cultural expression - Recreation and interaction - Community engagement and connection - Local pride
		Creative education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participatory art projects - Community art classes and projects - Youth development - Audience development
		Creative innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business partnerships - Informing local government decision-making - Local problem solving - Distinct local expression

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative export expression
<p>Environmental champions <i>Protecting and sustaining our environment</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental awareness and responsibility is promoted within the community - We support programmes that promote environmental sustainability - We are responsive to climate change 	Creative wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hauora and wellbeing - Positive collective and individual identities - Create, grow and strengthen communities - Inspired responses to challenges - Strengthened connection to place
		Creative prosperity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative economies - Attract and retain residents - Positive national perceptions - Increased investment from funders
		Creative experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community cultural expression - Recreation and interaction - Community engagement and connection - Local pride
		Creative education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participatory arts projects - Community art classes and projects - Youth development
		Creative innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business partnerships - Informing local government decision making - Local problem solving - Distinct local expression - Creative export opportunities
<p>Economically progressive</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We have financial sustainable decision 	Creative wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hauora and wellbeing - Positive collective and individual identities - Create, grow and strengthen communities

<i>Supporting a thriving, sustainable economy</i>	making and work programmes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inspired responses to challenges - Strengthened connection to place
	- We provide new infrastructure as an economic stimulus for our district	Creative prosperity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative economies - Attract and retain residents - Tourism opportunities - Positive national perceptions - Increased investment from funders
	- Our services provide excellent value for money	Creative experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People experience local, national and international arts - Community and cultural expression - Local pride
	- We actively promote our district to enable development and business opportunities	Creative education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upskilling creative professionals
	- Waipā is a great place to invest and do business	Creative innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business partnerships - Informing local government decision making - Local problem solving - Distinct local expression - Creative export opportunities

8. Arts, culture and creativity connect across Council department areas

An LTP Councillor briefing document has been provided as part of this submission.

- While this document is cognisant of the current financial situation and social environment, the aim is to present a range of possibilities that may extend current thinking, and explore cross department/sector/locale opportunities for collaborative outcomes.
- The attached briefing document outlines concrete examples of the many and diverse ways that arts, culture and creativity connect across departments within Council.
- Creative Waikato would be keen to work with Council on looking at ways arts, culture and creativity can be integrated across Council departments.

9. Importance of soft infrastructure - people and services

In addition to the LTP Councillor Briefing document, Creative Waikato has also provided an updated Infrastructure Plan which is an initial high-level scan of hard and soft infrastructure in the Waikato. This plan builds on an initial report that was developed in 2014.

A previous lack of data, insight, and sustainable investment have shaped potential issues for the ongoing sustainability of our essential soft infrastructure.

- Soft infrastructure is associated with the development of human and social capital integral to community-building and the promotion of 'high quality' living⁶. It is the mahi and expertise required to activate hard infrastructure. Forms of soft infrastructure include programmes and facilitators in libraries, museums and other community resources.
- Whilst hard infrastructure (facilities, venues etc) is important, it is the people (soft infrastructure) that are most important. Supporting those people and services which activate hard infrastructure contributes to thriving communities.

10. Investing in communities and arts, culture and creativity

The collective toll of Covid-19, climate change and the cost of living crisis on our communities has been immense.

9.a - The Role of Council

- It is Council's role to enable and support creative infrastructure.
- As outlined in your Manaaki Toiora strategy, cultural wellbeing, alongside social wellbeing, are legislated delivery outcomes for local government, and are worthy of prioritised value and sustained investment.

⁶ Brail, S., Mizrokhi, E. and Ralston, S. (2017) 'Examining the transformation of Regent Park, Toronto', in: N. Wise and J. Clark (eds). *Urban Transformations: Geographies of Renewal and Creative Change* pp. 177-194; London: Routledge in Cambridge Centre for Housing & Planning Research 'Infrastructure, placemaking and sustainability' A Report for Places for People (May 2020)

https://www.cchpr.landecon.cam.ac.uk/files/documents/DownloadTemplate_49.pdf

- Arts, culture, creativity and ngaa toi Maaori can make significant contributions to thriving communities if they are supported. The community already makes a significant contribution to these areas through investment, in-kind support, volunteer time, and creative skill; it is essential that the council maintains investment into this sector.

9.b - Economic considerations

- The creative sector is one of the fastest growing sectors for economic development in Aotearoa, with the potential for international export alongside local activation. Community activity creates essential learning and development pathways for creative professionals.
- Artistic activity is a contributor to vibrant and thriving places, and the wellbeing of communities, both now and in the future.
- Engagement in creative activity in and around the workplace makes measurable contributions to productivity, innovation, and mental health.
- Toi Maaori is a significant asset in Aotearoa, and is a contributor to international interest in tourism, and connection to place. Waipā has the potential to increase support to ngaa toi Maaori, and to enhance the skilled practitioners based in this district to highlight this opportunity for growth and development.
- As Council has indicated maintaining relationships with local Iwi, particularly regarding developments with the Te Ara Wa Museum, will be crucial moving forward.

9.c - Wellbeing and Impact

- Impact is not only measured in terms of financial return and asset utilisation, but also wellbeing, and the ways in which these experiences contribute to things like community cohesion, connection to place and land and self.
- Arts activity, like public art, events, concerts and theatrical performances contribute to civic, amenity and cultural value, which has implications for changing perceptions about the city, and supporting future growth.
- Beyond economic measures, the impacts of the creative community on social and cultural wellbeing are also significant. In-depth Waikato-focussed research from 2022 showed that regular access and perceived access to arts, culture and creativity is a significant driver of individual wellbeing. This can contribute to better mental health outcomes, but also shows measurable connection to social cohesion, community connection, civic pride, and sense of identity.

At a time of increased need, now is the time to invest in people. Support the people who provide positive outcomes for diverse communities. Art, culture, and creativity sits alongside social services, kai, health, education, environment, and community connection as interwoven components of thriving communities. These things require civic investment as a part of ensuring community access. This forms part of the public good component of local government.

11. Creative Capability Development

- Creative Waikato wishes to build on its support and service delivery in the Waipā District. However, it requires adequate funding to enable us to do this.
- Services include capability building, strategic advice, research, insights, stakeholder engagement, community support and development.
- Creative Waikato would like to develop a strategic relationship with Waipā District Council in the same way as it has a relationship with other regional entities like Sport Waikato.

12. Specific Recommendations:

We request investment of \$30K per annum, with contribution to:

- a. Development of an 'Arts Action Plan' linked to the Waikato Arts Navigator Strategy, to provide a high-level strategy for how Council can further integrate arts, culture and creativity into what they do
- b. Investment to deliver
 - i. Cultural wellbeing outcomes
 - ii. Regional arts strategic activation
 - iii. Creative capability building in local communities
 - iv. Contribution to local and regional research and insights (including the Creative Infrastructure Plan).
- c. A high-level proposal and scope can be provided if required.

Creative Waikato formally thank Waipā District Council for the opportunity to make this submission.

Creative Waikato wish to be heard in support of this submission at a hearing.

Submitted by:

Sam Cunnane
Board Chair

Dr. Jeremy Mayall
CEO

On behalf of Creative Waikato

hello@creativewaikato.co.nz

Additional attachments:

Creative Waikato Briefing to Councillors 2024

Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan 2024

Briefing to Councillors

2024



**Creative
Waikato
Toi Waikato**

Arts, Culture,
Creativity
and Ngaa Toi
Maaori support
a thriving
Waikato region.

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What we can do for councils, elected councillors and staff	45
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Arts, culture, creativity and ngaa toi Maaori helps to build resilient and diverse communities and improve our quality of life.

Great art and culture inspires learning, boosts our economy, enhances wellbeing, builds regional and national reputation, and more. The role of arts, culture, creativity and ngaa toi Maaori has powerful potential in enabling councils with tools that enable them to think differently and provide unique solutions to complex issues.

Arts, culture and creativity and ngaa toi Maaori can also be used as ideal problem-solving tools to help us with major and ongoing challenges, aiding recovery and building resilience.

Arts and culture do not sit in isolation, and are woven through all facets of thriving societies. Collaborating with, and taking the leadership of Maaori is key to creating thriving communities. The embedding of arts, culture and creativity in all elements of government influence will add value and increase opportunity.

When arts and creativity is strong and visible, communities are strong and visible.

It is important for government, industry and sector leaders to see artists as a more embedded component within the rest of society. This encourages the creation of a collaborative space where the value of artists in society can be better recognised and utilised. A diverse but interconnected ecosystem of arts infrastructure (both hard and soft) would provide clear pathways for artists and community members at any stage of the journey.

The local context

It is hard to ignore societal, regional and local contexts when considering the role and impact of the decisions and investments made by local governments.

While this document is cognisant of the current financial situation and social environment, the aim is to present a range of possibilities that may extend current thinking, and explore cross department/sector/locale opportunities for collaborative outcomes.

Creative Waikato's intention is to support local councils to embrace imaginative and innovative possibilities for alternative ways of working that can lead to better outcomes, through positive community engagement and alongside sensible investment that considers the impact of our actions on future generations.

Importance of local government

The rate of change over the past few decades with shifting demographics, urbanisation and climate change has and will have a significant impact on the landscape of local government.

The role councils play in delivering outcomes for communities and our society into the future will become critical moving forward.¹

There is an increasing need for councils (both governance and staff)

to engage with communities and encourage community participation in decision-making, and to consider the needs of people currently living in communities and those who will live there in the future.

¹ LGNZ 'Briefing to the Incoming Minister November 2023' p.8 https://d1pepq1a2249p5.cloudfront.net/media/documents/LGNZ-Briefing-to-the-Incoming-Government-2023_1.pdf

Understanding the creative ecosystem

To achieve the broadest possible impact, it is beneficial to view the contribution of arts, culture and creativity as part of a system across all facets of local government activity.

This system-based approach acknowledges cross-sector opportunities to enable effective outcomes and deliver better public services. This ecosystem approach is fundamental to our regional arts strategy.²

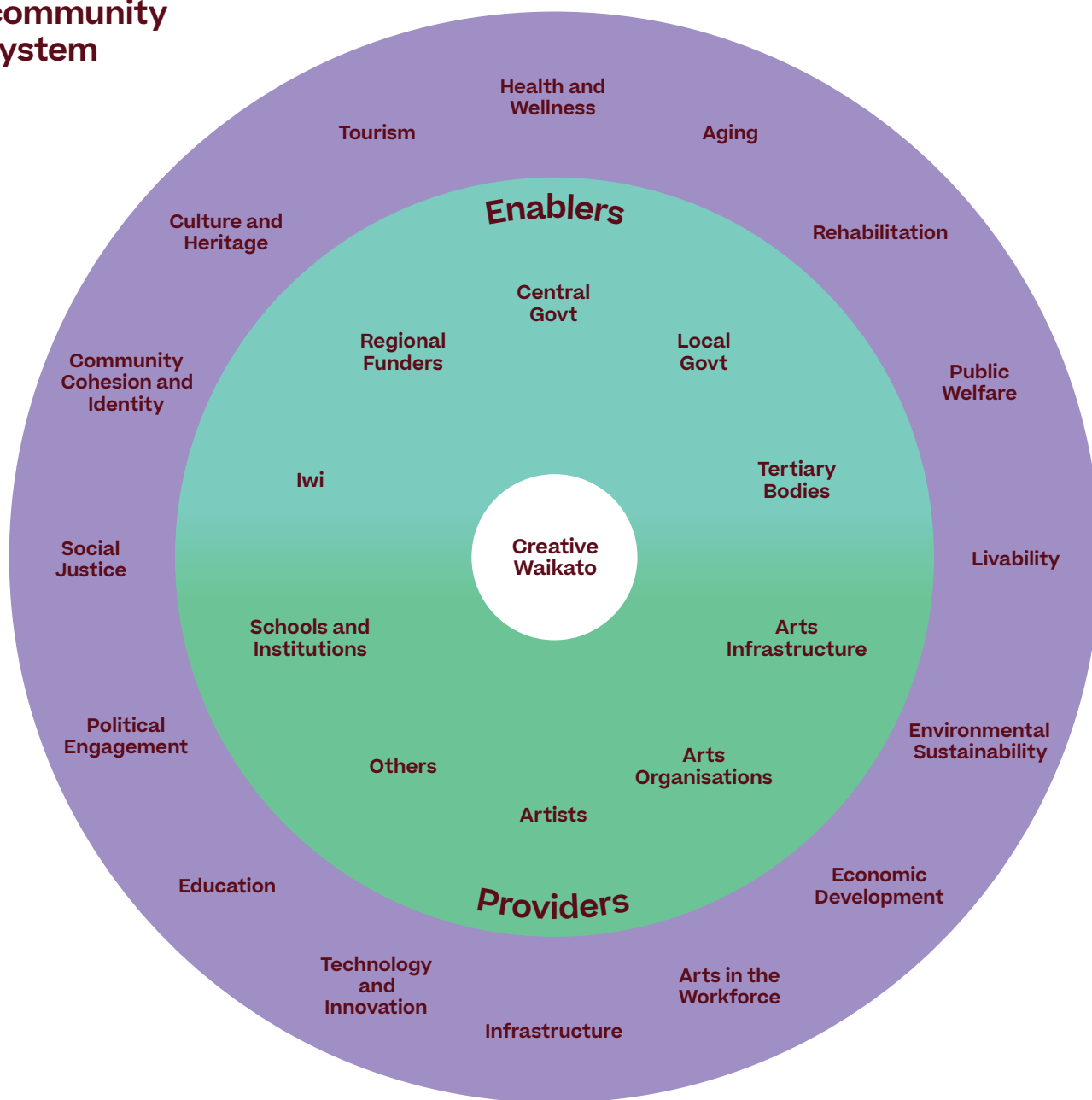
We present this briefing by examining a range of discrete but interconnected elements which can be combined to create more significant impacts than the individual parts. We believe this approach, in partnership

with sector-informed localised delivery, can enable greater outcomes and efficiencies, to better enable robust change in local communities.

Here we present a systems map that highlights opportunities for positive local government influence when working with local and regional partners. This provides a high-level scope for change, with an indication of intersections, and connections into other government systems and structures.

² <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/advocacy/strategy-space>

Arts as part of our community ecosystem



Health and Wellness
 Wellbeing for individuals
 Better care for each other
 Increased quality of life

Aging
 Physical and mental stimulation
 Entertainment
 Social interaction

Rehabilitation
 Purpose
 Self-care
 Social interaction
 Capability development

Public Welfare
 Community pride
 Mutual trust
 Safer and healthier communities

Livability
 Arts create vibrant cities
 Environmental impact
 Quality of life

Environmental Sustainability
 Education and innovation
 Advocating and driving awareness
 Communication

Economic Development
 Economic wellbeing
 Support services and impact
 Sustainable funding
 Workforce development

Arts in the Workforce
 Well-rounded workers who drive innovation
 Creative thinkers
 Effective communicators

Infrastructure
 Advocacy, communication, design, breaking down barriers
 Agriculture, food, transport, housing, planning and community development

Technology and Innovation
 Symbiotic relationship for creation and development
 Technology can be used to create and disseminate art

Education
 Arts are part of a well-rounded education
 Curiosity and exploration
 Important at all levels of education

Political Engagement
 Can encourage political engagement, voting, and activation

Social Justice
 Civic dialogue to discuss issues and policies
 Arts facilitate dialogue

Community Cohesion and Identity
 Binds people together through shared experience
 Creates common vision for the future
 Arts bring people together

Culture and Heritage
 Art activity
 Diversity/access/identity
 History and tradition

Tourism
 Economic impact
 Empathy between communities
 Arts for travel

Arts, culture and creativity is an essential contributor to public infrastructure. It is a core component of vibrant, growing communities, and is a public good. It is an enabler and indicator of a thriving society.

Arts, culture and creativity is best understood not as discrete or siloed activity, but as something which is essential and intrinsic to all aspects of public life. A cross-sector approach will be of best benefit for achieving the goals of this government and the people it serves.

Broad areas of connection to council departments

Health and Wellbeing	10
Liveability	12
Community Cohesion and Identity	14
Culture and Heritage	16
Economic Development	18
Tourism	20
Technology and Innovation	22
Environmental Sustainability	24

The following sections explore some high-level themes that can be implemented throughout the indicated system areas included in the ecosystem map. These elements are presented with a brief discussion

of the key opportunities for positive impact and innovative change. These are matched with local government departments and example initiatives that could be supported through localised investment and activation.

Health and Wellbeing

Creativity is essential to community and individual wellbeing, and can be deployed in health treatments and settings.

There is a wealth of global evidence that reinforces the opportunity to shape better long-term outcomes through the inclusion of arts and creativity as a component of health treatment and recovery plans – this includes mental health.

Creative Wellbeing is a facet of holistic wellbeing, which embraces Maaori understandings of Hauora, as expressed in Te Whare Tapa Whā model.³ It can be a lens through which to address physical, mental and emotional, family and social and spiritual wellbeing, as well as the need to connect with the whenua.⁴

‘On average, Waikato residents who self-report having a high level of engagement with arts, culture and creativity have higher wellbeing than those who have little or no engagement. For all Waikato

residents, engagement with arts, culture and creativity has a positive relationship with overall wellbeing. The more often they attend, create or participate in artistic and cultural events, the higher their wellbeing is likely to be. This holds true regardless of engagement level or relationship with the creative sector.’⁵

In Waikato, those who report being highly engaged with arts, culture and creativity have 5% higher overall wellbeing as compared to those with little or no engagement.⁶

Research has shown that recreational arts can support mental wellbeing. ‘Those who engaged in 100 or more hours/year of arts engagement (i.e. two or more hours/week) reported significantly better mental well-being than other levels of engagement.’⁷

3 Sir Mason Durie, ‘Te Whare Tapa Whā’, Mental Health Foundation <https://mentalhealth.org.nz/te-whare-tapa-wha>

4 ibid.

5 Huber Social, ‘Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in Waikato’ (Sydney: Huber Social, 2022), p.3, <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/advocacy/researchandreports>

6 Huber Social, Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in Waikato, p.22.

7 Christina Davies, Matthew Knuiman & Michael Rosenberg, ‘The art of being mentally healthy: a study to quantify the relationship between recreational arts engagement and mental well-being in the general population, BMC Public Health, vol.16, <https://bmcpublihealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-015-2672-7>

40%

of New Zealanders say that the arts are important to their wellbeing.⁸

26%

shared that the arts have become more important to their personal wellbeing since Covid-19 arrived in Aotearoa.⁹

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Support the activation of diverse art, culture and creativity in local spaces to support community access. This can be through both investment, and in supporting community use of space.

Share stories through council comms channels of local creative activity to support growing audiences and engagement.

Invest in locally-based creative spaces to support access and engagement.

Explore community-based artist-in-residence initiatives to encourage positive community outcomes through creative activity (see [Whiria Te Tangata](#) as an example).¹⁰

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds Libraries Heritage	Plans, Policies and Bylaws Budgets Policies Bylaws Reports Strategies
Venues, Tourism and Events Infrastructure Theatres Community Halls	Communication and Marketing Provision of information to news media and stakeholder Internal communications Supporting engagement and consultation activities Managing online and print channels

8 Creative New Zealand, 'New Zealanders and the Arts 2020', <https://creativenz.govt.nz/development-and-resources/new-zealanders-and-the-arts---ko-aotearoa-me-ona-toi>, p.10.
 9 <https://creativenz.govt.nz/development-and-resources/new-zealanders-and-the-arts---ko-aotearoa-me-ona-toi>, p.10.
 10 Creative Waikato, 'You're going to want to hear about Whiria te Tangata', <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/news/youre-going-to-want-to-hear-about-whiria-te-tangata>

Liveability

Liveability is an important concern in planning for population growth and housing intensification. It is key that our towns and cities contain accessible spaces where communities can connect, and that public spaces are welcoming to ensure that they are fully utilised.

‘Placemaking’ is a powerful governmental tool for engaging communities in the planning, design and management of their shared public assets.

Placemaking shows people just how powerful their collective vision can be. It helps them to re-imagine everyday spaces, and to see anew the potential of parks, city centres, neighbourhoods, streets, markets and public buildings.¹¹ Given that arts and culture increase connection to community and place, the creative sector and their interests should be represented in placemaking discussions.

Arts, culture and creativity provide useful skills and spaces for the creation, development and expression of local identity and stories. These generate a sense of identity and community pride, as well as contributing to communities being a vibrant and safe place to live.¹²

There is a growing public agreement for support for the arts. Agreement with local councils giving money to support the arts has grown significantly from 2017–2020. In Waikato, this has increased 13%.¹³

‘Around six in ten Waikato residents feel the arts are important in creating a vibrant place to live, and in their community’s future. They also want their community to be recognised as a place that supports the arts. [...] Fifty seven percent also feel that the arts benefit communities by contributing to resilience and wellbeing while 50% feel their community would be a poorer place without the arts.’¹⁴

‘Being highly engaged with arts, culture and creativity means that residents are also more likely to have stronger connections to community and to land and place’¹⁵

¹¹ Project for Public Spaces ‘What is Placemaking’ <https://www.pps.org/article/what-is-placemaking>

¹² Ministry of Culture and Heritage, *Valuing the Arts in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand* (2022), <https://www.mch.govt.nz/publications/valuing-arts-australia-and-aotearoa-new-zealand>

¹³ Creative New Zealand, *New Zealand and the Arts: Ko Aotearoa me ōna Toi* (2020), p. 47.

¹⁴ Creative New Zealand, ‘Survey Findings for Waikato Residents’, (2020), p.21 https://creativenz.govt.nz/-/media/project/creative-nz/creativenz/legacy-images/ckeditor/attachments/nzarts_waikato_final.pdf

¹⁵ Huber Social, ‘Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in Waikato’ (Sydney: Huber Social, 2022), p.28, <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/advocacy/researchandreports>.

67%

of New Zealanders agree it is important that where they live is recognised as a place that supports excellence in the arts

66%

believe that major arts facilities are important to create a vibrant place to live¹⁶

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Activate public spaces with arts-based play activities, and the creation of playable spaces that tell stories.

Utilise public art (murals, sculpture, light) to support the creation of safer spaces for all people.¹⁷

Embed artistic expression and cultural narratives in large-scale infrastructure projects to create unique regional identities.

Work with community partners to support the provision of accessible creative spaces and local storytelling.

Advocate to the central government for the development of a Provincial Arts Fund (similar to the Provincial Growth Fund) to support improved community liveability outcomes.¹⁸

Explore and articulate the contribution made by arts activity, festivals and public art to the value of space, place and community in strategies, reports, and public communications.

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

Community Services and Facilities

Parks and Reserves
Open spaces
Playgrounds
Libraries

Heritage

Property Services – Community
Land and Buildings
Housing for the Elderly
Emergency Management

Venues, Tourism and Events

Infrastructure
Theatres
Community Halls
i-sites

Transport, Roading and Footpaths

Roads
Footpaths and Cycleways
Road Safety Interventions and Education

Plans, Policies and Bylaws

Budgets
Policies
Bylaws
Reports
Strategies

Communication and Marketing

Provision of information to news media and stakeholder
Internal communications
Supporting engagement and consultation activities
Managing online and print channels

¹⁶ Creative New Zealand, New Zealand and the Arts: Ko Aotearoa me ōna Toi (2020), <https://creativenz.govt.nz/development-and-resources/new-zealanders-and-the-arts---ko-aotearoa-me-ona-toi>, p.12.

¹⁷ National Opinion Research Centre (USA), The Outcomes of Arts Engagement for Individuals and Communities (2021), <https://www.norc.org/content/dam/norc-org/pdfs/NORC%20Outcomes%20of%20Arts%20Engagement%20-%20Full%20Report.pdf>

¹⁸ Regional Economic Development and Investment Unit | Kānoa, 'The Provincial Growth Fund', <https://www.growregions.govt.nz/established-funds/what-we-have-funded/the-provincial-growth-fund/>

Community Cohesion and Identity

Community cohesion and identity is key to collective wellbeing and a safe and productive society. Participation in community organisations and arts, culture and creative activities positively contributes to community connection.

In these times, community cohesion is an important protective factor in the face of rapid change, polarisation, and disasters. In particular, social inclusion is a powerful determinant of wellbeing.¹⁹

‘Over the next 30 years, Aotearoa New Zealand’s population of seniors will grow from around 850,000 (17 percent of the population) to around 1.5 million (24 percent of the population). And it is not only growing numerically, but also structurally.’²⁰ Artistic, cultural and creative activities can be a powerful way to bring senior and isolated people together, and support wellbeing.

Long-term loneliness has been proven to negatively affect physical and mental wellbeing outcomes.²¹ Worldwide, it is estimated that 25% of older people are isolated.²²

The arts improve inter-generational relationships and connection to family and friends. “The arts act as a catalyst for bridging, bonding and linking social capital—it provides opportunities for engagement that reduce social isolation, encourages community cohesion, mutual support, improved intergenerational relationships and connection to family and friends.”²³

¹⁹ World Health Organization, ‘Social Determinants of Health’, https://www.who.int/health-topics/social-determinants-of-health#tab=tab_1.

²⁰ Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, ‘The long-term implications of our ageing population for our housing and urban futures’, <https://www.hud.govt.nz/news/the-long-term-implications-of-our-ageing-population-for-our-housing-and-urban-futures/>

²¹ World Health Organization, ‘Decade of healthy Ageing, Advocacy Brief: Social Isolation and Loneliness Among Older People’, p.2, <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240030749>.

²² World Health Organisation, ‘WHO Commission on Social Connection’, <https://www.who.int/groups/commission-on-social-connection>.

²³ VicHealth, ‘The arts and creative industries in health promotion’, (2020) p.17, https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/VH_Sax-Arts-Review.pdf.

64%

of surveyed New Zealanders say that ‘The arts help define who we are as New Zealanders’.²⁴

80%

agree: I feel proud when New Zealand artists succeed overseas.²⁵

In Waikato, attending artistic, cultural and creative events or activities results in connections with diverse people.²⁶

“Residents who attend or create artistic, cultural or creative events or activities at least once a month report feeling more connected to culture and community, to land and place, and self... [They] feel that they have more opportunities to meet people who are different from them.”

61% of New Zealanders agree that “the arts contributes to the resilience and wellbeing of their community.”²⁷

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Support community groups who provide accessible group activities through increased investment and/or provision of space or other useful services. Currently, these are often run by passionate and long-serving volunteers, and burnout is a major factor.

Invest in infrastructure including shared and multi-use community spaces, and support their long-term maintenance.

Invest in community-driven expressions of arts and culture through grass-roots festivals, touring performances, and work that connects professional practitioners into remote communities. One option to achieve this is through match-funding the Creative NZ Creative Communities Scheme funding into your local community.

Recognise and support the many arts and culture organisations who serve senior and marginalised communities.

Support the development of local capability building to strengthen and support community organisations and activities.

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

Community Services and Facilities

Parks and Reserves
Open spaces
Playgrounds
Libraries
Heritage
Property Services – Community Land and Buildings
Housing for the Elderly

Venues, Tourism and Events

Infrastructure
Theatres
Community Halls
I-sites

Communication and Marketing

Provision of information to news media and stakeholder
Internal communications
Supporting engagement and consultation activities
Managing online and print channels

²⁴ *ibid*, p.15

²⁵ *ibid*.

²⁶ Huber Social, ‘Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in Waikato’ (Sydney: Huber Social, 2022), p.50, <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/advocacy/researchandreports>.

²⁷ Creative New Zealand, New Zealand and the Arts: Ko Aotearoa me ōna Toi (2020), p.16, <https://creativenz.govt.nz/development-and-resources/new-zealanders-and-the-arts---ko-aotearoa-me-ona-toi>.

Culture and Heritage

The valuing of culture and heritage is key to a thriving community. When we honour our heritage, we are able to chart a hopeful and ambitious tomorrow.

Maintained or managed cultural (historic) heritage plays an important part in our culture by preserving the past, documenting local and community history, and providing evidence of cultural heritage decision-making.²⁸ The Waikato region is home to many key heritage sites, taonga and histories. Investment in our culture and heritage is investment in our people and our future. Cultural wellbeing is a key social impact outcome of activity enabled by the arts, culture and creative sector.²⁹

²⁸ NZ Local Government Magazine 'Cultural Heritage Information and Councils' (Dec, 2021) <https://localgovernmentmag.co.nz/taonga-heritage-strategy/>

²⁹ Dunphy, K & Smithies, J., 'Outcome schema for cultural engagement' (Melbourne, Cultural Development Network, 2018), <https://culturaldevelopment.net.au/outcomes/about-measurable-outcomes/>

66%

of surveyed New Zealanders agree: ‘Arts and culture have a vital role to play in the future of where I live’³⁰

75%

of New Zealanders have engaged with (attended or participated in) the arts in the last 12 months.³¹

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Invest in the continued support of nga toi Maaori and the protection of taonga and maatauranga Maaori as essential expressions of Aotearoa.

Support the sharing of local histories, and supporting cultural education in schools that embrace the stories of local communities.

Where possible, invest in maintaining built heritage and recognising sites of significance to both tangata whenua and tangata tiriti.

Engage the knowledge and insights from local experts, mana whenua, and other national support like the team at the Ministry of Culture and Heritage.

Support and invest in multi-cultural activities that celebrate the diversity of communities living in Waikato.

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

Governance and Corporate
Decision-making functions and support

Community Services and Facilities
Parks and Reserves

Open spaces
Playgrounds
Public Toilets
Cemeteries
Libraries
Heritage

Property Services – Community
Land and Buildings
Housing for the Elderly
Public Swimming Pools
Waste Management and Minimisation
Emergency Management

Venues, Tourism and Events
Infrastructure
Theatres
Community Halls
I-sites

Transport, Roading and Footpaths
Roads

Footpaths and Cycleways
Road Safety Interventions and Education

Planning and Regulatory
Animal Control
Building Compliance
Development Engineering
Environmental Health
Resource Consents/Enforcements/Land Information Memorandums

Plans, Policies and Bylaws
Budgets
Policies
Bylaws
Reports
Strategies

Communication and Marketing
Provision of information to news media and stakeholder
Internal communications
Supporting engagement and consultation activities
Managing online and print channels

³⁰ Creative New Zealand, New Zealand and the Arts: Ko Aotearoa me ōna Toi (2020), p.13, <https://creativenz.govt.nz/development-and-resources/new-zealanders-and-the-arts---ko-aotearoa-me-ona-toi>.

³¹ Creative New Zealand, New Zealand and the Arts: Ko Aotearoa me ōna Toi (2020), p.16.

Economic Development

The arts, culture and creative ecosystem makes positive contributions to the prosperity of the region, and the country.

As well as generating income for people working in the arts, the creative sector creates tourism opportunities, supports innovation and collaboration, and can be engaged to promote towns and the region.

There is an exciting opportunity for this region to really champion our ngā toi Māori as a key component of our economic offering.

A thriving creative sector also contributes to hospitality industries, information economies and digital export. Supporting districts to develop strong arts, culture and creative presentations can become growth opportunities in the emerging 'experience economy'.³² An emergent experience economy in local communities has the potential to

transform opportunities as tourism flourishes both from national and international engagement.

The number of people employed in the arts is growing. Nationally, there are more than 117,517 people whose primary employment is in the arts and creativity.³³ In Waikato, 7109 people are employed in the arts.³⁴

New Zealand's arts and creative sector contributes \$16.3 billion to New Zealand's GDP.³⁵

³² B. Joseph Pine II and James H. Gilmore, 'Welcome to the Experience Economy', Harvard Business Review (1998) <https://hbr.org/1998/07/welcome-to-the-experience-economy>

³³ Ministry for Culture and Heritage, Manatū Taonga, 'Arts and creative sector economic profiles 2023', <https://www.mch.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2024-03/infometrics-1-page-summary-2023.pdf>

³⁴ Ibid; Ministry for Culture and Heritage, 'Arts and Creative Sector Profile 2023 Infometrics report summary' <https://www.mch.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2024-03/infometrics-1-page-summary-2023.pdf>

³⁵ Ibid.

94%

of creative professionals in the waikato region participating in the gig economy find it difficult to secure loans for things like mortgages.³⁶

The creative sector includes many different kinds of work, including: visual arts, architecture, advertising, design, fashion, games, media, music, performing arts, photography, publishing, screen, and software.³⁷

There are 35,955 businesses in the arts and creative sector.³⁸ There are 6,974 creatives employed in the Waikato region.³⁹

Nationally, the Arts Sector has 11,641 self-employed workers — accounting for 42% of the sector’s workforce and more than double the total NZ self-employment rate (16.2%).⁴⁰

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Maintain and increase Investment in local events, public creative activities and organisations that will encourage tourism and local spending.

Engage artists and creatives in the design of civic spaces and new developments, in order to contribute to a unique sense of place, increased liveability, and attract and retain residents.

Support arts and creativity training programmes that support people to move into the industry and develop workforce pathways (for example Creative Waikato’s [ELEVATE](#) programme).⁴¹

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

Venues, Tourism and Events	Communication and Marketing
Infrastructure	Provision of information to news media and stakeholder
Theatres	Internal communications
Community Halls	Supporting engagement and consultation activities
I-sites	Managing online and print channels
Community Services and Facilities	
Parks and Reserves	
Open spaces	
Playgrounds	

36 Kantar Public, ‘Creative New Zealand on Air, A Profile of Creative Professionals’ (2022), p. 7.

37 See <https://wecreate.org.nz/> for more information.

38 Ibid.

39 Ministry for Culture and Heritage, Manatū Taonga, ‘Arts and Creative Sector Profile 2022 Infometrics report summary’, <https://mch.govt.nz/sites/default/files/infometrics-report-summary-2022.pdf>.

40 The Big Idea, ‘EXCLUSIVE: Arts & Creativity \$14.9 Billion Sector’, (2023) <https://thebigidea.nz/stories/exclusive-new-data-shows-arts-creative-sector-economic-impact>

41 Creative Waikato, ‘Elevate Creative Careers Programme’, <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/workshop/elevate-programme>.

Tourism

People travel for unique cultural experiences – this is true around the world. In the Waikato region, Maaori culture contributes significantly to tourism and both national and international reputation.

So, the expression of local culture and shaping of interesting spaces has real potential for local and global tourism. Local events and festivals can share unique components of regional life.

In addition, the designation of cities as UNESCO cities of culture can contribute to local identity and economies, raise civic pride, and promote international collaboration and cooperation.

Creative tourism can help to combat challenges of seasonality and sustainability for the tourism sector.⁴²

Creative activation of city spaces within the framework of UNESCO's city of culture can contribute to economic recovery, additional investment, and boost in tourism.⁴³

Creative tourism can support employment and retention of creative professionals in regional towns and city centres.

⁴² The Creative Tourism Network, 'What do we mean by Creative Tourism?', <http://www.creativetourismnetwork.org/about>.

⁴³ Coventry City Council, 'Evaluation report highlights benefits City of Culture year brought to Coventry', <https://www.coventry.gov.uk/news/article/4818/evaluation-report-highlights-benefits-city-of-culture-year-brought-to-coventry>.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Include creative place-based storytelling in highly-frequented spaces like airports. Work with mana whenua to create powerful narratives and works. (For example, see the Hamilton Airport⁴⁴ and New Plymouth Airport).⁴⁵

Invest and enable a 'City of Culture' programme in regional Aotearoa.⁴⁶

Support the development of Regional Maaori Cultural Tourism initiatives through seed funding and development (See collaboratively funded projects like 'Footprints of Kupe'.)⁴⁷

Integrate creative expressions of te ao Maaori in all development—led by Maaori organisations to share the unique stories of this space. Follow Maaori leadership and cultural frameworks in developing tourism initiatives.⁴⁸

Invest in unique experience-based tourism that combines creativity, tech and hospitality to create immersive artistic experiences that drive global interest (eg. TeamLab—Japan, MeowWolf—USA.⁴⁹ Waikato has the capability to deliver projects like this—also related to the emerging 'experience economy').⁵⁰

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS**Venues, Tourism and Events**

Infrastructure
Theatres
Community Halls
I-sites

Community Services and Facilities

Parks and Reserves
Open spaces
Playgrounds

Communication and Marketing

Provision of information to news media and stakeholder
Internal communications
Supporting engagement and consultation activities
Managing online and print channels

44 Hamilton Airport, 'Our Cultural Journey', <https://www.hamiltonairport.co.nz/our-cultural-journey/#Artworks>.

45 Creative New Zealand, 'Building a whare manaaki that sings with stories', (2023), <https://creativenz.govt.nz/news-and-blog/2023/12/04/02/19/16/building-a-whare-manaaki-that-sings-with-stories>.

46 Gov.uk, 'Government backs Bradford—UK City of Culture 2025—with £10 million funding boost', <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-backs-bradford-uk-city-of-culture-2025-with-10-million-funding-boost>.

47 Manea Tupuwae ā nuku | Footprints of Kupe, 'The Footprints of Kupe Experience', <https://maneafootprints.co.nz/experiences/footprints-of-kupe-experience/>.

48 For example, see: Ash Puriri & Alison McIntosh (2019) A cultural framework for Māori tourism: values and processes of a Whānau tourism business development, DOI: 10.1080/03036758.2019.1656260.

49 Team Lab, <https://www.teamlab.art/>; MeowWolf, <https://meowwolf.com/>.

50 Joseph Pine II and James H. Gilmore, 'Welcome to the Experience Economy', Harvard Business Review, <https://hbr.org/1998/07/welcome-to-the-experience-economy>.

Technology and Innovation

Creativity is key to innovation, and the intersection of arts and technology drives new ideas. Creativity can be found in many facets of modern society, but the arts provides a pure distillation of this process which can be utilised to inspire novel approaches and create new opportunities.

Art-informed innovation has the potential to be a catalyst for transformation – provided the right conditions are created to enable it.

The arts can also contribute to increased liveability in main centres and satellite towns, increasing attraction and retention of tech leaders and organisations.

International research shows that 'lifelong participation in arts and crafts yields significant impacts for innovators and entrepreneurs. Arts and crafts experiences are significantly correlated with producing patentable inventions and founding new companies.'⁵¹

Art-informed innovation has the potential to be a catalyst for transformation – provided the right conditions are created to enable it. The arts can also contribute to increased liveability in main centres and satellite towns, increasing attraction and retention of tech leaders and organisations.

A creative society fosters innovation and entrepreneurial risk taking.⁵²

⁵¹ Rex LaMore, Robert Root-Bernstein, Michele Root-Bernstein, John H. Schweitzer, James L. Lawton, Eileen Roraback, Amber Peruski, Megan VanDyke, and Laleah Fernandez, 'Arts and Crafts: Critical to Economic Innovation',

Economic Development Quarterly, p.1, Michigan State University (USA), 2013, <https://doi.org/10.1177/089124241348618>.

⁵² Shahid Yusuf 'From creativity to innovation', Technology in Society vol.31, (2009) pp.1-8.

Innovation springs from the creative application of knowledge. Thus, it has two essential ingredients: creativity – artistic, scientific or other – and a stock of knowledge.⁵³

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Have artists as part of Innovation working groups within council processes to create new ways to solve problems, and to communicate new ideas.

Nurture the intersection of arts and technology and innovation spaces to drive new ideas. (This could be done in partnership with other regional organisations).

Strengthen engagement with regional arts organisations to support strategic initiatives and enable connections between cross-sector organisations.

Encourage an artist-in-residence or ‘Imagination and Creativity Officer’ in council departments to inspire divergent outcomes.

Embed creativity in technological organisations, through initiatives such as [Creativity Everyday](#).⁵⁴

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

<p>Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds Public Toilets Cemeteries Libraries Heritage Property Services – Community Land and Buildings Housing for the Elderly Public Swimming Pools Waste Management and Minimisation Emergency Management Venues, Tourism and Events Infrastructure</p>	<p>Planning and Regulatory Building Compliance Development Engineering Resource Consents/ Enforcements/Land Information Memorandums Plans, Policies and Bylaws Budgets Policies Bylaws Reports Strategies Communication and Marketing Provision of information to news media and stakeholder Internal communications Supporting engagement and consultation activities Managing online and print channels</p>
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⁵³ Shahid Yusuf, ‘From creativity to innovation’, *Technology in Society*, vol. 31, Issue 1 (2009), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.techsoc.2008.10.007>,
⁵⁴ Creative Waikato, ‘Creativity Everyday’, <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/creativityeveryday>.

Environmental Sustainability

Climate change is a complex and urgent challenge, and it is essential that we establish new paradigms, collective understandings, and ways of living. In Aotearoa, we will benefit from acknowledging and working alongside Maaori and embracing their knowledge in this pursuit.

The arts can help bring people together to support a united collective vision for environmental sustainability. In addition, it is key to support engagement with local creativity, and to support local creative spaces so that communities can have access to sustainable creative experiences that support local communities.

Human influence is key to halting the climate crisis.⁵⁵ The arts can be employed to influence cultural changes which can prompt urgent action.⁵⁶

Creativity can serve as a useful outlet for anxiety around climate change, and a powerful tool for finding imaginative solutions.⁵⁷ Somatic and physical creative practices can be useful tools for processing ecological grief.⁵⁸

The arts can be used to convey key information to the public and help the public to understand difficult or abstract ideas in affective, impactful ways.⁵⁹

⁵⁵ IPCC, 'Climate Change 2023: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.' ed. H. Lee and J. Romero (Geneva: IPCC, 2023), pp.35–115, doi: 10.59327/IPCC/AR6-9789291691647.

⁵⁶ Artists and Climate Change, 'Organizations', <https://artistsandclimatechange.com/organizations/>.

⁵⁷ Nilescha Chauvet, Managing Director of GOOD, 'Grantham Institute Annual Lecture' (Imperial College London, 2022), <https://www.goodagency.co.uk/the-role-of-creativity-in-a-climate-crisis/>.

⁵⁸ Melody Schrieber, 'Addressing climate change concerns in practice', American Psychological Association, Vol. 52 No.2, p.30, <https://www.apa.org/monitor/2021/03/ce-climate-change>.

⁵⁹ Dr Philip Seargeant, Dr Nessa O'Mahony, and Dr Anne Caldwell, 'Climate Creativity: The power of the word to tackle the climate emergency', University of Oxford, <https://www.socsci.ox.ac.uk/climate-creativity-the-power-of-the-word-to-tackle-the-climate-emergency>.

Arts and culture can inspire engagement and action in the fight against climate change. “The arts support the sciences because the arts can reach inside our hearts, not just our minds.”⁶⁰

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Work alongside Maaori organisations and value Maaori art forms including, but not limited to: whakairo, waiata, whakatauki, raranga and ta moko, as key expressions of essential identity and knowledge, key to restoring the whenua.

Ensure that communities can have access to sustainable creative experiences that support local communities.

Support regional arts festivals, local tours, community-based creative activations and local venues and creative spaces, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions related to touring, including transporting large sets and casts.⁶¹

Integrate and value creativity in scientific processes. Include artists and designers in all developments, opening possibilities including using biomimicry in technological innovations for sustainability.⁶²

Invest in local initiatives to explore sustainable public art as a way of redefining green space and creating opportunities for storytelling and engagement through art-based initiatives.

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

<p>Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds Public Toilets Cemeteries Libraries Heritage Property Services—Community Land and Buildings Housing for the Elderly Public Swimming Pools Waste Management and Minimisation Emergency Management</p> <p>Venues, Tourism and Events Infrastructure</p> <p>Transport, Roading and Footpaths Roads Footpaths and Cycleways Road Safety Interventions and Education</p>	<p>Planning and Regulatory Building Compliance Development Engineering Environmental Health Resource Consents/Enforcements/Land Information Memorandums</p> <p>Plans, Policies and Bylaws Budgets Policies Bylaws Reports Strategies</p> <p>Communication and Marketing Provision of information to news media and stakeholder Internal communications Supporting engagement and consultation activities Managing online and print channels</p>
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⁶⁰ Dr James Renwick, Climate Change Commissioner and Professor of Physical Geography at Te Herenga Waka | Victoria University of Wellington, ‘Art as Climate Action, Ministry for the Environment Manatū mō te Taiao (NZ)’, <https://environment.govt.nz/what-you-can-do/stories/art-as-climate-action/>.

⁶¹ Advisory Board for the Arts, ‘The Arts and Environmental Sustainability: A Guide to Key Areas’ <https://www.advisoryboardarts.com/the-arts-and-environmental-sustainability-a-guide-to-key-areas>.

⁶² Lukas Gutierrez, ‘Art and Creativity: Essential Components of Sustainability’, <https://sustainable-earth.org/art-and-creativity/>.

Arts in the workforce

Arts, culture and creativity is essential to a thriving wider workforce. Creativity is a driver for innovation, is a feature of emerging business research and is a vital skill set for many future-focussed employers.

Creativity is embedded in modern technology, it is a way we invent new opportunities, ideas and possibilities. It is also a key tool for sharing stories, solving problems, and expressing ideas.

When creativity is woven into workplaces, employees are happier and more productive. Workplace creativity contributes to employees who are more engaged, which contributes to satisfaction, quality of work, and deliverable outcomes.

Waikato residents who have jobs that require creative thinking or problem solving are more likely to have a higher level of satisfaction with their work.⁶³

Increasingly, organisations are needing to report on Environmental, Social and Governance measures (ESG's) within their work. Arts, Culture and Creativity can contribute to social wellbeing, by enabling cultural wellbeing.

Art activities in the workplace can have notable positive effects on the wellbeing of the staff. The effects exist over a wide range of measures, from brief moments of refreshment to longer-term impact.⁶⁴

And the worlds of creativity in the workplace are being explored by researchers in the field of [business](#), [innovation](#), [wellbeing](#), [education](#), [neuro-science](#), [psychology](#), [leadership](#), and more. It is also being talked about by business sources like [Forbes](#), [Harvard Business Review](#), [Deloitte](#), [McKinsey](#) and [Entrepreneur](#).

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

See creativity as part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Health & Safety (H&S) plans. This will nurture the wellbeing of employees, and generate innovative output for businesses.

Support the development and delivery of creative workplace wellbeing initiatives such as [Creativity Everyday](#), which support creative problem solving, innovation and wellbeing.⁶⁵

Support council staff engaging with local creative activities as part of their own wellbeing and personal development.

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

<p>Community Services and Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds Public Toilets Cemeteries Libraries Heritage Property Services – Community Land and Buildings Housing for the Elderly Public Swimming Pools Waste Management and Minimisation Emergency Management 	<p>Venues, Tourism and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure Plans, Policies and Bylaws Budgets Policies Bylaws Reports Strategies Communication and Marketing Provision of information to news media and stakeholder Internal communications Supporting engagement and consultation activities Managing online and print channels
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63 Huber Social, Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in Waikato (Sydney: Huber Social, 2022), p. 41, <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/advocacy/researchandreports>.

64 Heli Ansio, Pia Houni, Piia Seppälä and Jarno Turunen, 'Arts Enhances Well-being at Work', (Finland: Arts Equal, 2017), https://sites.uniarts.fi/documents/14230/0/PB_Arts-enhances-well-being-at-work/51fc5258-4ca6-4866-bd21-cca5c3946a5/.

65 Creative Waikato, 'Creativity Everyday', <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/creativityeveryday>.

Council-specific areas of consideration

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The following areas are those which relate specifically to the day-to-day work of Council. There are connections between different areas within Council which facilitate a more holistic and integrated approach to issues and problems and more joined-up solutions. These sections are matched with local government departments

and example initiatives that could be supported through localised investment and activation.

Please note: This will outline a range of local government department areas connected to our sector, and concludes with a specific arts, culture and creativity focus in summary.

Civic Engagement

In the past three decades Aotearoa has undergone a substantive demographic change. This is evident in the ethnic composition of the population, its age structure, and in the increase of those born outside of New Zealand.⁶⁶

In the last two decades voter turnout in Aotearoa, as in other industrial democracies, has been declining.⁶⁷ An added complication is that Aotearoa has a large migrant population with varying experiences of politics and government in their countries of origin.

⁶⁶ Civics, Citizenship and Political Literacy Education for a Diversifying Nation in NZPSA Our Civic Future Civics, Citizenship and Political Literacy in Aotearoa New Zealand: A Public Discussion Paper. <https://nzpsa.com/resources/Documents/Our%20Civic%20Future.pdf>

⁶⁷ Ibid.

Local government is all about community. Councils make decisions about local activity to ensure a healthy environment, thriving families and businesses, safe spaces for all and a culture that supports every individual's sense of belonging.⁶⁸

By collaborating with local government, artists can facilitate processes that amplify the voices of residents, activate neighbourhood assets, and foster a stronger social fabric, building bridges between city staff and communities.

If we want stronger communities with improved outcomes we need councils to work with local storytellers and trusted voices to enhance our collective civics education and understanding. This means engaging with artists to share information in an engaging and accessible way that can communicate effectively with different communities.

The arts contribute uniquely to the works of civil engagement. Validating people's stories and perspectives, and bringing people together around shared goals. The arts are being more consciously and continuously engaged to achieve civic goals, and make change.⁶⁹

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Engage planners, regulatory and community services and artists to create a participatory art project on a particular issue i.e., getting to know your neighbour.

Commission work on a central theme to communicate with diverse audiences (see Kotahitanga⁷⁰ as a local example).

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

<p>Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds Public Toilets Cemeteries Libraries Heritage Property Services—Community Land and Buildings Housing for the Elderly Public Swimming Pools Waste Management and Minimisation Emergency Management</p> <p>Venues, Tourism and Events Infrastructure Theatres Community Halls I-sites</p>	<p>Transport, Roading and Footpaths Roads Footpaths and Cycleways Road Safety Interventions and Education</p> <p>Plans, Policies and Bylaws Budgets Policies Bylaws Reports Strategies</p> <p>Governance and Corporate Decision-making functions and support</p> <p>Communication and Marketing Provision of information to news media and stakeholder Internal communications Supporting engagement and consultation activities Managing online and print channels</p>
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68 LGNZ New Zealand 'Local Government explained' <https://www.lgnz.co.nz/local-government-in-nz/local-government-explained/#:~:text=They're%20responsible%20for%20making,government%20is%20all%20about%20community>

69 The Review 'Art as a creative mode of civic engagement' (Oct, 2021) <https://www.uvureview.com/news/art-as-a-creative-mode-of-civic-engagement/>

70 Creative Waikato, <https://kotahitangagallery.nz/>

Community Services and Facilities

Libraries, museums, reserves, and community amenities are defined under the Local Government Act as core services of Council.⁷¹ These are all important services that enable the community to participate and celebrate. These are core facilities that enable opportunities for learning, play and communities coming together.

Arts, culture and creativity can have an integral role in the design of local amenities. By incorporating local history or other elements that represent your community, these amenities can become an asset that is truly unique. They can also enhance public appreciation of arts and connect artists with communities. Working

with artists is also a great way to activate community spaces and encourage participation and engagement.

The trend toward the establishment of integrated community hubs⁷² and mixed-use developments, provides opportunities for Councils to ensure maximum benefit for our communities.

⁷¹ New Zealand Government Act, 'Section 11a, 2018)
<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0084/170.0/whole.html>

⁷² Hamilton City Council 'Rototuna Village'
<https://hamilton.govt.nz/strategies-plans-and-projects/projects/rototuna/rototuna-village/>

Ensuring facilities include spaces that are accessible to artists and community based arts groups, where they can make and show their work to audiences, is vital for community wellbeing.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Community houses work with local artist(s) to engage migrant communities about their ‘sense of belonging’.

Encourage the inclusion of creative spaces (workshops, rehearsal rooms, studios, etc) in other civic developments (buildings, libraries, sports facilities etc).

Support staff in council facilities to support community access to space (activations in libraries, parks, and other council facilities).

Reduce administrative burden on individuals community groups trying to utilise public spaces for creative activity (event permits, space restrictions, busking permits etc).

Proactively address issues in civic bylaws regarding sound levels in public spaces. Take action to create legislative support (District Plan) that protects creative activity in the central city – this includes noise levels in music/performance spaces in connection with new urban residential developments. (see Ōtepoti Live Music Action Plan 2023 for example)⁷³

Maintain and increase investment into community providers of service including theatres, venues, and community houses.

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

<p>Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds Public Toilets Cemeteries Libraries Heritage Property Services – Community Land and Buildings Housing for the Elderly Public Swimming Pools Waste Management and Minimisation Emergency Management Venues, Tourism and Events Infrastructure</p>	<p>Planning and Regulatory Building Compliance Development Engineering Resource Consents/Enforcements/Land Information Memorandums Plans, Policies and Bylaws Budgets Policies Bylaws Reports Strategies Communication and Marketing Provision of information to news media and stakeholder Internal communications Supporting engagement and consultation activities Managing online and print channels</p>
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⁷³ <https://www.dunedin.govt.nz/services/arts-and-culture/otepoti-live-music-action-plan>

Parks and Reserves

Parks and reserves provide opportunities for people to connect with nature, play and socialise. They also provide space for people to engage in activities that foster community wellbeing.

Arts and culture connect us with our stories, landscapes and places, and New Zealand's history and heritage.⁷⁴ These spaces serve as a hub for community gatherings and events, and often include amenities such as playgrounds, walking trails, and seats.

⁷⁴ Ministry for Arts, Culture and Heritage 'Briefing to the Incoming Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage – February 2023' p.2 <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2023-03/BIM%20-%20Assoc.%20Minister%20for%20Arts%2C%20Culture%20and%20Heritage.pdf>

Artwork in parks can often perform a dual function, such as a seat, fence, or bridges. The opportunity to integrate art into these functions can make this equipment engaging and interesting.

The Waikato community values greater programming and promotion of youth and family-friendly events.⁷⁵

Storytelling through signage, interpretation, and art can provide educational opportunities and protect the unique cultural heritage of Hamilton Kirikiriroa.⁷⁶

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Support local artists and practitioners to create a strong sense of cultural identity, by integrating history and Māori, Pasifika and other communities into the design.

Engage with local artists to create environmentally aware light-based artworks that provide opportunities for storytelling alongside positive safety outcomes for communities.

Work with local artists on the design and development of art-informed play environments. For more ideas around this, please contact Creative Waikato for information, including the emerging ‘Play with Arts, Culture and Creativity’ strategy.

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

<p>Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds Public Toilets Heritage Property Services – Community Land and Buildings</p>	<p>Plans, Policies and Bylaws Budgets Policies Bylaws Reports Strategies</p>
<p>Planning and Regulatory Building Compliance Development Engineering Resource Consents/ Enforcements/Land Information Memorandums</p>	<p>Communication and Marketing Provision of information to news media and stakeholder Internal communications Supporting engagement and consultation activities Managing online and print channels</p>

⁷⁵ Huber Social, ‘Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in Waikato’ (Sydney: Huber Social, 2022), p.20, <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/advocacy/researchandreports> .

⁷⁶ Hamilton City Council ‘Open Spaces Strategy’ p.14 <https://storage.googleapis.com/hccproduction-web-assets/public/Uploads/Documents/Strategies/Papa-Ahuareka-o-Kirikiroa-Hamilton-Open-Spaces-Strategy-2023-2053.pdf>

Growth

Arts, culture and creativity can be woven into key hard infrastructure projects, to provide distinct places of interest and increase community ownership.

Cultural storytelling, and in particular in collaboration with Mana Whenua, can be pivotal in expressing place-specific identities and ideas.

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) can help to protect infrastructure from damage. Public art can contribute to social cohesion, community care, and connectivity, key elements of CPTED.⁷⁷

Culturally relevant art can increase engagement with public spaces and aid urban revitalisation.⁷⁸

Public Art can contribute to feelings of safety and security, and so support engagement and community care within spaces.⁷⁹

Hard infrastructure provides ‘third spaces’ which can be activated in support of community wellbeing, and it is people who create activity and connection in these spaces. There is a demand for this activation, as growing communities look for things to do and ways to connect with one another.

In the community space, much of this activity, connection and positive outcomes is enabled by volunteers and community groups, who donate their time, skills and energy to serving their communities.

⁷⁷ The International Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Association, ‘Primer: What is CPTED?’ <https://www.cpted.net/Primer-in-CPTED>

⁷⁸ Siti Syamimi Oma, ‘Bringing the New to the Old: Urban Regeneration through Public Arts’, *Procedia – Social and Behavioral Sciences*, Vol. 234, pp. 515-524, <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1877042816315245>

⁷⁹ Partners for Livable Cities, ‘Public Art: More than Just a “Picture on the Wall” – a Vehicle for Crime Prevention’, <http://livable.nonprofitsoapbox.com/component/content/article/9-livability-live/474-public-art-more-than-just-a-picture-on-the-wall-a-vehicle-for-crime-prevention>

Community activation of third spaces is referred to as soft infrastructure. This is the central and measurable driving force behind the diversity of cultural expression, the quality of creative output, and the continuously growing local, national and international reputation of the creative storytelling of this region.

Investment in people, and investment from people, contributes to the success, sustainability and strength of the creative ecosystem. This, in turn, can make measurable contributions to a thriving community and society.

These ecosystems make ongoing investments into our community, and contribute positively to civic pride, regional reputation, social value, and collective wellbeing. It is vital that there is civic investment and support for the growth and maintenance of all facets of soft infrastructure – with a central focus on people.

Recent Waikato research shows that creative professionals experience significantly lower access to essential resources than those outside of the sector. This includes 8% lower local Employment, 4% less access to affordable housing, and increased anxiety.⁸⁰

Artists in communities provide direct access to creative activities which can have benefits for wellbeing.⁸¹ Investment in

this soft infrastructure delivers on the core work of local government.⁸²

Government investment in creativity not only delivers economic benefit.⁸³ Having accessible community art can “range from individual to collective betterment, and from, community to broader positive societal impacts”.⁸⁴

Supporting local creatives to deliver local community initiatives supports community wellbeing.⁸⁵

It is key to acknowledge and educate the public about the volunteer labour that enables quality community outcomes.⁸⁶

Hard infrastructure projects can hold space for multiple community uses, and low-cost inclusions can promote use.

Accessibility of creative activity is a key driver of wellbeing, so it is vital to invest in the providers of diverse creative activity to ensure that accessibility is maintained, while recognising the valued contributions made by creative organisations.⁸⁷

80 Huber Social, ‘Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in the Waikato: How to Support Our Creative Professionals’, https://creativewaikato.co.nz/site/uploads/CW-Creative-Professionals-Report-2023_Final.pdf, p.13

81 New Zealanders and the Arts Ko Aotearoa me ōna toi 2020, <https://creativenz.govt.nz/Development-and-resources/New-Zealanders-and-the-arts---Ko-Aotearoa-me-ona-Toi>

82 <https://www.lqz.co.nz/local-government-in-nz/local-government-explained/>

83 <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/govt-investment-arts-delivers-strong-economic-results>

84 Darcy, Clay (2021) “Cohesive Magic, Creative Collective Expression: Community Arts in Ireland and Their Beneficial Role in Youth Work and Community Development,” Irish Journal of Applied Social Studies: Vol.21: Iss.1, Article 6 <https://arrow.tudublin.ie/cji/viewcontent.cgi?article=1382&context=ijass>

85 See Creative Waikato pilot programme ‘Whiria Te Tāngata’ for example: <https://thespinoff.co.nz/society/07-02-2024/creative-waikatos-whiria-te-tangata-bears-the-fruit-of-community-investment>

86 NZ Volunteering data and value: <https://www.volunteeringnz.org.nz/research/volunteering-statistics-nz/>

87 https://creativewaikato.co.nz/site/uploads/HS_Creative-Waikato_Wellbeing-and-Arts-Culture-and-Creativity-in-the-Waikato_FINAL.pdf

It is essential to gather data around the use of community space, and what activities take place within them, and by which local groups.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Combine elements of placemaking with civic infrastructure, such as through using light sculptures on public areas, in order to provide safety, community interest and storytelling.

Establish a Creative Ambassador to promote and facilitate connections and opportunities around infrastructure developments.

Prioritise strength-based investment into the soft infrastructure already delivering in your community. Consider implementing multi-year granting, and streamlining reporting requirements.

Work in partnership with creative leaders in your community to activate council spaces, and provide creative communities with spaces and places to make and create.

Explore the development and support of creative hubs in your communities. Examples include: The Incubator (Tauranga), Toi Poneke (Wellington), Te Atamira (Queenstown).

Support the incorporation of creative elements into essential infrastructure in order to create vibrant urban environments. This plays ‘an important role in supporting social and economic regeneration’.⁸⁸

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

<p>Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Open spaces Playgrounds Public Toilets Cemeteries Libraries Heritage Property Services – Community Land and Buildings Housing for the Elderly Public Swimming Pools Waste Management and Minimisation Emergency Management</p> <p>Venues, Tourism and Events Infrastructure Theatres Community Halls I-sites</p> <p>Transport, Roading and Footpaths Roads Footpaths and Cycleways Road Safety Interventions and Education</p>	<p>Planning and Regulatory Animal Control Building Compliance Development Engineering Environmental Health Resource Consents/Enforcements/Land Information Memorandums</p> <p>Plans, Policies and Bylaws Budgets Policies Bylaws Reports Strategies</p> <p>Communication and Marketing Provision of information to news media and stakeholder Internal communications Supporting engagement and consultation activities Managing online and print channels</p>
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⁸⁸ Lisa Wilkie, ‘What is Arts & Creativity in Infrastructure?’, Ara Toi Ōtepoti, <https://hail.to/ara-toi/publication/hKgoah/article/H4HUAhc>

Plans, Policies and Bylaws

Plans, policies and bylaws affect all citizens, including those working in the arts and culture space. There is an opportunity to integrate a holistic approach to these decision making processes which includes and draws on the strengths of the creative ecosystem.

It is also important to have a strategic vision for how city growth may impact and engage with the creative sector – this includes capacity for events in public spaces, development of CBD residential and required sound level consideration and mitigation, provision and support for street performance/busking, public art development and activation, etc.

Creative Waikato is available to support as a strategic advisory partner, in order to provide sector-informed and evidence-based insight to assist council in these developments. For initial information, see our community-led, regional arts and culture strategy, the Waikato Arts Navigator (WAN).⁸⁹ The WAN, alongside the Waikato Performing Arts strategy have been developed to support collective impact in the wider region, while supporting each council to identify their own priorities and focus areas with their communities.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Meet with Creative Waikato to explore how arts, culture and creativity can meaningfully connect with council planning and bylaws.

Adopt the Waikato Arts Navigator as council’s arts and culture policy, and then develop a targeted action plan.

Appoint a Creativity Officer or Creative Ambassador with a purpose to support and deliver positive outcomes for the arts, culture and creative community.

Consider how red tape around live performances and public events can be simplified.

Explore engagement with arts, culture and creative providers for social procurement and positive wellbeing outcomes.

Support the delivery and expansion of the Creative Communities Scheme funding.

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS	
Community Services and Facilities Parks and Reserves Libraries Heritage Property Services – Community Land and Buildings	Planning and Regulatory Building Compliance Development Engineering Environmental Health Resource Consents/ Enforcements/Land Information Memorandums
Venues, Tourism and Events Infrastructure Theatres Community Halls I-sites	Plans, Policies and Bylaws Budgets Policies Bylaws Reports Strategies
Transport, Roading and Footpaths Roads Footpaths and Cycleways	

⁸⁹ Creative Waikato, ‘Waikato Arts Navigator’, <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/site/uploads/Waikato-Arts-Navigator-Regional-Strategy-2023.pdf>

Arts, Culture, Creativity and Ngaa Toi Maaori

As expressed throughout this briefing, arts, culture, creativity and ngaa toi Maaori can and should be woven through all facets of the core work of local government in the vision and delivery of a productive, thriving and flourishing district and region into the future.

It is important that in exploring the work of councils supporting all communities to thrive and be connected, we must acknowledge the vital role of our creative ecosystem in being a contributor to that.

Arts, culture and creativity should be activated by all components of local government as an essential contributor to human capital, social cohesion, positive impact and wellbeing.⁹⁰

Local governments can support local activity by advocating to ministries and the central government for increased regional investment in this sector.

Arts, culture and creativity are a core public good that provides measurable benefits for the mental and physical health of all New Zealanders.

The creative ecosystem contributes to our innovation, and to our regional storytelling, both to ourselves and to international audiences.

Artists are skilled practitioners whose work should be utilised to help develop innovative pathways for future success.

⁹⁰ For national and international evidence of this impact, see: Creative Waikato, 'Briefing to Incoming Ministers, 2023/2024', <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/site/uploads/Creative-Waikato-Briefing-to-Incoming-Ministers.pdf>

WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT?

Increase Investment in the creative eco-system in a sustainable way that supports community impact, and acknowledges the importance of accessibility and wellbeing.

Develop lasting strategic partnership relationships with Creative Waikato as the regional arts organisation to grow capability, and utilise sector-specific insights and impacts.

Embed the Waikato Arts Navigator as a council strategic document and commit to developing a council-specific Arts Action plan in alignment with your LTP, this briefing advice, and community consultation.

THIS STRATEGIC APPROACH SHOULD INCLUDE

Vibrant and diverse arts, culture and creativity that starts in flax roots community activity and develops through into sustainable creative careers.

Telling our stories and embracing te ao maaori and nga toi maaori in all its forms as the unique expression of this country.

Enabling accessible creativity and daily creative expression for all people in our communities.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR 2024-2027

Engage with artists and local advisors, alongside Creative Waikato, to explore the possibilities to embed creative activations across all core council business.

Maintain and increase council investment in the areas of arts, culture and creativity – both within council operational activity, and in community granting and support.

Invest in Creative Waikato as a strategic regional arts organisation (alongside other regional sector organisations in Sport, Economic Development, Tourism etc) to support localised activity, capability and strategic regional impact (in partnership with community trusts and central government).

Work collaboratively to enhance community arts activity and infrastructure through a regionalised partnership approach.

CONNECTED COUNCIL DEPARTMENT AREAS

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Who we are

Creative Waikato is the regional arts organisation for the Waikato region, which includes 10 local authorities — Thames-Coromandel, Hauraki, Matamata-Piako, Waikato, Waipā, Hamilton, Waitomo, Ōtorohanga, South Waikato and Ruapehu.

Our area of activity and engagement also connects with four Iwi — Waikato-Tainui, Hauraki, Raukawa and Maniapoto.

We have been working extensively across Waikato since 2012 and have experience and understanding of the diverse array of artforms found throughout our region. We are navigators who lead the elevation of creativity in our region

and collaborate to provide opportunities for cultural wellbeing. We provide creative capability development for artists and arts organisations, strategic direction and support for sustainable arts, culture and heritage in our region.

Our vision

Waikato
thrives with
diverse and
transformative
creative
activity

What does this mean?

The arts, culture and creativity are valued and celebrated in our communities.

Our region has robust and flourishing pathways for participation and audience engagement and our creative and artistic professionals.

Ongoing sustainable development of a range of artistic and cultural activities throughout the region.

The arts, artists, arts and cultural organisations and arts activity are seen as being a vital part of the Waikato region and the wellbeing of its people.

What we can do for councils, elected councillors and staff

Provide localised insights and facilitate connections with front-line community and facilitators.

Deliver regionalised activity that aligns with our regional strategy (which links to community trusts, philanthropy and local government).

Serve as regional sector advisory to support policy, cross-department planning, outcomes and insight, and to support activation of the regional strategy and local action plan.

Continue to deliver our capability building programmes and strategic sector influence in the Waikato Region. Supporting creatives, organisations, and other enablers to work collaboratively to develop and deliver innovative district and regional outcomes.

Next steps

Meet together to share our current insights, work and impact.

Connect with council executive leadership and staff to support future development and strengthen our strategic relationship.

Support council engaging with 'Creativity Every Day' as our koha to you and your staff.

Please contact

Creative Waikato CEO
Dr. Jeremy Mayall
jeremy@creativewaikato.co.nz

Key links

<https://creativewaikato.co.nz/>

<https://creativewaikato.co.nz/advocacy/waikatoartsnavigator>

<https://creativewaikato.co.nz/news/understanding-the-value-ofarts-cultureand-creativity>

<https://creativewaikato.co.nz/creativityeveryday>

Creativity.
Auahatanga.
Wellbeing.
Hauora.
People.
Ngā Tāngata.

Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan



**Creative
Waikato
Toi Waikato**

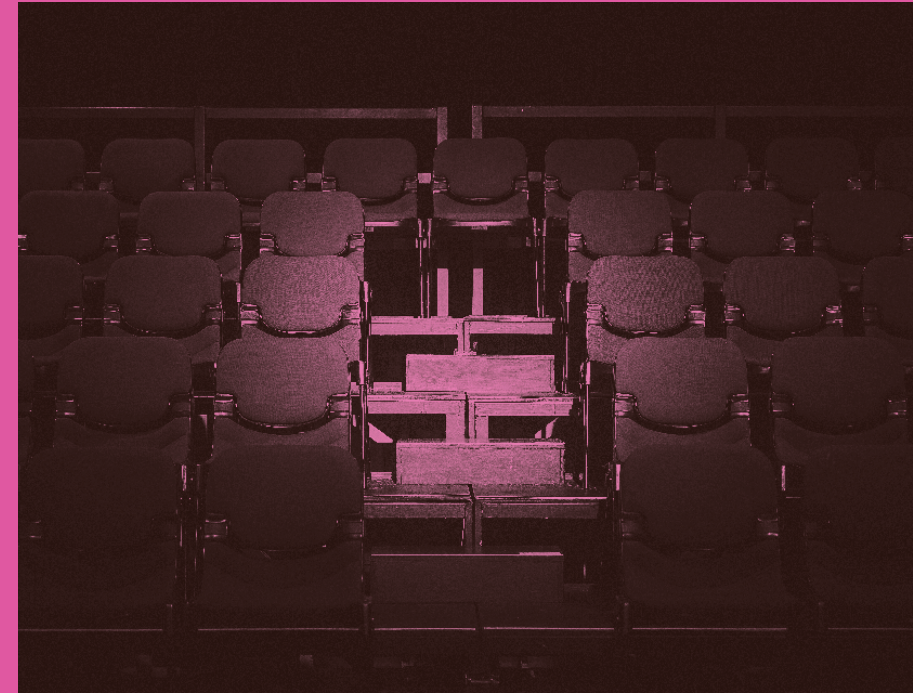
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Background

This plan presents a 2024 strategic overview of Creative Infrastructure in Waikato. It builds upon the foundation of the previous Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan prepared for Creative Waikato by The Stafford Group, in August 2014.

The purpose of this plan was to identify the current facilities available throughout the Waikato, to ascertain any gaps in the facility offering and to determine how to best fill those gaps over the next 30 years. It was the first opportunity for the Waikato region to review current and future creative sector facility needs.



This plan recognised the important role of the creative sector in helping to grow the liveability¹ of the Waikato region and its communities, and provide financial and economic benefit for the region, through driving increased tourism and local resident demand.²

¹ Broad concept which includes a combination of the social, cultural, economic and environmental attributes of a place.

² 'Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan: Summary Document—Prepared for Creative Waikato, August 2014' The Stafford Group & Creative Waikato, p. 1.

The 2014 report included research and analysis which highlighted the most strategic pathway forward – a funding and infrastructure model for the creative sector which offers:

Shared regional facilities (and costs)

Rationalisation of the number of facilities to focus on a fewer number of affordable facilities and venues; and

Ensuring facilities for the next 30 years are more flexible in their design to cater to changing uses and changing market demand needs

This would also include options for non-permanent facilities (pop-ups) which are able to offer far lower capital cost options which avoid the ongoing high annual maintenance and repair cost which existing bricks and mortar facilities create

In addition to recommendations, this report identified some strategic issues and gaps, including:

A lack of asset data management for creative facilities in Waikato

Minimal need for new creative facilities (bricks and mortar) as well as limited interest from funding bodies and Councils willing to fund new development

A lack of rehearsal spaces being the major infrastructure gap identified by creative sector stakeholders which needs to be addressed

The lack of administrative facilities (meeting rooms, back of house supporting facilities) is a further infrastructure gap which also affects the organisational ability of the sector³



Since this report was completed, there has been some progress in areas, but little in others. These will be briefly discussed in this report.

³ 'Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan: Summary Document – Prepared for Creative Waikato, August 2014' The Stafford Group & Creative Waikato, p. 6.

Purpose

The rate of change over the past 10 years has been unprecedented with a global pandemic, climate crises, civil unrest and technological advances.

There is a need for Aotearoa to have “co-ordinated, connected and cross-sector approaches and policies that align with cohesive objectives which will be essential for our social and economic systems” if we are to thrive.⁴

Innovative and cohesive approaches to issues require a long-term approach beyond our current moment and population. The Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan, prepared in 2014, provided useful data and an understanding of the infrastructure needs

at that time. The purpose of this revised plan is to provide current thinking on the future of creative infrastructure within the Waikato region, and outline potential pathways to get there.

⁴ New Zealand Productivity Commission, ‘Looking to the future’ <https://www.productivity.govt.nz/publications/looking-to-the-future/read-online-html/>.

⁵ UCLG, Culture 21: Actions, <https://www.agenda21culture.net/documents/culture-21-actions>

Definitions

Arts

Activities in which individuals and groups engage in the process of making, developing, shaping and sharing objects, images, words, performances, music, or other forms of aesthetic expression to convey emotion, story, ideas or concepts. Artists make art often through the conscious use of skill and creative imagination especially in the production of aesthetic objects.

Art, or “The Arts” may include specific conventions of practice and presentation which are guided by structures, expectations and formalised infrastructure. For the purposes of this plan it can include, but is not limited to: visual art, painting, music, theatre, dance, poetry, circus, craft, media, ngā toi Māori, Pasifika arts, cultural arts and practices, fashion, film, design, puppetry, and sculpture.

This plan is connected to arts infrastructure like: galleries, museums, theatres, venues, concert halls, libraries, studios, rehearsal rooms, workshops, but can include schools, community halls, pop-up spaces, outdoor amphitheatres, parks, and civic spaces – along with groups, organisations and collectives – to provide the frameworks for artistic expression and development.

Culture

Culture is made up of the values, beliefs, languages, knowledge, art and wisdom, with which a person or people, individually or collectively, expresses both their humanity and the meaning they give to their life and its course.⁵

Access to culture is a human right and common good. Culture helps us to understand, interpret, and transform reality and can include a rich array of different things, including our shared stories, traditions, identities, beliefs and ideas. It includes our ability to access and understand the stories we inherit – we sit, watch and listen.

For this plan, cultural infrastructure includes: hapū and iwi, cultural organisations, marae, fale, culturally-specific and culturally-aware spaces, and other cultural or religiously significant spaces.

Creativity

The ability to turn imagination into action. Creativity is connected to art and culture but also expands beyond those frameworks and can operate with flexibility and freedom. Creativity is a process for innovation, curiosity and play. Engagement with creativity is intrinsically motivated, it has no expected or specified outcome. It is spontaneous, joyful, fun, accessible, challenging, social, repeatable, and doesn't require specific space or equipment.

This Plan defines creativity spaces and places as those aligning to arts and culture infrastructure – but creativity is also able to exist in any private, public and organisational space. It ultimately can occur anywhere and the key requirements are time, space, and encouragement.

Soft Infrastructure

Components of core service delivery related to people. This can include organisations, groups, collectives, and encompasses both the seen and unrecognised contributions made towards measurable growth in our cities and civic spaces.

Soft infrastructure is the services required to maintain the economic, environmental, cultural and social standards of a society. It includes non-physical assets, such as communication, policies, strategies and regulations, the financing of these systems and services, and the future development of training, capability and resources.

Hard Infrastructure

Hard infrastructure, also known as built infrastructure, is the physical infrastructure of space and place that should provide safe and accessible opportunities to engage in societal activities.

For the purposes of this plan this includes: galleries, museums, theatres, venues, concert halls, libraries, studios, rehearsal rooms, workshops, schools, community halls, pop-up spaces, outdoor amphitheatres, parks, civic spaces, marae, fale, and other buildings or created environments that serve to provide opportunity for arts, culture and creativity as per the definitions above.



Arts and Culture Organisations

A group, entity, organisation, trust or society who work with a core purpose in the arts, culture and creative ecosystem. This may be for-purpose or for-profit.

Liveability

Liveability is the articulation of provisions that ensure a place is good for living. Liveability is connected to the long-term wellbeing of individuals and communities. It includes the things that make our cities and towns great places to work and live and play. This includes hard infrastructure like buildings and parks, retail, hospitals and schools, as well as the activation of these spaces.

Other important considerations for liveability are environmental quality, safety, cost of living, happiness, social cohesion, friendliness, and community connection.

Benefits

The Plan is the result of a research-based development process. It combines desktop research and multi-faceted community engagement with the support of our strategic partner network.

The plan is presented in order to prioritise and guide investment in both hard and soft infrastructure, enhancing access and participation in arts, culture and creativity in the Waikato region.

Benefits in working with Creative Waikato on this plan include:

An informed planning and decision-making process

Sector-informed insights into ecosystem needs and strategic growth

Advocacy with funders, investors and enablers for planned infrastructure developments that align with the Plan

Sector-specific reviews of facility development concepts, including scope for the development of feasibility and business cases

Insights, knowledge and resource sharing specific to arts, culture and creativity

Insights and knowledge into the essential delivery of both hard and soft infrastructure to support civic development and impact

Support and guidance to facilitate collaborative partnerships

Capability building with communities to encourage collaboration and activate community hubs

Facilitation of information sharing, training and community engagement

Increasing insights into regional infrastructure utilisation data to understand demand and inform future development

How to use

This plan is an evolving advisory document redeveloped in 2024 to address future growth and need in consideration of Waikato infrastructure.

This reference document has been developed to assist our strategic partners and community in both hard and soft infrastructure development, planning, provision and optimisation. Like all high-level plans, this is an initial guide for framing more detailed planning to build from. The Plan is not a replacement for this detailed research and analysis which will be required for future developments (at regional and local levels).

It is recommended that the Creative Infrastructure Plan is considered in alignment with the Waikato Arts Navigator and the Waikato Performing Arts Strategy.

Limitations

The 2024 Plan presents an initial high-level scan of hard and soft infrastructure in the Waikato. This Plan is based on available data at the time of writing, using secondary data and primary data from third parties.

A high-level plan presents scope and proposed future developments that address community needs. The plan is presented as a regularly-evolving summary and as new information is collated, it will be considered for the next iteration.

The Plan does not replace the need for project-specific planning, analysis and community consultation. Each project needs to consider artform, scope, and community needs. As additional providers and partners undertake or update their existing plans and insights, it is envisaged that this Plan will require updating to remain relevant.

The Plan examines issues at a strategic level for the broadest consideration of the arts, culture and creative ecosystem. It recognises that there may be artform-specific needs in different communities and contexts that may require additional insight.

Specific limitations noted in the development of the 2024 Plan include:

Sector-wide infrastructure plans do not currently exist on a national or regional level

The complex balance between artform-specific needs and different health and safety requirements is still to be considered

A reliance on existing community infrastructure information from territorial authorities which is currently limited in scope

The impact of COVID-19 on infrastructure sustainability in the region

The impact on funding inadequacies around facility maintenance and gaps in technical provision

Limited engagement with Waikato Tainui in this review of this plan, and recognition of the need to engage more widely with the other Iwi of the Waikato region to ensure we are capturing their aspirations, roles and needs regarding spaces, places and facilities for arts, culture, creativity and ngaa toi Maaori

This is the first refresh of the plan since its initial development. It is also the first to consider soft infrastructure alongside hard infrastructure. In a future-focused consideration of sector development it is vital that all facets are considered

High-Level Considerations

As part of developing and implementing this Plan there is an expected commitment to:

Consider soft infrastructure needs alongside hard infrastructure development

Continue research and impact analysis on arts, culture, and creativity participation and activation in Waikato and how that informs future development

Work with local communities and organisations to understand emerging needs and requirements for increasing access and participation in an equitable and inclusive manner

Continue alignment to regional strategies that inform the background of this plan – Waikato Arts Navigator, Waikato Performing Arts Strategy

Work alongside local Iwi to identify current and future needs and aspirations for Māori

Recognise the guiding framework in the Local Government Act to “promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing of communities”.⁶ The Plan needs to reflect and inform the essential intergenerational impact of both hard and soft infrastructure for arts, culture and creativity on individual and collective wellbeing

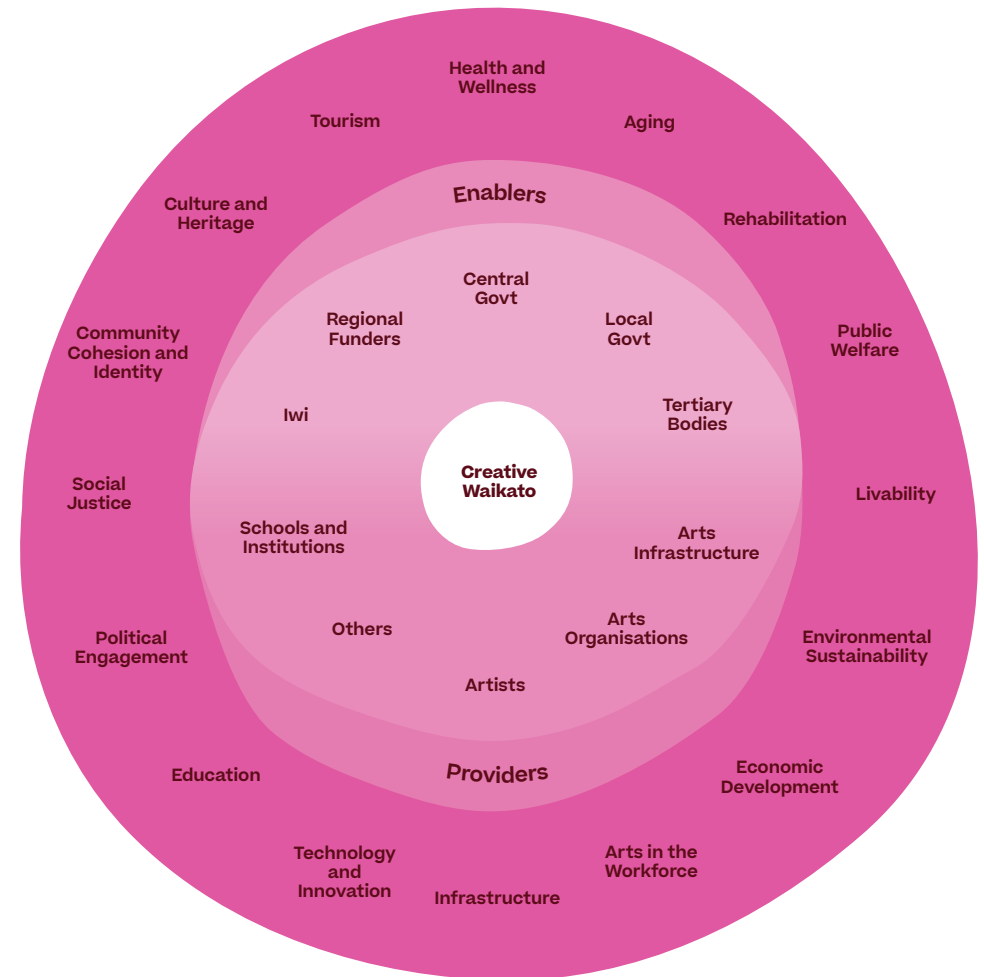
⁶ Taituarā, ‘Community Wellbeings’, <https://taituara.org.nz/community-well-beings>.

Understanding the creative ecosystem

To achieve the broadest possible impact, it is essential to view the contribution of arts, culture and creativity as part of a system which affects all facets of society.

This system-based approach acknowledges cross-sector opportunities to enable effective outcomes and deliver better public services. This ecosystem approach is fundamental to our regional arts strategy.

Arts as part of our community ecosystem



Waikato Arts Navigator

The Waikato Arts Navigator Strategy (WAN) provides an aspirational vision to see the Waikato region become a place with a vibrant arts and cultural sector that thrives with diverse and transformative creative activity.⁷

This means that there is the ongoing sustainable development of a wide range of artistic and cultural activities.

The WAN is a mechanism to help achieve broader impact. It is a shared language, a way to understand and communicate the value of what we do as a sector, and to find ways to work with one another to enhance the role of arts, culture and creativity in the region.

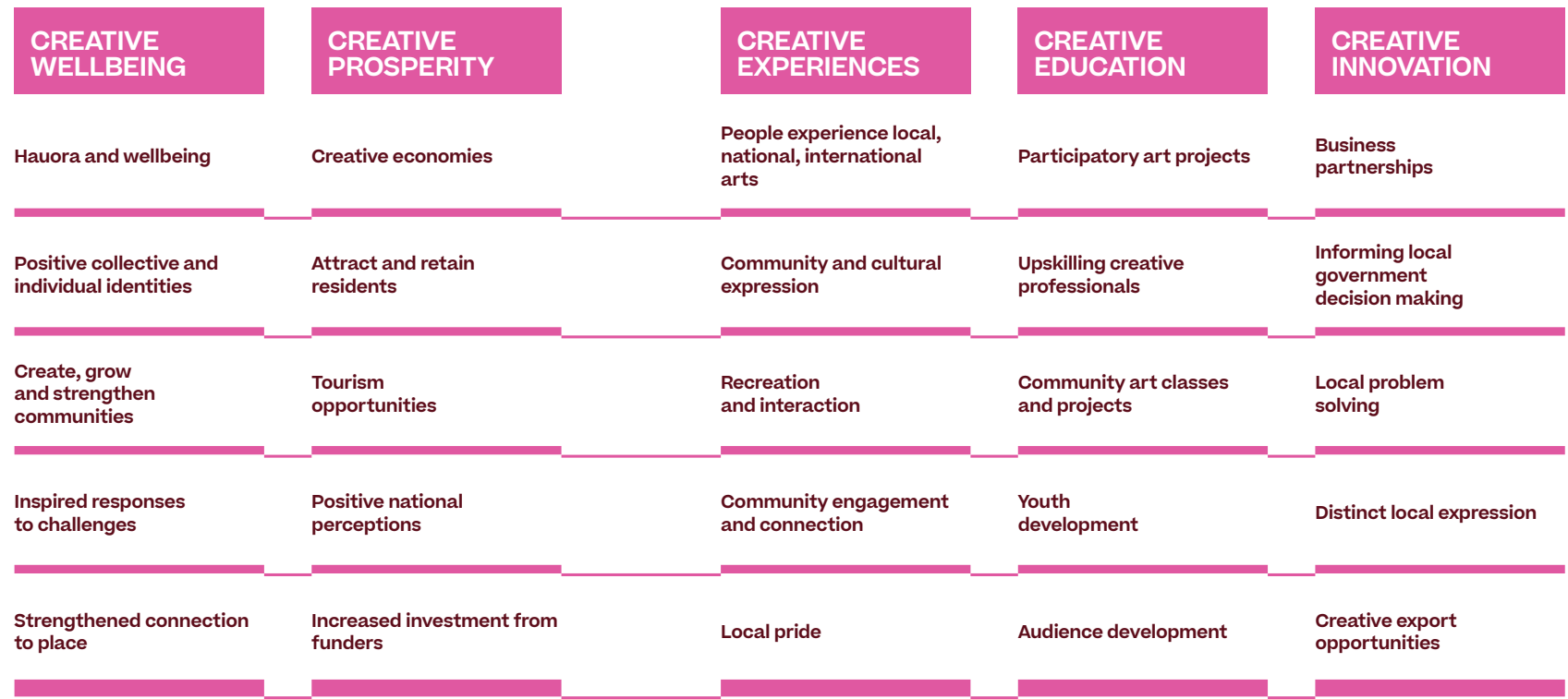


⁷ Find the Waikato Arts Navigator and other strategies on the Creative Waikato Website: <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/advocacy/strategy-space>

Five threads

The five threads of the WAN represent key areas of focus that connect across our broader ecosystem.

The ultimate objective of the WAN is to empower key enablers, funders and community organisations to make decisions with the following outcomes in mind. This would lead to transformational systemic change for Waikato and its people.



Performing Arts Strategy

The construction of the Waikato Regional Theatre provided the opportunity to build upon the Waikato Arts Navigator, in order to explore the distinct strengths of local performing arts activity.

The development of the Performing Arts Strategy was an opportunity to meaningfully engage with our diverse communities, and to hear from the people who are already having a great impact on our region, and who also want to see the sector continue to thrive, and help shape the future for this vital ecosystem.



Despite being deeply affected by the covid pandemic, with cancellation of shows, and venues being closed for long periods, the sector showed resilience with its ability to adapt, pivot, and come together to look at pathways forward.

Having a strategy that considers the bigger picture of the sector and provides a shared vision or focus for future development is an important way to move forward in a positive direction.

The performing arts in Waikato has the potential in the next 30 years to build upon its rich and varied history to support sustainable growth in the sector, to engage new audiences, and to tell local stories and create opportunities for new practitioners to share their voice.

The Vision is that:

The Waikato
Performing Arts
ecosystem thrives
through inspiring
communities and
enabling diverse
creative activity.

Drawing from the insights shared by the diverse Waikato community, the pathway for supporting this vision emerged in four strands of focus:



These focus areas provide useful understanding for the future development of this infrastructure plan.

Hard and Soft Infrastructure

A strategic framework with a long-term view point, recognises that transformational change takes time. There are many elements that must coincide to enable such transformation.

This includes the provision of and support for hard infrastructure (physical assets) and soft infrastructure (people and services), arts activity, regeneration, supporting artists and arts organisations, valuing creativity and creative thinking.

Proactive collaboration and strong advocacy from Councils and other leadership organisations will inevitably empower the broader community to work together towards a common vision.⁸

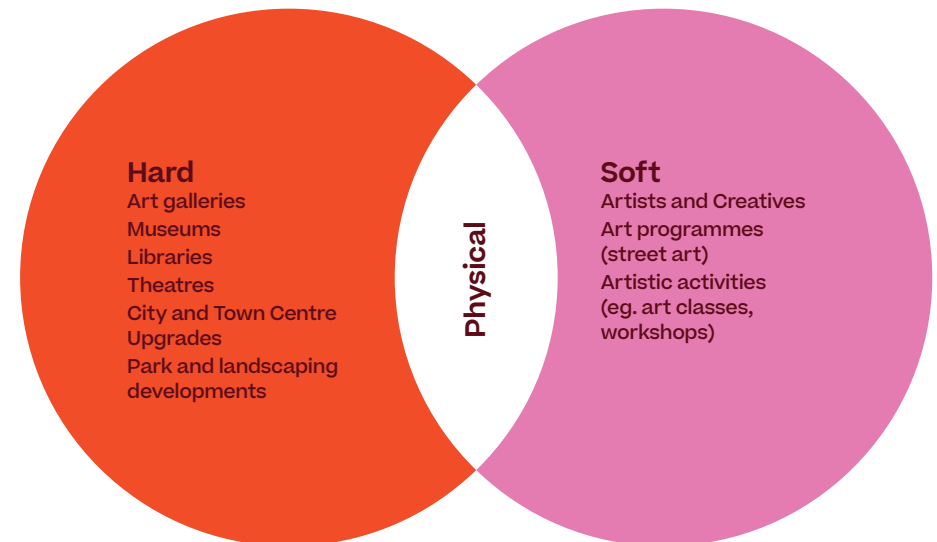
⁸ 'Waikato Arts Navigator Strategy' p.43 https://creativewaikato.co.nz/site/uploads/Waikato-Arts-Navigator_Regional-Strategy_ONLINE.pdf

While hard infrastructure is an important consideration (and formed the basis of earlier iterations of this plan), the 2024 update includes an emphasis on soft infrastructure. A previous lack of data, insight, and sustainable investment have shaped potential issues for the ongoing sustainability of our essential soft infrastructure.

The concept and discussion around soft infrastructure is relatively new.⁹ It is regarded as a fundamental component which forms the basis for a functioning economic, political and/or social system. Most specifically, the function of soft infrastructure has been described as:

“[A] facilitator for the implementation and utilisation of hard infrastructure”

It is important to recognise that our cities and towns have both hard and soft infrastructure. Whilst physical buildings and utilities are critical components of urban development, it is the soft infrastructure that enables the smooth integration of technology and provision of services.¹⁰



⁹ Turner, C. (2020) 'The infrastructured state: Territoriality and the national infrastructure system'. Edward Elgar Publishing in Sutriadi, R 'Soft infrastructure in Smart Sustainable Cities' p, 200 <http://journal.pusbindiklatren.bappenas.go.id/lib/jisdep/article/view/428/172>

¹⁰ Sutriadi, R 'Soft infrastructure in Smart Sustainable Cities' p, 200. <http://journal.pusbindiklatren.bappenas.go.id/lib/jisdep/article/view/428/172>

Core components of soft infrastructure

Soft infrastructure is associated with the development of human and social capital integral to community-building and the promotion of “high quality” living.¹¹

It is the mahi and expertise required to activate hard infrastructure. Forms of soft infrastructure include programmes and facilitators in libraries, museums and other community resources.

Soft infrastructure encompasses both the seen and unrecognised contributions made towards measurable growth in our cities and civic spaces. Soft infrastructure in the arts, culture and creative sector is a core part of sustainable growth, civic development and placemaking. This directly connects to vibrant communities and this understanding is supported by a wealth of peer-reviewed local and international evidence that demonstrates this impact.

It is vital to consider issues around growth in the context of living and working in a changing city. Growth of certain kinds

(residential) is interwoven with the function of a city which connects both hard and soft infrastructure (events, concerts, activities). The value and impact of this creative soft infrastructure strengthens the economic potential of the city, thriving and active communities, and attractiveness for inward investment. This framing of soft infrastructure supports the understanding that sustainable growth is not just about physical buildings. It must also be about people. People who provide services, activations and community development that deliver core civic outcomes.



¹¹ Brail, S., Mizrokhi, E. and Ralston, S. (2017) Examining the transformation of Regent Park, Toronto. In: N. Wise and J. Clark (Eds). Urban Transformations: Geographies of Renewal and Creative Change. Pp. 177-194., London: Routledge in Cambridge Centre for Housing & Planning

Research 'Infrastructure, placemaking and sustainability' A Report for Places for People (May 2020) https://www.cchpr.landecon.cam.ac.uk/files/documents/DownloadTemplate_49.pdf
¹² Ibid.

Sustainable civic growth, community cohesion, social wellbeing and economic development are all served through strategic investment in both hard and soft creative infrastructure.

This connection is specifically articulated in the Waikato Arts Navigator as a regional arts strategy. It is also supported by recent local evidence through the Creative Waikato and Huber Social Wellbeing impact study, as well as recent reports by Creative New Zealand on local government and placemaking, and the Review for the Future of Local Government on the focus for community wellbeing.

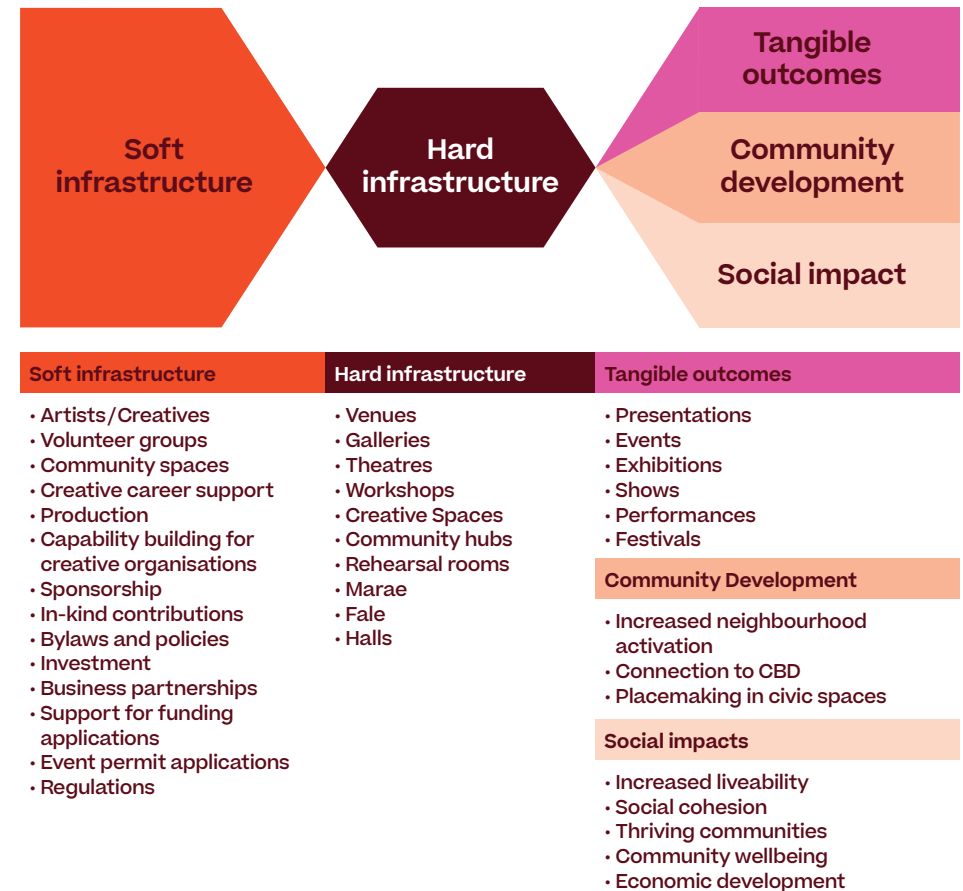
Investing in hard infrastructure means creating safe, accessible and sustainable community spaces. Investing in soft infrastructure means supporting the people who breathe life and vitality into spaces and capital assets. It is essential to have both these things. The community benefits of this activation provides the rationale and social licence for ongoing

future investment and development that enables continued civic, economic and community growth. It is key that the activation, operational and maintenance requirements of all capital projects is proactively included in long term budgeting and project planning.

A place's social and cultural norms, meanings and values are present within their forms of soft infrastructure.¹² Supporting those people who activate hard infrastructure contributes to distinct local expression and social cohesion.

The design and delivery of “good quality” places therefore requires the adequate provision of hard and soft forms of infrastructure in order to support the prospect of “high quality” living within them.

It is through the soft infrastructure utilising the space and support of the hard infrastructure that the wider impact occurs.



The creative sector is enabled by the passion, expertise and care of volunteers, as well as paid employees. This is the case too in sport, community, and cultural spaces. Ultimately, our community mobilises and connects with or without hard infrastructure, and while investments in hard infrastructure are key to enabling safer, more accessible,

sustainable and engaging experiences, it is important to centre people in these developments. It is key then, to not only measure impact in terms of financial return or asset utilisation, but to consider wellbeing measures, and the ways in which these experiences contribute to things like community cohesion, connection to place and land and self.

Waikato Infrastructure Plan

The Waikato Infrastructure Plan prepared in 2014, provided a benchmark in the identification of current and future sector facility needs. However, some of these projects were not realised.



Priority Projects

The table that follows outlines the “Priority Projects” that were recommended. An update on these projects is provided in addition to new projects which were either not considered or realised at the time the initial plan was prepared.

Status

Working well and/or complete	
In progress or needing some future development	
Stalled, cancelled or postponed	
Potential future priority	
Project not listed in 2014 report	*

Project	Location	Types of Uses	Primary Partners	Update 2024	Status
Waikato Regional Theatre (upgrade to Founders Theatre)	Hamilton	Performing Arts	Hamilton City Council and Others	<p>Investigation into remedial and development work for Founders Theatre was undertaken in the 2015-2016 financial year. Founders Theatre closed in 2016 for safety reasons.</p> <p>In 2017, Momentum Waikato worked with support from Creative Waikato to engage in community consultation to develop a new Waikato Regional Theatre (WRT). In 2018 Hamilton City Council funded \$25million and the Hamilton Hotel site on the South end of Victoria Street was identified as the preferred site.</p> <p>Waikato Regional Property Trust (WRPT), which owns the theatre, formed via the appointment of its first trustees in October 2018. Work on the new site began in 2021. Demolition of Founders began in 2023</p>	
Upgrade of The Meteor Theatre	Hamilton	Performing Arts	Community	<p>Ownership transferred from Hamilton City Council to The One Victoria Trust in February 2014. By 2017, the Trust had successfully raised the \$1.1 million necessary to complete required upgrades and earthquake proofing. Meeting the requirement of full transfer of ownership. The Meteor successfully sourced crowdfunding for the refurbishment and installation of new bathrooms in 2021.</p> <p>*** Challenges exist around operational funding where sustainable investment and support will be ongoing. Increased civic investment is required to support future accessibility for communities</p>	
New major performing arts auditorium –NZ Conservatorium of Music	University of Waikato – Hamilton	Performing Arts	University of Waikato Foundation and Others	<p>This was stalled due to covid.</p> <p>The University is adding a much-needed extension to its performance arts building – the Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts.</p> <p>Originally opened in 2001, the Academy is a purpose-built arts building and is regarded as a top facility for teaching and performance. This space is available to local, national and international groups and artists to use for practices, concerts and performances.</p> <p>A proposed extension will include a new art gallery space allowing for larger installations, and additional music practice rooms with the appropriate acoustics, lighting, outlook and arrangements necessary for students to learn and practice in. No timeframe as yet.</p>	
Upgrade for Waitomo Cultural Centre	Te Kuiti	All creative expression but particularly for growing Kapa Haka	Waitomo District Council and Others	<p>Now called the “Les Munro Centre”, there have been some Council funded upgrades since 2014 including the main hall, floor coverings, foyer, stage, bathrooms, gardens and kitchen.</p>	
Upgrade for Clarence St Theatre	Hamilton	Performing Arts and storage	Community Trust and Others	<p>Hamilton City Council gifted Clarence Street Theatre to the Clarence Street Theatre Trust in 2015. Building upgrades including roof refurbishment is still required.</p> <p>Covid was a major hurdle for the theatre as extended lockdowns, limited capacity, and lower audience engagement added complication.</p> <p>Clarence St Theatre has a new manager and is looking at opportunities for future development and activation.</p> <p>*** Challenges exist around operational funding where sustainable investment and support will be ongoing. Increased civic investment is required to support future accessibility for communities</p>	

Project	Location	Types of Uses	Primary Partners	Update 2024	Status
Development of multiple rehearsal spaces	Multiple locations	All forms of rehearsal and production facilities	Councils and Others	This is an ongoing need and has not been fully investigated or realised.	
Creation of cultural, sculptural and art trails linking towns and creative sector venues	Throughout the Waikato to help tell the sub regional and regional history	Visual art form display, event and communication information, Māori creative expression and welcome	Councils and Others	<p>The Sculpture Park – Waitakaruru Arboretum The art-in-nature experience invites families and friends to share a walk, and children to be outdoors on a creative adventure. www.sculpturepark.co.nz</p> <p>Boon Sculpture Trail – Kirikiriroa/Hamilton Boon Sculpture Trail brings together artists from across Aotearoa, to create and install temporary outdoor sculptures in Kirikiriroa Hamilton. www.boonarts.co.nz/bst</p> <p>Te Ara Wai journeys – Wāipa District Self-guided tour of culturally significant sites tearawai.nz</p> <p>Te Ahurei Māori Tourism – Māori Art Walking Tours of Hamilton CBD Celebrating Māori art and storytelling in Kirikiriroa/Hamilton. www.facebook.com/teahureimaoritourism</p> <p>Tainui Waka Tourism – Regional Māori Tourism Organisation (RMTO) for the Tainui Waka region. Vision is: “Sharing our stories with the World”. www.facebook.com/tainuiwakatourism</p> <p>Te Awa River Ride The 65km Te Awa River Ride is one of the most scenic cycling and walking trails in New Zealand. Art component still in development www.te-awa.org.nz</p> <p>Five Waikato River trails – Karapiro, Arapuni, Waipapa, Maraetai, Whakamaru Strategically placed art along trails. www.waikatorivertrails.co.nz</p> <p>Waka Kotahi Waikato expressway Concrete pou and waka erected on historic sites throughout State Highway 1 Huntly bypass route www.monarc.co.nz/latest-work/case-studies/waikato-expressway-huntly-bypass/</p> <p>The Adventure Trail Highway Ruapehu The Adventure Highway Arts Trail is a celebration of creativity. A trail which includes galleries, studios, cafes, restaurants, and art stay accommodations, each telling a story of the region’s cultural heritage and contemporary artistic flair. www.visitruapehu.com/maps/the-adventure-highway-art-trail</p> <p>Hamilton Airport Cultural Transformation Rejuvenation of brand – pekapeka (long-tailed bat). Natural attributes aligned to Ranginui (skyfather), Papatuanuku (earthmother) and everything in-between connection to place, purpose and planet. Meaning interwoven into building. All artists whakapapa back to Waikato www.hamiltonairport.co.nz/our-cultural-journey</p>	

Project	Location	Types of Uses	Primary Partners	Update 2024	Status
Development of multi-purpose facility (all art forms)	Ngāruawahia (possibly as part of Tūrangawaewae Marae)	All creative expression but particularly for growing kapa haka	Tūrangawaewae Trust Board and Others	Globox Claudelands has become a regular venue for kapa haka. Less restrictions around food vendors and minimal entry fee has made this a popular event. Te Matatini has established 12 new Pou Takawenga positions which will be conduits between regions (incl Tainui) and Te Matatini. Possible plans for a Toi Māori Hub for the purpose of housing taonga from the Kingitanga, which have been gifted through generations.	
Upgrade of The Plaza	Putaruru	All creative expression but particularly for performing arts	South Waikato District Council Local/regional Trusts, Foundations and Others	LTP 2020-21 – Putaruru Town Concept Plan included creation of “The Plaza Creative Arts Hub” precinct.	
Outdoor amphitheatre development	Hamilton	All creative expression	Hamilton City Council and Others	Two current proposals – Hamilton Gardens and Founders Theatre site – neither currently confirmed – but Creative Waikato was part of initial community consultation.	
Development of Riverlea Theatre	Hamilton	Performing Arts + storage	Hamilton City Council and Others	Purchased land from Council in 2016 and have been working to fundraise for a new building.	
*Creative Space Development in Otorohanga	Ōtorohanga	To be determined	Ōtorohanga District Council and Others	*Creative Waikato has been engaging in community consultation around this project.	
Development of public art space/gallery	Hamilton (possibly as part of current Museum)	All forms of fine art, craft	Hamilton City Council and others	Initial plans for the Waikato Regional Theatre included provision for a Public Art Gallery. A brief feasibility study was completed for this in 2023 by Creative Waikato, however, it appears that no current provision has been made for this.	
Rehearsal space and artists studios	Hamilton	All forms of rehearsal and studio facilities	Councils and others	Potential for mixed-use artist studios, gallery, venue hire spaces. Examples are Toi Poneke (Wellington), The Incubator (Tauranga), Te Atamira (Queenstown), The Piano (Christchurch).	
Ngāa toi Māori creator space	Hamilton or location in region	Inclusion of space for carving along with other artforms	Hamilton City Council (and/or other District Councils) and others	Collaborative artist studio space.	
Increased investment in community organisations	Multiple locations	All creative expression	Local trust, foundations, Council and Others	These should be strength-based community led initiatives for arts, culture and creativity outcomes. *** Creative community organisations balance accessibility and sustainability through civic and philanthropic investment. Future growth and long-term activation require long-term investment.	
Development of Storage facility	Hamilton	Costume storage, stage props, lighting equipment, instruments etc	Local trusts, foundations and Others	Potential for storage facilities specifically for performance. Example “Green Green Room” in Wellington.	

Current Landscape

Current Hard Infrastructure Landscape

There is no currently available data that frames the full region. A complete map of the scale and scope of this is still to be developed. Key components include:

Theatres (includes: Waikato Regional Theatre, Clarence Street Theatre, The Meteor Theatre, and a number of local and regional community theatres)

Community halls

Venues (concert halls, bars, alternative venues)

Schools (halls, performing arts facilities)

Museums

Galleries

Marae

Cultural centres

Creative hubs and workshops

Dance schools

Libraries

Community houses

Parks and Gardens

Current Soft Infrastructure Ecosystem

The scope and activation of soft infrastructure in the Waikato is hard to specifically articulate. This work is in continued development. Focused areas of delivery include (but are not limited to):

Toi Maaori organisations (kapahaka, cultural groups, marae, hapu/iwi)

Theatre groups and organisations

Musical theatre groups and organisations

Dance groups and organisations

Societies of arts

Creative community organisations

Visual Arts groups

Music groups and organisations

Literature groups and organisations

Event organisers

Festival organisations

Craft and object organisations

Key Strategic Considerations

The current societal context provides important considerations for future development, including:

Cost of living crisis and impacts on access and engagement

Economic recession and potential reduction in funding for creative community service providers

Negative trends in social cohesion and mental health. Need for additional investment to support positive outcomes

Increased engagement in community creative activities, and increased costs for delivery, with reduced funding opportunities

Changing demand for spaces, places and mixed-use facilities in diverse communities

Multi-agency response required to identify and address needs

Lack of backbone mechanisms to facilitate increased utilisation of available civic spaces (council, school, community spaces)

Collaboration between groups to increase feasibility, optimisation and where appropriate, rationalisation of facilities

Communication, collaboration and advocacy across social sectors, to increase the perspective and understanding of the value and contributions of arts, culture and creativity to community

Exploring shared-use facilities with sports, community and other partners across boundaries, communities, education, and other stakeholders

Increased sector investment and support to navigate funding challenges and the decline in revenue and increased costs due to recent years

Climate change and environmental sustainability and how this can be acknowledged and mitigated by communities, enablers and existing infrastructure

Strengths Analysis

Challenges

Artists, arts groups and venues receive modest amounts of investment which is disproportionate to the value and effort that is provided. The impact of the pandemic and competition for the leisure dollar makes it increasingly difficult for the arts, culture and creative sector to become self-sustaining.

There is an access, participation and equity balance that creates increasing complexities for community infrastructure. Providers of community infrastructure often need to balance the costs of delivering services against the prices that community members can reasonably expect to pay to use and/or engage in the services. If the core service measure is around access, participation and wellbeing for all people in our communities, then it is essential that civic, philanthropic, government and other investment is increased to support.

Aotearoa's arts and cultural sector remains on an emergency footing following the past three years of pandemic disruption.¹³ In 2020, The Ministry of Culture and Heritage provided some respite through various Arts and Culture COVID Recovery Programmes and these did result in some successful outcomes.¹⁴ However, due to these programmes being short-term the potential of these initiatives will not be fully realised, nor their long-term effects measured.

The cost of living is also having an adverse impact on artists and audiences, with inflation continually rising. This directly impacts provision of service, and impacts the communities, artists, creative and organisations who utilise and engage with local hard infrastructure.

¹³ The Conversation 'We need to break the cycle of crisis in Aotearoa New Zealand's arts and culture. It starts with proper funding' February 2023 <https://theconversation.com/we-need-to-break-the-cycle-of-crisis-in-aotearoa-new-zealands-arts-and-culture-it-starts-with-proper-funding-199772>

¹⁴ Beehive.govt.nz 'Govt investment in arts delivers strong economic results' (May 2023) <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/govt-investment-arts-delivers-strong-economic-results>

Insights into the situation for our sector include:

The median total income for Creative Professionals is \$37,000. This is comparable to what self-employed New Zealanders earn (\$39,900), but considerably lower than the median income for those earning a wage or salary (\$61,800)

The median income for creative work is \$19,500. This is lower than total income as nearly half of creative professionals also hold down a job outside of the sector to supplement their income

Overall, only 18% of creative professionals agree they are fairly compensated for their time, with two thirds indicating that they do not feel fairly compensated

Almost all (94%) creative professionals participating in the gig economy find it difficult to secure loans for things like mortgages, and four in five find it difficult to predict how much money they are going to make, and struggle with the lack of holiday and sick pay¹⁵

Other strategic considerations

Core creative civic infrastructure is often managed and maintained by community trusts; This contributes to increased risks to sustainability. Because these trusts do not have the scale of operational support that might exist if spaces were council managed, capital expenditure and upgrades require extensive and intensive fundraising campaigns, contributing to burnout and the closing of key community spaces. There is a need for sustainable long-term investment from council into the future, in recognition of the public good and community wellbeing that community groups facilitate from these spaces. It is important that this is maintained.

There is a lack of safe and reliable rehearsal space. For the health and safety of performers it is important that there are spaces with appropriate flooring, heating, lighting and accessibility. There is a lack of consistent space in Waikato communities for these purposes. It is worth noting that these design features can be of benefit to other users of these spaces too, including whaanau, disabled communities, our elders, and participants in sport and recreation activities.

Social inequity and deprivation is a strategic reality. There are large components of the Waikato region which include deprived and isolated communities. People in those communities often have lower levels of access to and participation in creative activity. They also have limited access

to hard infrastructure. For isolated communities there is often a lack of available infrastructure to provide any opportunity for positive impact.

Post-COVID fiscal cliff. The period of 2020-2023 saw an unprecedented investment in the arts, culture and creative ecosystem from central government. This increase in funding was the largest update in the national arts funding levels in more than a generation. As a result there was increased activation, access and activity. But this funding was fixed until June 2024. Which means many organisations have increased their operation and impact – but there is no ongoing support available. For Waikato, the arts sector Covid Recovery Funding that came into the region via Manatū Taonga was \$10,519,180.

This figure encompasses Recovery funding only (Creative Spaces, Cultural Installations and Events, Cultural Activators, Innovation Fund, Regeneration Fund and Capability Fund). It excludes emergency relief funding (CSERF, Arts and Culture Event Support Scheme)

Some of this funding is also allocated to other regions as there are multi region projects. The approved amount for projects focused solely on the Waikato region is \$5,106,890.¹⁶

This will create a challenge for our communities who have grown used to an increase in available support and the positive impacts that has enabled.

¹⁵ Kantar Public, Creative New Zealand and New Zealand On Air, 'Profile of Creative Professionals', <https://creativenz.govt.nz/-/media/project/creative-nz/creativenz/publicationsfiles/2023-profile-of-creative-professionals/profile-of-creative-professionals---main-report---pdf.pdf>

¹⁶ Figure from Manatū Taonga reporting, see: <https://www.mch.govt.nz/>

Opportunities

Artists, creatives and associated organisations are resourceful groups. They regularly stretch any investment received into creating positive outcomes and serving the liveability of our communities.

The creative ecosystem is currently one of the largest funders and enablers of creative activity when we acknowledge volunteer hours, in-kind support, and provision of service above and beyond market rates.

While this is a positive contribution, it is vital that enablers, civic partners, and investors acknowledge and value that contribution to ensure that sector burnout is reduced and that artists and creatives can have access to sustainable careers and quality of life. If we want to be an innovative and resourceful region we need to embrace imaginative opportunities to work differently and explore creative opportunities to prioritise

investment and support into both hard and soft creative infrastructure, and acknowledge the essential balance between those areas of activity.

The Waikato Arts Navigator provides a useful strategic framework to inform future opportunities that encourage collaborative investment, strategic partnerships, and to explore avenues for embedding creatives into activities beyond the obvious delivery areas.

Other opportunities to strengthen the creative infrastructure of the Waikato can include:

Utilising and repurposing council owned spaces to support community activities

Exploring development of creative spaces as part of civic revitalisation

Working with Sport Waikato to embed creative spaces in Sporting infrastructure

Encouraging the provision of empty commercial space for accessible art activity

Investing in public art as a contributor to civic safety

Investing in public creative programming and events to encourage the development and sharing of local stories

Work with creative organisations to limit red tape and regulation when providing creative services and events

Embed provisions that contribute to the protection of arts, culture and creative activity in city centres and civic environments

Recommendations

This 2024 revision of the Creative Infrastructure plan builds upon earlier insights, but presents new high-level opportunities for shaping a Waikato Region that thrives with diverse and transformative creative activity.

Whilst this plan acknowledges that each different territorial authority will have different requirements, expectations and levels of investment, it is essential for future planning to be established and a prioritisation of the types of infrastructure and service provision that will be required for thriving future communities.

Key recommendations of the 2024 plan are:

Develop an arts action plan in alignment with the Waikato Arts Navigator for each territorial authority (in partnership with Creative Waikato)	1 year
Embed sector-informed policies and guidelines to enhance creative activity in local communities (events, performance, public art, etc)	1-3 years
Contribute to the next stage of development of this plan to provide further insights, scope and location specific data points for further analysis. (This should highlight data around the use of spaces, and prioritise supporting community access and use of these spaces)	1-2 years
Proactively explore the inclusion of creative spaces in all future civic, sport and community infrastructure projects	2-5 years
Encourage the development of multi-use space—but acknowledge the artform specific safety requirements and expectations in the development process	1-5 years
Increase investment into soft infrastructure in the arts, culture and creative sector	1-3 years
Engage with strategic sector advisors to explore opportunities for creative outcomes in connection with placemaking, civic story-telling, parks, CBD developments, and public communications	1-3 years



Disclaimer:

Information, data and general assumptions used in the compilation of this report have been obtained from sources believed to be reliable. Creative Waikato have used this information in good faith and make no warranties or representations, express or implied, concerning the accuracy or completeness of this information.

Interested parties should perform their own investigations, analysis and projections on all issues prior to acting in any way with regard to this project.

All proposed infrastructure approaches made within this document are high level concepts and should be further developed in consultation with any contributing parties. Proposed approaches represent recommendations based on the findings of the research that informed the report.

All final decisions remain the responsibility of the respective property owners.

18 April 2024

E te kaipānui, tēnā koe

Creative New Zealand's Support for Creative Waikato in Long-Term Plans 2024-2034

Creative New Zealand is the national arts development agency of Aotearoa New Zealand, responsible for encouraging, promoting and supporting the arts in New Zealand for the benefit of all New Zealanders. We do this by investing in the arts, developing the arts, advocating for the arts, providing leadership in the arts, and by partnering for the arts.

Arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi Māori are an important part of developing strong and thriving towns and cities, and connected and healthy communities. We encourage Council to recognise in its decision-making the essential role arts and creativity play in the wellbeing of your residents.

We write to offer our support for the great work that Creative Waikato continue to undertake in your region by supporting and strengthening arts and creativity in the Waikato – and, in turn, enhancing the wellbeing of Waikato communities.

The Creative Waikato team play a vital role in providing a diverse range of opportunities for Waikato residents to engage with and participate in the arts. They also provide important support and training for artists, creatives and arts organisations. They have a proven track record of developing initiatives and projects that meet the needs of both the arts community and audiences. We often use the Creative Waikato 'model' to talk about meaningful regional arts development when we are meeting with councils throughout Aotearoa. Last year they were also part of two different panels we hosted with local government leaders to highlight what can be achieved in community wellbeing outcomes by investing in regional arts organisations.

It's exciting to see Creative Waikato continuing to develop strategic resources including the Waikato Arts Navigator, Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in the Waikato, Performing Arts Strategy and the new advocacy resource Joyful Steps to Community Advocacy which offer engaging, insightful and valuable support to both artists, creatives and the wider public.


As your Council works through its Long-Term Plan 2024-2034 budget deliberations, we encourage Council to continue to work with and resource Creative Waikato as the integral pin in your plan to support arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi in your community.

Currently, Creative Waikato are working with Hamilton City Council, Waikato District Council, Waipa District Council, Otorohanga District Council, Ruapehu District Council, South Waikato District Council, Waitomo District Council, Hauraki District Council, Matamata-Piako District Council, Thames-Coromandel District Council and have also made a connection with the Waikato Regional Council, offering a strong framework for how councils can best engage with their local arts communities.

We know through our own research that participating in arts, cultural and creative activities build united and resilient communities, increases community wellbeing, and offers ways to express our unique cultural identities. Importantly, these activities also attract and accelerate economic activity, and can equip people with the skills needed for the workforce of the future.

Creative Waikato as a regional arts organisation offers a strategic and unique opportunity for councils in the Waikato to work collaboratively and undertake collective action that will deliver greater impact for their communities. Creative New Zealand hopes that Creative Waikato will continue to be supported in its role as a vital link between the Council, your arts whānau and the wider community.

Ngā mihi nui, nā



David Pannett

Senior Manager, Strategy & Engagement
Pou Whakahaere Matua, Rautaki me te Tūhono

Support for investment in arts, culture and creativity.

Creative Waikato have engaged our community of supporters, leaders and advocates to share their insights into the role of civic investment in the creative ecosystem.

This is presented as support to our LTP submission.

Arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi Māori are vital parts of the communities and identity of the Waikato. They make valuable contributions to social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing by connecting people to place, shaping community identity, and building social cohesion. As Supreme Court Justice Sir Joe Williams said at Creative New Zealand’s national arts sector conference Nui te Kōrero in 2021, “No meaningful social change occurs without some filmmaker, some songwriter, some artist, some poet, triggering the possibility long before anyone realises what the triggering was.” It is important that councils recognise the essential role of the creative sectors in the wellbeing and resilience of your residents as you make decisions for the future in the LTP.

- David Pannett, Senior Manager, Strategy & Engagement - Creative New Zealand

Arts, culture and creativity are vital in enhancing wellbeing and vibrancy in communities. The arts provide a medium for connection that transcends space, time, and language.

We have seen first hand how projects such as Kotahitanga: United Through Creativity contribute to social cohesion, inspiring conversation in hard times and making sense of difficult concepts. A Huber Social report on subjective wellbeing relating to arts, culture and creativity in the Waikato region found that engagement with and access to the arts correlates with higher overall wellbeing. Whilst there are hard choices to be made, the wellbeing of our communities into the future need to be at the forefront of decisions today.

- Dennis Turton, CEO - Trust Waikato

Arts, culture and creativity are important because they are central to the expression of our values and identities as communities. Whenever we visit a new place and want to understand something of what makes it special and different to other places, we invariably look to its creative expressions to get a sense of that identity. Places that do this well are memorable, and draw people back again, whether that’s to visit repeatedly, or to live in, because they have a clear sense of identity and vibrancy.

Sam Cunnane, Kaiwhakahaere Rōpū Matua – Group Director, Te Pūkenga|Wintec

Beauty is an important part of life and community. At Fosters we work hard to retain beauty in the built environment we create, and we recognise the important role that Arts and Culture plays in placing beauty in our community. We believe this enough to allocate funding each year to local creative organisations to ensure they can continue to create beauty in our community, and stretch and challenge our thinking as a society. Hamilton, for example, would be a much poorer, and less beautiful, place without the significant contribution of BOON through the street art. Art creates stories and connections that reflect and enhance our community. Core infrastructure is important at a functional level, but without an investment into arts and culture in the city, the city is lifeless and barren. We need continued investment in economic good times and bad into arts and culture if we want to maintain and grow the wellbeing of our city.

Leonard Gardner, Director – FOSTER CONSTRUCTION GROUP LIMITED

The creation and promotion of events has become a critical component of urban development strategies across the globe. Cities have become stages for continuous streams of events resulting in places actively hanging their identities on the events that they provide. Two great examples of this are Melbourne who now labels itself as “the worlds event city” and Seoul who claims to be “one of the most eventful cities in the world”. The continuous theme of cities promoting themselves by utilising an event component shows the crucial need for events and activations to be factored into daily life in a modern city.

The thriving arts scene and cultural diversity that makes up Hamilton city, opens the door for a number of activities that contribute to this scene. The interest created with these activities builds on the fantastic organisations that already draw visitors to the central city including Creative Waikato, Waikato Museum, Clarence Street Theatre, The Meteor, the soon to be completed Waikato Regional Theatre and the many local entertainment offerings as well as the multitude of cultural festivals that have become a mainstay on the event calendar.

Vanessa Williams, General Manager – Hamilton Central Business Association

Britain’s war-time leader Winston Churchill was once asked if arts funding should be cut in favour of the war effort. His retort was: “Then what are we fighting for?” Art in communities is as vital as sports parks, libraries, marae, business parks, roads and poo pipes. Churchill’s comment was an astute recognition that art, in its many forms reminds us of our history, allows us to escape the current and reimagine a future. The recent inclusion of art works into infrastructure such as bridge overpasses, even our city’s latest wastewater treatment station provide a sense of place, tell a story, create a reason to stop and contemplate or simply be a place for attraction and congregation. Over centuries, arts has told us of history and stories, heroes and heroines, conflicts and successes, and have been used to mark places of importance to people, our community and our country.

Kelvyn Eglinton
General Manager – Craigs Investment Partners
(Previous CEO of Momentum Foundation Waikato)

Investing in toi Māori is a commitment to safeguard and elevate our pūrākau, our tūpuna, our mātauranga. It gives voice to the silenced echoes of our landscape – not the dominant rhetoric that perpetuates our systems and institutions. The arts? We're the pulse of a thriving society, a stage where we boldly test limits, defy norms, and forge grounding alliances. It's about venturing beyond the ordinary, where we embrace our rangatiratanga in the avant-garde of innovation. Because, really, who doesn't crave that cutting-edge?

Waimihi Hotere, Kaihautū Festival Director – Matariki Ki Waikato

Arts, culture, and creativity are who we are, how we express ourselves and what we do. When you watch a Marvel movie or a netflix show – that's art. When you listen to the Cure or Roddy Ricch – that's art. When you put on clothes – that's culture, when you go to a comedy show and laugh at your everyday experiences being reflected back at you – that's creativity. Like it or not, everything you do is a result of art, culture or creativity. After all, you've gotta be pretty creative to come up with the idea of a car when all you've seen are horses.

Cities that embrace art, culture and creativity for their own sake are great places to live, and great places to live are thriving places. You can't expect a city to continue to grow without growing the number of reasons people want to live there. Hamilton is a great place to live, good playgrounds, good amenities, conveniently located etc etc but the time is coming where these reasons aren't enough to attract new people to Hamilton, either as residents or manuhiri.

Organic growth can't be paused, it either continues or it stops. Arts, entertainment and culture are organic, and they are growing in Hamilton! If we take away the sun and the rain the plant doesn't just wait in the same state, it withers. If council withdraws support, the arts aren't going to be patiently waiting to resume when support returns – you'll have to rebuild everything from the ground up.

Moreover, Hamilton is a proudly diverse city – cultural activities provide platforms for diverse voices to be heard, promoting inclusivity and understanding. What are we saying to our minority groups if we withdraw support for their cultural activities, but the Christmas parade still goes ahead?

Arts and culture investment is not just an investment in the present; it's an investment in the long-term vitality and resilience of our communities, and not just something fun around the edges.

Gus Sharp, General Manager – Waikato Regional Theatre

Arts, Culture and Creativity are important for all of our communities. They enhance our lives in a way that builds our individual and collective health and wellbeing. The joy and connection created through participation with arts, culture and creativity, in any way, is enormous.

They are a critical way that the diversity of who we are as a community can be shown, and for many, is a place where individuals are enhanced because they see themselves in what is represented on walls, in public spaces or on stages.

It is often the creative elements of our city that inspire us as a family to connect with friends. They are also the things that we share with visitors to our city. They are the things that we connect with and are proud of. The investment in arts, culture and creativity is a valuable one. It is an investment in all our people and overall community wellbeing.

Andy Mannering, Community Engagement and Partnerships Manager – Kainga Ora (Waikato)

Art, culture and creativity are an intrinsic part of our local and regional tourism offering and competitiveness as a visitor destination. These sectors are essential vehicles for the realisation of our stated vision “Taakiri tuu te koorero ki te ao” (Sharing our stories with the world). Art, culture and creativity are also invaluable platforms for enhancing social, cultural and economic well-being and these sectors should therefore be funded as a core function and obligation of Councils to their respective communities and to the making of communities.

Craig Muntz, Secretariat, Tainui Waka Tourism Inc.

Arts and culture provide vibrancy and inspiration to a community. A lack of this expression reduces creativity, connection and perspective. Nods to diversity and story-telling build a sense of belonging, empathy and pride of place. Councils need to invest in arts and culture to empower the community to innovate, be inquisitive and to problem solve. Surely a community becomes richer in soul and more desirable with a strong arts and culture offering?

Steve Mills, Head of Client Services – DesignWell

It’s hard to argue with the fact that creative participation nurtures a sense of togetherness, so as we approach this period of Long-Term Plan (LTP) development for our region’s local authorities, communities and elected members can’t simply consider arts, culture and creativity as “nice to haves”.

At the heart of Council responsibilities is the commitment and call to foster ‘community wellbeing’... there is no better way to ensure this through investment (attention, time, resources and funding) in creative projects that broaden collective experiences, harness opportunities for expression and encourage the expansion of ideas and innovation.

In turn, Councils must consider the role of supporting infrastructure (and associated maintenance) to sustain and grow the creative sector as well. After all, these are the assets that drive “community-building”, connection and cohesion, creating value far beyond their ‘bricks and mortar’ status.

A community that can access art and culture is a community that is healthy, aligned and unified, a society that recognises the value of diversity while cultivating empathy and understanding... what more could we want for our region!?!

Amanda Hema, CEO – South Waikato Investment Fund Trust (SWIFT)

Funding through grants and sponsorships is our lifeblood. Without these, our work ceases, and our community will be the poorer for it. There will be less stimulus for our mental well-being, less fun things to do, and creatives will not be able to thrive and will sadly forsake our city for better opportunities elsewhere. Other cities in NZ see the merit of art and are investing strongly in it, yet Hamilton seems hellbent on going backward through its proposed cuts in funding to the Arts and other community groups.

Nancy Caiger, Arts Advocate

The Waikato Society of Arts has been providing and nurturing opportunities in visual arts for 90 years in Kirikiriroa, with art classes, workshops, studio space for artists and community groups, continual free public art exhibitions, artist talks, mentorship, and national art awards. It is these long-term programmes that provide stability for people, well-being, constant purpose, connectivity and dialogue, pride in what they can achieve, confidence to become a valuable member of the wider community and a gateway to higher aspirations in visual art. Recognising the quieter work done by groups like the WSA is important to the role they play in the fabric and culture of our community. Without the support through funding and sponsorship, costs rise to participate in art for all ages, we lose artists who are also employed as art teachers and arts groups who nurture, educate, support, and enrich our environment over a long time. They create the social capital everyone else thrives from, including Council. The artists that pass through our doors are the storytellers of our history, present ideas, dreams, politics, diversity, youth, wisdom, and growth within the Waikato region and Aotearoa, captured for everyone to enjoy and come together with no barriers. Valuing art and those that bring it into the community is what makes a city healthy, vibrant and a place people want to visit and live in.

Julie Johnstone
Operations Manager – Waikato Society of Arts

At Seed Waikato, we listen to and amplify the voices of our young people. We continue to hear how Arts, Culture and Creativity are critical to their growth, development and wellbeing. They share how having access to spaces and places that are safe for them to be courageous in expressing themselves in creative ways has reminded them of their mana and individual gifts. Their confidence then ripples out into the world, giving them the hope that it's worth making this world a better place.

When creativity is shared, it creates the conditions for collective healing, which is critical to our young people believing that everyone's a changemaker. We tautoko the mahi of Creative Waikato as the advocates and navigators of cultural wellbeing in our region, and are honoured to work alongside them in creating a thriving Waikato.

- Tania Pointon, CEO - Seed Waikato

As we move forward it's important to continue to share about the things we care about and celebrate the joy that engagement with arts, culture and creativity brings. And at a time of community consultation it is vital that we use our voices to speak about the things we value.

This is a time to do that.

Submission/Event: 547

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/177

Stakeholder

First Name

Morgan

Last Name

Jones

Organisation

Property Council New Zealand

Id

449



24 April 2024
 Waipa District Council
 Via email: haveyoursay@waipadc.govt.nz

Re. Enhanced Annual Plan and 2025 Long Term Plan

Dear Waipa District Council,

We are writing to provide comment on your Draft 2024/25 Annual Plan and next year's Long Term Plan 2025-35. It is vital that Waipa District Council implements an Enhanced Annual Plan that is financially responsible whilst continuing to invest in the critical services that the Waipa District needs.

As you may know, Property Council is the leading not-for-profit advocate for New Zealand's most significant industry, property. Property is the second largest industry in the Waikato, with property providing a direct contribution to GDP of \$2.8 billion (12 per cent) and employment for 18,030 Waikato residents. We connect property professionals and represent the interests of 94 Waikato based member companies across the private, public, and charitable sectors.

Property Council sympathises with the financial situation facing Waipa District Council and acknowledges that there is upward pressure on rates or debt. We appreciate that there is regulatory uncertainty around initiatives such as Councils being required to deliver water infrastructure costs for the full 10 years. As such, Property Council is comfortable with the decision to pursue an Enhanced Annual Plan for 2024/25.

We are also pleased to see that Waipa District Council has proposed a responsible approach to development contributions for 2024/25, that helps ensure stability for the property sector and supports continued development of new housing supply, and may incentivise new commercial and industrial properties across the Waipa District.

When it comes to the development of next year's Long Term Plan 2025-35, Property Council strongly supports Waipa District Council making use of alternative funding and financing tools. Example of these include such as targeted rates, public-private-partnerships, or Special Purpose Vehicles ("SPVs") as enabled under the Infrastructure Funding and Financing Act.

For example, SPVs are an important tool for funding and financing infrastructure in a fair and equitable manner. SPVs are advantageous as they sit off a Council's balance sheet and do not impact debt levels. Property Council has previously supported Tauranga City Council's use of SPVs for the Transport System Plan and Civic Precinct project, as well Wellington City Council's use of SPVs for the Moa Point sludge minimisation project.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Enhanced Annual Plan and 2025 Long Term Plan. For any further enquiries, please contact Sarah Rundstrom, Central Regional Manger via email: Sarah@propertynz.co.nz.

Yours sincerely,

Morgan Jones
 Central Region Committee Chair
 Property Council New Zealand

Property Council New Zealand
 Foyer Level, 51 Shortland Street
 PO Box 1033, Auckland 1140
 09 373 3086
propertynz.co.nz

Corporate Sponsors



Submission/Event: 546

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

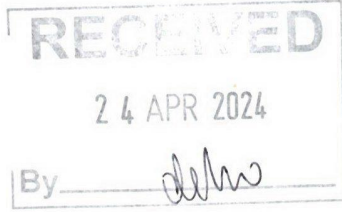
I have attached additional information
https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/176

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Malcolm
<i>Last Name</i>	Hume
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	448

Enhanced Annual Plan 2024/25

Submission form



Submissions close: 5pm, Friday 26 April

Full name: Malcolm Hume

Organisation: (if applicable) _____

Address: 220 West Rd Ohayo

For office use only:

Submission No. _____

Email: M P HUME OHAYO @ G. Mail . COM

Phone: 07 8236815

Privacy statement: All submissions (including names and contact details) may be provided in full to elected members. Submissions (including names but not contact details) may be made available to the public at our office and on our website. Your personal information may also be used for the administration of the consultation process, including informing you of the outcome of the consultation. All information collected will be held by Waipā District Council, 101 Bank Street, Te Awamutu with submitters having the right to access and correct personal information.

I acknowledge that I have read the privacy statement and am happy to proceed.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing: Yes No

Submitters who wish to present their submission verbally will be invited to a public committee meeting. These are usually held in the Waipā District Council Chamber, 101 Bank Street, Te Awamutu, or held/accessible online. Submitters will be allocated an approximate speaking time and will be asked to present their submission to the committee. Submitters are usually given a maximum length of time for speaking following which committee members may ask questions to clarify any points that have been raised.

I dont talk to IDIOTS

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right? Please refer to pages 12-13 of the consultation document.

In hard economic times, some hard decisions need to be made. We've tried to strike a balance between meeting the cost of necessary renewals and maintenance and planning for the future.

NO YOU ~~HAVE~~ HAVE NOT

Senior council staff and most counsellors hold your heads down in shame for what you done to ratepayers and about to do more with huge rate increase. 48% next 3 years

How dare you use the word. PRUDENT in the annual Plan. That is so far from the Truth. You should be using words like Incompetent, Foolish. loose canons.

The debt about 10 years ago was roughly 25 to 30 million now it 298.8 million and climbing Fast.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower? Please refer to pages 14-15 of the consultation document.

Our preferred option is Option One. Council is aware that the water tower is a heritage site and for many will be a very special part of Cambridge. However, due to the economic climate, Council is having to make some tough decisions and is proposing that we remove the water tower which is a much lower cost than what restoring will be. If the tower is demolished, we propose to have a commemorative structure on the site and interpretive signage to continue to celebrate the history of the tower.

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower.

Option three Sell it

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

*None of these
think outside the square.*


*Subdivide it off. Sell it to someone
They will turn into a house or something.
This way it will save a lot of Money*

I have attached additional information: Yes No

Submission can be made:

 **Online:**
waipadc.govt.nz/
enhancedannualplan

 **Emailed to:**
haveyoursay@waipadc.govt.nz Subject heading should read:
"Enhanced Annual Plan 2024/25 - Submission"

 **Posted to:**
Waipā District Council
Freepost 167662
Private Bag 2402
Te Awamutu 3840
Attn: Strategy Team

 **Delivering it to Council offices:**
Waipā District Council **OR** Waipā District Council
101 Bank Street 23 Wilson Street
Te Awamutu Cambridge
Attn: Strategy Team Attn: Strategy Team

What happens next?
Following the closing of submissions at **5pm, Friday 26 April**, all submissions will be reviewed by Councillors. Verbal submissions will be heard, and all submissions formally considered at a Council hearing in mid-May, conducted either in person or online. This meeting is open to both submitters and the public to attend.

Important Dates to Remember:
Submissions open
Friday 5 April, 2024
Submissions close
5pm, Friday 26 April 2024
Hearing of submissions
20-21 May 2024

Page 2

Malcolm Hume.

You should had lister CR. Vern.
Wilson. He warn everybody that
one day interest rates would go up
no one listen

To Fix the problem is simple.
Sack Gary dyet Ken Morris
 $\frac{1}{3}$ of council staff and all
Maori counsellors.

Your problems will go away.

I don't buy into 3 waters
council using it as escape goat.

Waipa has had dictator egoist
and a puppet Mayors. which
has shaped Waipa to what is now
not Far off BANKRUPT.!

Page 3.

This council is on Par. with the last Labour Government

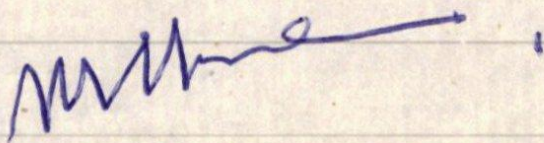
There so much more I could write about but I would overload your brains.

I have been self employe for over 50 year

I am a self made multi Millionaire.

I know what am talking about

Malcolm Hume



Submission/Event: 545

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/175

Stakeholder

First Name

Kiri

Last Name

Goulter

Organisation

Regional Tourism New Zealand

Id

447



Regional Tourism New Zealand
 P O Box 1697
 Wellington
 E: info@rtnz.org.nz
 W: rtnz.org.nz

22 April 2024
 Enhanced Annual Plan Submission
 Waipā District Council

Regional Tourism New Zealand (RTNZ) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Enhanced Annual Plan 2024-25 for Waipā District Council.

RTNZ is the peak body for the Regional Tourism Organisations (RTOs) across New Zealand of which Hamilton & Waikato Tourism (HWT) is a member. RTOs are each the representative of their Local Governments' (LG) investment in tourism in respect to their community. 90% of funding to RTOs comes from LG with \$40 million invested across 31 RTOs that make up the network.

Tourism is a significant contributor to economic and social wellbeing.

1. In 2019, prior to COVID-19 New Zealand’s tourism industry generated \$41b of visitor expenditure, contributed 10% of GDP and employed 340,000 people. It was the second largest export sector behind diary. With borders once again open and people travelling, New Zealand’s tourism sector has rebounded strongly, and visitation is 80% back to pre-COVID levels. By 2025 both visitation and expenditure are predicted to exceed 2019 levels.
2. The tourism industry creates value, employment, prosperity and vibrancy to New Zealand’s cities, regions, and communities. \$115m per day in ‘additional’ spend is generated by people moving around and visiting various places and communities across the country. Visitor spending flows far and wide, well beyond the visitor attraction, activity, accommodation, café/restaurant retail, gas stations and supermarkets as demonstrated in the diagram below.



Source: Tourism Industry Aotearoa

Value of tourism to the Waikato region and Waipā District Council.¹

3. Visitor expenditure in the Waikato region is \$1.9b, the fifth largest in New Zealand. Commercial guest nights are 1.4m per annum. Visitor expenditure in the Waipā district is \$216m with 213,500 commercial guest nights. Tourism is a significant contributor to the District.

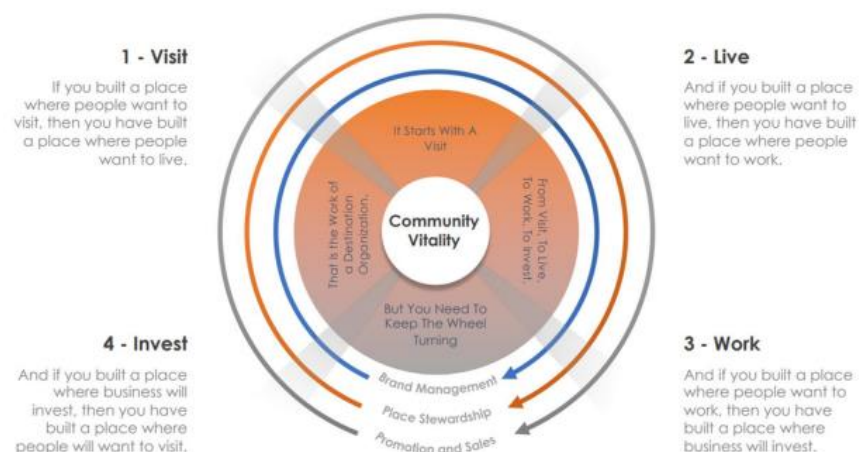
RTOs play a significant role within the destination and tourism system.

4. RTOs play a crucial role in the tourism system by serving as key facilitators and coordinators of tourism activities within their respective regions. When tourism grows, communities' benefit. However, for communities to capture and optimise benefits, the RTO's functions are enormously important.
5. HWT is the one organisation that has oversight of how the destination functions as a system and to bring together multiple stakeholders/actors. They are the glue that connects destinations and businesses to potential visitors so that businesses can prosper, jobs can be created, and communities can thrive.
6. Businesses are key to the economic health and vibrancy of a city, town, and region. Tourism businesses bring significant cashflow and investment to a region through attracting both international and domestic visitors. HWT works very closely with tourism businesses, bringing private sector investment to further leverage council's investment, and in doing so, creating greater impact.
7. Many of these businesses are still recovering from the effects of closed borders during COVID-19. HWT provides valuable support and capability building to enable local businesses to grow, adapt and become more resilient to changing environments so that they and their communities can thrive.

Destination promotion is a public good for the benefit and wellbeing of all.

8. Destination promotion and stewardship is an important investment that no district and/or region can afford not to make without damaging the future economic and social well-being of communities. Due to collective benefits that extend beyond individual businesses or organisations, tourism promotion is considered a public good that requires collaboration and support from governments, communities, and stakeholders to maximize its positive impact.
9. Effective tourism promotion enhances a destination's image and reputation nationally and globally. A positive perception of a place not only attracts more visitors, but also leads to attracting more residents, enhancing business opportunities and more investment, therefore contributing to the long-term growth and prosperity for residents. These potential flow on benefits all start with a visit.

¹ MBIE, Monthly Regional Tourism Estimates, YE Oct 2023



Source; Destinations International

- 10.** New Zealand's RTOs' international promotional work is conducted alongside Tourism New Zealand (TNZ) so that regions can attract their share of these higher spending visitors. Competition for international visitors is strong, and HWT's promotion is important to secure the regions share. TNZ also relies on HWT on the 'ground' to support their efforts. If HWT is unable to do this, TNZ efforts are likely to 'by-pass' the region.

Developing a sustainable tourism industry which contributes to the quality of life of residents.

- 11.** Over the past five years all regions have developed a Destination Management Plan (DMP). The DMPs provide the blueprint for the sustainable growth of tourism across New Zealand's regions. RTNZ acknowledges the excellent work done by HWT in the development of the region's DMP. There was strong collaboration across the district and region which reflects the aspirations of the region's communities for what they want from tourism in the future.
- 12.** The destinations eco-system is complex with interrelated and interdependent parts that need to work in together to ensure tourism benefit communities. The Waikato region's DMP is a demonstration of the importance of stewardship, and HWT performs a leadership, coordination, and facilitation role so that tourism actors can come together and collaborate and continue to grow sustainably.
- 13.** Through the development of the DMP, HWT has developed a contract with the community. This has involved multiple parties across the destination so that the region can optimise opportunities visitors provide as well as adapt and respond to change and challenges. It is important that the DMP is supported, and the regional community's goals and aspirations are honoured and delivered upon.

Local government has been a critical partner in New Zealand's tourism success.

- 14.** Tourism takes place in local communities and provides jobs, regional economic opportunities, and vibrancy, and local governments across NZ play a key role in supporting /enabling the tourism system. This includes managing and providing local tourism experiences through place-making,

events and community facilities, amenities and services which are a key part of the visitors experience within the destination. The RTO supports these visitor assets and works closely council teams to optimise the value and return that they create for ratepayers through out-of-town visitation.

15. A key action in both Tourism Industry Aotearoa's Tourism Strategy (TIA), and RTNZ's Project Tōnui (whitepaper on the future role, structure, and funding of regional tourism/RTOs) is to address the persistent and lack of funding for the tourism sector, particularly at regional level. Project Tonui specifically identifies the high risk, over reliant RTO/TLA funding model. RTNZ sees this as systemic issue to be addressed with the highest priority and is working alongside other industry leaders to advance this urgent matter. Local government will be a key partner in the determined solution. However, this will take time and therefore RTNZ strongly recommends that Waipā District Council retain its level of commitment whilst a workable long-term solution is agreed and implemented.

RTNZ recognises the substantial financial challenges facing local governments across New Zealand to meet the needs of their communities.

16. RTNZ acknowledges that the significant financial challenges facing councils at a time when there needs to be ongoing investment to maintain and enhance community amenities and services, place making, and mixed-use infrastructure used by both locals and visitors. We appreciate the challenges of the required investment in water infrastructure for all councils under the new government and the impact that this is having on many other facets of councils' business.
17. The Waikato region is one of the more complex regions in New Zealand due to the number of TLAs within the RTO's catchment. RTNZ commends Waipā District Council's support of HWT since its re-establishment in 2011 (after Tourism Waikato was disbanded in 2006) and demonstrates a successful collaboration model over the past 13 years where each partner councils' investment and commitment is shared and therefore leveraged. HWT's 2023/24 funding from its six council partners (\$1,343,943) is on the lower end in comparison to neighbouring regions with fewer contributing councils. Tourism Bay of Plenty (\$2,264,000) Destination Great Lake Taupo (\$2,093,000).
18. Waipa District Council is proposing a reduction of \$ 36,676 to HWT. Any decrease in funding will have a significant impact on HWT's ability to continue to perform its role and functions effectively. It will also affect their ability to secure tourism operator investment because of their reduced level of activity and impact. If this occurs it will lead to a contraction of promotion and stewardship activities, the region being less competitive, resulting in a loss of market share to other regions over time. This will have a direct impact on businesses, jobs and and the overall economic and social prosperity of the District.
19. Funding of HWT should be seen as an investment and not a cost. HWT's funding from the region's combined local governments for the year 2023/24 was \$1,343,934. **For every dollar invested collectively by the region's funding councils returns \$1,390.** This is a substantive return on investment. **For every rate payer dollar Waipā District Council makes in HWT it**

returns \$1,178. This too is a substantive return on investment and one that should not be jeopardised as NZ's economy faces strong headwinds.

20. HWT also has one of the largest contributions from its tourism industry across the RTO network, which is testament to the professionalism and performance of the organisation. Due to the nature of the sector being mainly SMEs, businesses cannot be expected to pick up any shortfall that may arise because of reduced LG funding for the RTO.
21. Waipā District Council's decision around funding also has a direct association to HWT's funding from its other partner councils. Tourism Waikato was disbanded in 2006 due to the region's local governments reducing and/or withdrawing funding to the RTO. It was not until 2011 that the RTO was re-established, culminating in a strong and committed partnership with local government across the region and support from the tourism industry.
22. It has taken 13 years of hard work and dedication from a professional and talented HWT team to rebuild the region's proposition, reputation, and position as New Zealand's fifth largest tourism region. Any reduction in funding would be a major step backward and could be the start of a downward spiral that results in the Waikato region once again ceasing to have a RTO as a worst-case scenario, or an underpowered organisation that struggles to add real value to its communities and the tourism industry.

Conclusion

RTOs across New Zealand rely on partnership funding from local government to support their activities. It is critical that Councils remain strong partners of RTOs across New Zealand.

Waipā District Council needs to remain committed to supporting HWT so that they can successfully partner with the tourism industry, so that tourism continues to contribute value and benefits to Waipā's communities.

RTNZ recommends that Waipā District Council's investment in HWT is retained at the current level. This will ensure that progress made up over the past 13 years is maintained to enable compounding/optimal results. Retaining the same level of support will continue to pay dividends economically and socially to the people of Waipā District.

RTNZ suggests that consideration is given to exploring new funding streams across the region's LG group including options to increase HWT's funding to keep pace with inflation and operational cost increases. This will provide certainty to the RTO and support the sustainable growth and development of the district and region's tourism sector over the longer term.

RTNZ is grateful for the opportunity to provide this submission.

Ngā mihi,



David Perks
Chair



Kiri Goulter
Director Destination Management

Submission/Event: 544

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
 As an owner of property at 1B Addison Street which was 1 Addison Street for approximately 35+ years for the first time I would like to make a written note of a number of items I feel need to be comment on and have noted and read by Councillors and Mayor of Cambridge | Firstly re making Victoria Street into a mall - please don't - this would be detrimental to the town and shop keepers - we NEED people to be able to drive to and into our town area | Secondly we do already have four bridges - if you care to look a little south and a little north - please start making the most of these - Tamahere airport road (this just needs straightening and widening for truck / heavy duty use) and to the south Maungatautari road bridge near Pairere over the Waikato river this ought to be used for trucks and any heavy duty vehicles. | NO TRUCKS / HEAVY DUTY VEHICLES OUGHT TO BE IN THE CAMBRIDGE TOWN BELT AREA UNLESS THEY ARE SPECIFICALLY DELIVERING TO CAMBRIDGE ADDRESSES. | LEAD NEW ZEALAND IN MAKING CAMBRIDGE SAFE AND FREE OF TRUCKS / HEAVY DUTY VEHICLES NOT DELIVERING WITHIN THE TOWN. | Our roads would not require the numerous repairs to them and therefore save the town and ratepayers THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS - noise would be reduced - pedestrian/ cycling safety would be increased. | LEAD THE COUNTRY | BE FIRST TO TAKE MORE CARE OF PEOPLE | Thirdly and equally as importantly - STOP SPENDING | if you don't already have the cash DONT SPEND IT - we have a perfect town that's why so many people love it - let them and us enjoy it as we always have (that does not mean not to keep Cambridge in good order or up to date sensibly - roads beside roads even with dotted white lines for bikes is going far too far - how many people use these - I have seen 2 adults so far). | And finally if the above is followed a new high bridge next to our high bridge will be all that is required in the future - keep the old high bridge as is being suggested as a pedestrian bridge/ cycle bridge - build a new bridge next to this with future proofing - ie several lanes (no home owners are effected in taking of land and EVERYONE IS HAPPY). | Please read carefully and think seriously about the above - (and yes keep the old water tower). | Comments / ideas from an experienced caring person

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name	Patricia
Last Name	Sheriff
Organisation	
Id	446

Submission/Event: 543

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
The opening statement 'in hard economic times' says why this place needs to stay open. Destination Cambridge advertises, promotes and supports local businesses with the increase of mobile, time rich, older people there is plenty of business to be had. |Without a place providing information, suggestions and ideas to tourists and locals then many people won't bother to stop in Cambridge. We need Destination Cambridge now more than ever.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Patricia Jean
<i>Last Name</i>	Steel
<i>Organisation</i>	Retired teacher
<i>Id</i>	445

Submission/Event: 542

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/174

Stakeholder

First Name

Amy

Last Name

Marfell

Organisation

Sport Waikato

Id

444



**SPORT WAIKATO'S SUBMISSION IN RESPONSE TO THE
WAIPĀ DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Enhanced Annual Plan 2024-25

26 April 2024

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1. ABOUT SPORT WAIKATO

Sport Waikato is one of 14 Regional Sports Trusts in Aotearoa/New Zealand, responsible for supporting Central Government and Sport New Zealand’s focus on getting more New Zealanders physically active. There is widespread and global evidence that physical activity enhances people’s physical, social, emotional, and mental health, educational outcomes and general wellbeing as well as making for a more cohesive society.

Founded in 1986, Sport Waikato’s vision is to have **“everyone out there and active”** so as to achieve a healthy, vibrant, physically active region through play, active recreation and sport.

OUR APPROACH

Sport Waikato is guided by Moving Waikato – the region’s unified strategy for physical activity through play, active recreation and sport. The strategy seeks to prioritise partnerships with other key agencies to influence key outcomes, including to increase the provision of opportunities for both participation and quality experiences for the people of the region. We believe that by working together we can achieve the ultimate goal of 75% of all Waikato adults and young people meeting the physical activity guidelines by 2030, and therefore, a more healthy, well and physically active region.

Moving Waikato is guided by a Strategic Advisory Group comprising representation from Health, Education (primary, secondary and tertiary), Local Government, Iwi, Sport NZ and Sport Waikato. The strategy has three key pillars each providing a lens that gives direction on how we work: **Our People**, **Building Communities**, and **Regional Leadership**

MOVING WAIKATO
A STRATEGY TO GROW PARTICIPATION IN PLAY, ACTIVE RECREATION AND SPORT IN THE WAIKATO REGION

ONE VISION EVERYONE OUT THERE AND ACTIVE

Moving Waikato is an evidence based strategy for physical activity through play, active recreation and sport for the Waikato region, and gives focus and clarity towards 2025. It seeks to build on the positive momentum of existing partnerships and to increase the provision of opportunities for both participation and quality experiences for the people of the region.

- OUR PEOPLE**
A focus on the provision of opportunities that meet the needs of the people of our region.
MORE PHYSICALLY ACTIVE TAMARIKI, RANGATAHI AND WHAANAU
- BUILDING COMMUNITIES**
A focus on quality local delivery of play, active recreation and sport experiences.
HELPING COMMUNITIES TO HELP THEMSELVES
- REGIONAL LEADERSHIP**
A focus on regional and national partners working together to lead change and enhance outcomes.
LEADING AND DELIVERING CHANGE

ACHIEVING SUCCESS THROUGH WORKING TOGETHER

We are now into Horizon 2 of Moving Waikato, following its launch in 2016 and subsequent successes, including significant developments in the collection of key insights, sector capability work, the Waikato Regional Sports Facilities Plan (now the Waikato Regional Active Spaces Plan, which is in its 4th iteration), targeting participation among women and girls and the development of a regional cycle strategy. This next period (2024-2027) will see a focus on Rangatahi (12-17 years) and Tamariki (5-11 years) alongside specific commitment and attention to enabling participation among targeted populations, including: Maaori; deprived communities; women and girls; disabled people and those with low participation levels and/or those who tend to miss out.

THE IMPORTANCE OF COUNCILS TO OUR APPROACH

Councils play a key role in the work that Sport Waikato does and are an important partner and investor in enabling play, active recreation and sport to happen for people and communities. We wish to take a moment to thank Waipa District Council for their support of the work of Sport Waikato, whilst also acknowledging the immense fiscal pressure you are facing to provide community infrastructure while keeping costs for communities affordable.

Sport Waikato is excited to work alongside you to continue to ensure a range of opportunities for people to engage in physical activity exists across the Waipa District. In particular, we look forward to providing support for the planning, investment, and operation of the facilities and open spaces which enable play, active recreation and sport, as well as increasing collaborative and cross-sectorial partnerships that open up opportunities for increased levels of movement.

2. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The Waipā District (not unlike the Waikato Region and Aotearoa/New Zealand as a whole) faces a number of challenges in the future that necessitate the use of a planned and collaborative approach to the delivery of opportunities for play, active recreation and sport. Equally, there are a number of opportunities to entice and grow participation that can and should be realised. These challenges and opportunities are outlined below.

The Waipā district has a usual resident population of 53,241 people made up of over 19,581 households (Statistics New Zealand, 2018) with 20% of these households located rurally. This population figure is up 14% from the last census in 2013, which shows growth in the number of New Zealanders calling Waipā their home. By 2050, Waipā is expected to see an additional 25,000 reside in Waipā, impacting Cambridge (2,300 more homes), Te Awamutu (3,000 more homes) and Kihikihi (3,000 more homes). NIDEA 2018 is predicting that adults 45-64 years old will grow from current levels in 2023 of 15,342 to approximately 16,467 by 2043, and older adults 65+ from 11,816 in 2023 to 19,789 in 2043.

On top of this, the demographic trends show that the population is aging. Indeed, along with the rest of New Zealand, Waipā's population is projected to age over the next 30 years. The number of youth (aged under 15) is projected to hold steady at around 11,500. The population aged 65 years and older is projected to grow strongly, from 11,700 in 2018 to 19,500 in 2048, outnumbering both those aged 15-39 and 0-14 (Stats NZ, 2023).

People identifying as Māori in the Waipā District comprise 15% of the district population, which is lower than both the Waikato regional average of 24% and national average of 17%. Waipā District comprises 39 SA2 areas, with 5 of these reporting high levels of deprivation, totalling 8,525 people, or 16% of the population (Index of Multiple Deprivation, 2018) with a median household income of \$87,000p/a (Census, 2018).

Of course, a growing and aging population is a factor to consider. Additionally, with 1 in 5 people living in rural areas, there are challenges when it comes to providing for play, active recreation, and sports. These challenges are especially prominent when considering access and provisions that must meet the needs of a growing, changing, and often rurally distant community.

THE VALUE OF PLAY, ACTIVE RECREATION AND SPORT

In a 2018 study by Sport NZ, it was revealed that 92% of people believe being active keeps them physically fit and healthy, and helps relieve stress. A further 88% of people believed that sport and other physical activities provided them with opportunities to achieve and help build confidence, and 84% felt that sport brings people together while creating a sense of belonging. The vast majority of people (74%) also believed that sport helps to build vibrant and stimulating communities.

Of course, the benefits of physical activity through play, active recreation and sport are well documented and wide-reaching from physical health, to social, emotional and mental wellbeing. Indeed, a report on the *Social Return on Investment (SROI) of Recreational Physical Activity in Aotearoa New Zealand* (Sport NZ, October 2022) showed that recreational physical activity generates significant value for society across multiple wellbeing domains and outcomes. For every \$1 spent, there was a social return of \$2.12 to New Zealand, meaning that the value of the wellbeing outcomes for New Zealand is greater than the costs of providing these opportunities. While health outcomes are the most significant wellbeing domain for measuring the impact of sport and physical activity benefits to society, broader benefits were also *clear across several domains of wellbeing, including subjective wellbeing; income consumption and wealth; work, care and volunteering; family and friends; and safety*¹.

CURRENT LANDSCAPE OF PARTICIPATION IN WAIPA

Recent figures from Active NZ (2021) suggest that 75% of young people (5-17 years) and 67% of adults in the Waipā District do enough physical activity to positively impact their wellbeing, with 69% of young people and 75% of adults suggesting they would like to do more physical activity than they currently do.

Active recreation and play are the preferred modes of physical activity for Waipā residents with activities such as running/jogging, swimming, games (e.g., four square, tag, bullrush, dodgeball), playing (e.g., running around, climbing trees, make-believe) and cycling among the preferences for young people and walking, gardening, individual workouts with equipment, running/jogging and playing games (e.g., with kids) topping the list of preferred physical activities among adults.

3. OUR SUBMISSION ON YOUR PROPOSED ENHANCED ANNUAL PLAN 2024-25

In our submission, we wish to comment on the following:

1. **Thank you:** On behalf of the people of Waipā, Sport Waikato thank you for your investment contributions to play, active recreation and sport. Councils are key enablers of physical activity, and your effort and investment are noted and sincerely appreciated.
2. **Our Recommendations:**

Sport Field Investment and Lease Model Review

Sport Waikato recognises the challenging environment for local government at present and the subsequent reduction in funding towards play, active recreation and sport infrastructure noting that some key play,

¹ There is more evidence required to better reflect the true value of the social cohesion dimension which is considered to be currently undervalued.

active recreation and sport projects across Waipā are paused until consultation on the 2025-34 Long Term Plan early next.

Sport Waikato are supportive of council's approach to the 'Lease Model Review' across sport grounds which has been budgeted for and will help to guide a more sustainable model around the optimisation and upkeep of these assets in the future, while potentially guiding a more strategic approach to sport field improvements funding. **We are however conscious of the pause on funding towards sport field improvements, based on the following:**

- Pressure is growing on field networks because of factors such as movement in winter and summer sports seasons (coming closer together and in some cases overlapping), the growth in informal social play (outside of structured code play) and growth population catchments, particularly across the sub-region of Waipā and Hamilton
- Waikato sport parks are susceptible to poor condition in several locations based on an underlying peat base, making it extremely difficult to establish and maintain good quality soil, sand dressed and sand carpeted surfaces without significant investment
- Waikato insights via the Future of Rugby Clubs survey found that 80% of clubs are experiencing some form of capacity issue, 70% use fields during the summer (with 43% indicating access was insufficient to meet needs) and there was strong desire for more floodlight coverage, surface upgrades and access to additional fields

There is a desire from the community to ensure that sport grounds have well-functioning amenities and supporting infrastructure that meet the needs of the community across our sport ground network. Sport Waikato analysis highlights the following for Waipā residents:

- 31% of the community are physically active at sport fields as a family (22% as individual), while this is 46% and 27% respectively for parks and reserves.
- Community dissatisfaction for sport fields (19%) slightly outweighs satisfaction levels (14%).

Regionally, sport and recreational organisations have highlighted:

- 53% - facilities and spaces have quality issues
- 41% - facilities and spaces meet the needs of future communities
- Participants highlighted that improvement to clubrooms was the #1 priority for clubs, followed by amenities (toilets/changerooms) #2 and improved quality of provision (courts and fields) #3

Relevant Recommendation from Waikato Regional Active Spaces Plan

- *Complete leased park model of sport field allocation review.*
- *Develop or upgrade sports fields to increase capacity in line with the recommendations of the Central Waikato Sub-Region Winter Sports Field Study (Global Leisure Group September 2020), and Waikato Artificial Turf Study (Visitor Solutions 2023).*
- *Review and upgrade the provision, allocation, utilisation, quality and maintenance of sports fields based on current and future need*
- *Increase capacity of fields through provision of targeted flood lighting, improved turf management or multi-use artificial turf (cost benefit required for each). Council to consider working with partner funders to provide a comprehensive, maintained and accessible network of floodlit facilities*

Leamington Domain Masterplan

Sport Waikato supports funding outlined for the implementation of the Leamington Domain Masterplan including the increase funding towards the play spaces at the domain outlined in the Enhanced Annual Plan based on the following:

- 31% of the community are physically active at sport fields as a family (22% as individual), while this is 46% and 27% respectively for parks and reserves.
- Outdoor Sport and Recreational facilities are important community assets with 30% of the community reported that spaces, inclusive of outdoor courts, are locations where they are active.
- Community survey results reveal that 40% of respondents are using existing playgrounds/obstacle courses, yet only 21% are very or extremely satisfied with these with suggestions made that they

are not fit for purpose (e.g., family friendly, including opportunities for adults to play with their children, or accessible – able to be played on/in/at by people of different abilities)

The Leamington Domain concept will deliver an inclusive space for play, active recreation and sport and will provide spaces and opportunities for Tamariki and Rangatahi to be active. This is important with 76% of Waipā's rangatahi and 61% of Waipā's tamariki wanting to do more physical activity – Active NZ (2021)

Recommendation from Waikato Regional Active Spaces Plan – Play spaces approach for all councils

- *Maintain and/or enhance the network ensuring:*
 - *Focus on optimising and maintaining existing assets spaces.*
 - *Focus on flexible, accessible, and inclusive provision for all, including low participation groups*
- *Considerations around future planning should occur alongside planning for destination spaces (via town concept planning an alike) and key locations which cater for a large volume of active recreation.*
- *Where assets are highlighted to be renewed, consideration for co-design of engaging age-appropriate play opportunities*

Regional Connectivity Coordinator (North)

Sport Waikato's Regional Connectivity Coordinator team partner with all 10 Territorial Local Authorities across the greater Waikato region and this team includes a Coordinator who works across the Waipā and Waikato Districts and Hamilton city. The Coordinators serve as support for Council technical staff across play, active recreation and sport projects, as well as conduits between the local sector and local government providing, support, advocacy and strategic leadership around investment and decision-making as well as the delivery of quality play, active recreation and sport opportunities.

We know some of the biggest issues and opportunities we have to support community and individual wellbeing through physical activity can only be tackled effectively when we all work together. Many of the changes, challenges and opportunities relevant to our communities are beyond the ability of any one group or organisation to deal with. Therefore, **we request:** that Council continue to fund Sport Waikato at **\$50,000 plus GST per annum**, to provide this important service that includes working in partnership with Council to leverage quality play, active recreation and sport outcomes for the Waipā District. We already have a range of agreed projects with Council staff ready to action from 2024/25 as part of the recent renewal of the Waipā District Play, Active Recreation and Sport Plan and we look forward to working alongside Council to ensure people and communities in the Waipā district are active enough to positively impact their health and wellbeing.

Once again, we thank you for the opportunity to make a submission as part of Council's LTP process.

1. Key Documents and Data Sets to refer to in Reference to this Submission

- Moving Waikato
- The Waikato Regional Active Spaces Plan (WRASP)
- Sub-Regional Artificial Turf Study (Visitor Solutions – 2023)
- Regional Community Survey 2022
- Regional Club and Regional Sporting Organisation Survey 2022
- Active NZ 2021

4. SPORT WAIKATO CONTACTS

Should the Council wish to seek further information or clarification on this submission, please contact:

Matthew Cooper

Chief Executive

M: 027 545 0005

E: matthewc@sportwaikato.org.nz

Dr. Amy Marfell

General Manager – Regional Leadership

M: 0273502606

E: amym@sportwaikato.org.nz

Submission/Event: 541

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/173

Stakeholder

First Name

Lance

Last Name

Vervoort

Organisation

Hamilton City Council

Id

443



Hamilton City Council Submission

Waipā District Council's Enhanced 2024/25 Draft Annual Plan (Consultation Document)

Waipā District Council

26 April 2024



Improving the Wellbeing of Hamiltonians

Hamilton City Council is focused on improving the wellbeing of Hamiltonians through delivering to our five priorities of shaping:

- **A city that's easy to live in**
- **A city where our people thrive**
- **A central city where our people love to be**
- **A fun city with lots to do**
- **A green city**

The topic of this Council submission is aligned to all of Hamilton City Council's five priorities.

Council Approval and Reference

This Council submission was approved under delegated authority by members of the Waikato District Council and Waipā District Council/Hamilton City Council Governance Group on 26 April 2024.

Submission # 763.

Introduction

1. Hamilton City Council welcomes the opportunity to make a submission to **Waipā District Council's Enhanced 2024/25 Draft Annual Plan (Consultation Document)**.
2. Hamilton City Council supports the overall direction of Waipā District Council's Enhanced 2024/25 Draft Annual Plan, recognising the significant financial constraints that are impacting local government across the country and the ongoing uncertainty regarding new waters legislation.
3. Along with many other councils throughout New Zealand, Hamilton City Council is facing significant rates rises across the forthcoming years to continue to provide existing levels of service, without considering additional investment to keep pace with projected growth.
4. As these affordability issues are impacting all of local government, ongoing collaboration between our two councils, looking at further opportunities for shared services and efficiencies, and innovative solutions for three waters will become increasingly more important.
5. We look forward to continuing to work closely through our governance and staff relationships as we navigate the challenges ahead.

Collaborative Investment Priorities

6. Through Future Proof, a number of sub-regional priorities have been identified and agreed to by the partners, including strategic infrastructure projects such as the Southern Wastewater Treatment Plant and other wastewater upgrades.
7. We look forward to continuing discussions in line with the Detailed Business Case on the funding models for how Waipā communities connect to these facilities in the future.

Three Waters

8. We note that there are a number of early conversations occurring across the region and sub-region relating to the future provision of water services, and we look forward to working together where we identify shared interests as we explore water delivery options.
9. It is likely we will need to move at pace to meet the Government's requirement for a Water Delivery Plan by 30 June 2025.

Opportunities for Operational Efficiencies

10. Noting the significant funding challenges that local government is facing, Hamilton City Council seeks to continue to work closely with neighbouring councils on opportunities for shared services that may provide cost savings for ratepayers.
11. We have a number of successful cross-boundary arrangements in place for existing services, and we look forward to future discussions on these and other collaborative opportunities.

Further Information and Hearings

12. Should Waipā District Council require clarification of the submission from Hamilton City Council, or additional information, please contact **Hannah Windle** (Special Projects Manager - Strategy, Growth and Planning Group) on **027 1800 2316** or email hannah.windle@hcc.govt.nz in the first instance.
13. Hamilton City Council representatives welcome the opportunity to have ongoing discussions around the content of this submission with Waipā District Council.

14. Hamilton City Council representatives **do not wish to speak** at the hearings that are scheduled to commence on 20 May 2024.

Yours faithfully



Lance Vervoort
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Hamilton City Council
Garden Place, Private Bag 3010, Hamilton

 /HamiltonCityCouncil

 @hamiltoncitycouncil

 07 838 6699

hamilton.govt.nz

Submission/Event: 540

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/171

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/172

Stakeholder

First Name

Eileen

Last Name

Hawkins

Organisation

Cambridge Safer Community Charitable Trust
(CSCCT)

Id

413



Request for Funding Allocation from 2024 Annual Plan for Safer Cambridge Trust

The Cambridge Safer Charitable Community Trust (CSCCT) operates Cambridge Neighbourhood Support and Community Patrol on behalf of our urban and rural communities. We maintain strong partnerships with the NZ Police, Fire Service and Civil Defence and foster their messages in the community. Our Community Patrol bolsters the Police's operation by patrolling 7 nights each week and in the last 12 months contributed 2142 volunteer hours to community safety. We wish to request support from the Waipa District Council for the 2024 Annual and subsequent Long Term Plan. Here is our submission.

Cambridge Neighbourhood Support and Community Patrol have made an impact protecting the health and safety of our community since 2010 partly due to the recognition and support from Waipa District Council and Cambridge Community Board. Our initiatives align closely with the values and objectives of the council.

Our work empowers communities to raise the level of proactive connection, safety and resilience in neighbourhoods. It has a powerful, positive impact and because it is community driven (via Street Coordinators), has the ability to self-propagate, gradually improving the lives of our citizens day by day.

Some of our current programmes (on top of our connection work) are:

- Children's Citizenship programme
- Neighbourhood Emergency Plans
- First Aid classes (heavily subsidized)
- Rural outreach – educating about safety from crime and changes in firearm legislation

How do we know that our work is needed?

Our fundamental purpose is to connect people in neighbourhoods. Our work is evidence based and some compelling examples of this evidence can be seen here:

Importance of Connection

.....the ability to interact is just as important as eating healthily or even being active....

From research undertaken by Clinical neuroscientist Professor Vladimir Hachinski recipient of 2024 Ryman Prize, a grant for the world's best discovery that enhances quality of life for older people.

"Diet, exercise, sleep hygiene, and stress reduction are widely accepted as health-promoting behaviours, but the quality of interpersonal relationships also can have a profound influence on health. In a meta-analysis of 145 studies, social isolation was as big a risk factor for all-cause mortality as smoking and alcohol consumption, and isolation had a larger effect on mortality rates than obesity and physical inactivity.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5536335/>

Importance of our emergency planning work...

"The literature consistently finds that strong social cohesion and networks within communities, and high levels of trust and of social capital as a whole, are strongly predictive of the trajectory of a community's response to an adverse event." (Aldrich & Meyer, 2015; Alonge et al, 2019; Bach et al, 2010; Slemper et al, 2020).



The importance of our work cannot be overstated particularly in the current socio-economic climate where community cohesion and safety are of paramount concern. By fostering a sense of belonging and solidarity, our work acts as a proactive deterrent to crime, reduces social isolation, and promotes overall well-being among residents.

However, despite our commitment, CSCCT faces significant challenges in sustaining our operations and expanding our reach to better serve the evolving needs of our community. The rising crime rate coupled with the influx of new residents poses unprecedented challenges that demand a proactive and sustained response. We find that we need to commit more and more time to fund raising to maintain what we do.

Over the past three years we have been very grateful to receive an annual allocation of funding from the council. We also spend significant time applying for funding and sponsorship in other areas. We need around \$80,000 per year to sustain our current service and more than this to grow to meet the coupled challenges of fast growing population and rise in crime rate.

We recognize that the Council also faces financial challenges which have led to the postponement of long term financial planning at this time. Like us the Council needs to limit spending to essentials.

Why is this spending essential?

- **Community Health and Safety are fundamental necessities:** Proactive investment in health and safety & emergency preparedness measures will prevent costly crises down the line. Strong, well-resourced neighbourhoods, who can communicate readily will be self-reliant for longer and relieve local authorities (Police, Fire, CD, Council, Social Services) of some pressure during and after a civil event.
- **Better Quality of life:** People are more likely to thrive and contribute positively to society when they feel supported and secure in their environment. This, in turn, can lead to increased economic productivity, social cohesion, and overall well-being.
- **Public Trust and Confidence:** Prioritizing the health and safety of the community demonstrates a commitment to the welfare of its residents. This builds trust and confidence in the council's leadership and fosters a sense of security among the populace. When people feel safe and cared for by their local government, they are more likely to engage in civic activities and support community initiatives.
- **Council's core purpose:** The spending fits with the Council's core purpose (from Local Govt Act NZ) to promote the wellbeing of its communities.

Our request

Wise spending decisions for the upcoming Annual and Long Term plans will focus on essentials and furthering the core goals of the Council. It will be logical to support a community organization that works towards the same aims and objectives as the Council. We ask that you



consider allocating the Cambridge Safer Charitable Community Trust a one off grant of \$50,000 this year. We also ask that this same amount be allocated in the Long Term Plan budget for our Trust.

By investing in our work, the council would be undertaking essential spending, demonstrating its commitment to community well-being and also ensuring a safer, more resilient future for all residents. Together, we can create a community where neighbours look out for one another, where safety and security are paramount, and where everyone feels valued and supported.

Thank you for considering our request. We keenly await the opportunity to speak in support of our request in your May meeting.



Our Impact – Cambridge Neighbourhood Support 2024

How do we know that what we provide is needed?

- Our Trust sees community connection as a vital underpinning goal. Studies show that our current epidemic of loneliness has a real and day-to-day impact on the health and wellbeing of our population. Harvard researchers found ***“that people who are more socially connected to family, to friends, to community are happier, they’re physically healthier and they live longer than people who are less well connected,”***. *Brummett and Colleagues (2001) found that “Among adults with coronary artery disease, the socially isolated had a risk of subsequent cardiac death 2.4 times greater than their more socially connected peers!”* Our work connects neighbourhoods encouraging warm, meaningful relationships that can provide day-to-day practical support but also a sense of safety and belonging.
- Our Trust fosters collaborative neighbourhood emergency preparedness. People who know one another can rely on one another, and this is critical during emergency events. In our recent membership survey (April 2023), most respondents felt that out of our three priorities emergency preparedness was most important. A 2021 NZ Ministry for Social Development Community Resilience review noted that ***“The literature consistently finds that strong social cohesion and networks within communities, and high levels of trust and of social capital as a whole, are strongly predictive of the trajectory of a community’s response to an adverse event.”*** (*Aldrich & Meyer, 2015; Alonge et al, 2019; Bach et al, 2010; Slemp et al, 2020*).
- Our Trust helps reduce criminal activity. ***The presence of people has been shown to be one of the most robust factors deterring offenders, including burglars (Coupe & Blake, Citation2006; Cromwell et al., Citation1991; Wright et al., Citation1995).*** ***Crucial for this sense of “guardianship” may be the feeling that someone is watching and could observe criminal behaviour.*** Our active groups, signage, stickers and Community Patrol all provide visible crime deterrence activity.

Human connection improves physical health – other research:

“Diet, exercise, sleep hygiene, and stress reduction are widely accepted as health-promoting behaviors, but the quality of interpersonal relationships also can have a profound influence on health. In a meta-analysis of 145 studies, social isolation was as big a risk factor for all-cause mortality as smoking and alcohol consumption, and isolation had a larger effect on mortality rates than obesity and physical inactivity.”

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5536335/>



Recent programmes:

- Rural meetings - Neighbourhood Support joins with our local Police Officer, Community Patrol Leader and Firearms Manager to host regular meetings for rural communities to educate about firearm legislation changes. We encourage rural communities to report crime and suspicious behaviour and to work together to make their area less attractive and available to criminals.
- Capable Communities Campaign – neighbourhood communities build customized Neighbourhood Emergency Plans. Neighbours identify skills and resources for use during an emergency and this information is shared into a plan. The plan acts as a springboard for further discussions about preventing crime and enhancing safety in the area. These plans enable local communities to be self-sufficient in the first instance during an emergency and in turn relieves pressure on our first line responders.
- Subsidized first aid courses for Cambridge Community – With the support of the Waipa District Council, we are offering 200 subsidized first aid courses to raise the level of overall safety in our community.
- Children’s Citizenship programme. Encouraging good citizenship and safety for primary aged students based on the Manaaki children’s book.

Benefits for the Cambridge community include:

- Improvements in Cambridge community physical and mental health that come from having strong community relationships.
- Lower crime levels, the location of criminals and missing persons and provision of support for local Police. (Suspicious vehicles often leave on upon sighting the Community Patrol)
- Stronger connection between Police and other emergency services and our community are promoted when we bring Police and others to community meetings.
- Emergency and social agencies servicing Cambridge are assisted by a more prepared and proactive community response when an emergency occurs, via our neighbourhood emergency plans, fire escape plans and first aid training.
- Reduction in loneliness as we encourage and support neighbourhood connection. ***(NZ Govt stats 2021 reported 43.4% of our population feels lonely!)***
- Cambridge school children learn early about good citizenship and community service.

Submission/Event: 539

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
Yes

I have attached additional information
https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/170

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Grey
<i>Last Name</i>	Power
<i>Organisation</i>	Grey Power Cambridge
<i>Id</i>	442

Grey Power

THE ACTIVE ORGANISATION FOR THOSE 50+



Submission on behalf of the Members of Grey Power Cambridge on the 2024 Waipa District Council Enhance Annual Plan

Grey Power Cambridge is an advocacy organization representing 240 residents of Cambridge. Membership is drawn from those over the age of 50. The organization meets monthly with guest speakers drawn from a variety of interests. The objectives of the organization are:

- To advance support and protect the welfare and wellbeing of the aged.
- To affirm and protect the statutory entitlement of every aged New Zealander to a sufficient New Zealand Superannuation entitlement.
- To meet the special needs and interests of all aged New Zealanders by taking appropriate actions on their behalf.
- To be non-aligned with any political party, and to present a strong united lobby to all parliamentary and statutory bodies on matters affecting older New Zealanders.
- To better the lives of aged people through service, advocacy, education and investigation of problems affecting their well-being

We wish to be heard in support of this submission.

Accordingly we wish to submit the following points for your consideration:

1. Affordability of Rates

1. We are extremely concerned at the high rate of increase in Council rates for property and water charges. These increased rates are placing pressure on many of our members who are on a fixed and limited income.

We recommend that Council review all non-essential services and functions with a view to reducing rates to more affordable levels and within the annual cost of living increases.

2. Cambridge Water Tower

We are concerned about the possible demolition of the historic water tower located in Payne Park, adjacent to Resthaven. The water tower plays an important part in the history of Cambridge and is recognised with both national and local heritage status. We would not support its demolition.

We recommend that Council seek independent advice on alternative and less costly remedies to the maintenance and restoration of this building before committing to its demolition.

3. Cambridge I-Site

We are concerned that Council has voted to discontinue the funding of the Cambridge I-Site. We understand that the withdrawal of the funding places in jeopardy the continued operation of this important public facility. Our members have commented on important services they have used:

- help with planning trips outside of Cambridge particularly as they don't have access to their own computer;

- assistance with getting a BEE card and paying for use on the bus service to Hamilton;
- booking tickets on intercity busses to Auckland and other places;
- planning activities for visiting family and providing itinerary sheets;
- having a shop for touristy type of gifts and postcards;
- access to events and what's happening in Cambridge;
- running the Christmas Parade.

We recommend that Council reinstate this funding to enable the i-Site to continue to open.

4. Public Transport

We support the introduction of a public transport system that enables accessibility within the urban area of Cambridge. Many Grey Power members live outside a comfortable walking distance to town and may also not have an active lifestyle that allows them to cycle into town. A local bus service is required that connects those living in the suburbs with the town centre amenities and services such as the library, swimming pool, shops and services, Council Offices, supermarkets, and medical services such as doctors and specialists.

We recommend that Council introduce a local bus service connecting the suburbs with our town centre.

5. Roading Network

We support a local transport network that provides for a safe environment for elderly and less mobile residents. We are concerned about the lack of parking in town and the high level of congestion. Both of these result in a reduction of accessibility for elderly persons who cannot walk into town. We would like Council to consider the following:

- provide more longer term parking in the central retail area. Many parking places are only 1 hour. Many of our members are slightly more sedate in their movement around town. If they have appointments in town or wish to visit a number of shops, the hour limit can be quite a problem. Parking places in the town centre in the side street that are a 5 or 10 minute walk to the shops are not suitable for those of our members who have difficulty walking long distances.
- Work on managing the congestion in town. The increasing congestion is limiting the time window in which our members consider it is safe to drive in to town.
- provide more pedestrian crossings on high traffic use streets that do not have formal crossing facility. Please ensure these crossings include a median safety island where possible.
- erect signage to create an awareness of elderly pedestrians on town centre pathways. Remind youth and adult cyclists of the illegality of cycling on footpaths. Remind cyclists to dismount from cycles and walk cycles across the pedestrian crossings.
- The establishment of a policy for e-scooter riders that recognises the risk to elderly and particularly those with hearing disability.

We recommend that Council consider the accessibility for elderly persons to our main shopping and service centre.

6. Safe access to Public Reserves

We support the development of recreational reserves that are accessible by all residents but particularly those elderly or mobility challenged. For example the Te Koo Utu development should have access paths for elderly and those disabled community with accessibility vehicles. For many elderly their dog is their only companion. We support the provision of facilities around town which encourage walking with a dog. For example, the provision of more dog poo bins around the green belt and other reserves.

We recommend that Council consult with the elderly within the community towards providing safe and appropriate access to or public reserves.

7. New Bridge for Cambridge

We are aware of the community concern for the lack of consultation on the third bridge for Cambridge. However, we consider that the Identification of a site for the third bridge is a very important decision for the future of our town. We would support continued active work including community consultation for the determination of this location. We would ask Council to consider the establishment of a roading network that limits commuters using the main shopping area as their main route to cross the town. We are in favour of a town centre that is more people and family focused.

We recommend that Council continue their efforts to identify the location for an additional bridge for Cambridge.

We thank Council for the opportunity to make these recommendations for consideration.

Grey Power Cambridge

Submission/Event: 538

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Based on community feedback, we believe the proposed rates still too tough and unsustainable. See attached for comments.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Up to the Cambridge community to make the call on if it stays or goes. See attached for comments.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
Yes

I have attached additional information
https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/169

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Ange
<i>Last Name</i>	Holt
<i>Organisation</i>	Te Awamutu and Kihikihi Community Board
<i>Id</i>	179

EAP – 2024**Te Awamutu & Kihikihi Community Board Submission**

Based on Community feedback we believe that the average rate rise of 14.8% is unsustainable and too much for many of our community to bare. We would prefer to see it trimmed further and sit an average of between 10% and 12%. Due to recent inflationary rises and continuing rent increases (which a rates hike will only exacerbate) we are starting to see those on low to middle incomes really start to struggle. This rate increase is going to impact them further. After discussing this with some of our rural rate payers at the recent federated farmers AGM a nearly 15% increase year on year is not sustainable.

We appreciate that Te Awamutu Residential is currently at 12% (our higher preference) which if passed on will still add another \$55 to \$65 dollars to weekly rents when passed on by landlords. So you can see how important it is to keep our rate increase as low as possible.

We believe that there are opportunities to do this through further cuts in operational expenses including :

- Reduction in project value (approximately \$7M), with a corresponding reduction in staff/consultation costs there needs to be a cut to the cloth to make it fit. Our big ticket items like Te Ara Wai & Cambridge Library etc need to be priced within our means. Having the biggest and best is great if our community can afford it but not if it can't.
- Reducing service levels except for roading but hold to higher account to make sure we are receiving those levels of service.
- Reducing debt - very concerned with the high debt level - can we see sensitivity calculations with higher interest rates on the possibility of that eventuating?
- Push back on Growth? Can we not defer some growth plans? Pay for a percentage of growth (capped) costs before we continue with more growth-related projects. Eg We need to get 50% paid back before we press on and put in the next lot of infrastructure.
- Council actively lobby central government for more support, eg GST goes back to the councils. This may require us to team up with other councils to garner more support and attention.

We would like to acknowledge the very difficult situation we are currently in with getting the waters back at a time where inflation, interest rates and operating costs have all significantly increased. We fully appreciate what council are trying to do and how hard everyone has worked.

Community Funding is an integral part of keeping our community humming along. We would like to see less cuts across this space including our own discretionary funding. The organisations that apply for assistance by in large run largely on volunteer hours and shoestring budgets. With the tightening of the large funding agencies belts (Lotteries apparently down 27%) these small groups will struggle to get funding to continue and losing any of them would truly be a loss to our community. We will most certainly see less community run projects and events, that support our well being and economy.

We would like to see our funding (discretionary) only drop to \$40k. We need this to lead community projects and support our local community initiatives. We are always oversubscribed and generally this is by approximately 3 times what we have to give out. We currently have approximately \$8,000 in the discretionary fund and 16 local worthy applicants asking for \$36,000. Our previous application was 29 and approx. \$56,000. We have had applications for over \$100,000 in the past. eg Town clean up day \$25 value for money

Projects we would like to lead and get services involved to assist, if we can get permission to do so are:

- Moving the Perfumed Garden in the Te Awamutu War Memorial Park along a little to enable better access to the pathway for the returned servicemen.
- Provide some adult fitness equipment at a couple of parks (funding already available for this at no cost to ratepayers or council)
- Cleaning up the lake in the Te Awamutu War Memorial Park to improve the water quality until such times that funds become available to complete the upgrades.
- Re-establishing the gravelled walkway between Eileen Montiforte and Fonterra, along the edge of the Te Awamutu College Rugby Fields and Te Waananga o Aotearoa.
- provide some furniture, trees and fix the gate at the new dog park in Pekarau Park

In regard to the cutting of funding to our iSITES – We would like to support Destination Te Awamutu’s submission, in their request for financial support to cover some of their costs including their new website whilst they find alternative sources of funding. Community that we have spoken to were very disappointed to learn our iSITE may be forced to close and with 60 - to 70% of the people using the iSITE being local it is a well utilised service by the community to book travel, find things to do for visiting family and friends and get general information. They are actively seeking solutions and have a plan in place to become self-sustainable with a couple of years. The least we can do is support them to get there. Again after years of volunteer hours, a volunteer built building it would be a tragedy to abandon them.

This would require KPI reporting and expectations of value for money from spend.

Advocate for the Holmes Garage to be included into the next LTP. We would like to see the Holmes Garage concept supported as an affordable option that provides a usable amenity for Te Awamutu. That we investigate further opportunities to fund it including external funding.

Realistically the affordability of the Becca Plans for the land in and around Selwyn Park is not an investment that we or our rate payers will support – our understanding is it far exceeds what we proposed to be spent upgrading the Holmes Garage. We presented the proposal back in November 2023 and to the best of my knowledge no updates have been provided as yet to the costs for the transformer pole to be removed or the decontamination of the site. What I do know is that the pole is approximately \$400-500,000 and the glass shelters over the seats shown in their concept drawings are \$200,000 each so that way exceeds our budget with the site clean up, paving, street furniture etc not even included at this point. In addition, the land here was originally gifted by Mana Whenua to the Church and it was taken by the government following the land wars. They are not supportive of council owned land to be privatised again, as outlined in the letter from Bishop Richardson that CB presented with their Holmes Garage proposal last year. So the idea of selling the old Devoy building could also be problematic and not be a funding resource.

Create a footpath/marked walkway in the George St Car Park that provides pedestrians safe passage from the footpath outside McDonalds through to the pedestrian crossing by the toilets and link the crossing with a footpath to the shops on the daycare side of the carpark. This could be done in sections so not to be a big expense in one hit – ie section one this annual plan and section two in the next plan.

Bryan Hudson & I looked at this last year and I hoped to see further action, however once again it has been looked at and nothing further has happened.

I would also like to point out that this is not a new community board recommendation, it is in fact an improvement that every Community Board since the 2016- 2019, has requested in each and every Annual Plan and LTP.

We would also like to show our support for the Te Awamutu Business Chamber by supporting their submission. We do however believe there is not as much “fat available to trim” in the actual growth budget as they do and would not like to see too much cutting of rural roading budgets as it is important that our rural roads are safe to drive.

We do strongly support their comments regarding Community Funding continuation, the lack of traction we both have received for projects they have brought to the table and as we have already mentioned here “Our big projects need to be affordable to our community.” We think they make a strong point that large spending on projects that have no/minimal economic benefit such as \$5million on the Te Awamutu War Memorial Park are prudent measures and opportunities to make significant savings.

Cambridge Tower – With historical significance, it is important to preserve the tower if possible. We believe either of the options proposed are ridiculously expensive and had hoped removing the tank off the top to reduce the weight (especially when it rains), would have reduced the costs significantly but have since learnt this is not the case. This largely a

Cambridge Community decision however we strongly recommend that whatever happens the cost is recovered via a targeted rate and local fundraising.

Submission/Event: 537

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
 The short answer is no, not this year. Waipa District Council have tabled a rate increase of 14.8% for the coming year and expect accurate submissions to be made without giving the Waipa rate payers the full story. The marketing spread that has been published is written in such a way that one cannot accurately break down what where you are going to spend in the capital budget. How do we the rate payer know you are spending and budgeting wisely when we can only see the results of 2023 where net costs exceeded the budget by 49%. | We can see that most user paid expenses are to be increased which makes sense. Further cuts need to be made, to bring the rate increase below 10%; | • Remove any further work on cycle ways. | • Pause the Leamington Domain Masterplan. | • Have a very close look at the projects that debt needs to be increased. | • Increase the monitoring of subcontractors- to get the agreed value for money. | • Decrease the recycling bins (Yellow and Blue) to one collection a month. | • Growth in roading should be the responsibility of the developers of the new subdivisions. | | Most families are struggling to pay their debts and keep their families fed and schooled. | | 2. Keep the councillors and executive salary increase increases to below 5% like the majority of NZ unlike 2023 when it increased a huge amount. The days of obscene waste of public money is over. | | Plan and stick to a 10 year program, don't keep increasing the council debt without having a repayment plan, | | We need to see that some thought has been put into this year's rates, considering in 2023 (the last financials visible to the public) where the budgeted Income was not achieved and the costs were well and truly blown out. There is no appetite for incompetent planning and loose management of Waipa's assets with rate payers bearing the consequences.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Ian
<i>Last Name</i>	Foster
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	441

Submission/Event: 536

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

I do not support the Annual Plan 2024-2025. TRUST MUST BE GAINED. Until Council can be transparent, honest and show true leadership and financial constraint, a drop in wages would be a start can I support this Annual Plan or any other.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Joy

Last Name

McGregor

Organisation

Id

440

Submission/Event: 535

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

I am submitting on behalf of the Kakepuku Mountain Conservation Society (KMCS) and do not have the authority to answer this question.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

KMCS planned to make a thorough submission to the Long Term Plan and hoped to make a joint submission with Te Kopua Marae about WDC's spending and vision around Kakepuku Mountain. On finding out that the Long Term Plan review had been postponed we "took our foot off the pedal" and have not done this work. Saying that we still have quite a few points to make in relation to Waipa District Council's spending and effort with respect to Kakepuku Mountain. Please find these listed on the document attached.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/168

Stakeholder

First Name

Emily

Last Name

Empson

Organisation

Kakepuku Mountain Conservation Society

Id

439

Points for Annual Plan Submission

Kakepuku Mountain Conservation Society (KMCS) would like the Waipa District Council (WDC) to consider increasing the amount of money and effort that they put into conservation efforts on Kakepuku Maunga as we strongly believe in the historical, ecological, cultural and recreational value of Kakepuku Maunga within our district.

We have listed a number of areas where we think further money and effort is required to allow us to work towards building a thriving ecosystem that will allow our native species to flourish as well ensuring the Maunga can be enjoyed to the fullest and in a safe manner by all members of our community.

1. Pest management work.

KMCS is granted \$5000 a year from WDC to undertake pest management on the maunga. We are very grateful for that funding and are also grateful for the support and effort provided by our contact at WDC, Bridget Elliott. The funding we receive from the WDC does not cover all of our costs in view of rising costs in many areas. We are currently spending historical savings to cover the shortfall in our costs. This funding was left over from previous major bird release projects and is rapidly reducing.

Our current pest management program costs our group approximately \$8,500 a year. This amount includes bait, lure, gas cannisters and monitoring cards. Replacement Good Nature traps, wooden boxes and traps are over and above this amount. Volunteer labour to carry out this work is estimated to be worth approximately \$12,000.

See below information obtained from pest management officers annual report for the last four years which confirms the information above.

Bait/Toxin/Monitoring used during the 2019 control. • 335 x 450gr Ditrac baits were deployed on Mt. (\$1,400 plus GST) • 20L Ratebate paste was deployed to Mt. (\$150 plus GST) • 800 Feracol strikers were deployed to the Mt. (pre-fed and toxic strikers \$1,210 plus GST) • Erayz Blocks (\$170 plus GST) • Lure and gas for Goodnature traps (DOC supplied) • Gotchya cards (62 each round plus extra 30 for addition monitoring) \$160 plus GST

Total - \$6,014 plus GST (\$6,916.10)

Bait/Toxin/Monitoring used during the 2020 control. • 22 x 10kg Double Tap was deployed on the Mt. (\$2,750 plus GST) • Erayz Blocks (\$170 plus GST) • Lure and gas for Goodnature traps 22ha (DOC supplied) • Lure and gas for Goodnature trap 10ha (group bought) \$760 plus GST. • Gotchya cards (62 each round) \$192.20 plus GST

Total - \$3,872.20 plus GST (\$4,453.03)

Volunteer labour 2020 • Bait stations – 208hr (4hr each line x 4 visits @\$20/hr) 13 lines • Rat Monitoring – 72hr (3hr each line x 2 visits @\$20/hr) 6 lines • Installation of 40 Good nature A24 rat traps (60hr @\$20/hr) • Goodnature grid – 30hr (3 days @\$20/hr) 76 traps. • Trap checks (DOC200 and DOC250) – 240hr (@\$20/hr) • Track cutting – 20hr (3 days @\$20/hr) • Lizard monitoring – not this year Total - \$12,600 contribution in volunteer labour. This doesn't include administrative/committee costs.

Bait/Toxin/Monitoring used during the 2021 control. • 10 x 10kg Double Tap pre-feed. (\$800 plus GST) • 13 x 10kg Double Tap toxic. (\$1,625 plus GST) • Erayz Blocks (\$170 plus GST) • Lure and gas for Goodnature traps 22ha (DOC supplied) \$2,664 plus GST. • Lure and gas for Goodnature trap 10ha (group bought) \$760 plus GST. • Gotchya cards (82 each round) \$254.20 plus GST.

Total - \$6,273.00 plus GST (\$7,213.95)

Volunteer labour 2021 • Bait stations – 208hr (4hr each line x 4 visits @\$22/hr) 13 lines. \$4,576.00 • Rat Monitoring – 72hr (3hr each line x 2 visits @\$22/hr) 8 lines. \$1,056.00 • Goodnature grid at Summit – 24hr (3 days @\$22/hr) 40 traps. \$528.00 • Goodnature grid – 30hr (3 days @\$22/hr) 76 traps. \$660.00 • Trap checks (DOC200 and DOC250) – 240hr (@\$22/hr) \$5,280.00 • Track cutting – not this year. • Lizard monitoring – not this year

Total - \$12,100 contribution in volunteer labour. This doesn't include administrative/committee time.

Bait/Toxin/Monitoring used during the 2022 control. • 15 x 10kg D Block extreme. (\$2,193.75 plus GST) • 14 x 10kg Pindone Possum/Rats toxic. (\$1,346.38 plus GST) • Erayz Blocks (\$245.00 plus GST) • Flagging tape and triangles (\$120.68 plus GST) • Lure and gas for Goodnature traps 22ha (DOC supplied) \$2,664 plus GST. • Lure and gas for Goodnature trap 10ha (group bought) \$760 plus GST. • Gotchya cards (82 each round) \$254.20 plus GST.

Total - \$7,584.01 plus GST (\$8,721.61)

Volunteer labour 2022 • Bait stations – 208hr (4hr each line x 4 visits @\$25/hr) 13 lines. \$5,200.00 • Rat Monitoring – 96hr (3hr each line x 4 visits @\$25/hr) 8 lines. \$2,400.00 • Goodnature grid at Summit – 16hr (2 days @\$25/hr) 40 traps. \$400.00 • Goodnature grid – 8hr (1 days @\$25/hr) 76 traps. \$200.00 • Trap checks (DOC200 and DOC250) – 240hr (@\$25/hr) \$6,000.00 • Track cutting – 24hr (3 days @ \$25/hr). \$600.00 • Lizard monitoring – not this year

Total - \$14,800 contribution in volunteer labour. This doesn't include administrative/committee time, travel to maunga etc

2. Control of pest plants

Pest plants are a major problem across the maunga. The very obvious ones are wattles and privet. Historically KMCS has focused on animal pest management and has not concerned itself with pest weed management but as a group of people concerned about the health of the ngahere and increasing the biodiversity of the area it is hard to ignore the pest weeds. Over the last twelve months we have had 3 working bees to tackle the wattle problem on the mountain. We have had approximately 15 volunteers at each working bee with each doing 4 or 5 hours of work per working bee. This equals \$5,175 of volunteer labour. Individuals within the group have also spent time releasing weeds around previous planting efforts.

KMCS would like to see WDC make a concerted effort to deal with the pest plants that are encroaching on regenerating native bush. We have had an exciting find up the maunga this year. A Paua Slug (*Schizoglossa*), which is a native slug only found in the North Island and is classified as Nationally Vulnerable by DOC. We need to keep our work up to support species such as these.

3. Planting projects

WDC have had an annual programme of planting natives with help from the local school, Pokuru School. KMCS has always supported this programme. We would love to see more native planting alongside weed control. KMCS had some concerns around areas planted and the lack of releasing of weeds around previous planting projects. We expressed these to Bridget. We understand she postponed this year's planting in order to come up with a more sustainable plan. KMCS is keen to work with WDC and Te Kopua Marae to come up with a sustainable planting plan.

4. Track maintenance

In the last six months the Department of Conservation (DOC) has undertaken extensive work on the section of track that they manage on the maunga. This involved flying gravel up the mountain and then filling in all the steps. The WDC section of the track is not in a great state. The most common feedback we get from the public about the mountain is regarding the state of the track. There is significant slip risk in wet weather. We have been working with Bridget regarding a plan for the upgrade of the track which we understand will be completed before the end of this financial year. We are grateful for this work and for being involved in the planning of it but we believe more needs to be done and that a annual maintenance plan needs to be created to avoid the track getting in to the state it is currently in. The track is used extensively (there is a counter on the mountain which I believe WDC installed and gets information from) and is a great way for people to engage with nature. We wonder whether the inclusion of the maunga in the Te Ara Wai Journeys programme means that the Council has a higher duty of care to those using the track than other tracks in the region?

5. Bat monitoring

One of our volunteers installed some bat monitors on the maunga over the Christmas period. The material was reviewed by Andrew Styche at the Department of Conservation and he confirmed up to four bat passes were noted. This warrants further investigation. We understand that WDC did have some plans to undertake bat monitoring. We would fully support this. If we did locate long tail bats on the maunga would help us tailor our pest management programme to protect them and potentially open us up to different funding streams.

6. Ecological report and strategic plan

We have spent the last couple of years discussing the fact that we need to update our long-term plan/strategic plan with respect to the maunga. We understand WDC doesn't have a reserve management plan with respect to the maunga. Our current plan was self-funded and is about 15 years old. We have applied to funders for money to undertake this work but have not been successful as yet. We are asking the Council to financially support/contribute to the construction of a new strategic plan and an ecological/biodiversity report. The ecological/biodiversity report will record the current state of the maunga and can then inform the strategic plan and our annual pest management plan. Over the last 18 months we have had a few meetings with WDC, DOC and Te Kopua Marae and there seems to be a real willingness to work constructively together for the benefit of the maunga and the community who enjoy it. KMCS and Te Kopua Marae were hoping to present a joint submission about an ecological report and strategic plan but that has not happened. My understanding is bigger project things are more likely to be considered in a LTP review rather than an annual plan review. KMCS obtained some quotes for ecological reports and assistance with strategic planning which can be provided if WDC would like to see them.

7. Track around the mountain

8. Work with local landowners about planting on adjoining land

Submission/Event: 534

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

We all go through periods where funding for even the basics seems impossible. There are also other years when money seems to flow better. No, we are not in the most healthy part of a financial cycle at present, but a bit of smart thinking, tightening your belts a bit, and a positive outlook to the future might help you get through your balance issues right now. Look outside of New Zealand, look at things differently. || If you have to put some things on the back-burner to wait for the years of more prosperity do it, or find ways to involve the community to make up for some of the short-fall in the interim. But please don't pull things down this year because you are short of money. || You have said that you need the money from developers to come through, that there is a lag between your services going in and their payment coming through to you. Maybe stalling some of the development until the gap has lessened and you've got some of that money in might help. Or how about getting some of their payment earlier. There must be developers that have sufficient funds prior to the sale of their land packages - ask them, demand it from them - those who want to develop will find a way. || By the way, not all of us want an over-run Cambridge and we shouldn't have to accept it as fact that development will happen. Healthy debate is the cornerstone of a democracy, and I think that it should be debated more. Yet, we turn a corner and another set of buildings appears. I would assume that most of us live here because it is a small town, where things can be done easily, rather than an over-populated, traffic-jammed city. I've lived in them and it isn't fun.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

The tower is an icon. I ride past it often and think about how great it is to have something of historic value still standing. Why don't you consider giving it to a developer to turn it into an apartment (whilst maintaining its look), if Council cannot afford to keep it maintained.

|| Maybe watch a few of the programmes from England where old structures are restored to their former glory, whilst being used, albeit differently. Or how about fundraising to turn it into a library for example - give the building a purpose again rather than taking the easy, short-term and cheap option of pulling it down. || I have lived in countries where old buildings and structures were pulled down without much thought, and replaced with other structures that have no architectural or aesthetic value. Once gone, they are gone for good.

|| I will also use this submission to add that I find it improbable that you would want to remove the tower, pop a plaque there to show what once was, but in the meantime allow for the development of housing and retail projects further along the road. They may be being built to house retirees, but they don't have to look so cheap and nasty. And that new blue Fresh Choice, hhhmmm!. Driving into Cambridge used to be pleasant. Who signs off on these developments without any covenants to protect appealing aesthetics? Any chance of another beautiful town award is slipping away at an alarming rate. || My other note is on the Cambridge Town Hall. Funding for that is a must. Building and maintaining a community can be enhanced with a community hall. I just think that it needs to be used for more things. I have been there for a political rally, to listen to an orchestra, and it is an easily accessible, historically valuable, and aesthetically pleasing building. It could do with a bit of zhushing-up definitely and could also have many more events held in it. Please, please, ensure that something historic and community-based remains in our town. || By the way. I love the cycle-ways! Thanks so much for them.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Cindy
<i>Last Name</i>	Bell
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	438

Submission/Event: 533

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
 The balancing looks to be a significant challenge. The changes that reign-in the initial possible rates increase this year look to have accomplished what they set out to do. There is clearly a lot that has been deferred to next and future years, which will lead to additional rates increases that will create concern in the future, depending on economic and legislative changes. And specific changes will impact many parts of the community and interest groups in smaller and larger ways. | One project that was included in the previous long term plan and is proposed to be included in the next one is the Cambridge Connections programme looking at the future of transportation in Cambridge. That programme identified the likely future closure of the high-level bridge to vehicles. Given that, the uncertainty that was introduced into the community, and the rapidly changing nature of at least one of the sites identified as options for a river crossing, it would seem prudent to have some level of funding in the current year to continue progressing the Business Case to NZTA and other required parts of the study and communication plan.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
 a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 The prominence of the tower is diminished as housing has been built adjacent to it, the recent nearby multi-storey building has been erected, the parking in the adjacent green space has been removed, and Victoria Rd seems to be being preferred over Cambridge Rd as the main arterial. With growth of the town, the tower no longer marks the western edge of Cambridge. | Has the possibility of attempting to sell the tower for demolition, removal, or conversion to a tourist attraction been investigated?

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 No

I have attached additional information
 -

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Jared
<i>Last Name</i>	Milbank
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	437

Submission/Event: 532

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

I am writing to support continuing with sufficient funding for the Cambridge Town Hall. StarJam runs a weekly dance workshop for youth with disability in the Cambridge Town Hall. The Town Hall has worked very well for our high needs group. The venue is professionally maintained and adequately staffed, both of which has been very helpful to us. I am concerned that cutting funding will impact on the high level of service being offered.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Troy

Last Name

Gaudencio

Organisation

StarJam Charitable Trust

Id

436

Submission/Event: 531

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Given that the property market has a history of boom/bust cycles and many country's around the world (including NZ) are in recession, wherever possible, I support the delay of planned growth cell development. This will also allow Council to plan for transport corridors before houses are built on greenfield sites. | | I request that additional funding is provided for technical work (e.g. health and environmental impacts) to determine future transport options including potential bridge locations. I further request that additional transport modelling is completed before a business case is submitted to Waka Kotahi NZTA given it was so flawed when previously undertaken. | | I support protection and maintenance of our green spaces. This support is subject to clarification on the funding of parks and reserve planned renewals (pg 13).

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

It is a desperate shame to demolish a Cambridge heritage site, as it is to destroy Cambridge Green Belt. Cambridge Water Tower is one of two brick towers remaining in NZ. The other is in Invercargill. It would be great for Council to consider other options and talk to Invercargill Council and Heritage NZ about seismic strengthening funding options before demolition.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Carl
<i>Last Name</i>	Wills
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	435

Submission/Event: 530

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

I'm a volunteer for predator free Cambridge and feel strongly that funding to protect our native species needs to be a priority. Financial support for traps, non toxic bait and staffing is urgently needed so we, the volunteers, can continue to do our great mahi to eliminate rats, possums and other pests. The programme not only supports native species, but also provides opportunities for education and connection through our volunteer roles.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Kelly

Last Name

Atherton

Organisation

Id

434

Submission/Event: 529

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

No; not entirely. I think there are things you should give more consideration to. |The I site is central to the promotion of Te Awamutu, (and I assume Cambridge as well). It should be funded as before. |The promotion of Te Awamutu as Rose Town was agreed on last year but as yet I have seen nothing of this happening around the town. | The Burchell Pavilion should be upgraded to how it was when built. |Better use should be made of the large number of volunteer groups available to help with maintenance of Parks, Gardens & Promotion of the Heritage Trail. |Until now I have never objected to paying my share of Rates. But in the last 2 years have been very disappointed to find they are not being spent on the things that are needed and too often on pie in the sky ideas dreamed up by new council staff. Perhaps it is time with the installation of a new Chief Executive, to do a time and motion study on some of those employees. Please complete the projects in the War Memorial Park allocated for the first 3 years of the current LTP. And do nothing more until further consultation has taken place.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

As the Tower is a Heritage site it should be retained. I am very disappointed to hear it has not been maintained over the years.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Shirley M.

Last Name

Stirling MSTJ

Organisation

N/A

Id

433

Submission/Event: 528

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
 Council is best placed to decide if the balance is right. You have access to information and insights that we don't have. | Any view we have on "the right balance" will be shaped by whether our personal preferences and favourite projects have been included (or not). | I assume (and expect) council to make provision for work that is essential for our existing infrastructure to operate well. If that's been done, great. But if not, have we been made aware of that? | A lot of investment has gone into supporting future growth and as you've said, now we need to wait for that growth to happen. What is council's role in ensuring the growth occurs and in a timely manner? What's actively being done to encourage timely growth? Are growth assumptions being revisited regularly? | Please ensure that existing facilities are maintained well. I'm a frequent user of walking tracks and it's frustrating to see either a lack of maintenance or maintenance that's not done well. | It was disappointing to see the iSite funding cut and council give itself more money to promote events. I agree that funding models for local organisations such as this need to be looked at and opportunities to be more sustainable identified and implemented. It would have been great to hear of discussions being had and options being explored with council's help. | The cutting of community grants is also disappointing. While reducing the \$\$\$s might contribute to reducing the rates increase, it creates other problems because the organisations struggle. | Cutting \$\$\$s isn't the only option. What about looking at the criteria and ensuring it's supportive of creating positively impactful outcomes or working with groups to identify needs and possible solutions (eg there might be some common skill gaps / upskilling opportunities that council could fund training workshops for). | Thank you for the work you do.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
 a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 I think it's important that the history of the tower be preserved and the commemorative structure and signage are a good idea.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 No

I have attached additional information
 -

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Tracey
<i>Last Name</i>	Hancock
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	432

Submission/Event: 527

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No, some major projects need to be scaled back to reduce the rate rise.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
Yes

I have attached additional information
https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/167

Stakeholder

First Name

Fran

Last Name

Jones

Organisation

Te Awamutu Business Chamber

Id

332

Destination Te Awamutu Submission on the Draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan

Destination Te Awamutu
1 Gorst Avenue
Te Awamutu 3800

Waipā District Council
Private Bag 2402
Te Awamutu 3840

26 April 2023

To the Mayor and Councillors

Enhanced Annual Plan – Submission

Destination Te Awamutu wishes to present their submission verbally.

Destination Te Awamutu

Visitor centers are still relevant in today’s town landscape for visitors, events and as a focus for locals wanting to connect, create and enjoy activity in their own town. Visitor spend has recovered to near pre-covid levels and the retailers and the wider business community are appreciating the spend this sector brings on top of local custom.

Hamilton Waikato Tourism reported that Visitor spend in Waipā (for the year-end period of October 2023), totaled \$216m with domestic visitors contributing \$172m (80%) to Waipā economy, and international visitors contributing \$44m. (20%) (F+CC 27 March 2024). Of note is that domestic tourism is on the increase.

Top three visitor spending in Waipā was from Auckland, Waikato, then Bay of Plenty.

Spend by product is shown in the graph (HWT)

Spend by Product



Destination Te Awamutu has been working for the benefit of Te Awamutu for 44 years. It’s trustees who are mainly business owners in the tourism industry, volunteer their time for the benefit of the community. Many businesses and locals benefit from visitors to Te Awamutu and have expressed support for Destination Te Awamutu. Event managers appreciate a helping hand in the planning and delivery of their events.

The Te Awamutu Community Public Relations Organisation (TACPRO) was incorporated 44 years ago in 1980 with the purpose to promote Te Awamutu and districts, to attract visitors, new residents, and new

business. Now operating as Destination Te Awamutu, the board manages the iSite as part of the national chain of iSites under the brand managed by Tourism New Zealand.

Destination Te Awamutu is the obvious place to assist and promote ideas or events which, in the opinion of the Committee are for the benefit of Te Awamutu and the district.

The iSite supports and advertises local events and provides opportunities for community collaboration which adds to the vibrancy of the town. With the completion of the Waikato expressway Te Awamutu is more visited as our drive markets travel through town to the caves, the mountains and Taranaki. Visiting friends and family is also a growth driver for our district.

Keeping a central focus in town supports activation and halts the global trend of retail moving out of the urban heart. "Town centers need things in their middle to anchor them and then other things can come around them", says Nigel McKenna of Templeton Group who have just committed to a main street high rise hotel in Hamilton.

Destination Te Awamutu operate the iSite and recently updated the Te Awamutu web site. They work on strategies to grow visitor numbers to ensure they have a great experience.

Recent decision by council to cease all funding of this community organization will mean closure of iSite (job loss for three staff) and means the work on strategy to grow visitor numbers and keep the Te Awamutu website up to date is unable to continue.

Community feedback is clear they want a Visitor Information Centre and in meeting the community's expectations, Destination Te Awamutu will endeavour to keep operating. This is only possible by using volunteers in the center with a manager who understands the Tourist business and can train and organize volunteers.

The Service Delivery committee in a public excluded meeting, decided to pull the council's annual funding from July 1. The decision was not unanimous. Destination Cambridge registered 23,634 visitors a year and Destination Te Awamutu 11,355 people through the door. Forty per cent of visitors to the Cambridge iSite are visitors are locals, while in Te Awamutu 70 per cent are locals.

Late last year a Bellweather automatic counting system was installed which demonstrates that visitor counting has been underestimated. Over the last five months the monthly average works out at 1385 or approximately 16,000 per year.

(Bellweather numbers Nov 23 – 1404, Dec 23 – 1227, Jan 24 – 1411, Feb 24 – 1317, Mar 24 – 1575)

By comparison the Te Awamutu Museum has a five-year average monthly visitation of 350 people per month or an average of 4,200 per year, excluding programmes.

The Te Awamutu iSite is more than a Visitor Information center and provides local services including travel planning and excursions, local advertising, maps, physical Fieldays and event tickets for those not using online options, local and intercity bus tickets, Fieldays direct bus tickets as well as advertising local events, selling rodent traps for Predator Free Te Awamutu and providing information on local events and the rose gardens. A regularly published local map and visitor guide provides advice and guidance to visitors. Destination Te Awamutu has launched a new website www.teawamutu.nz with fresh and relevant content for those wanting to know about Te Awamutu and district. It covers; Things to do, Eat Drink Shop, Accommodation, What's On, Visitor Essentials, Guides and Updates. The website will be maintained and updated to kept current and relevant, and this has an ongoing cost of \$10,000 per annum.

The decision Council made to stop the funding came as a shock to the organization. Destination Te Awamutu was not given the chance to provide Councillor's with information nor able to offer an alternative funding option. This submission process has occurred five months after the decision was made, so there has been no real opportunity to present a case as quick decisions had to be made to ensure our town's visitor site remains open in Te Awamutu past 30 June 2024.

Destination Te Awamutu knows that full grant funding is no longer desired by council but would appreciate ongoing funding and the opportunity to restructure the operation with volunteers under a new part time manager. The sudden axing of funding, just prior to Christmas and without consultation provided no opportunity for Destination Te Awamutu to discuss or respond as an organisation.

The retention of funding for HWT, albeit reduced, suggests that council still desires that Waipā participates in the visitor sector, which is growing strongly with international visitor activity almost back to pre-Covid levels.

To maintain operations with volunteers will take time and with the existing income stream the center will lose \$60,000 within a year and be forced to close. This does not include resource to keep the web site up to date and relevant which is estimated at \$10,000 pa.

We request \$70,000 for the 2024/25 to give us the time to recruit and train volunteers and for the Manager to find ways to increase other income streams.

The \$70,000 will cover the projected loss next year, plus \$10k to cover keeping web site current and accurate.

The part time Managers time will be 100% spent on trying to organise volunteers and improving income streams.

As a means of reducing cost and increasing the viability of Destination Te Awamutu, we propose to investigate the possibility of the iSite and Chamber co-locating. This would provide a joined up community operation and improve the viability, collaboration and reach of both organisations.

This would provide the Chamber with space for administration and to run business training (by Soda and others) and hold Chamber monthly events using catered in food. Chamber is open to this.

Going forward it will be difficult to secure volunteers to cover the same operating hours, but a new manager and new Chair with the support of the board are focused on producing new visitor collateral, maintaining the website and social media, and upgrading the presentation of the iSite and its connection with the community.

With the opening of Te Ara Wai somewhat delayed and potentially uncertain, it is important to meanwhile retain a public facing organization to support the visitor activity in Te Awamutu and to maintain a presence at the entry to the town. Clearly time has run out on the opportunity to incorporate the visitor center within Te Ara Wai.

With earthquake strengthening and reinstatement of the Roche Street offices and the museum shift, it seems likely that there will be no further council development in the Market Street / Selwyn Park area. Loss of the iSite in this location will have a detrimental effect on the neighbourhood safety and security.

Shane Walsh
Chair, Destination Te Awamutu

APPENDIX The Destination Te Awamutu Board operates on the following strategy.

Purpose: To attract visitors to Te Awamutu and ensure they have a good experience

Facilitate Events

- Continue to organize the Craft Fair
- Facilitate a full calendar of events for Te Awamutu and surrounding areas.
- Facilitate a weekly Saturday morning Farmers market.

Create a great Te Awamutu Visitors Experience

- Reestablish a Heritage Trail
- Ensure Information Centre positively reflects the Te Awamutu brand.
 - Incorporate local Māori cultural ambience.
- Rejuvenate Rose gardens and Te Awamutu Rose Town credentials.

Support Te Awamutu Tourist Businesses

- Develop a website that attracts visitors and promotes local Te Awamutu businesses.
- Send out monthly newsletter to attract visitors.
- Develop social media strategy to attract visitors.

Develop new Tourist Products

- Assist and encourage local businesses to develop new tourist experiences.
 - Emphasis on Maori culture, local history, food, and ecological businesses
- Ensure Hamilton and Waikato Tourism support and actively promotes Te Awamutu tourism.

Submission/Event: 526

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Balance is always going to be hard. Speaking on behalf of Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust, we need the support of Hamilton Waikato Tourism and local i-sites in order to lift visitor numbers. Both these organisations bring customers to us and we are concerned that reductions in funding will mean less customers to the maunga.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/166

Stakeholder

First Name

Helen

Last Name

Hughes

Organisation

Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari

Id

431



26 April 2024

To whom it may concern

Re: Draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan Feedback

I write to provide a submission in regard to the funding envelope that is proposed for Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari as part of the operational budget within Waipa District Council.

Having recently joined as the leader of the organisation, it is clear that the current operating model for the Trust is under significant pressure. As you are aware, we currently rely heavily on funding partners and donations to cover the costs of operations at the sanctuary. Whilst we aspire to change this model over the coming years, and deliver a self-sufficient funding model, we are not in a place where this is currently possible.

Over the last 12 months we have had several key funders withdraw or significantly reduce our funding. We are seeing a decline in donations as the edges of recession has hit. This has impacted budgets and resources are currently very stretched. Arrival of kākāpō has also increased the work volume significantly and the cost of operations is increasing at, what feels like, a staggering rate.

Looking over the last ten years it is notable that there has been no inflation-based increase to the funding that we have received. My understanding is that inflation may have been offered verbally, and that it was included in early contract(s) but has not been included or paid since 2013. Had inflation been added to the funding amount since 2013, according to the RBNZ inflation calculator the equivalent amount in today's money would represent \$392,589.

Below is a summary of funding since 2013.

FY	Monthly Amount	Annual amount	Amount excl GST
FY2023-24	\$ 29,229.18	\$ 350,750.16	\$ 305,000.14
FY2022-23	\$ 29,229.17	\$ 350,750.04	\$ 305,000.03
FY2021-22	\$29,229.17	\$ 350,750.04	\$ 305,000.03
FY2020-21	\$ 29,588.20	\$ 355,058.40	\$ 308,746.43
FY2019-20	\$ 29,588.20	\$ 355,058.40	\$ 308,746.43
FY2018-19	\$ 29,588.20	\$ 355,058.40	\$ 308,746.43
FY2017-18	\$ 28,951.25	\$ 347,415.00	\$ 302,100.00
FY2016-17	\$ 28,750.00	\$ 345,000.00	\$ 300,000.00
FY2015-16	\$ 28,750.00	\$ 345,000.00	\$ 300,000.00
FY2014-15	\$ 28,750.00	\$ 345,000.00	\$ 300,000.00
FY2013-14	\$ 28,750.00	\$ 345,000.00	\$ 300,000.00

Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari | Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust
PO Box 476 | Cambridge 3450 99 Tari Rd, RD1, Pukeatua 3880 | P +64 7 870 5180
info@sanctuarymountain.co.nz | www.sanctuarymountain.co.nz



I am keenly aware of the funding challenges that you, as council, face. I also acknowledge a strong desire to not be tone deaf when other organisations are having their budgets cut significantly. That being said, I would like to request that an inflation-based increase be provided for this coming fiscal year and subsequent years. This would result in moving the base amount of \$305,000 (which has been in place since Q3 2021), to \$349,399, as per the RBNZ calculation, below.

General (CPI) that cost **\$305,000.00** in **2021 Q3** would cost...

\$349,398.73

in **2024 Q1**

It currently costs us approximately \$5000 per day to keep the sanctuary operating. The funding that Waipa District Council provides covers 16.7% of the year, or 61 days. This additional funding would provide us with an additional 9 days and cover 19.1% of the year.

I am more than happy to discuss further if required.

Thank you for taking the time to review our submission and we hope for a favourable outcome.

Kind regards

Helen Hughes
General Manager
Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust

Submission/Event: 525

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

I support the delay of development of some planned growth cells specifically, if this allows Council to plan for transport corridors before houses are built on greenfield sites. || I request that additional funding is provided for technical work (e.g health and environmental impacts) to determine future transport options including potential bridge locations. I further request that additional transport modelling is complete before a business case is submitted to Waka Kotahi NZTA*. || I support protection and maintenance of our green spaces. This support is subject to clarification on the funding of parks and reserve planned renewals (pg 13). || *as per presentation to Cambridge Community Board by Carey Church, 17 April 2024

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

I do not have sufficient information to provide feedback on the tower. I am concerned that the demolition option underestimates the potential costs of consenting and disposal. Cambridge Water Tower is one of two brick towers remaining in NZ. The other is in Invercargill. I suggest Council talk to Invercargill Council and Heritage NZ about seismic strengthening funding options before demolition.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Lorraine
<i>Last Name</i>	Marsh
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	430

Submission/Event: 524

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
 Yes I think the balance is about right.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
 b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 The question of what to do with the water tower is being presented as a binary choice – demolish or restore – but I don’t think those are the only options. | I acknowledge the fact that there are concerns about the safety of the tower, but find it frustrating that council feel the need to make an immediate decision with long-reaching impacts, in such a difficult economic time, having had so many years to explore options and find more cost-effective solutions. | I have the following suggestions for alternative options: | 1. Engage an engineer with a speciality in heritage restoration and seismic strengthening experience for a second opinion or peer review of the proposed options. I note that at least 3 different engineers have been involved already over the last dozen years or so, however none of these are heritage specialists. | 2. Consider a discussion with Resthaven regarding their proposed future developments. It is my understanding that Resthaven intend to build a new 3 or 4 storey wing quite close to the water tower. If there was a willingness from Resthaven to explore the option, perhaps this building could be used to anchor and strengthen the tower. | Advice would be required from a specialist heritage engineer on whether this is a viable idea, and this would also require additional design work, and adjusting the proposed location of the new building, but potentially could reduce the cost of strengthening the water-tower. | If the decision is made to demolish the tower, I have further suggestions: | 1. Don’t waste more time and money with a commemorative structure – just a simple sign with a photo and some history will be more than adequate. | 2. That said, if the bricks can be preserved and reused – perhaps for pathways in the area – I would be supportive of that initiative.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 Yes

I have attached additional information
 -

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Phil
<i>Last Name</i>	Mackay
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	429

Submission/Event: 523

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
1. The Community Boards play an essential role in representing residents, I do not believe their funding should be cut and would instead recommend further funds are taken from other listed activities such as: the Waipa Mountain Bike club, Pirongia Ward committee grant fund, the District Promotion fund, and the Heritage Fund, etc. In particular, the Waipa Mountain Bike club funding should be stopped and the funds used for the Community Boards - the mountain bike club benefits only a few while the Community Boards benefits all residents and rate payers. | 2. In terms of further reducing costs has the council reviewed the roles of all council staff and considered if any redundancies are warranted, particularly given the contraction of many council projects noted in the this enhanced annual plan which presumably has impacted workloads. | 3. There is no specific mention of funding for the Cambridge Connections program. Given that the council has generated much publicity recently about this program and particularly the "third bridge" component, and stated that the process will be started from the beginning again there needs to be funding allocated.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Given the cost to restore the water tower alternatives should be considered. In addition to considering demolition of the water tower has the council considered trying to sell, or transfer ownership, of the tower?

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Lorna
<i>Last Name</i>	Mitchell
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	428

Submission/Event: 522

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
 The Tourism Export Council of New Zealand acknowledges the challenging economic times that Council is facing with their budgets and future planning. Our submission is in support of Hamilton Waikato Tourism acting as the Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO) retaining its existing funding level with Waipa District Council. Please see attached written submission. We wish Council all the best with its deliberations. Nga mihi nui Lynda Keene (CEO)

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 No comment on this matter.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 No

I have attached additional information
https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/164

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Lynda
<i>Last Name</i>	Keene
<i>Organisation</i>	Tourism Export Council NZ
<i>Id</i>	427

26 April 2024



Mayor O'Regan and Councillors

Waipā District Council

Dear Mayor O'Regan and Councillors

Draft Long Term Plan 2024-2034: Submission from Tourism Export Council of New Zealand

On behalf of the Tourism Export Council of New Zealand (TECNZ) we are writing in support of Hamilton Waikato Tourism (HWT) for ongoing funding in the event any proposed funding cuts in the draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan are being considered for Hamilton Waikato Tourism.

The Tourism Export Council of New Zealand is the private sector **national tourism organisation** that influences visitor flows in the **international tourism** sector. Our primary members, Inbound Tour Operators (ITOs) act as the commercial conduit with tourism businesses in your community with offshore markets (like Fonterra does). ITOs package up New Zealand tourism suppliers into an itinerary and sell offshore to tour wholesalers and travel agents to make it easier for prospective visitors to New Zealand to 'buy' a New Zealand holiday.

ITOs work very closely with regional tourism organisations like Hamilton Waikato Tourism. ITOs rely on RTOs to keep them updated with new visitor experiences, products and plans so when ITOs go to sell the region offshore they are fully up to date with what businesses can be included from the Waipā District.

Waipā's visitor products and experiences are promoted through the great work the RTO does and also by local visitor experiences and sporting event venues. When you think of all the visitors your district sees (particularly international visitors), every business (restaurant, eateries, motels, B&Bs, supermarkets, cafes, petrol stations) has to ask themselves, how does a visitor know to come to our town/s or walk through my front door? Does a café or motel owner go offshore to market their business (café) to international visitors? In most cases, the answer is no.

Visitors find their way to the front door of accommodation providers, cafes, and retail outlets because of the following parties promoting and marketing your district.

- Hamilton Waikato Tourism (RTO) has been investing and promoting the district offshore and domestically
- ITOs have been investing, promoting and packaging up your visitor products and experiences
- Some Waipā businesses may invest in marketing to promote the district

The collective investment by these parties has resulted in the Waipā district having a positive profile in many countries resulting in travel agents putting Waipā on their New Zealand itineraries.

Without having a fully resourced RTO capability in the future who can objectively continue to promote all the **paid** and **free** experiences visitors can do (walks, reserves, cycling, visiting heritage sites, gardens etc.), there is potential for less international visitors to put Waipā on their NZ itineraries.

Tourism operates 'in advance' of when visitors arrive and spend money in the district often marketing two-three years in advance.

HWT is a fully functioning RTO that undertakes marketing activity and destination management in the following areas:

- International marketing (holiday visitors)
- Domestic marketing (leisure)
- Event marketing (events that attract visitors from outside the region)
- Conference and incentive marketing
- The RTO works with airports, transport providers, event managers, Iwi and government agencies like Department of Conservation, NZ Transport Authority, NZ Cycle Trust that help influence improved services and infrastructure for ratepayers as well as for visitors.

If funding is reduced, some marketing activity and engagement with destination management planning will be affected.

- Reduced funding = reduced marketing activity
- Working with travel trade (offshore travel agents and tour wholesalers) takes years to establish reputation. Once the relationship the RTO has with offshore travel trade has been severed (if the RTO no longer is able to do in-market training with agents) it can take years to rebuild a new relationship.
- A dilution of the RTOs message could see less visitors in the future. The RTO is the primary voice in attracting visitors in a competitive market to your local area.
- If there are less visitors there is the potential for job losses within the community

Hamilton Waikato Tourism is highly valued within the New Zealand tourism industry and with offshore trade. Through its exceptional leadership by Nicola Greenwell and the great work that the team does offshore with training agents, and onshore with Inbound Tour Operators, they have built strong, credible, and valued relationships with industry. The HWT team are great ambassadors for your district and region, and they work with pride in representing and promoting Council's visitor services, products, venues and experiences.

We (TECNZ) are mindful that Councils have enormous pressure on budgets as you face many planned and unplanned expenses and costs in order to serve your community well. It is a challenging time economically and that affects some of the services you provide ratepayers.

We hope in the event with your budgeting you can retain the same level of funding for Hamilton Waikato Tourism. We know you will continue to be served well by the HWT team in the future.

We wish Council all the best with its deliberations and future planning.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Ngā mihi nui



Lynda Keene

Chief Executive Officer

TOURISM EXPORT COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND PO BOX 19258, WELLINGTON 6141, NEW ZEALAND
M: 027 6644 836 E: lynda@tourismexportcouncil.org.nz W: www.tourismexportcouncil.org.nz

Submission/Event: 521

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
 As part of a PTA Cambridge East Primary School fundraiser in 2023, we hired the Town Hall for our Op Shop Ball event. The event was a sell-out with 180 people attending, including the wider Waipa community. We had a fantastic experience dealing with Simon who expertly guided us through the process and supported us on the night. While the aesthetics of this Historic venue lent itself to the nature of our 'Opshop Ball' the facilities added extra challenges in running the event. These included; applying for a liquor licence, hiring all glassware, catering, support staff for the bar and tables. The Town Hall is an iconic building, nestled in the heart of Cambridge allowing it to be a central location to hold community events. The appetite to attend a night out in Cambridge such as a Ball is evident. Therefore I think it's vital to support The Cambridge Town Hall to continue to progress to a professional venue that is adequately staffed with skilled expertise. I understand WDC's goal is to 'mitigate the risk of our district going backwards'. I believe that leaving the Town Hall as it stands, is allowing it to remain in the past and risking it going backwards. With Simon Brew leading the vision, the Town Hall has every chance to become a vibrant and desirable venue for a wide range of events. |Thank you for the opportunity to submit my thoughts.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
 a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 If Option One is chosen it would be great to see the materials from this iconic building repurposed.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 No

I have attached additional information
 -

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Susan
<i>Last Name</i>	Thomas
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	426

Submission/Event: 520

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/163

Stakeholder

First Name

Kirsty

Last Name

Johnson

Organisation

Cambridge Town Hall Community Trust

Id

425

WHARE
TAPERE OO
TE OKO HOROI



Submission to the 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan for Waipā District Council

To: Waipā District Council

Submitter: Cambridge Town Hall Community Trust
79, Queen Street, Cambridge
Waipa

Submission Summary: The Cambridge Town Hall Community Trust, through this submission, requests the provision of a \$500,000 operational grant for the 2024/25 financial year.

Waipā District Council tasks the Cambridge Town Hall Community Trust to actively promote, manage and preserve the Cambridge Town Hall. To do this, the Council provides an annual operations grant to the Trust (as allowed for in the Lease and Service Agreement between the two parties).

Recent discussions have uncovered a significant shortfall in the proposed operations grant to that requested for 2024/25. This shortfall threatens to undermine the trust's capability to continue operating and maintaining the hall, and to fulfil the trust's commitments and deliverables to the community and Council.

Effectively, the grant for 2024/25 shortfall is \$100,000 less than the \$500,000 required for the Trust to:

- invest in necessary maintenance for the hall
- ensure the hall is compliant to legislative requirements
- enable community use of the Cambridge Town Hall (including delivering a wide range of programmes and services)
- attract and retain qualified staff to operate the hall
- meet the Mission and Vision for the Cambridge Town Hall

The uncertainty in operational funding poses a significant risk to the Trust's business and operating model, which is incorporated in the Asset Management Plan, 10-year Strategic Plan and subsequent Statements of Intent. These are significant bodies of work for the Trust and if the operational grant is not increased, it will severely compromise the Trust's strategic initiatives and ability to activate the Cambridge Town Hall.

The Draft Enhanced Annual Plan proposes an operations grant of \$400,000 for the Trust for 2024/25. This is a significant decrease from the grant allocated in 2023/24 which was \$400,000, plus a carry-over of \$100,000 from the 2022/23 year when the Trust was in its infancy.

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www.cambridgetownhall.co.nz
info@cambridgetownhall.co.nz

WHARE TAPERE OO TE OKO HOROI



The Trust presented its 10-year strategic plan, supported by the Activity Management Plan (AMP) to Council in August 2023. Within that plan, the budget for the operational grant was outlined at \$536,157.

The Trust works closely with Council staff and following feedback, the budget for 2024/25 was reduced to \$502,999 in the 2024/25 Statement of Intent which will be formally presented to Council in May 2024, but has been a topic of discussion with Council staff since late 2023.

Beyond financial support, the operations grant also represents Council's commitment to upholding its responsibilities for the community's cultural and social wellbeings by preserving local history and fostering a vibrant hub of community activity and symbol of civic pride. The success of Council's and the Trust's commitment to activating the Town Hall within the District has been well-demonstrated in the last sixteen months, supported by developing relationships with Mana Whenua, and various hapori.

Partnership between the Trust and Council is vital for the hall's sustainable future within the community, and each has a vital role in ensuring the hall's continued purpose, relevance, and vitality. To fulfil the trust's responsibility and mission to activate and breathe new life into the hall, the trust requires Council's ongoing active support and collaboration to address the hall's operational needs, and to navigate the challenges presented by past underinvestment in satisfactorily maintaining the building. Only by leveraging our collective expertise, resources and vision can the hall's historical neglect be overcome, and its sustained vitality as a community activator and asset ensured.

The grant does not fully cover the hall's operational costs, and the content of this submission does not in any way diminish the Trust's responsibility and commitment to raise significant funds for both operational and capital improvements, as outlined in the Trust's 10-year Strategic Plan.

In conclusion, the operations grant is a cornerstone of the partnership between Cambridge Town Hall Community Trust and Waipā District Council. It represents the shared commitment to preserving local heritage, fostering community engagement, and ensuring the hall's continued relevance for generations to come. Without a sufficient and appropriate grant, the Cambridge Town Hall Community Trust's responsibility and ability to serve the community and breathe new life into the hall are severely compromised.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit to the Enhanced Annual Plan 2023/24.

On behalf of the Cambridge Town Hall Community Trust:

Kirsty Johnson
Chair
Cambridge Town Hall Community Trust

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info@cambridgetownhall.co.nz

Submission/Event: 519

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

This submission is in addition to my previous submission. This is mainly about the total withdrawal of funding for the two isites. This balance is not right or reasonable.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

In the Draft Enhanced Annual Plan presentation to Te Awamutu (TA) Business Chamber members and guests on Friday 19 April, there were, in my opinion, two misconceptions voiced by the Deputy Mayor. The first was a statement to the effect that TA isite has known for a long time that WDC funding of the TA isite was to cease. Although we had regular meetings with the WDC Customer and Community Services Group Manager there was no stated or recorded advice that the WDC support for the two isites was likely to be entirely stopped. The TA isite would not have recently invested \$10,000 in upgrading the website if there was even a hint that the entire WDC funding would be stopped at 30 June 2024. The first the TA isite had a hint of this was in a phonecall from the Customer and Community Services Group Manager (Sally Sheedy) to the isite manager in December. A lengthy delay ensued before this was followed up with an email. Having stood down from the committee I am not clear if the TA governance committee was advised in writing. However what is clear is that the isite management and governance committee understood there would be an opportunity to make submissions to the mayor and councillors before the funding proposal was confirmed. ||The Draft Enhanced Annual Plan suggests the WDC Councillors have approved the halt to funding the TA isite without the isite management and governance committee being given the courtesy of making a timely submission to mayor and councillors before this action was taken. ||The Deputy Mayor also made a statement to the effect that TA isite competes with local business for retail sales. I've been involved with the TA isite for about 20 years and we have always only stocked products that no other retailer in TA stocks. My memory is that on one or perhaps two occasions when a local retailer decided to stock a product the isite had previously stocked, the isite stopped carrying that product / range. ||The comment regarding Hamilton isite closing, I found misleading. Yes the isite has closed but when we consider the whole picture we find that the Hamilton isite Team are HCC employees and the isite continues to have a website (Visit Hamilton), phone and email presence with members of the isite Team continuing to offer visitor information, referrals, and assistance through their visitor centre operations at the Waikato Museum, Hamilton Zoo and Hamilton Gardens. ||The West side of Waipa and in particular TA has for some years been poorly supported by Hamilton Waikato Tourism (HWT). The isite governance committee's concern about this issue is on record. Given this situation and the above comments I find it particularly disappointing that HWT have maintained funding at 80% while according to the Draft Enhanced Annual Plan, TA isite will lose all of the WDC support. What is the basis for this proposal? ||Yes, as the Deputy Mayor noted she employed Beate Schiller as the isite manager in September 2017. At that time Marcus was chair and Liz secretary of TA Community Public Relations Organisation; the governance committee of the TA isite. It is relevant to note, and on record, that about September 2017 the TA isite chair and secretary expressed full confidence that the isite would become part of WDC in December 2017. That didn't happen; nor did the proposal to house the museum and isite in the Stuart Law / Pitcon building; nor, apparently, did the proposal to operate the isite in association with the museum in the ex-Bunnings building. ||As we have paused the museum in the ex-Bunnings building so we should pause the isite at the current funding level until we are clear about the role of the isite in relation to the Bunnings Building museum. ||Cambridge water tower. |As noted previously; I am not a Cambridge resident however the cost to all ratepayers is too much to attempt restoration. I prefer we pause this activity and review as part of the LTP.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Tom
<i>Last Name</i>	Davies
<i>Organisation</i>	ratepayer
<i>Id</i>	206

Submission/Event: 518

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No: you are still spending money on unwanted expensive vanity projects such as Kihikihi cycle path and similar ruinations in Cambridge. Did you get a local kindergarten to come up with these abominations?|Just maintain roads, collect rubbish, manage sewerage, provide drinking water, clear gutters etc. No more fancy stuff - get back to basics only.|Oh, and pay teh new CEO half of what the current one is getting and cut staff numbers back to the minimum needed to give teh basic services.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Neither of the above: just leave it alone until such time as you get the books balanced and the debts paid off. Either that or just sell it off. || I notice that you want feedback but have limited what we can comment on.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Lynette
<i>Last Name</i>	Boxell
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	424

Submission/Event: 517

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Have grown up with this heritage building and it is iconic to Cambridge. Please do not remove this , the town is looking much different these days and is not our beautiful small town anymore.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Sara

Last Name

Daniel

Organisation

Id

423

Submission/Event: 516

Full Response

- 1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

- 2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

- Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

- I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
-

- I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Lori
<i>Last Name</i>	Neels
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	422

Submission/Event: 515

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

I appreciate how hard these decisions are to make and agree with your current proposals, although would urge you to recognize how important the museum, library and town hall are to the cultural vitality of a growing town like ours. Together we make Cambridge a better place to live and to visit by contributing to the development of a positive community identity, advancing community well-being, and contributing to a sustainable local economy.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

I am concerned that in considering option 1 to demolish the water tower, the Council are being seen to disregard the national and local heritage status of this building and setting a worrying precedent for the future of other historic buildings in our area.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Elizabeth

Last Name

Harvey

Organisation

Cambridge Museum

Id

421

Submission/Event: 514

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
please see attached file for Orchestras Central Trust's submission regarding: | 1. The Cambridge Town Hall | 2. Waipā District Council no longer providing a Community Events Fund

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/162

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Catherine
<i>Last Name</i>	Gibson
<i>Organisation</i>	Orchestras Central Trust
<i>Id</i>	420



Submission to the 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan for Waipā District Council

To: Waipā District Council

Submitter: Orchestras Central Trust
Based at the Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts
University of Waikato, Knighton Road, Hamilton

This submission is on behalf of Orchestras Central Trust regarding:

1. The Cambridge Town Hall
2. Waipā District Council no longer providing a Community Events Fund

1. The Cambridge Town Hall

The Cambridge Town Hall run by Cambridge Town Hall Trust has been tasked by the Waipā District Council to activate and enhance this iconic heritage facility. As part of the Lease and Service Agreement, the Trust currently receives a grant. However, we understand that based on the Draft Enhanced Annual Plan the Trust face a \$100,000 shortfall for 2024/25. The \$500,000 grant required would allow the Trust to continue to manage and maintain the hall, so it remains open, compliant and available for community use, with the community discount rate preserved. The \$100,000 shortfall puts at risk, the continued activation and the on-going maintenance of the Town Hall, so it remains open, compliant, and available for community use (at the community discount rate).

Orchestras Central Trust, established in 2016, is a not-for-profit arts organisation serving the Waikato region including the Waipā District. Our purpose is to provide orchestral experiences for the community through our four orchestras and development programmes: our community level Trust Waikato Symphony Orchestra and Rusty Player Orchestra, Youth Orchestra Waikato offering pathways for development for aspiring young musicians, and our professional OCT Ensemble that delivers bespoke experiences to meet community needs. By making orchestral experiences accessible we create connection, support wellbeing, and encourage people to hear and experience different voices and experiences. by, with and for the community

With the Cambridge Town Hall available for hire at the community rate, we have presented relevant and compelling concerts as part of the Cambridge Autumn Festival to engage with the local community, celebrate youth, and offer first experiences of orchestral music to tamariki and whānau. Our 2024 performances were sold-out events demonstrating the desire from the local community to come together for shared arts experiences and connectivity - elements that make Cambridge a vibrant and thriving place to live.

Based at the Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts | Gate 1, University of Waikato, Knighton Road, Hamilton

PO Box 25026, Waikato University, Hillcrest, Hamilton 3255 | www.orchestras.org.nz



The Cambridge Town Hall possesses an excellent acoustic for musical performance equalling any hall of that capacity in New Zealand. Beyond the activation and compliance upgrades, the Cambridge Town Hall also needs better technical support (e.g. lighting and sound) and professional staff to operate the equipment. With the required support from the Council the Trust could attract high level arts events to Cambridge, attracting people from outside of the district and benefitting local businesses. The district's population is predicted to increase by 18,000 by 2025, the Council needs to invest in its iconic and heritage asset to ensure that Cambridge remains relevant for those who may choose to live here.

Andrew Buchanan-Smart reviewer of our recent "Vivaldi by Candlelight" performance as part of the Cambridge Autumn Festival said of the Cambridge Town Hall:

"The Cambridge Town Hall provided the ideal acoustic and candlelight setting for this concert. I would like to predicate this by saying that I attended a Vivaldi concert in Venice at the church of Santa Maria della Pietà or della Visitazione which is also known as the 'Church of Vivaldi'. One can imagine a little trepidation here... The trepidation was unwarranted. Lara Hall, as soloist with her outstanding performance and as Director of the OCT Ensemble, gave an outstanding performance in this marvellous venue – Cambridge's jewel in the crown – and ensured that this surpassed the Venetian experience. Performed to a full house, this "Vivaldi by Candlelight" should be a regular in the Cambridge Autumn Festival concert calendar."

The following recent research results shows the value of connecting with the arts has for our communities.

In Waikato, those who report being highly engaged with arts, culture and creativity have 5% higher overall wellbeing as compared to those with little or no engagement. *Huber Social, 'Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in Waikato' (Sydney: Huber Social, 2022), p.22, <https://creativewaikato.co.nz/advocacy/researchandreports>.*

67% of New Zealanders agree it is important that where they live is recognised as a place that supports excellence in the arts - 66% believe that major arts facilities are important to create a vibrant place to live - 61% of New Zealanders agree that "the arts contributes to the resilience and wellbeing of their community. *Creative New Zealand, New Zealand and the Arts: Ko Aotearoa me ōna Toi (2020), <https://creativenz.govt.nz/development-and-resources/new-zealanders-and-the-arts---ko-aotearoame-ona-toi>, p.12 and p.16*

Orchestras Central values our opportunity to present concerts in the Cambridge Town Hall for the Waipā community. Feedback from concerts in the 2024 Cambridge Autumn Festival demonstrates the community feels the same:

"Just wanted to say how amazing last nights concert was. The soloists and orchestra were stunning and such a neat setting. We need more concerts just like that in the Waikato." Emailed feedback from an audience member.



Verbal feedback recorded from audience leaving the Cambridge Town Hall post event.

- *“Please can we have more of this”*
- *“When are you coming back?”*
- *“Please tell whoever makes these decisions to do more of this”*
- *“There’s a real appetite for what you’ve done this weekend.”*
- *“Wonderful, outstanding, inspiring”*

As a Charitable Trust, Orchestras Central relies on being offered the community hire rate in order to be able to present our events. We urge the Council to reconsider the level of funding to the Cambridge Town Hall Trust to enable the community to access and participate in the arts for the betterment of the whole community.

2. Waipā District Council no longer providing a Community Events Fund

Orchestras Central was fortunate to receive a small grant of \$500 towards presentation costs for Youth Orchestra Waikato’s concert “Fire and Romance” in the 2024 Cambridge Autumn Festival. As a Charitable Trust this was a very welcome amount to help support our costs to bring our young musicians to Cambridge to share their love of music with the Cambridge community.

The savings proposed by cutting the Community Events Fund are miniscule compared to the challenges the Waipā District Council faces. Conversely, the grants offered as part of this fund offer a lifeline to community organisations, many of whom use the Cambridge Town Hall, such as Cambridge Autumn Festival. Cambridge is at risk of losing its heart and soul if funding for local community events is lost.

Thank you for your consideration of this submission.

Catherine Gibson

Chief Executive
Orchestras Central Trust

Submission/Event: 513

Full Response

- 1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

- 2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
As a participant in predator control in Cambridge over several years I obviously strongly believe in the value of protecting our habitat and native species. There is a definite need for a coordinating role in delivering effective predator control through volunteer participation. The work of a coordinator with PFC is key to delivering an effective and successful result. It is essential that this supportive coordination is maintained to realise the benefits of predator control in the wider community.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Ewan
<i>Last Name</i>	Hunter
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	419

Submission/Event: 512

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
It is good to see that the Council is "sticking to it knitting" and cutting back to the core functions of providing pipes in the ground, roads etc. |One can but hope that the transport spend doesn't impose yet more unnecessary speed bumps and cycle ways that totally disrupt what is already an increasingly stressed traffic situation around Cambridge. Coming up with solutions that cater for all modes of transport would be a novelty based on the last few years. |Nice to haves such as the proposed museum should only be done when they can be afforded.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Just to contradict myself - NZ is all to ready to demolish whatever history we might have and demolishing the water tower would be yet another example of this. Once these icon's of the past are gone they can never be replaced - and a commemorative structure really isn't the same as the original.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Brian
<i>Last Name</i>	Izzard
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	418

Submission/Event: 511

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Please see attached

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/161

Stakeholder

First Name

Simon

Last Name

Brdanovic

Organisation

Te Awamutu AFC Incorporated

Id

417

TA AFC - submissions on Enhanced Annual Plan 2024/25

Background

The Te Awamutu Association Football (Soccer) Club was established in May 1913 and in 2013 we celebrated our centennial. We are one of the largest providers for junior sport in the Waipa. Our home is at The Stadium in Armstrong Avenue and we also lease the fields at Anchor Park (senior and junior player training/playing area – one full sized field) and Sherwin Park (junior teams playing fields).

The Club made submissions to the last Long Term Plan, outlining the intense pressure on its resources, amongst an increasing number of children, young adults, and seniors playing the game. At that time the club had 17 junior teams, and three senior teams, and was struggling to provide for its members.

The increase in football participation, allied with a strong and forward orientated committee, has meant player numbers have exploded, and are being sustained. For instance, last year there were 30 junior teams – double the number two years earlier – and this year there are 34.

The junior teams three years ago used six fields at Sherwin Park. We are now squeezing in 9 fields, as well as having to enter into an arrangement with TA Intermediate for the use of one of their fields.

The Club now has six senior teams, with the limited field availability proving a major constraint on being able to cater for the demand for more teams.

In addition, there are numerous other programmes provided throughout the year, catering for the very young, through to school going children during the holidays. The popular 5-a-side tournaments are not only for adults in the summer months, but extended to children at other times.

Football now has a 12 month season, and the demand continues to grow for yet more specialised coaching and training programmes. This is a demand from our community, the community which we both serve.

Discussions with Council

It is for this reason that the Club has been in ongoing dialogue with the Mayor and Council staff, trying to establish how the two organisations can together cater for the community's needs. Following the last LTP, the Club were encouraged to consider other options for playing facilities, and so consulted with other groups about space availability. Unfortunately, there has been no success elsewhere.

Last year the Club was advised to make submissions on the forthcoming LTP (now deferred for 12 months) about the possibility of relocating much of its operations to Castleton Park. The Council owned footprint has now been enlarged, and the potential for code sharing facilities exists.

The Club has always been very open to the possibility of sharing facilities, and in the past was a member of Park Road Sports Inc (renamed Castleton Park Inc) along with TA Marist and TA BMX. Unfortunately, at that time it became clear there was no funding forthcoming for the development of playing fields for TA AFC, and so the joint project did not proceed any further.

However, the recent encouragement to make submissions on relocating to Castleton Park was seen as positive by the Club, but the deferral of that process for 12 months has taken significant lustre from that prospect.

This is because the Club needs significant assistance right now, as well as in the long term. The proposal not to contribute to sports fields improvements under the Enhanced Annual Plan will only aggravate the pressure on the Club, and potentially cause significant permanent adverse effects on the Club and its ongoing provision of services.

The Club serves its community, a community which is a vital part of the Waipa, but its ability to do so is limited by the constraints placed on field availability and quality, and support from Council to carry out ongoing maintenance.

Given the Club will have to continue with the ongoing use of current facilities for the short to medium term at least, there are some immediate needs which the Club has to address.

Urgent assistance

Castleton Park – While the LTP has been deferred, the Club is highly supportive of a large area of developed land being made available for sporting and community organisations to use.

Based on its previous experience with Park Road Sports/Castleton Park, the Club notes that the land would require development to be fit for purpose, and a facility which is able to be sustainably used for the long term plan. It is also understood that a scoping assessment will need to be undertaken prior to any development work commencing, and believes it is vital that this be undertaken immediately.

If the scoping study is further delayed, then the newly acquired land, and existing land, simply lays dormant and at risk of being a 'white elephant'.

The results from the study would then also allow potential users to plan their future, as well as Council to assess how development works relate to budget availability and integrate with strategic planning.

Field maintenance – due to the heavy use, the fields are not in great shape. The Club has been fertilising the fields at its own cost, and engaging the services of specialist consultants to try and prolong the life and use of the pitches as best possible.

However, assistance from the Council is desperately sought still, and has been part of ongoing discussions with Council staff for some time. This includes irrigation to the Stadium field, allowing better grass cover, and the ability to play more games on that field.

Field lighting – the Club has at its own cost been funding the acquisition of light poles and lights, as well as their installation, so as to allow more areas to be available for training purposes. Once again, Council contribution to these significant costs would allow more teams to be able to train regularly in what is otherwise very cramped spaces. Overuse can lead to permanent field damage, and the inability to then use those areas for future trainings, and for games.

The Club has hired mobile light towers in the past at a very high cost, simply to allow for games to take place on another night, and therefore spread the load on fields, but the costs were too prohibitive to continue.

The acquisition by Council of, and responsibility for, lights at the Stadium would be of immense assistance, and assist with balancing the huge pressures on Club resources.

Submission/Event: 510

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Overall yes, But the reduction in funds for the community boards seems short-sighted. Any erosion, however small, in the voice of the community, is an erosion of democracy.
| Recently it was at the community board meetings that concerns about the location of the third bridge for Cambridge were first raised by residents. This is an important forum that allows the community to have a voice. I am not sure what the implications of reduced funding for the community board mean, but if this in any way reduces the function of the community board (and I can only imagine it does) it should be reconsidered.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
As mentioned before the reduction in funds for the community boards seems short-sighted.
| Previous communications from the council have discussed additional traffic lights in Cambridge, this appears to be shelved presently, and I think that is a good thing.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Kim
<i>Last Name</i>	Bannon
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	416

Submission/Event: 509

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

If you're planning for the future, you would not be reducing the water and wastewater renewals. Environment should be the highest priority when planning for the future. I'm supportive of rates going up. It's hard on people, yes. They may have a little less luxury this year. But do they want their children to have a future? I support as much funding as possible to go to environmental causes, including managing parks and reserves.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Bexie

Last Name

Towle

Organisation

Taiea te Taiao

Id

415

Submission/Event: 508

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Sorry to say too heavily spending on footpaths - growth in roading fine. I am surprised that reserves contributions are such a small percentage of the revenue to Council? Surely the rates increase when a new subdivision is created the multiple dwellings/titles result in a large increase in rates from the original single titles rating.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Michele
<i>Last Name</i>	Mercer
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	414

Submission/Event: 506

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
We would like to see Council reconsider pausing the investment into sports field improvements originally planned for 2024/25 and have the budget line reinstated. | A more detailed submission is attached.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/158

Stakeholder

First Name

Dave

Last Name

Peters

Organisation

Leamington Rugby Sports Club

Id

412

25-Apr-2024

Waipa District Council
Private Bag 2402
Te Awamutu 3840

By - Online Submission

To Whom it May Concern

Re: Draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to submit, we appreciate the chance to have our say.

1. Club Background**1.1. Overview**

During 2022 LRSC proudly celebrated being part of the Cambridge community for 125 years. Although the club was initially established as a senior rugby club, it has provided senior netball and squash participation offerings for more than 40 years and has more recently increased club activity by adding junior hockey, netball, rugby and touch three years ago, senior women's sevens rugby in 2022 and senior lacrosse at times during the past decade.

The club is domiciled on the Cambridge Green Belt in Carlyle St, Leamington and has a long-term Council Community Lease over a mixed-use sporting precinct of approx. 7.8 ha. The original clubrooms were built in 1963 and have been developed and upgraded over the past 7 decades and now comprise a main club building of some 1,400 sqm over two levels. Our community facilities currently comprise -

- 3 x Rugby Fields (2 with training lights)
- 1 x Cricket Oval (artificial pitch)
- 2 x Netball Courts (1 x Basketball Court)
- 3 x Squash Courts (1 x Glass Back)
- M & F Squash Changing Rooms
- 6 x Team Sport Changing Rooms and Showers
- Rugby Hall with Bar & Commercial Kitchen
- Squash Lounge with Bar & Kitchen
- Large Sealed Carpark

1.2. Purpose

A local multi-sports club offering a range of sport and recreation opportunities to the wider Cambridge community including –

- Senior Rugby
- Senior Netball
- Junior Hockey
- Junior Netball
- Junior Rugby
- Junior Touch
- Squash

1.3. Vision Statement (Draft)

To provide quality opportunities for the local Cambridge community to participate and compete in a range of sporting activities and to foster a supportive family environment that promotes inclusiveness, respect and fun for all in a safe setting.

¹ The Club is currently developing a new Strategic Plan for 2024-28 which when complete will guide growth and development over the next 5 years.

1.4. Strategic Alignment

As part of our current strategic planning, we have been mindful of aligning where appropriate with Waipa District Council Plans as well as the community strategies of national and regional sport sector stakeholders such as Sport NZ, Sport Waikato, NZ Rugby, NZ Netball.

In particular the community outcomes and strategic priorities outlined in the Waipa Long Term Plan 2021-31 are closely aligned –

Waipa Long Term Plan 2021-31

➤ Community Outcomes

- Socially resilient
 - Waipa is a great place to live, work, play and invest.
 - We invest in hauora and support the great work community groups do.
- Economically progressive
 - Our services provide excellent value for money.

➤ External Strategic Priorities

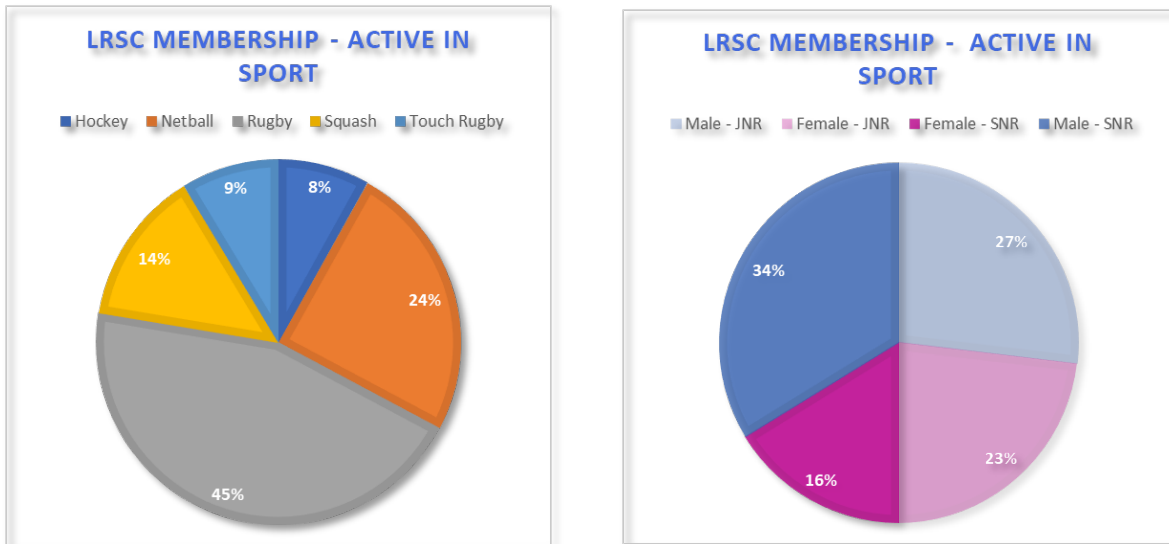
- Creating vibrant communities
 - We celebrate all the things residents love about Waipa and foster connections with people and places.
Develop and upgrade community facilities such as skate parks and sports fields, parks and reserves.
- Effectively planning and providing for growing communities
 - Our population is increasing because Waipa is a highly desirable place to live, work, play and invest. Growth is forecasted to continue, and we need robust planning and infrastructure to create liveable communities.
Large infrastructure projects including roads/transport routes, water supply, wastewater, stormwater and parks to enable residential and industrial development.

1.5. Membership

Activity within the club has significantly increased in recent years following the addition of junior hockey, netball, rugby and touch in 2021, senior women's sevens rugby in 2022 and senior lacrosse at times during the past decade.

In 2023 the club had an active financial membership of 714 (all sporting participants) with a profile outlined in [Figure 1](#).

Figure 1 - Membership Profile



During 2023 the club entered **49 teams** into local and regional sporting competitions across junior and senior age groups comprising more than **600 participants** (excluding squash). This was only possible through the commitment of more than **100 volunteers** who supported as team coaches, managers or organisers behind the scenes.

1.6. Community Connection

Although our focus is mostly on providing for and growing our own membership, the club facilities are available for wider community use and are regularly booked by a wide variety of organisations. These include –

- Cambridge High School Sports
- Cambridge Dance Koru
- Boxing for Parkinsons
- Movement & Stretch Classes
- Corporate Teambuilding
- Waikato Rugby Union
- Cambridge Cricket Club
- Battle of the Bridge
- Various Rowing Clubs
- NZ Motor Caravan Assn

We have strong community support with more than 60 local businesses actively sponsoring the club activities through either cash or in-kind contributions annually.

The club is nothing without its people and our members and supporters are amazing when it comes to supporting each other. During the past 12 months more than \$35,000 has been raised to cover the medical costs and support the whanau of club members in need.

We are also proud of the work we do raising funds for local community organisations. Earlier this year our annual fishing competition raised more than \$8,000 for **The Waterboy** charity and similar sums have been raised for Cambridge Fire Service, Achievement House, Cure Kids and Land SAR in recent years.

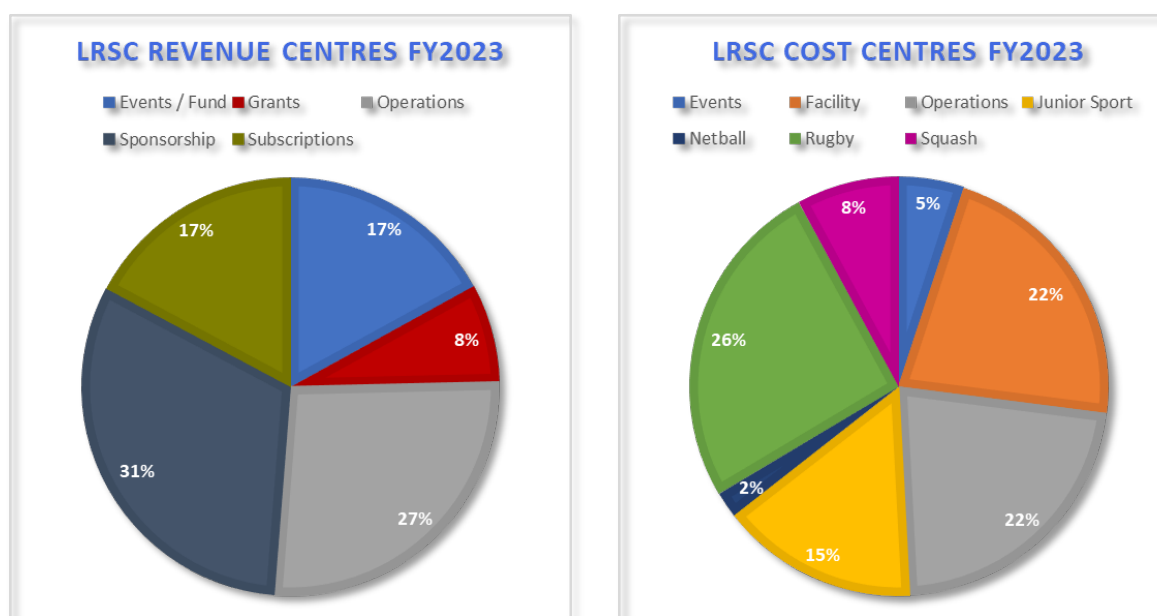
1.7. Financial Snapshot

All revenue generated by the club is invested back into our members either directly through their sporting interests or indirectly through club operations, facilities and events. We have improved financial accountability to ensure that expenses align with our financial objectives of providing a quality club experience, retaining and growing membership and planning for the future.

The change in the local delivery model for Junior Sport in 2021 from Primary Schools to Sports Club has placed significant financial and volunteer pressure on the club from which we are still adjusting, however it has also resulted in a vibrant new feel around the club with half of our active members now of either primary or intermediate age. There is an ever present need to grow revenues which will enable us to provide more opportunities for local tamariki to stay active and connected and ultimately healthier.

During FY2023 gross club revenue was approximately \$307,000 generated from a mix of Club Operations; Events & Fundraising; Grants; Sponsorship and Member Subscriptions. During the same period the annual costs to run the club were approximately \$292,000 and split relatively evenly between costs of delivering our various sports and operating the club and maintaining facilities.

Figure 2 – FY2023 Revenue and Cost Centre Breakdown



2. The Draft Enhanced Annual Plan 2024/25

2.1. What Do We Think?

It is clear there are significant budget challenges, and we can understand why the decision was made to progress with an Enhanced Annual Plan for 2024/25 in place of the normal Long Term Plan process. The issues of rising costs and delayed revenues in a growth district are significant alongside the debt position and three waters impact.

We are however disappointed that the original planned capital investment in sport field improvements during 2024/25 of \$851,000 has been removed. Council studies have indicated that there is a need for more sports field capacity with the Waipa District and with strong population growth expected this problem is only going to get more challenging if regular capital investment is not maintained.

An upgrade to the playing surface of Field #1 at Leamington was part of the original 2024/25 work programme and an exciting prospect for the club. A more durable surface with drainage and irrigation would help with the experience of our current members but would also allow the club to provide more community use during the summer and shoulder seasons which we haven't been able to do due to field condition.

2.2. The Need for Investment

- Sports Field Capacity

Recent Council initiated reports have indicated there is already a shortage of capacity within the Waipa sports field network.

A Waipa-wide review in 2020 identified a shortage of sport parks largely in Cambridge, with rugby and football hardest hit. Council says Cambridge rugby players need access to sports parks an extra 17 hours per week to meet existing demand; footballers need an extra 13 hours a week.

This shortage of available hours is projected to increase to a combined 56 hours per week by 2038 unless something changes.

Waipa District Council 2-Dec-2022

Figure 3 - Extract 1 from Sports Field Options Analysis (GLG) - Jan-2021

2 Future Capacity Surplus / Shortfall

Waipa District – surplus / shortfall capacity in FTE hours per week, per code (2019 – 2038)

		Rugby			League			Football			All codes		
		Weekend	Weekday	Full week	Weekend	Weekday	Full week	Weekend	Weekday	Full week	Weekend	Weekday	Full week
Cambridge	2019	-2	-15	-17	0	0	0	-5	-8	-13	-7	-23	-30
	2028	-9	-19	-28	0	0	0	-7	-12	-19	-16	-31	-47
	2038	-11	-22	-33	0	0	0	-9	-14	-23	-20	-36	-56

The Winter Sports Field Demand Study (2020) identified that by 2038 there is a projected shortfall of 56 hours comprising:

- 30 hours a week to meet current demand
- An additional shortfall of 26 hours a week as a result of population growth.

Figure 4 - Extract 2 from Sports Field Options Analysis (GLG) - Jan-2021

4 Recommendations to Meet the Identified Shortfall

Following the completion of the Winter Sports Field Study a prioritisation workshop was undertaken to identify the options to meet the current and future shortfall.

The workshop identified a number of recommendations to improve the surfaces and condition at a number of existing reserves including:

- John Kerkhof Park
 - Upgrade the 'middle earth' area (fields 3 – 5) to provide 2 full sized fields instead of 3 small fields.
 - Potential increase of 12 - 14 hours per week.
- Cambridge Memorial Park
 - Upgrade all 3 fields OR Upgrade fields 2 and 3 and secure rugby access to Tom Voyle Park for training.
 - Potential increase of 6 hours per week
- Leamington
 - Upgrade 3 fields with drainage and irrigation to provide additional capacity to rugby.
 - Potential increase of 6 hours a week

These studies were based on demand modelling in 2020 and prior to adding the delivery of Junior Rugby at Leamington. Since then, with extra demand there has been an increasing need to manage the use of the fields more closely and ensure they are not overused. Often this results in closing fields or restricting trainings during the week so that matches can take place as scheduled.

- **Sports Field Lighting**

There is also a recognised need to upgrade the capacity and quality of sports field lighting across Waipa. Council recently commissioned a Sports Field Lighting Assessment to ascertain the ownership, condition and performance against relevant code and remaining useful life of each asset. Overall, the assessment found several key issues related to lighting performance –

Figure 5 - Extract from Waipa Sports Lighting Report, Xyst (2023)

Issue	Discussion
Inadequate illumination	The minimum maintained level of illumination for football and rugby on an amateur and semi-professional level for ball and physical training is 50 lux. Most Council's now install 100 lux as a minimum. Only Albert Park and Pirongia are considered to have close to this level of illumination.
Poor Uniformity	The minimum horizontal uniformity for football and rugby on an amateur and semi-professional level for ball and physical training is 0.3 (being the ratio of minimum illumination/average) The low height of columns and use of single sided arrangements will result in low uniformity.
Excessive Glare and Light Spill	Very few of the installations have used columns of sufficient height. The minimum height columns required for a 60m wide football field is 16.5m. The average height of the columns assessed is 11m. This means lights are tilted to increase the light coverage. This creates light spill beyond the boundary (potentially breaching Council lighting rules) and excessive glare for players and considerable light pollution.
Incorrect pole placement	Column placements are sometimes too close to the edge of the playing area (a minimum of 3m (football) 5m (rugby) is recommended)
Lack of maintenance and inspection	There is lack of maintenance including cleaning and inspection of fixtures for damage and security.
Aging technology	Lighting is almost all metal halide floodlighting which has relatively high energy costs and very high maintenance costs with a typical lamp costing several hundred dollars to replace. The use of high quality, sports specific LED sport lights will reduce operating costs and improve overall performance when correctly designed and installed.

The site-specific summary for Leamington indicated the following –

Figure 6 - Extract from a WDC Letter to LRSC dd. 2-Apr-24

LEAMINGTON PARK LEAMINGTON

Ownership
 Leamington Rugby Sports Club Inc. owns the lights and is responsible for maintenance and operating costs.

Description
 The No.1 field is lit with a sub-standard system using short columns. Recent additions of LED luminaires are ineffective due to the height of the columns. The No.2 (training field) is also lit with short columns. A further area near the clubrooms is lit with two short columns and is not to standard for training. The courts are also poorly lit.

Issues

- Columns are too low to meet standards resulting in glare for players and high levels of light spill for neighbours
- All Columns have reached the end of life and may be unsafe.

Recommendations

- Upgrade No.1 Field to a 100 Lux LED installation
- Upgrade the No.2 Field to a 50 Lux LED installation
- Upgrade the court lighting to LED (200 Lux) if justified by sufficient use.

Quality of field lighting is becoming an increasingly important area for investment due to health and safety concerns but also changing trends in how participants prefer to play their sport. The traditional delivery model of training mid-week evenings under lights and matches on Saturday is being challenged, and there is increasing pressure to schedule matches mid-week and keep weekends free for work or other commitments.

2.3. Recent LRSC Initiatives

• **Sport Field Lighting Upgrade**

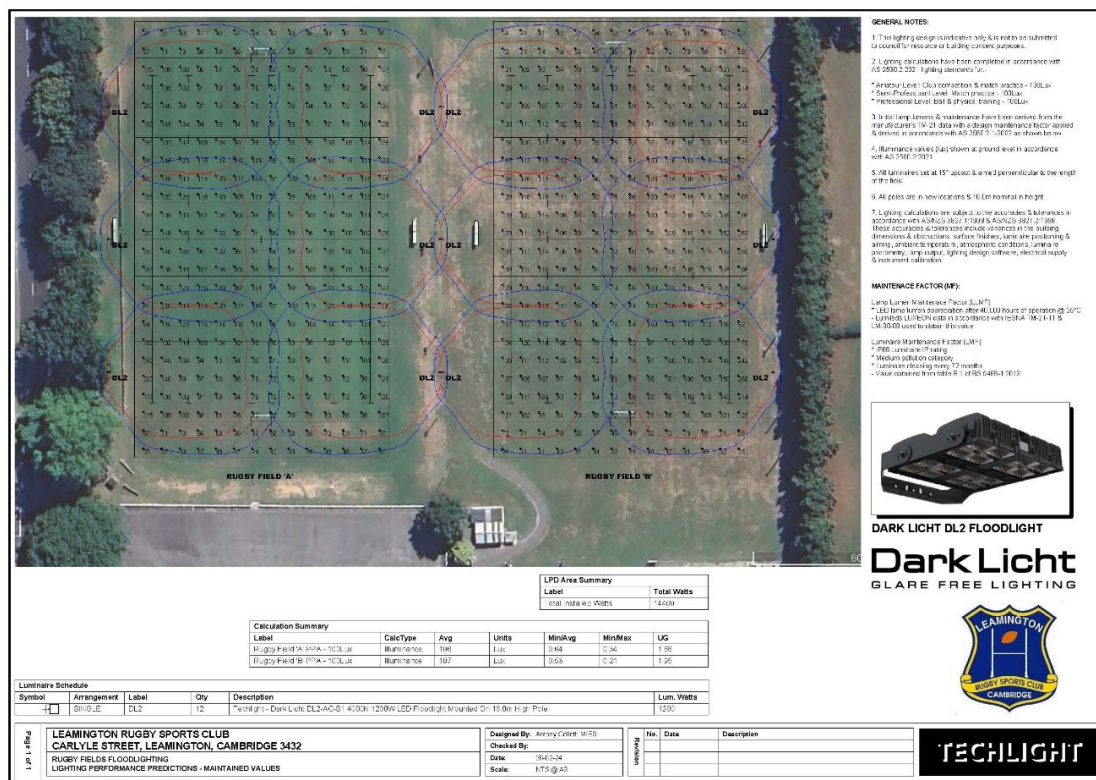
Soon after Leamington was confirmed for a sports field improvement in 2024/25, we began investigating ways to leverage off the Council investment to achieve greater outcomes. This involved engaging a wider group of stakeholders with similar interests under the premise that by pooling resources, we could achieve and provide more for the community.

Our focus became upgrading the Lighting on Field #1 which when combined with the additional capacity from the field upgrade would allow additional training hours and night matches to be scheduled and opening up a range of new possibilities for the club and community. This was all triggered by the field upgrade as lighting improvements without upgrading the field is a pointless exercise with nothing added to the load capacity.

We gathered in principle support from a range of local business who have a similar community focus and were willing to contribute product, machinery and operators with the aim of broadening the scope of what could be achieved.

Lighting plans were also commissioned before the project was paused and will now go on hold.

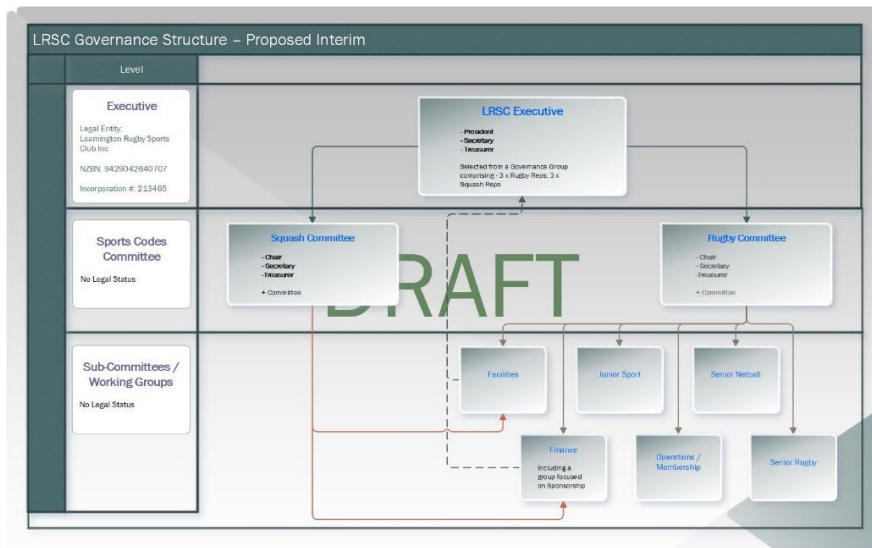
Figure 7 - Concept Lighting Design



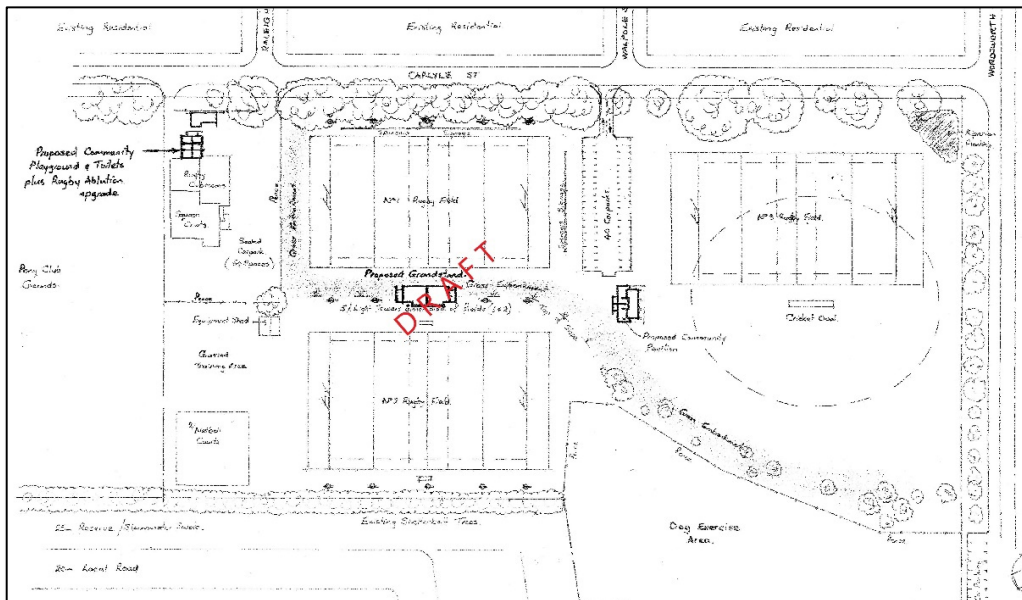
• **Other Initiatives**

During the past 12 months we have started a range of projects to help guide the club through an expected significant period of change over the next 5-10 years including -

- Investment in an external resource to help progress projects and implement change.
- Developing a club wide strategic plan as a community based multi-sport organisation. Wider community input will be part of this process.
- Undertaking a review of current club governance structures.



- Establishing good practice systems and processes across finance functions and operations.
- Developing a precinct masterplan to help guide future facility development and upgrades and determine priorities for investment. This includes understanding the role we can play in meeting local and regional needs and potentially highlighting new opportunities.



3. Our Feedback

We are excited for the future of the club as a multi-sport organisation and the opportunity to provide more for the Cambridge community. The benefits of being involved in organised sport and part of a community club are well documented and we have a great foundation from which to continue to grow.

The investment in sports field improvements is clearly needed and the club has taken a proactive approach by looking to leverage off the initial Council investment with the aim of achieving greater community outcomes. The potential combination of additional weekly sports field capacity and improved field lighting will enable new opportunities for the use of the fields and potentially new growth sports within the club.

Without the Council investment, it will be a far more difficult task to progress and ultimately deliver on these improvements.

We kindly request that you reconsider pausing the investment into sports field improvements originally planned for 2024/25 and would like to see the budget line reinstated.

Thanks again for the opportunity to submit. If offered the opportunity, we would also like to present our submission in a public Council hearing.

Sincerely



Dave Peters

Club Chair
Leamington Rugby Sports Club

Submission/Event: 505

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

The question in the Waipā District Council Annual Plan about whether the Cambridge Water Tower should be removed is a difficult question for Cambridge Resthaven to provide a submission for. This iconic tower is located in Payne Park, alongside Cambridge Resthaven, and the tower’s presence has played a role in our 52-year history, even so far as being included as part of our organisations logo imagery. ||From the assessments that have been carried out of the structural integrity of the tower it is clear that action is needed, as there are concerns about the health and safety risks, to residents and public, to the extent that the tower has been fenced off from public access for a number of years. ||If the water tower could be restored at a manageable cost, Resthaven could support this, but sadly, on balance, we consider the cost estimate of \$6 million to restore this tower is too significant a financial burden for the districts rate payors to contemplate and would support the removal of the water tower. |Resthaven would hope that an historic precinct could possibly be developed from the reclaimed bricks highlighting the role the tower has played in the development of Cambridge and would be willing to assist with this.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

David

Last Name

Hall

Organisation

Cambridge Resthaven

Id

411

Submission/Event: 504

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
We most definitely need to support the Cambridge Town Hall and the \$500k required to do this . |It provides much value to not just the people of Cambridge, but visitors too .|Our family has enjoyed the Christmas markets, wellness markets , Anzacs , performances and the general Beauty the City Hall provides. |The staff/volunteers attached are just wonderful .|People need to come together and have a safe place to do that . Strong healthy communities build stronger and healthy families , we need this in Cambridge with a population of young and old . |Let’s keep the value of our Community and it’s broad, frequent and many visitors strong and supported .

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Unsure Re the water tower

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Angie
<i>Last Name</i>	Lakau
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	410

Submission/Event: 503

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I would not like to see the Te Awamutu to Pirongia cycleway project paused. This project has been ongoing for a long time, and it would be good to see it keep moving forward. There has been a lot of work in the Cambridge district in this area, it would be good to see some worthwhile cycleways in the Te Awamutu area (but not ones that cause parking and traffic issues I should add). | I fully support the ongoing plus small increase in funding to the Pirongia Mountain Bike Club. The trails are well utilised, and are provided free of charge by the club so there is no barrier to anyone, from novices and families to seasoned riders, enjoying the amazing trails.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Ray
<i>Last Name</i>	Abernethy
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	409

Submission/Event: 502

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

The town hall has been under utilised. I think it's an important part of our town and needs to be kept in good order and available for use

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Advertising its availability and different options for use would be wonderful. My daughter often does dancing in the hall for events but feel it could be used and hired out for all types of functions. It should be the go to spot. A tea room in the bar area or some sort of set up would be amazing, even if only open a few times a week. Something to get people moving through there. The info centre also seems so separate, the entrance is strange and off to the side. It would be wonderful to have a proper 'welcome to Cambridge' hall/shop/tea room.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Candice

Last Name

Saunders

Organisation

Id

408

Submission/Event: 501

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
As a resident, we are not alone either however, we're now facing reductions in funding support for the Town Hall as well as no longer providing a Community Events Fund. || Being a performing artist, I understand and appreciate the maintenance, asset and specialist staff requirements of a performance venue/heritage building being the Cambridge Town Hall. || Adequate funding for the Town Hall should continue so it can continue to be a professional venue, adequately staffed with skilled expertise and being available for local, regional and national performances. Not just bookings, as well as support for more events, a fit for purpose venue and improved operations. || These are things that keep the community together with places and events that we can all enjoy together. Watch our people more so, our children using these venues and events to exhibit their performing arts and to learn and develop their skills with the aspiration of bigger and better things for their futures.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
This land can be better utilised as an asset for the community to use, work at, enjoy, visit or play at. || Perhaps plan for something down the track when the balance is right and in line with the growth in Cambridge for something more purposeful. || Something that could generate revenue, jobs and a place to visit.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
Yes

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Taisha
<i>Last Name</i>	Tari
<i>Organisation</i>	Taisha Music Enterprises
<i>Id</i>	407

Submission/Event: 500

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Please refer to attached document.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/157

Stakeholder

First Name

Carol

Last Name

Howard

Organisation

Karapiro Rowing Inc

Id

406

Karāpiro Rowing Incorporated
 PO Box 1052
 Cambridge
 3450
 Email: secretary@karapirorowing.com



24th April 2024

To: Waipa District Council

RE: FEEDBACK ON HALVING THE DISTRICT PROMOTIONS FUND

As mentioned in Waipa Council documents *“The District Promotion Fund supports events that provide a benefit for the residents and ratepayers of the Waipā district. The fund goes towards applicants who can demonstrate their event can promote Waipā as an attractive place to live, work, invest in or visit.”*

Established in 1999 Karāpiro Rowing Incorporated maintains and develops the rowing course and regatta facilities at Lake Karāpiro, hosts between nine to eleven rowing events per year and provides infrastructure, facilities and support to sporting and community groups who hold events on the Lake, which includes Rowing New Zealand, Waka-Ama Nationals, Regional Waka Ama Champs, Canoe Racing Nationals, Dragon Boating, Long Course Weekend, the Light and Sound Show and the Great Kiwi Summer Festival.

The number of events and participant numbers have continued to grow since KRI’s establishment, with our regattas reaching the highest ever participation numbers nationally. Over this past year, KRI have had 10 829 participants at our regatta’s, of which 69% of the participants came from areas further afield than Cambridge, remaining Waipa areas and Hamilton. Except for two events a year, all our regattas are two to six days long, requiring participants and support staff to reside overnight in Waipa (there was a total of twenty-two regatta days over this last season). Majority of the participants book accommodation in Cambridge, however accommodation area bookings include Te Awamutu, Matamata and Hamilton.

Rowing also typically has a very strong spectator presence with number of spectators ranging up to around 10,000 for our major events.

Regatta	# of regatta days	Total Participants	Cambridge	Remaining Waipa Areas & Hamilton	Int.	% participants entering Waikato
Memorial Regatta	2	722	183	237	0	42%
Club Regatta	2	1 319	221	253	0	64%
Christmas Regatta	3	2 430	274	293	109	77%
North Island Rowing Championships	3	2083	175	452	3	70%
New Zealand National Championships	5	1 092	99	299	6	36%
Aon Junior Regatta	2	931	124	250	0	64%
North Island Secondary Schools	3	1 924	120	275	0	79%
NZ University Championships	2	328		63	0	81%
Totals	22	10 829	1 196	2 122	118	69%

**Maadi Regatta and New Zealand National Rowing Championships alternate between North Island and South Island. For the coming year the Maadi Regatta will be at Lake Karāpiro, increasing participation numbers to 2300 athletes and 10 000 – 12 000 spectators.*

Over this past year, Karāpiro Rowing has also paid \$114,933 to Waipa District Council for use of facilities at Mighty River Domain, on which Council has further proposed a 10% increase across the board for these facilities. Karāpiro Rowing has not objected against this increase since the fees have not been increased since 2020/2021.

Historically, KRI have relied on the money received through the District Promotions Fund being allocated the following amounts:

Grant	2023/2024		2022/2023		2021/2022		2020/2021		2019/2020	
	Application amount	Amount awarded	Application amount	Amount awarded	Application amount	Amount awarded	Application amount	Amount awarded	Application amount	Amount awarded
NZ Masters	NA		3,500	0	NA		3,500	0		
Club Regatta	2,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	No event	3,500	3,000		
Memorial Regatta	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000	No event	3,500	0		
Christmas Regatta	3,500	2,000	3,500	3,500	3,500	No event	3,500	3,500	2,500	1,000
NIRC	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	No event	3,500	3,500	2,000	2,000
Junior Regatta	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	3,500	3,000	1,500	
NISS	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,000	3,500	3,000	3,500	No event	1,500	1,500
NZRC	3,500	3,500	NA		3,500	Relocated			2,000	2,000
Maadi Regatta	NA			10,000	NA		10,000	10,000	NA	
	20,000	13,500	16,500	22,000	20,000	3,000	31,000	23,000	9,500	6,500

Any reduction in grant allocations or increased fees incurred by KRI result in fee increases for the participants. A few schools and clubs have already mentioned that they will be attending less events at Lake Karāpiro due to the cost of events. A school from Wellington has mentioned that they considering attending South Island's event as it will be cheaper for them to travel there than to attend an event at KRI. We are therefore at risk of reducing the number of participants and spectators travelling to the district of Waipa.

While Lake Karāpiro is the only 2km rowing course in the North Island, other sporting codes like Waka-Ama, Canoe Racing and Dragon Boating have many other venues they can consider moving their events to. A reduction in the District Promotion Fund towards their events, could very easily result in relocation of their events to outside the Waipa District.

We implore Waipa District Council to continue supporting the District Promotion Fund. Contributing \$150,000 to events is far less than the income brought into the community from these events.

Kind regards



Dave Waddell on behalf of

Karāpiro Rowing Inc Board

Submission/Event: 499

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Much of the charm and character of Cambridge lies in its beautiful old buildings, some of which have national and local heritage protection status. |It is important that the Council be seen to protect and uphold those classifications and do their utmost to protect the buildings that they are attached to.|In the case of the Water Tower, it would be helpful if the Council engaged an independent consultant to report on the actual cost of restoring the Tower and then reviewed whether it is worth losing an iconic historic building in the long term for what appears to be a short-term solution.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Jeffrey

Last Name

Nobes

Organisation

Cambridge Historical Society Inc

Id

405

Submission/Event: 498

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
The balance has not been right for a very, very long time. Needs first, wants second. Rate payers need to be listened to and staff pet projects should not take precedence. All current projects need to be halted and reassessed where ever possible. There could be huge cost savings. It will be interesting to see if any notice is taken at all from those that make submissions. I, along with many others wonder if there is any value at all in making a submission based on the lack of notice or action on previous submissions.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
The costings for this work need to be very carefully scrutinized. Any work that is required needs to be clearly and carefully defined in tender documents by a competent professional with the relevant experience. Clarity of the tender document allows for cost savings without compromising on quality. Most importantly there needs to be a robust and open tendering process to allow for competitive pricing.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Brenda
<i>Last Name</i>	Stamp
<i>Organisation</i>	Please select
<i>Id</i>	404

Submission/Event: 497

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
 Restoration of the Cambridge Town Hall is essential as a source of community identity, civic pride and heritage landmark at the heart of the town - in the past and today. It's presence must be continued by activation and use. Buildings stay alive when people use them - mana whenua, pakeha and new citizens of many cultures. | It's life and future repair rely on continual use, 24/7 ideally by peoples, activities and events that keep it warm and alive. The music, performance, exhibitions and meetings in the Town Hall do just that. Keep it alive. | But the future does not depend solely on today's use, but also on the investment that the Council makes in keeping the Town Hall in good repair, a place of pride, excellence and beauty. This is still required. The Council needs to fulfill its fiduciary duty of care. |* by restoring the Victorian and Edwardian Rooms. |* by ensuring that the facilities and equipment are high quality and fit for purpose|* by ensuring that the operating shortfall of hireage revenue and operational costs are covered whilst the new Trust gets the operating model in place, the upgrades completed and appropriate staffing and systems in place to begin to make a surplus|* by ensuring that the roof, electrical, heating and sound proofing as well as operating facilities are future proofed |* by ensuring that sufficient funds are allocated in the LTP to realise the capital works for future expansion.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
 b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 Absolutely oppose removal of the watertower. | While functional analyses have been done, there needs to be imaginative thought given to entrepreneurial uses of this heritage icon of the town's development. The points made above for the Town Hall, also apply here. | The Watertower is an elegant landmark. A meeting place. A wayfinding beacon that can be seen from multiple vantage points at the entrance to a heritage scope along Cambridge Road. | It is a landmark at the centre of a cluster of social activities - the retirement villages, preschools, Middle school, shopping and medical complex, as well as parkland - and should be kept to reflect this. And could be home to a community library complex in the future. | It is disingenuous of Council to offer up a request for submissions and yet tell residents what the preferred option is - demolish. Stacking the deck towards demolition. In this case... honest opinion dies not seem to be sought.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 No

I have attached additional information
 -

Stakeholder

First Name	Jenny
Last Name	Cave
Organisation	
Id	117

Submission/Event: 496

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
The Cambridge Town Hall is the most iconic building in the region. We've attended the NZSO quartet/Q & A evening recently which was very well attended. We were very impressed by the organisation of the event, & the enthusiasm evident from the audience & management. We really like Cambridge as a destination & plan to travel up to attend more concerts. We see it as an imperative that the Trust receives adequate funding to enable full community engagement.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
It seems immensely clear that the Cambridge Town Hall should be fully funded, given the importance of the arts and cherishing our iconic historic buildings.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Kim
<i>Last Name</i>	New
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	403

Submission/Event: 495

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

See attached

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

N/A

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/156

Stakeholder

First Name

Harvey

Last Name

Brookes

Organisation

Waikato Wellbeing Project on behalf of Waikato
For Purpose Sector

Id

402



Thriving Communities Collaboration

c/- PO Box 1367,
Hamilton 3240
Ph: 07 838 1583

For Purpose Sector Joint Submission

A Collective Voice

- This submission is a collaboration between Community Waikato, Creative Waikato, Go Eco, The Waikato Wellbeing Project, Seed Waikato and HMS Trust. It represents the shared vision and aspirations of those of us working to build the capacity, capability and well-being of our local landscape. It includes a holistic approach to building a thriving community

Shaping the future of Waikato District

- There are clear strategic alignments between the work of the community, creative, environment and youth sectors, across both soft and hard infrastructure, to Waikato district's vision of liveable, thriving and connected communities, the 4 community outcomes and 6 strategic priorities. Most significantly, *"celebrating who we are"* *"having well-connected communities"*, *"Our environmental health underpins the health of our People"* and *"we support local prosperity"*, while fairly simple elaborations on the basic purpose of local government, are important wellbeing signposts for the council to follow in its strategy, planning and resource allocation.
- Youth, arts, culture, creativity, Maaori, social services, disability and ethnic communities can and should make significant contributions to 'liveable, thriving and connected communities'. Understanding how our green spaces and biodiversity create healthy communities is critical to underpin good decision making. Shaping a future for the Waikato district needs to be collective, co-designed, and through the numerous lenses of the beneficiaries of the district, present and future.
- A fair and reasonable democratic process is supported by accessible and equal communication pathways and opportunities to influence the decision-makers. Some communities, for example ethnic communities, face additional barriers and relying on traditional feedback methods such as the submission process, does not facilitate engagement from these communities. Strategies should be co-designed with the community they target, especially communities that have traditionally had a limited or absent voice from council, such as our young people.

Valuing communities

- While the community makes a significant contribution to these areas through investment, in-kind support, volunteer time, and creative passion, it is essential that the Council maintains and increases investment into this sector as a core provision of service to our growing community.
- Our future now depends on how we allocate resources, ensuring the needs and well-being of people and nature are central to our budgetary decisions.
- As a district sandwiched between New Zealand's biggest and fastest growing cities, it is vital the Waikato district grows well - this means valuing and investing in art and creativity, culture, community services, our greenspaces and biodiversity, venues, creative spaces and events, development programmes, and opportunities to weave cultural storytelling, placemaking and playful creative expression throughout partnership with the community, and within core council business.
- Community granting makes an important contribution to supporting for-purpose organisations, sustaining community services, local venues, and investing in our whenua. This partnership between council and community is directly connected to cultural and community wellbeing outcomes for the council.





Thriving Communities Collaboration

c/- PO Box 1367,
Hamilton 3240
Ph: 07 838 1583

Impact on social and cultural wellbeing

Beyond economic measures, the impacts of the non-profit community on social and cultural wellbeing is also significant.

- The community and social service sector encompass a broad range of initiatives that offer invaluable support and foster connections within diverse populations. Beyond just alleviating poverty and social isolation, these services bring a plethora of benefits to the community. They promote inclusivity, empower individuals to overcome challenges, and enhance overall well-being. Additionally, they contribute to the development of stronger social bonds, cultivate a sense of belonging, and foster a culture of empathy and compassion.
- In-depth Waikato-focussed research from 2022 highlighted regular access and perceived access to arts, culture and creativity is a significant driver of individual wellbeing. This contributes to better mental health outcomes, and shows measurable connection to social cohesion, community connection, civic pride, and sense of identity.
- Investment in the whenua is critical. Community access to open and accessible greenspaces, even in an ostensibly rural environment, can have profound effects on well-being, promoting physical health, mental clarity, emotional resilience, and social connection.
- Climate-resilient towns and settlements require systemic approaches that address both the physical and social dimensions of resilience. This includes investing in green infrastructure like parks and urban forests, as well as social infrastructure such as community centres and cultural hubs which promote social cohesion and empowerment. By incorporating the voices and perspectives of diverse communities into the budgeting process, we can ensure that our investments reflect the needs and priorities of all residents

Investing in people

- In this current cost of living crisis, a careful and well considered fiscal approach to local government funding and services is supported. At the same time, the Council needs to keep front of mind its responsibility and duty to its people. The Council's vision of "*working together as a district to build liveable, thriving and connected communities*" is functionally appropriate, but lacks appeal to the human spirit. It is a council purpose statement of the here and now, but as a vision it offers very little for our tamariki and rangatahi to be inspired by. Between now and the next LTP, the Council might like to ask its people what their vision for the future is, in their words, and adopt that. This should be done in terms of their lived experienced, not necessarily from the point of view of the Council.
- At a time of increased need, now is the time to invest in people. Support the people who provide positive outcomes for diverse communities. Art, culture, and creativity sits alongside social services, kai, health, education, environment, and community connection as interwoven components of thriving communities.
- It requires civic investment as a part of ensuring community access. Not investing in our social infrastructure will result in the degradation of our community services, arts, culture and environment at a time of a growing population.
- A thriving and prosperous city will always be a combination of physical assets and infrastructure we can see, and the less tangible social, economic, cultural and environmental foundations which we all rely on for our wellbeing. We urge the council, even in difficult fiscal times, to keep a balanced and people-focused approach to all aspects of wellbeing, as is required by the Local Government Act (2022).





Thriving Communities Collaboration

c/- PO Box 1367,
Hamilton 3240
Ph: 07 838 1583

- Too many in our community are suffering with hunger, poverty and poor housing – the foundations of a sustainable community. The council should not underestimate its important community leadership role in these issues.
- We encourage Council to activate its leadership role in the food security of the district, joining other cities and towns in Aotearoa bringing their attention to this issue. We request that Council leads and jointly implements a food strategy for the Waikato district which lays out a path to food security and sovereignty. We have made the same submission to Hamilton City and Waipa Councils, so a joint strategy would also be an option.
- Ultimately, creating a prosperous, climate-resilient city with thriving communities is about more than just mitigating the impacts of climate change, the odd art exhibition or Pataka kai stations in communities. It is about building a future where people and nature coexist harmoniously. By putting people at the heart of our budgetary decisions, investing in partnerships and encouraging imagination and creativity, we can pave the way for a more sustainable and resilient future starting now.



Recommendations and Opportunities

- At a time of increased need, commit to maintaining and increasing community funding to support organisations to continue to deliver positive outcomes.
- Work collaboratively with community providers to lead and implement a joint regional food strategy in collaboration with city and district councils and Waikato Regional Council.
- Engage and fund services from relevant community organisations to co-design civic engagement strategies to enable meaningful and reciprocal access and support for vulnerable communities.

The joint signatures to this submission are well-placed and able to work with Council on these initiatives which will help 'our people thrive'.



Submission/Event: 494

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Maintenance of iconic and historic landmarks and buildings is essential and should not be ignored. |We also we need to look at an actual third bridge and ways to elevate all traffic coming through the round about by the Anglican church. Is it possible to work with nzta to add an on and off ramp to SH1 by the golf course so Leamington and Te Awamutu traffic don't have to go through town.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Do not cut funding to the town hall. It is a great place for the community to get together and hold events. It has given us the opportunity to see creative and cultural events locally.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Donna
<i>Last Name</i>	McHugh
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	401

Submission/Event: 493

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

It is essential that Waipā District Council - as owners and guardians of Waipā's heritage - is seen to show leadership in the understanding and preservation of the heritage of the District. || Importantly, if council takes the position of demolishing the Cambridge Water Tower (a nationally-registered heritage item), it will set an indisputable precedent for other owners and custodians of heritage within the district to do the same to their heritage-listed property 'owing to economic circumstances'. || In electing the option to restore the tower, alternative and more affordable strategies can be explored and adopted for the long-term preservation of - what is - an iconic historic, architectural, and engineering, landmark of Cambridge. || With three recent seismic strengthening commissions that my practice, PAUA Architects, has undertaken alongside consultant structural engineers, in each of these cases, on structural review, each project cost came down significantly through thorough design examination and resolution. || Given this experience - and having spoken to specialist heritage structural engineers, I have no hesitation in recommending to Council that they take the time and commitment to focus their intent on restoring the Cambridge Water Tower. Demolishing heritage cannot be undone, and WDC would be very poorly marked for such an approach.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Antanas

Last Name

Procuta

Organisation

Id

400

Submission/Event: 492

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Yes, agree with back-to-basic approach for the next year(s) depending on how economic situation develops|I wouldn't remove the community event fund, maybe just reduce it?

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Claudia
<i>Last Name</i>	Gawler
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	399

Submission/Event: 491

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
 Cambridge appears to be a centre of excellence when it comes to matters equestrian, cycling and rowing. Cambridge also now has an opportunity to be be regarded similarly in regard to having a performance venue if the beautiful Town Hall had sufficient investment to make performing artists want to perform there. Many years ago I raised funds for the Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts in Hamilton. Now it has such a reputation as a performance venue that artists want to perform there. The Cambridge Town Hall requires sufficient invest to make it a venue that attracts performances. This is not difficult or overly expensive, it is prudent and necessary if Cambridge still views itself as a place of excellence and the jewel in the crown the Waipa/Waikato region. |There are many average concert halls a few good concert halls and even fewer excellent concert halls. The Cambridge Town Hall has unique qualities which would allow it to become an excellent performance venue. This is partly so, because of its very good natural acoustic. |I write this with hope that Cambridge wants to avoid the average and mediocre, as they have achieved in other areas. So, the question is why would you want to accept the average in this area? I suggest that you may do this out of ignorance, not intentionally. |The arts and this venue especially as well as the ratepayers have come to expect excellence in and around Cambridge. |I am more than happy to help this happen and assist in raising funds to ensure that the Cambridge Town Hall receives sufficient investment to provide Cambridge with a performance venue that would make the residents proud and would attract artists and audiences into Cambridge. |I have conducted orchestras, had compositions performed, managed chamber ensembles and was the Waikato Time Music Reviewer for 19 years. I know of what I speak. |Your faithfully| Andrew Buchanan-Smart |MBA, MMS, MA, MMus, LTCL, FTCL, FIRMT | |Trustee of the following: |New Zealand Chamber Soloists, |Waikato Community School of Music, |New Zealand Music Examinations Board, |The Institute of Registered Music Teachers Aotearoa New Zealand. |Formerly: |A member of the NZ Institute of Directors, and |The Director of Corporate and External Relations for the Waikato Management School, University of Waikato.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name	Peter Andrew
Last Name	Buchanan-Smart
Organisation	
Id	398

Submission/Event: 490

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I don't envy the councils task of finding where to cut costs, but I think the balance is fairly right. I do voluntary trapping for PFC and am amazed at what pests are in our environment, rats in particular. If the green spaces aren't kept under control the pests will move more so than they have already into residential sections. We have the nationally critical long tail bat in our town and every effort should be made to ensure the trapping of pests is paramount for their survival, not to mention the native birds have a safe habitat.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Although it would be a shame to see the water tower go, I can understand the fiscal side of demolishing it. I personally would rather see the Town Hall being kept up to standard as it is a great venue for the locals and should be able to create an income, in other words it is of more use to everyone than the water tower.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Lindsay
<i>Last Name</i>	Grant
<i>Organisation</i>	Predator Free Cambridge
<i>Id</i>	397

Submission/Event: 489

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

The council needs to have a hard look at the things which are "needs" and the things which are "wants". Community groups should largely be self funded and perhaps need to look at their own decisions around self-funding and services they may provide to non-payers.

|| Make your decisions bearing in mind that attracting tourism and event income in the area is a big contributor to the local economy and there is value in having the I-site in Cambridge functioning efficiently and being able to continue to provide exemplary service to our visitors and prospective residents. This could be more efficiently done by working directly with large groups (ie: cycling and rowing) to ENSURE that event dates DO NOT coincide.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Restoration and associated costs can be delayed but once it's gone it's gone. Don't demolish it.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Cristal

Last Name

Montgomery

Organisation

Id

396

Submission/Event: 488

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my thoughts on your plan. I can understand it is a hard time for all, however, I want to bring to your attention that reducing the funding to the Cambridge Town Hall is taking a big risk. || Firstly, we have in place two amazingly talented professionals working in the paid positions at the Town Hall with an incredibly committed and positive volunteer board backing them. They have made great progress and, as a community, we are enjoying seeing their efforts and the opportunity to attend events on our doorstep regularly. Having been involved in recruiting Monique and Simon, I understand how much experience and talent they bring into their roles, they were far and away the best candidates and they are working hard, they have a massive passion for bringing life into the Cambridge Town Hall. In a recruitment market where top talent is being chased and shoulder-tapped, it is extremely important to keep them engaged for continued success. || Our family (which includes 2 seventeen-year-old students) loves attending events at the Cambridge Town Hall. The recent evening when Cambridge Museum and Cambridge Town Hall Managers combined to present wonderful history about our town was special and informative. On Tuesday, we loved the Blair Jollands event, with local students Georgia and Eva supporting. We loved the presentation of the hall, the atmosphere was vibrant, with such a wonderful mix of people and ages. It felt alive! We love the book fair, the Christmas concerts, the ANZAC services, as well all the amazing classical events over the past year too many with young people performing which is fantastic. It's where memories of fun times are made. || While the events were excellent, we can also see the team is working on a very strict budget and they managed to create a wonderful atmosphere, but the hall does look tired and clearly the planned upgrade needs to happen and not be paused. I know the team is not spending money extravagantly, they go to the Lions Shed to collect equipment and do what they can to save money, but they are concerned about the quality of the seating and other infrastructure facilities. || I also want to speak on behalf of the youth in our town. There needs to be more for them and the Blair Jollands event was one example of how my daughter in Year 13 studying media, could be inspired by someone working in the sound design space. The school curriculum does not have the time to provide Q & A's like the one with Blair, so we need to keep inspiring our next generation with knowledge, especially in the creative space at events like this. They tell us there is not enough in our town for them, so reactivating the Town Hall means they can attend gigs with friends from all the Waipa and Waikato schools, which enhances connection and inclusiveness. This positively affects their well-being and mental health too. They can meet more performers which keeps them open-minded and curious and this includes some amazingly talented Cambridge locals. It provides a community for them in a positive and safe environment, at a venue different from school. Also, as many school students need to be home by 10 pm if they have a 'restricted' driver's license, it means they can go somewhere local for good events and still be home by 10 pm, they cannot do this easily if the events are in Hamilton or Auckland and this gets expensive. || As you have stated "Our largest town, Cambridge is growing, fast! But we've got it covered." Please don't let the community grow without giving people of all ages cultural and creative events to go to. Let's keep Cambridge Town on the map for its vibrancy and keep visitors coming. Events at the Town Hall will provide more revenue for local businesses and draw more interest. || It is my understanding that Cambridge Town Hall was built in 1877 after a citizen's petition with the help of a government grant. It was a meeting place and a theatre and this needs to be preserved and reactivation continued at a good pace, which is what the Cambridge Town Hall Community Trust is trying to achieve. With Hamilton being the fastest growing City and is known as "the city of the future", Cambridge needs to move with it and not be left behind. || The Cambridge Town Hall has always been known as an area in the centre of Cambridge and there for everyone to enjoy. Please let's keep building Cambridge's sense of community, it is critical to the success of our town. It would be a real disappointment for the next generation to move out of towns like Cambridge because there was not enough there to keep them engaged and interested.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

-

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Linley
<i>Last Name</i>	Steele
<i>Organisation</i>	Great People Recruitment
<i>Id</i>	395

Submission/Event: 487

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

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2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

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Are there any further comments you would like to make?

* Do not cut any library funding | * Cut costs on landscaping by replacing all council owned berms (and other land that is not utilised yet requires maintenance) with self-sustaining, native ecosystems. This can be accomplished with basic permaculture techniques using natives. Once established, these ecosystems will mitigate the need for weeding, spraying, replanting, and mowing. This will also reduce the council's carbon footprint. The resulting attraction of native bird and insect life will also make the city more attractive. Partner with local environmental and permaculture organisations and local iwi who can provide knowledge to install the ecosystems. | * Ensure any new parks, garden roundabouts, or other planted infrastructure built are as low maintenance as possible by planting self-sustaining, native ecosystems (as point above). | * Increase the fine for environmental offences and broaden the scope of what is considered an environmental offence. For instance, the water quality of the Waikato River is terrible due to nitrate contamination of ground water due to dairying ("pastoral farming"). Thus the dairy industry (Fonterra, not the farmers) should pay for the damage they have caused and what it takes to reverse it. The fine should be addressed to the dairy companies like Fonterra and not the individual farmers, as Fonterra is the driver pushing farmers to produce higher yields and the one profiting off of the pollution of our waterways that is a consequence of those yields. Fonterra should be instructed to fund the installation of riparian buffers for the farms with the threat of further fines if not completed, or if they try to pass the fine on to the farmers. | * Install solar panels, wind turbines or other forms of renewable energy on or it council buildings and on council land. This will reduce the council's energy bill and carbon footprint, and any excess energy can be sold back to the grid. There are a number of innovations that use small turbines to generate energy e.g. between lanes of traffic or within down pipes (powered by running water). | * Enable households and businesses to easily capture their own drinking water. Remove or re-write any council rules that inhibit the easy installation of water capture systems. Grant rate rebates for those that capture their own drinking water. This could be supported by partnering with water capture companies and water filtration companies. This will also reduce the amount of storm water accessing the drains, alleviating strain on our water system. | * Enable households and businesses to capture their own energy e.g. solar, wind, or gas from composted food scraps. Remove or re-write any council rules that inhibit the easy installation of energy capture systems. Grant rate rebates for those that capture their own energy. This could be supported by partnering with a variety of energy capture companies. | * Require all new developments to capture some of their own energy and water. | * Implement low-cost green infrastructure solutions such as rain gardens, bioswales, and permeable pavement to manage stormwater runoff, improve water quality and recharge groundwater systems. This will alleviate strain on the water system by diverting most stormwater runoff away from the drains, instead utilising it to irrigate council berms, council parks, or community gardens. These projects can also enhance walkability. Encourage new developments to implement these solutions by offering rate rebates and information/resources/company contacts for implementation. | * Create fines for how much water enters drains to encourage households to capture their own water and recycle their grey water. | * Allow residents to plant their berms with any plant, not just grass. Encourage the planting of native self-sufficient ecosystems that reduce resident maintenance and help soak up storm water, preventing the storm water from adding additional strain to council pipes. | * Encourage new developments to separate their grey water and black water so that only the black water goes into the sewage system and the grey water is filtered on site and used as irrigation on site. Using permaculture, the grey water can be further filtered by plants on the property. Consideration will need to be given to mitigate harsh chemicals getting into the irrigation system, either through adequate initial filtration or encouraging residents to switch to low toxicity alternatives (e.g. through partnering with Eco

Store or similar).

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Tayla
<i>Last Name</i>	McHardie
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	394

Submission/Event: 486

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No. The rates should not be increased beyond 14% and even in the long term plan, it suggests around 5%. This is a dreadful overlooking of the suffering that ordinary rate players are experiencing now. The focus of the Council should be on the basic infrastructure, water, roading, maintenance and essential services. | Extra projects concerning well-being, climate change etc are not important for the council to consider. Yes, make our town attractive and a wonderful place to live in but not extra unessential projects.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
I am not a Cambridge resident, however, I believe that if the residents wish to retain it, they should fundraise or at least with some input from the Council.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Christine
<i>Last Name</i>	Mills
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	393

Submission/Event: 485

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
As a member of the community, I support Cambridge Town Hall receiving its required grant of \$500K so it can continue to operate. |The Town Hall is the heart of our Cambridge community. I have a young family and we attend so many events at the Town Hall. I have also been involved in the organisation of several events at the Town Hall from weddings and school fundraisers to workshops and educational events. The Town Hall is a local and accessible place to connect and experience and such an important contributor to the cultural and social wellbeing of our community. It is such a unique part of our town that our community loves and is a key part of attracting out of town visitors and tourists.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Nicola
<i>Last Name</i>	Turner
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	392

Submission/Event: 484

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

This is a low cost, high impact activity with both immediate and long term gains. It's to continue and increase the support for the predator trapping in the Cambridge area. It's largely undertaken by volunteers like myself, but does require some investment in new traps and bait as the number of trap lines gets extended and also for someone to be a co-ordinator for it for all the resources and volunteers.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

There have been some great cycleway initiatives around Cambridge so kudos for your work on this and hopefully once they're all finished then the impact on vehicle traffic will be reduced.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Todd

Last Name

Stephenson

Organisation

Mobility Centre

Id

391

Submission/Event: 483

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Yes but to not reduce the discretionary funding for each groups as many groups rely on this funding to keep them operating.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Not really in our area - but if the money saved could be spent in Pirongia on our halls.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Ruth
<i>Last Name</i>	Webb
<i>Organisation</i>	Pirongia Community Assocation
<i>Id</i>	390

Submission/Event: 482

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Phil

Last Name

Riley

Organisation

Id

389

Submission/Event: 481

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Don't envy the position the council are in - tough decisions - may be worth looking at the amount of money spent on consultants. Do feel that some groups do depend on discretionary funds. |No mention of plans for Pirongia and the hall upgrade etc.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Finance speaks for itself can the difference be spent in Pirongia?

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Ruth
<i>Last Name</i>	Webb
<i>Organisation</i>	Pirongia Ward Committee
<i>Id</i>	388

Submission/Event: 480

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
The Pirongia Ward Committee recognise the need to reduce the grant allocation to \$10, 000 per annum in these financial times but would not like to see this grant level reduced further and would like to see this increase back up to 2023/2024 levels in the next long term plan; | The committee should retain the ability to decide whether it spends the \$10,000 allocation on its own projects or provides grants to community organisations, recognising that any grant allocations will be on a much smaller scale than currently

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
This item was not discussed by the committee.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
Yes

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Ruth
<i>Last Name</i>	Webb
<i>Organisation</i>	Pirongia Ward Committee
<i>Id</i>	388

Submission/Event: 479

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

The town hall. Is sowing its age. Maintenance should have been kept up from many years ago. It is a treasure to keep. Now NZ heritage. | Bike routes have had too much money spent on them. Our heritage is now important to our beautiful city.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

No more to be spent on bike ways around our small town. | Keep instead the beauty of our town. Bikeways are taking up too much of our roads and paths. | You are not going to get too many people in Cambridge using them.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Angela

Last Name

Barnett

Organisation

Id

387

Submission/Event: 478

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

I am not a resident in Cambridge. I live in Hamilton, but I've had the pleasure of spending time at the town hall. The trust is working hard position, the town hall as a cornerstone community meeting in the city. The shortfall in funding is unfortunate and will greatly limit the Trust's ability to deliver community centered and culturally relevant events. I urge the council to reconsider their yearly contribution to the trust.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

David

Last Name

Aubergier

Organisation

Id

386

Submission/Event: 477

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
As a member of the Cambridge community I believe the to Cambridge Town Hall receiving its required grant of \$500K so it can continue to operate. Just today we enjoyed the ANZAC ceremony here and last year attendance the Op Shop ball - a highlight of the year! The Town Hall brings our community together- something needed now more than ever. We know that arts and cultural improves individual wellbeing, as well as helping to build relationships, unification and cross cultural understanding. Please support the town hall to continue providing for our community.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Miriam
<i>Last Name</i>	Wood
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	385

Submission/Event: 476

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

As a member of the community, I want to see funding at the current level continue for the Town Hall. I was personally involved in a local fundraising event at the Hall in 2023 and it was the ideal location and venue to bring people from across Cambridge to attend. We were impressed by the new management and although the hall requires investment it is an iconic part of Cambridge and one that people enjoy spending time in. We wouldn't have wanted to be in any other location. We finally have a Trust that is keen to see greater use of the hall and more community events - it is the wrong time to reduce or withdraw funding - especially with a growing population. |If the Town Hall had to close, our communities' cultural and social wellbeing would be impacted. |Having access to facilities in my local community such as the Town Hall is important to me because it helps me to connect with other people.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Vanessa
<i>Last Name</i>	Markwell
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	384

Submission/Event: 475

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Your stating hard economical times yet you seem to forget that everyone is in the same boat, and you think that the rate payers have limitless funds to draw on so no 14.8 % is to high

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
You State that you need to include the costing for the 3 waters infrastructure. As this never actually happened due to central government removing the 3 waters policy, what happened to the rates money that had already been collected in the last few years that was supposed to be for this. | Instead of starting project like the cycleway project in Kihikihi which has had a massive public backlash, and planning for a museum that is in my opinion a pretty pointless exercise and will cost how many millions. How about you don't and use this money set aside for this to cut back on the rates increase which you will, no doubt push through at the rate you want regardless of any submissions received

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Nicholas
<i>Last Name</i>	Woollason
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	383

Submission/Event: 474

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Youth, arts, culture, creativity, Maaori, social services, disability and ethnic communities can and should make significant contributions to ‘liveable, thriving and connected communities’. Understanding how our green spaces and biodiversity create healthy communities is critical to underpin good decision-making. Shaping a future for the Waikato district needs to be collective, co-designed, and through the numerous lenses of the beneficiaries of the district, present and future. || While the community makes a significant contribution to these areas through investment, in-kind support, volunteer time, and creative passion, it is essential Council maintains and increases investment into this sector as a core provision of service to our growing community. | Our future now depends on how we allocate resources, ensuring the needs and well-being of people and nature are central to our budgetary decisions. | Community granting makes an important contribution to supporting for-purpose organisations, sustaining community services, and local venues, and investing in our whenua. This partnership between Council and the community is directly connected to cultural and community well-being outcomes for all. | Supporting established projects in Waipa | Predator Free Cambridge (PFC) has been operating since 2018 when it started with a couple of guys wanting to ‘get stuck in and do some trapping’ to help protect our native species. It was a volunteer operation undertaking predator control with eight keen trappers at one of Cambridge's premier public sites, Lake Te Koo Utu. 101 possums were removed from the ‘inner city’ lake in just one year. A part-time coordinator was employed by Go Eco in 2020 through Waikato Regional Council funding, to grow the group by amplifying the mahi of the group, promote the PF2050 vision within the community and coordinate the volunteers. || Fast forward to 2024, and PFC now has over 70 volunteers trapping at 12 different sites around Cambridge, of which 10 are on public land. There are over 350 traps in operation that are checked every week equating to at least 50 hours of volunteer time per week. Around 5000 possums, rats and stoats have been removed from Cambridge township, giving our native species a fighting chance. || Cambridge is fortunate enough to have the Nationally Critical pekapeka-tou-roa/long-tailed bat present and we see the spillover effects of birds from its close proximity to Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari. Cambridge has many reserves, gullies and the Waikato River running through it that provide refuge for our native species. These are the targeted areas that PFC protects through trapping. | PFC volunteers have also been instrumental in the bat surveys in Cambridge since 2022 for Waipa Council. Parks Week events, and presentations to schools and other local groups have also been undertaken to educate and spread the word. | PFC also offers the Cambridge community a group to meet the social needs and sense of purpose for many people as a volunteer opportunity. Volunteering for PFC doesn't just mean trapping, some volunteers support our group by undertaking administrative duties and tunnel box making too. We are an inclusive group welcoming all community members to join in. | Waipa Council provides PFC an undetermined financial amount annually plus offer storage space to support our mahi. Open communication and working alongside Waipa Council staff has strengthened connections between both parties and a good working relationship and trust has developed over the years. The support and acknowledgement of what is currently being achieved is appreciated. || Funding for the PFC coordinator position ran out in 2022 and has since been funded by Go Eco via other unsustainable and temporary means. Continuation of the coordinator to manage the PFC project is in jeopardy. Funding for the coordinator's hours plus operational support is needed to maintain and grow the project impact.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Jo
<i>Last Name</i>	Wrigley
<i>Organisation</i>	Waikato Environment Centre Trust
<i>Id</i>	382

Submission/Event: 473

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
 I support Cambridge Town Hall receiving its required grant of \$500K so it can continue to operate. | It has been wonderful to see the rejuvenation of the Town Hall in the last couple of years and have it be not just a monument and venue for Christmas and cat shows, but contributing to the Waipā arts and culture scene with a range of concerts. The professional promotion of the venue has been very well done, and it is attracting people from beyond Cambridge's borders, contributing to the Waipā economy when they travel to attend an event at the Town Hall. | Having a vibrant arts scene is an indicator of community health, and the Town Hall can play an enormous role in this. The Trust needs the funding to enable it to continue to actively promote, manage and preserve the Town Hall, as it is charged by the council. | Investing in the Town Hall now is vital - to lose the current impetus would be a complete waste. The hall's hireage (and usage) has increased significantly this financial year (2023/24) – the first full financial year staff have been employed to run the hall. With some months remaining, the Trust has already more than achieved its 2023/24 target to increase income from hireage by 20 per cent. To lose this momentum now would be extremely unwise. | The \$500,000 would allow the Cambridge Town Hall Trust to continue to manage and maintain the hall so it remains open, compliant and available for community use, with the community discount rate preserved. This is to be commended, and will enable the Town Hall Trust to continue to go from strength to strength - for the benefit of Cambridge and Waipā. | Please ensure the funding for the Cambridge Town Hall is maintained, to enable it to cement its position as the jewel in Cambridge's crown because it is funded to be a healthy, vibrant part of our community and arts & culture scene, rather than return to being an outdated and relatively unused venue. It is a building we can all be proud of, and to cut its funding would be extremely short-sighted.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

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Are there any further comments you would like to make?

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I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

-

I have attached additional information

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Stakeholder

First Name	Sarah
Last Name	Fraser
Organisation	
Id	381

Submission/Event: 471

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
As a passionate advocate for the growth of our regional screen sector, we ask you to please include Waikato Screen NZ in your Enhanced Annual Plan & in future your Long-Term Plan (LTP). The organisation's sustainability and vitality depend greatly on your continued support and funding. || Supporting our regional film office is not just an investment in the arts and entertainment; it's an investment in our community's future prosperity and cultural richness. The momentum that Waikato Screen NZ has generated in building a thriving screen sector in the Waikato is undeniable, and therefore it is imperative that we have your ongoing backing. || The support of our regional film office means the opportunity for creatives to work where they live and feel connected in their community. Another benefit, is the roll-on effect that film expenditure has on supporting our local businesses and positively impacting our regions economy. In hard economic times, it is imperative to work with and continue to invest in organisations that support the growth of the economy and wellbeing of the people - Waikato Screen NZ is such an organisation. || Please prioritise the inclusion of Waikato Screen NZ in your LTP. Your backing is not just an investment in Waikato Screen; it's an investment in our local economy and overall well-being of our community and region. || We also request to speak to our submission and ask please, that we are allocated 10 minutes for our presentation.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
Yes

I have attached additional information
https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/155

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Tracy
<i>Last Name</i>	Hampton
<i>Organisation</i>	Waikato Screen NZ
<i>Id</i>	379



Proposal for Inclusion of Waikato Screen NZ in the Enhanced Annual Plan.

Executive Summary:

Waikato Screen NZ is seeking inclusion in the Enhanced Annual Plan of the Waipā District Council to secure an annual funding allocation of \$19,500. Our organisation plays a crucial role in driving the growth of the screen sector in the Waikato Region, fostering economic development, cultural enrichment, and community engagement through education, work placement and art exposure. This funding will enable us to continue our strategic initiatives, partnerships, and economic development efforts to further enhance the screen industry in the region.

In addition to the substantial economic benefits, it's crucial to recognise the competitive landscape we face. Auckland, with its booming film industry, is our direct neighbour and a formidable contender for productions seeking locations and support services. The significant international investment of 3.5 billion dollars annually in New Zealand, with Auckland alone garnering 1.5 billion dollars per year, underscores the immense potential of the screen sector. By investing in Waikato Screen NZ, we position ourselves strategically to remain tapped into this lucrative market, capturing a share of these productions and bolstering our region's economic vitality. Without adequate funding and resources, we risk losing out to competing regions, forfeiting not only economic gains but also the opportunity to showcase the cultural richness and natural beauty of the Waikato on a global stage. Therefore, we urge the Waipā District Council to recognise the urgency of supporting our organisation and securing the future prosperity of the Waikato Region's screen sector.

Business Description:

The scope of our regional film office encompasses various initiatives aimed at supporting and growing the screen industry in the Waikato Region. Our goals include showcasing the region's unique locations to national and international productions, facilitating collaboration between local government, iwi, and productions, providing support to councils and productions with protocols and permitting advice, and enhancing cultural heritage within the screen industry. We also connect our local film industry with employment opportunities on productions and provide business for local service providers, ensuring productions support our region's economy.

Budget:

On request we can provide a detailed budget breakdown outlining the allocation of the requested funding. This includes costs for operational expenses, HR, marketing and attraction, development, youth and industry workshops, and community engagement initiatives. We are committed to ensuring transparency and accountability in the utilisation of funds, with a focus on maximising the impact of every dollar invested.

Timeline:

We have developed a comprehensive timeline for our organisation's future, highlighting key milestones and deliverables. We have effective, timely processes on reporting to achieve measurable outcomes. We recognise the importance of adhering to project-based objectives and will diligently work towards successful results for our initiatives.

Risk Management:

We have identified potential risks and challenges associated with our business and have developed strategies to mitigate them effectively. These include engaging with stakeholders to address concerns and maintaining open lines of communication. Our proactive approach to risk management ensures that we are well-prepared to navigate any unforeseen obstacles that may arise.

Community Engagement:

Community engagement is at the heart of our initiatives, and we have actively collaborated with stakeholders and community groups. We have also collaborated with local businesses, organisations, and industry guilds to support our initiatives. We actively implement educational workshops and advocate for work placements of locals on film projects in our region. The positive outcomes highlight the importance of our organisation and the value it brings to the region.

Environmental Impact:

We are committed to minimising the environmental impact of the screen sector industry and have incorporated measures to ensure sustainable practices as we work with productions. This includes reducing carbon emissions, minimising waste generation, and promoting eco-friendly production techniques. The film industry is globally aware of its responsibilities, and we support these initiatives.

Social and Economic Benefits:

The social and economic benefits of our project are vast, ranging from job creation and infrastructure development to career pathways for our rangatahi. By attracting national and international productions to the Waikato Region, we stimulate economic growth, create employment opportunities, and showcase the cultural richness of our community to a global audience. The direct economic impact of the screen sector in the region is substantial, and we aim to further amplify this contribution in the long term.

Funding Request:

We are requesting an annual funding allocation of \$19,500 from the Waipā District Council to support the ongoing activities of Waikato Screen NZ. This funding, along with the current support from all other councils in our region, is essential to sustain our operations, drive the growth of the screen sector, and maximise the cultural and economic benefits for the Waikato Region. We firmly believe that this investment will yield significant returns for the community and contribute to the overall prosperity and well-being of the region.

Evaluation and Monitoring:

We have established processes and will continue to develop ways to evaluate and monitor the success of our industry's impact over time. This includes tracking performance indicators, collecting data on key metrics, and conducting regular assessments to measure progress and outcomes. We are committed to transparency and accountability in reporting our results to the Waipā District Council and other stakeholders, ensuring that the investment yields tangible benefits for the community.

Supporting an industry:

We have mapped the industry professionals in our region as a thriving sector offering employment and upskilling our rangatahi. Our crew database and their support demonstrates the viability and importance of the work we provide to the Waikato Region.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the inclusion of Waikato Screen NZ in the Waipā District Council's Enhanced Annual & Long-Term plan is vital to the continued growth and success of the screen sector in the Waikato Region. Our work aligns with the council's strategic priorities, addresses community needs, and offers significant social and economic benefits. The screen industry provides ample work opportunities for locals, and education & upskilling for rangatahi, not to mention the positive economic longevity through screen tourism benefits. We urge the Waipā District Council to consider our comprehensive proposal and allocate the requested funding to support our ongoing efforts to enrich the community and drive economic growth through the screen sector in the Waikato Region.

Thank you for your consideration and support.



WAIKATO SCREEN NZ

M: +64 (0)21 731800

E: tracy@waikatoscreen.nz

W: www.waikatoscreen.nz

Submission/Event: 470

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No I don't. What has the council done about trimming its operation, stopping wasting money on non essentials, reducing unnecessary staff, stop wasting money on ruining our roads and our town, and considering the poor ratepayers, who sadly have to fund the extravagance? Remember it is ratepayer's money, for the council to spend on the ratepayers - not on council members expensive meetings/lunches/dinners paid for by the ratepayers.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
I believe that the council had acknowledged some years ago that because of the heritage listing of the water tower, it was not an option to demolish it. What happened to the \$700,000 that had been allocated to restoring the water tower which apparently mysteriously disappeared and can't be found (as per one of the council's meetings). This was ratepayers' money which appears to have been 'misplaced' by the council.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Patricia
<i>Last Name</i>	Murdoch
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	37

Submission/Event: 469

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I think the balance is as it needs to be in these times.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Please demolish the water tower. Such a lot of money. We can't keep every building once it becomes heritage. || I do think the council needs to be a bit more open about taking on feedback - such as at our TA Chamber meeting. I get that the council are passionate about their jobs and how much work it would take to bring this plans together. Rather than taking it all as criticism it would be best to seen to listen, take notes, answer but less defensive and take all the feedback on board. It's fine to give an answer as to why but you can also say look I'm hearing you and it's clear we haven't handled this in the best way. We will take this into account for future decisions etc

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Chantelle
<i>Last Name</i>	Good
<i>Organisation</i>	Varntige
<i>Id</i>	378

Submission/Event: 468

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

No comment

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

I have attached a file

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/154

Stakeholder

First Name

Peter

Last Name

Fulton

Organisation

Id

377

Submission/Event: 467

Full Response

- 1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

- 2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
We must retain the old heritage of Cambridge rather than taking easy options and demolishing our past history and iconic architecture |The council has known for a number of years what needed to be done to restore the Water Tower but has sat on its hands and done nothing, meantime the cost to restore has been increasing. |Time to ditch the feel good museum in Te Awamutu and sell the building which currently stands to cost ratepayers in excess of \$26M whenever it finally goes ahead|This is something that no one can afford and ongoing costs afterwards will be a burden for future generations |Use revenue from this to reinstate the Water Tower

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Graeme
<i>Last Name</i>	Hooker
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	376

Submission/Event: 466

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Yes, reduce discretionary grant funding. |The boards should only be using their discretionary funds for their own projects for their communities, I don't believe that the boards should be deciding what community groups are worthy and should receive rate payer money through grants. | |I agree with undertaking strengthening and reinstating the office spaces. | |I don't agree with continuing the Leamington Masterplan at this time. | |I don't agree with a pause on the Cambridge Town Hall upgrades. This project is long overdue and the sooner this is complete the sooner the people of the district can use it to its full potential and it can start paying for itself. The district has been remission its maintenance of this iconic building for years and it is time to get this sorted. | |While a new Cambridge Library is desirable I would prefer to see the Town Hall restoration project completed first. | |I agree with pausing the sports field improvements. I don't see this as a priority anytime soon.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Veronica
<i>Last Name</i>	Huxtable
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	375

Submission/Event: 465

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
 It's hard to say whether the balance is right or not. Something will always lose out but I am disappointed that the Cambridge Library has been pushed out - yet again. I visited this week and it is awful how books are now been stored on the floor under shelves. Staff working conditions are less than ideal. I do feel that the Cambridge library, Cambridge town hall improvements and pensioner housing should be prioritised over the Land Wars Museum, the TA to Pirongia cycleway and sports field improvements.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
 a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 Whilst I appreciate that the water tower is a heritage site, it hasn't been used for nearly 100 years! It isn't a building or a garden that can be visited by the public so other than visually it does nothing for the community. I appreciate that this may be regarded as a harsh comment but in today's climate councils must also look after the physical and emotional wellbeing of its current ratepayers. Ongoing support for the Cambridge Town Hall is, to me, of much greater value. It too is part of Cambridge's heritage; it is aesthetically pleasing; it is centrally located and under Simon Brew's management it is already providing increased opportunities for various cultural events (I have been to two, and only missed a third because I was away). Not everyone wishes, or is able, to journey to Hamilton or beyond. These events have been well attended which demonstrates that there is an appreciative audience for such events in our growing town. Commercial hiring opportunities will over time increase the income stream.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 No

I have attached additional information
 -

Stakeholder

First Name	Frances
Last Name	Baskerville
Organisation	
Id	374

Submission/Event: 464

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Destination Cambridge is a vital organisation that plays a role in supporting Waipa's \$216 million tourism spending and, as such, needs to remain viable. An overall increase in visitors and events to the region and a strong voice of support from the community against the funding cut, supports the Destination Cambridge members and Board's decision to find a way through. See attached figures supporting this growth. | To enable a continuation of the service, appreciating the Council's current financial position, Destination Cambridge has been working on securing opportunities with two private tourism businesses to create a 'Tourism Hub' to continue to service the visitor and local community needs, both in person and online. | However, in a financial projection for the upcoming year of operation, Destination Cambridge is still \$50,000 short to meet our current desirable outcomes. We are seeking transitional funding for all or part of this \$50,000 amount from Waipa District Council to meet this shortfall in the next financial year. This grant would offset specifically a role to continue to manage the website function, event listings, online enquiries, social activity, product development, support and advocacy of the tourism industry, and give us time to seek further income generation to remain operational, with a desire and projection that no direct Council funding would be required in future years. | At this stage, with all the changes occurring around visitor centres nationally and in the Waikato, the Cambridge Tourism Hub may become an essential component of the wider Waikato tourism visitor experience in the months and years to come. | An additional role of Destination Cambridge is to foster a sense of community and support within our tourism industry – a place to connect and collaborate. This role includes advocacy (eg. the Coach parks), hosting industry events and updates, support for new operators as they enter the tourism market and seeking new product opportunities. We currently have over 100 tourism businesses affiliated with Destination Cambridge. Their ongoing commitment to the organisation will be vital and they have offered their support for Destination Cambridge via a survey we undertook in January 2024. A very strong 100% of the respondents returned a response that they wanted the information centre to remain open (attached). | Our research shows us that tourism numbers are returning (now the second largest export earner for NZ) and we have seen a strong desire for tourists to visit Cambridge and the Waipa region.

Reasoning includes: | • Proximity to Auckland (visitors are now staying in Cambridge overnight prior to and after their flight arrival) and basing themselves here for a few days. The Waikato Expressway has meant that Cambridge is an ideal stopover or stay put location for visitors both domestic and international. Aucklanders can literally travel door to door. | •

Central position for popular tourism products such as Waitomo Caves, Hamilton Gardens, Hobbiton, even Rotorua. | • Significant increase in B & Bs and the redeveloped Masonic Hotel coming on to the accommodation market, partially meeting a shortfall in accommodation availability in Cambridge and essential to support the event industry. | •

Growth in Cambridge visitor product, particularly those wanting to ride the Te Awa River Ride, Dairy Farm visits, glow worm kayak tours, Takapoto's garden tours and wine tasting, Cambridge Distillery gin tasting, Have a go at the Velodrome, horse riding, Camjet, Sanctuary Mountain, Ross Brothers Museum, Cambridge Stud Heritage Centre and the opening of the Sports Hall of Fame development at the Grassroots Velodrome. | • The visiting friends and relatives' market is growing and is currently quite untapped in Cambridge. We are working with tourism providers to encourage visitors to spend more in our region. For example, we have a booth booked at the inaugural Waipa Home and Leisure show with five operators to promote their products and what's here in our region to our local community to be aware of when they have people staying. | • Events – we work with event organisers once they have confirmed their events in Cambridge. To help them with attracting participants to their events, we provide images, links to accommodation, other destination information, bookings where required, pop up tourism information at events, extensive event listings on our cambridge.co.nz website, noticeboard in town with upcoming events, bookings for their VIP attendees and for some smaller events such as reunions, car rallies, conferences, weddings, we suggest appropriate venues / activities / information and organise familiarisations. | • An extensive event listing of What's on in Cambridge. A Destination Cambridge volunteer seeks information about upcoming events both major, but importantly also those smaller events that are often missed from other sites. An email is sent out every Friday to those seeking

upcoming event information. The Major Event section identifies those events that will bring significant out-of-town numbers and assists the hospitality, retail and tourism sector as to what is coming up so they can prepare. | | • Local community support is provided for public transport journey planning, including beecard sales, topups, and troubleshooting, intercity bus bookings, concert bookings, new residents seeking local information, NZ and local gifts when travelling overseas. | | • Destination Cambridge owns the website Cambridge.co.nz promoting Cambridge. It has the number one website for those wanting to know more about Cambridge. It houses the extensive event listings as well as things to do and where to stay for those planning a visit to Cambridge. Daily website updates of key tourism information keeps the content fresh and relevant. | | • Production of the Cambridge map and visitor guide. Over 14,000 copies distributed to visitors, local accommodation, event participants, retailers and surrounding visitor centres. | | • Development of products to meet the interest needs of the visitor – Dairy Farm Tours are very popular. Recently a group of 55 Vietnamese businesspeople booked a dairy farm tour via the Cambridge isite. We currently provide visits to four dairy and alpaca farms around the area. | | Thank you for your consideration of the support for this vital service.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/152

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/153

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Ruth
<i>Last Name</i>	Crampton
<i>Organisation</i>	Destination Cambridge
<i>Id</i>	373

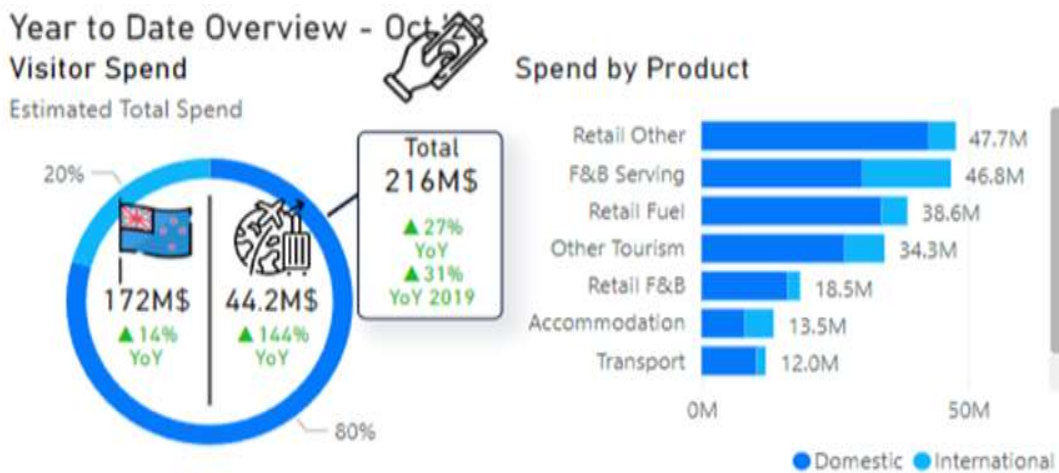
Destination Cambridge Submission to Enhanced Annual Plan April 2024

Supporting figures speak for themselves:

Cambridge.co.nz website results year on year

	Y/E 15 April 2024	Y/E 15 April 2023	Difference
Users	131,045	123,985	+ 5.69%
Sessions	176,464	161,699	+9.13%
Engaged sessions	102,428	83,308	+22.95%
Event count	1,025,737	809,311	+26.74%


Waipa Visitor Spend year to date October 2023 (provided by Hamilton Waikato Tourism). **The graph shows the benefit of tourism to all businesses in the community.**





Source: Stats NZ

Waikato tourism related jobs




Filled Jobs

12.2K

▲ 5%

vs. Feb '23



Employment Earnings

43.3M\$

▲ 17%

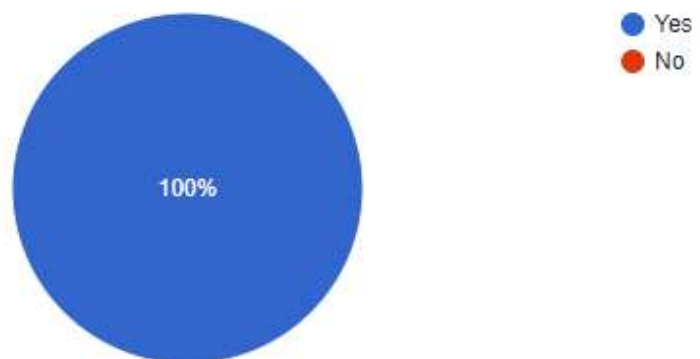
vs. Feb '23

Survey to Destination Cambridge members in January 2024

32 respondents

Do you see value in an isite operation in Cambridge?

32 responses



If yes, why?

Its the face to the town for visitors/ tourists

For Tourists

Great for those visiting the town, events hub, those new to town

We are a growing destination and local knowledge of the team can not be underestimated for tourists

All Towns and Cities need place to go for visitors to get their bearings

We co-ordinate many projects with them.

Booking agency for retail sales

as a tourism and community connector

Great for people visiting to find out what to do the many tourist destinations waikato has to offer as well as accommodation. Where to eat. Field days info.

Submission/Event: 463

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
 Thank you for this opportunity to submit. | | I support Destination Cambridge’s (Cambridge isite Visitor Information Centre) submission that seeks funding to continue its operations. | | Destination Cambridge is an important face of Cambridge that shows that Cambridge is ‘open for business’ and that we welcome and support visitors. | | Reasons to continue to fund Destination Cambridge: | | • We are a visitor town. | Council has developed Cambridge as a destination for visitors. Millions of dollars have been invested by Council in providing the wonderful facilities for events and sports that attract visitors from all around the world. These visitors bring economic benefits and a great vibe to town. For visitors seeking information, there needs to be an organisation that services their needs. | | • Our role as a credible visitor town needs the resource of a centralised information and service centre that is instantly recognisable, easy to find, and open more than just weekdays. | | • Support the things that make our district strong. | Strong towns ensure a strong district. The visitor sector is vital to Cambridge and helps to make Cambridge a strong town. We need to ensure we resource this sector appropriately through continued funding to Destination Cambridge. | | • Cambridge is a town that retains its community roots through the many exceptional community organisations that all play their part in providing services and support. Destination Cambridge is one of these organisations. It helps make Cambridge a community, and if the information centre closes this would be a loss to the town and the people who live here. | | • Why risk it? | Destination Cambridge is seeking a fair and reasonable level of funding, and it would be short-sighted to de-fund them. Why risk negative visitor experiences, reduced visibility, reduced economic growth, and reduced community wellbeing? Rather, let’s continue to give visitors and the community a great experience of our town and district.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name	Julie
Last Name	Epps
Organisation	
Id	372

Submission/Event: 462

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I think you have the balance right, to get us through the next year.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Glven that the tower is on reserve land it would be great to have a model of the tower (at least 2 metres high) with the signage as proposed.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Frances
<i>Last Name</i>	Bowler
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	371

Submission/Event: 455

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Destination Cambridge is an integral part of Cambridges promotion and follow-up with Tourist assistance. If it was a choice between the clock tower refurbishment and the loss of the Isite and its service and personal frontline, I would choose continuation of the Isite and a memorial upon demolition of the tower. Hopefully we can retain both.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Keenan
<i>Last Name</i>	Scott
<i>Organisation</i>	Alpaca Experience
<i>Id</i>	364

Submission/Event: 454

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Cambridge Town Hall: I support the funding of Cambridge Town Hall. It is an important historic venue that provides the community which much needed arts and cultural activities. Without this facility the people of Cambridge have no alternative but to drive to Hamilton for anything cultural. Having these activities in the heart of our community provides social wellbeing and cohesion to our community. It has been wonderful to see the programme offered being extended and we cannot afford to lose this vibrancy on our town.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
-

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Lyndall
<i>Last Name</i>	Hermitage
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	363

Submission/Event: 453

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

With the increasingly rapid changes happening in Cambridge, I feel it is important to retain as much of our cultural history as possible - it informs us of our past and adds to the historic ambience of our town. Therefore, I think we should do everything possible to maintain such structures as the Water Tower.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Lyndall

Last Name

Hermitage

Organisation

Id

363

Submission/Event: 452

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

I would like to put forward the volunteer work that predator free Cambridge is very worthwhile. | By continuing to fund this largely volunteer based program, the council gets excellent value for money. | Before the program I frequently saw rats in and around te Koutu. As you can imagine this is not something anyone wants. | The joy that is brought to the community in experiencing vibrant native bird life in town is something we should be proud of. | Please keep funding this

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Abigail

Last Name

Owsley

Organisation

Predator free Cambridge

Id

362

Submission/Event: 451

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

I do not support using "hard economic times" as a reason to take a decision to demolish the iconic Cambridge water tower. Poor decisions are made in this type of climate. Recent Cambridge Bridge strategies for example, the "Bridge Debacle" have shown the council to be not connected to the thinking of Cambridge residents. Balance is lacking. |The water tower predates Resthaven by 65 years. Resthaven should have considered these risks when they built and provided a no build zone to partially protect the fall zone. I am well aware that Resthaven lobby for the removal of the tower. My mother Glenys Kay Waterhouse had a room at Resthaven close to the water tower, I was told during unit purchase negotiations, by Resthaven's Property Manager, that the tower was coming down in the near future. This was in 2019. Cambridge has lost numerous iconic building features over the years. |The decision to demolish or refurbish should be deferred, with limited works done to arrest any obvious issues identified by BCD. Resthaven should remove residents from the fall zone. This issue has been undoubtedly discussed many times before Resthaven was built, it was a very obvious risk. Resthaven is a commercial business and as such should have mitigated this risk. No compensation should be paid by the Council. |Sponsors should be sought to reduce the ratepayer burden for the final project.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Peter
<i>Last Name</i>	Waterhouse
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	361

Submission/Event: 450

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Please retain funding of i-sites. They perform an important public service. You could save money by reducing the spending on cycleways and Leamington Domain to help keep this service.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Patricia
<i>Last Name</i>	Towers
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	147

Submission/Event: 449

Full Response

- 1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-
- 2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 I think predator control to protect native biodiversity needs to have a higher priority. It's not a 'nice to have' but essential. Cambridge is lucky enough to have the Nationally Critical pekapeka-tou-roa/long-tailed bat present, resident tui, grey warbler and ruru plus infrequent visits from kereru and falcon/karearea. Birds sightings are becoming more common with current trapping efforts and with the success of Sanctuary Mountain and the rural community Bush to Burbs project. How exciting!! Most of the predator control (trapping) is done by Predator Free Cambridge with it's 70+ volunteers trapping on a dozen sites around Cambridge. The traps are checked at least once a week and 'in kind' hours per year equate to over 2600 hours per year. That's cheap labour!! What isn't free, is the part-time coordinator to oversee the programme, traps, non-toxic bait and supplies required to keep this community group going and expanding. This is something that Waipa Council should be paying for given that it's been done well and has been for many years. Predator Free Cambridge isn't just about trapping, it's about education and advocacy of native animals and introduced predator pests, it's about having a community that wants to make a difference and work together towards the government initiative of Predator Free 2050. A community driven project like Predator Free Cambridge should be fully financially supported by Waipa Council.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 No

I have attached additional information
 -

Stakeholder

First Name	Karen
Last Name	Barlow
Organisation	
Id	360

Submission/Event: 448

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Please see attachment for our comments

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Please see attachment for our comments

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/151

Stakeholder

First Name

Brent

Last Name

Sheldrake

Organisation

Sport NZ

Id

359



Waipa District Council Enhanced 2024/25 Annual Plan Submission

25 April, 2024

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into the Waipa District Enhanced 24/25 Annual Plan.

As the major provider of sport and recreation facilities and services in the Waipa District, we greatly appreciate the positive outcomes Council investment provides for a wide range of sports codes, demographics, cultures, ages and abilities. We also acknowledge the challenge Council faces with balancing the various competing demands such as growth, transport, climate change and water quality in the context of the current economic climate.

Council investment into the play, active recreation and sport sector makes an enormous contribution to the overall health and wellbeing of people in Waipa. Sport NZ and Sport Waikato have been working with the play, active recreation and sport sector to develop a co-ordinated and collaborative approach for future sport and recreation facility provision. This provides Council with a high-level strategic view of infrastructure needs for the region and the evaluation criteria to prioritise investment and ultimately make better decisions.

Waipa District Council has been a partner and important contributor in the development of the Waikato Regional Active Spaces Plan, a regional strategy for active recreation and sport facilities provision. The Strategy is an important reference point, it identifies priority needs and facility developments for Waipa and

the other districts in the region, providing a blueprint to meet future needs rather than wants.

Summary

- **First, Thank you:** Sport NZ acknowledges and thanks Council for its significant contribution to play, active recreation and sport. Thanks also for the part that it plays in the strong partnership that has long existed between Sport Waikato and WDC, as evidenced by the extensive list of projects, programmes and quality opportunities that have been developed over the years.

The following **Sport NZ Active NZ Survey – Waikato Insights** have helped shape our feedback:

- The data reveals that only 56% of tamariki/rangitahi in the Waikato region currently do enough physical activity to meet Ministry of Health physical activity recommendations. This is a decline from previous years.
- The same survey revealed that there are significant levels of unmet demand in the Waikato region – 70% of young people and 80% of adults have a desire to do more physical activity.
- Of some concern is that only 68% of Adults in the Waikato region satisfied with the quality of spaces and places to be active in their community. One in four believe that they do not have access to spaces and places where they can do the physical activities they want.
- In the Waikato region 71% of young people prefer physical activities that allow them to follow their own schedule rather than someone else's. This percentage has increased significantly in recent years. Similarly, 58% of young people in the region prefer to do physical activity that is more flexible and less structured. This has increased in recent years, also.
- Participation is largely non-competitive. We note that 65% of adults and young people participate in non-competitive activities, exclusively.

Sport NZ **supports** the following themes proposed in the plan/proposal:

- Sport NZ notes that the capital works programme is primarily focussed on maintaining levels of service to your community, renewing our assets, and/or catering for growth. Sport NZ understands this approach in the current fiscal environment and makes the following comments:
 - When there is limited ability to fund new or significantly redevelop facilities it is important to maintain and renew existing assets to enable continuity and quality of service and keep facilities fit-for purpose to meet the community's needs.
 - Sport NZ is a strong proponent for taking a future focused and evidenced based approach to the planning and provision of play, active recreation

and sport spaces/places when planning for growth. When looking to the future, adequate provision needs to be made for:

- open space and sports fields
 - integrated play opportunities
 - active recreation spaces in urban neighbourhoods
 - walkable, well-connected communities
 - active transport options; and
 - consideration of locations for local sport facility provision
- Sport NZ supports inclusion of two capital projects:
 - Leamington Domain Masterplan implementation
This approach to providing a destination playground and other active recreation spaces and places is reinforced in the **Waikato Regional Active Spaces Plan 2024** - *“Considerations around future playground planning should occur alongside planning for destination spaces (via town concept planning an alike) and key locations which cater for a large volume of active recreation.*
 - Completing the finishing touches to the Cambridge and Te Ara Rimu Kihikihi cycleway projects.
Improvements to support all forms of safe active transport and recreational walking and cycling will encourage increased physical activity particularly for tamariki and rangatahi.
 - Sport NZ notes that some key play, active recreation and sport projects are paused until consultation on the 2025–34 Long Term Plan early next year.
 - Te Awamutu to Pirongia Cycleway
 - Improvements to sport fields of \$851,00 that was contained in year 4 of the 2021-31 Long Term Plan. This delay is of concern given the Waikato Regional Active Spaces Plan 2024 identifies as a regional priority to increase capacity of fields through provision of targeted flood lighting, reallocation of users, improved turf management or multiuse artificial turf. Several studies (e.g. Waikato Artificial Turf Study Hamilton and Waipa (Visitor Solutions, 2023) - Central Waikato Sub-Regional Winter Sports Field Study (GLG, 2020)) have underpinned this priority and also identified needs in Waipa. Increasing the quality and capacity of sports fields helps to meet current and future demand for field sports and in turn participation and physical activity levels of the district’s tamariki and rangatahi.
 - Sport NZ is supportive of council’s approach to the ‘Lease Model Review’ across sport grounds which has been budgeted for which will help to guide a more sustainable model around the optimisation and upkeep of these assets in the future and help guide a more strategic approach to sport field improvements funding, but this should not be the reason that improvements to sports fields (the budget of \$851k) is removed.
 - **Fees and charges** - proposed increases of 10 percent across the board, with a few exceptions

As highlighted earlier, like local government we at Sport NZ are also not immune to the geopolitical environment and rising cost of living so we support a pragmatic and fair approach to increase fees and charges at a rate that is hopefully manageable for clubs, user groups and public admissions including family groups into facilities such as pools.

About Sport New Zealand

Sport New Zealand (Sport NZ) is the crown agency responsible for contributing to the wellbeing of everybody in Aotearoa New Zealand by leading an enriching and inspiring play, active recreation and sport system.

Sport NZ's vision is simple - to get **Every Body Active** in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Our role as a kaitiaki of the system focusses on lifting the physical activity levels of all those living within Aotearoa and having the greatest possible impact on wellbeing.

We achieve our outcomes by aligning our investment through partnerships, funds and programmes to our strategic priorities set out in four-year strategic plan.

Local government is uniquely placed to support play, active recreation, and sport

Local government has a unique and critical role in the play, active recreation, and sport ecosystem, providing vital community assets that are part of the fabric of our communities along with grants and opportunities that support local communities to participate in play, active recreation, and sport.

It is clear that prioritising investment in facilities, infrastructure, resources, and opportunities to encourage participation in play, active recreation, and sport can support the wellbeing of communities and the achievement of a broad range of local government priorities and outcomes. There is clear evidence about the value of play, active recreation and sport in supporting the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our communities.

Provision of play, active recreation, and sport facilities, infrastructure, resources, and opportunities is important to a large proportion of the population.

In 2022:

- 73% of the adult population and 92% of young people (aged 5-17yrs) participated each week in play, active recreation, and sport
- 79% of adults and 63% of young people would like to be doing more play, active recreation and sport
- High deprivation, Asian and Pasifika population groups are significantly less likely to participate.¹

Research into New Zealanders' beliefs around the value of sport and active recreation in 2017 found a broad base of support for sport and active recreation and a belief in its value to New Zealand and New Zealanders. The value of sport and active recreation is

seen to lie in the contributions it makes to individuals, families, communities, and the country as a whole.²

The value of investment in play, active recreation, and sport is a cost-effective investment towards local government wellbeing outcomes

International and domestic evidence clearly demonstrates that play, sport, and active recreation generate significant value for society across multiple wellbeing domains and outcomes, many of which are specifically relevant to the outcomes sought by local government:

- Recently published research from a Social Return on Investment³ study found that for every \$1 spent on play, active recreation, and sport, there is a social return of \$2.12 to New Zealand. This means that for every dollar invested in play, active recreation, and sport, the social return is more than doubled. This is a conservative figure and the actual return, especially for those currently missing out on opportunities to be active, is likely to be higher.⁴
- In 2019 participation in play, active recreation, and sport generated \$3.32 billion return in subjective wellbeing (life satisfaction and happiness) within New Zealand.⁵

Play, active recreation and sport contribute to social, economic, environment and cultural wellbeing in the following ways:

- **Social wellbeing:**
 - Development of social skills
 - Strengthened social networks
 - Bringing communities together and increasing a sense of belonging
 - Improving pride and reducing antisocial behaviours in communities
- **Economic wellbeing:**
 - Economic value generated for local communities and businesses
 - Employment of New Zealanders in the play, active recreation, and sport sector
 - Productivity gains as a result of physical activity
 - Savings for communities as a result of the volunteer workforce
 - Economic impact of major events
- **Environmental wellbeing:**
 - Creation of pro-environmental attitudes and behaviours
 - Creation of more environmentally friendly urban environments
 - Reduced emissions from active transport
 - Improved mental wellbeing from being active in natural environments
- **Cultural wellbeing:**

- Strengthened cultural ties from participation in play, active recreation, and sport
- Increased wellbeing from participating in culturally relevant physical activity.

Sport New Zealand has developed a resource for local government that illustrates the significant value that local government investment in the local play, active recreation, and sport system delivers. The resource can be accessed here: <https://sportnz.org.nz/media/u41hdovx/the-value-of-play-active-recreation-and-sport-for-local-government.pdf>.

This document summarises the evidence about how play, active recreation, and sport can support the four types of wellbeing that local government is expected to deliver (social, economic, environmental, and cultural), and includes some relevant case studies from around New Zealand.

Conclusion

Sport NZ looks forward to continuing to work with the Waipa District Council and we are happy to provide whatever support we can to ensure WDC provides for the current and future needs of Waipa to be active in the way that they choose.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission and for your consideration.

Sport NZ Contacts

Should the Council seek information or clarification further to this submission, please contact:

BRENT SHELDRAKE
Regional Partnership Manager – Northern
M: 027 478 5122
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JO WIGGINS
Spaces and Places Consultant
M: 021 0264 2542
E: jo.wiggins@sportnz.org.nz

Submission/Event: 447

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

I think Council is doing the right thing by going back to what is totally necessary and not spending money on items that can be delayed a year or two. Admittedly some items will cost more by the time Council is able to go ahead with them but sticking to the necessary items is very wise. Council needs to make sure that the rates increase is not too burdensome on the ratepayers which I think it is doing on this occasion.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Every Council is facing tough times at the moment. You are damned if you do particular items and damned if you don't. Some people agree with what you are intending to do and others vociferously voice their opinions and expect all to tow the line and agree with what they perceive as right and must be done. Do what you perceive as being necessary for the good of the District.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Donna

Last Name

Mackinnon

Organisation

Id

158

Submission/Event: 446

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Supporting established projects in Waipā | Predator Free Cambridge (PFC) has been operating since 2018 when it started with a couple of |guys wanting to 'get stuck in and do some trapping' to help protect our native species. It was a |volunteer operation undertaking predator control with eight keen trappers at one of Cambridge's |premier public sites, Lake Te Koo Utu. 101 possums were removed from the 'inner city' lake in |just one year. A part-time coordinator was employed by Go Eco in 2020 through Waikato |Regional Council funding, to grow the group by amplifying the mahi of the group, promote the |PF2050 vision within the community and coordinate the volunteers. |Fast forward to 2024, and PFC now has over 70 volunteers trapping at 12 different sites around |Cambridge, of which 10 are on public land. There are over 350 traps in operation that are |checked every week equating to at least 50 hours of volunteer time per week. Around 5000 |possums, rats and stoats have been removed from Cambridge township, giving our native |species a fighting chance. |Cambridge is fortunate enough to have the Nationally Critical pekapeka-tou-roa/long-tailed bat |present and we see the spillover effects of birds from its close proximity to Sanctuary Mountain |Maungatautari. Cambridge has many reserves, gullies and the Waikato River running through it |that provide refuge for our native species. These are the targeted areas that PFC protects |through trapping. |PFC volunteers have also been instrumental in the bat surveys in Cambridge since 2022 for |Waipā Council. Parks Week events, talks to schools and other local groups have also been |undertaken to educate and spread the word. |PFC also offers the Cambridge community a group to meet the social needs and sense of |purpose for many people as a volunteer opportunity. Volunteering for PFC doesn't just mean |trapping, there are volunteers who support our group by undertaking administrative duties and |tunnel box making too. We are an inclusive group welcoming all community members to join in. |The exponential growth, activities participated in and current stability of PFC has only been |made possible through the dedicated efforts of a paid coordinator. Managing volunteers |(training and ongoing support), finding funding for traps, bait and supplies, running a backyard |trapping programme, recording keeping and data collection, liaising with Waipā Council, other |agencies and predator free groups, advocating for biodiversity and education of predators and |predator control are some of the roles undertaken by the coordinator. |Waipā Council provides PFC an undetermined financial amount annually plus offer storage |space to support our mahi. Open communication and working alongside Waipā Council staff |has strengthened connections between both parties and a good working relationship and trust |has developed over the years. The support and acknowledgement of what is currently being |achieved is appreciated. |Funding for the PFC coordinator position ran out in 2022 and has since been funded by Go Eco |via other unsustainable and temporary means. Continuation of the coordinator to manage the |PFC project is in jeopardy. Funding for the coordinators hours plus operational support is |needed to maintain and grow the project further. 6-8 of coordinator time per week could |maintain the PFC work. Additional hours could expand the work and link in with other predator |control and restoration projects in the area such as Bush to Burbs, Taiea Te Taiao, Sanctuary |Mountain Maungatautari, Predator Free Te Awamutu and Predator Free Tamahere in the |greater area. A Waipā coordinator could manage the predator free groups in Cambridge, Te |Awamutu and Pirongia and would be a huge asset to the PF2050 goal.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Bridget
<i>Last Name</i>	McSherry
<i>Organisation</i>	Predator Free New Zealand Trust
<i>Id</i>	358

Submission/Event: 445

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

I congratulate Council for their adoption of the Housing Implementation Plan dated April 2024 and the eight key priorities contained therein. | Waipa DC is continuing to show leadership in the area of housing -with affordability at a critical pain point within the district for both home owners and renters, as well documented in the various agenda items in your Housing sub-committee. | With that in mind, I am concerned however not to see this explicitly reflected in the draft work programme budget; whilst the commitment for the coming years is largely in staff time (deferment of pensioner housing a separate matter), I would hope in the adoption of the Housing Implementation Plan that this becomes one of the priorities of Council and as such needs to be part of someone(s) job and expected performance outcomes, not something to do if there is spare time (spoiler alert - there never is any). Dedicated resourcing allocation will be required to have any chance of the intended outcomes to be achieved; Ms Downey and Ms Russo with others provide excellent leadership but input from multiple other teams within council is required to fully address the key actions required in the identified 8 priorities. | Further as part of the FutureProof Development Strategy, Waipa DC has adopted affordable housing targets (based on your own already adopted HBA) for 2025 and subsequent years which requires significant focus and deliberate action (and therefore resource). | I don't have full insight in to required resource allocation so it may be that this already catered for -and if something has to be cut because it is not allowed for, again, I don't have enough insight to provide further suggestions. However I am submitting that in capturing the actions required, you must now also as governors ensure that staff have appropriate resources to implement your directed strategy -and that I believe could be more explicit in your proposed works programme. | A good example of this is actually achieving the already announced intention of a council initiated plan change to the DP for Inclusionary zoning provisions; as I complete this submission, April is nearly gone and the year passes by. Such an initiative takes time, co-ordination with FutureProof partners - and staff resource that must have capacity to take this on.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Aksel
<i>Last Name</i>	Bech
<i>Organisation</i>	Housing Czar - Independent Housing Advocacy
<i>Id</i>	357

Submission/Event: 444

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

No! Do not demolish the tower! It is only one of two like it in the country and that makes it fairly unique. It is an historic Cambridge landmark with heritage protection, to demolish it shows an extreme lack of foresight. It's a beautiful old brick building and it has been sad to see it neglected with long grass etc. (Why was Resthaven allowed to build so close to it????) It's much better to visit the actual structure than just look at a photo on a notice board, that's an extremely poor substitute! If it were strengthened, it could be a nice outdoor coffee spot with seating etc. Councils in general will always be short of money, but enough money seems to be getting spent on projects only some will benefit from. Cambridge is beautiful, let's not rip out all the history and what makes it unique and special. (We recently walked over the old Awapuni swing bridge, by the dam how interesting was that! And met tourists who were also enjoying the experience.) People like to see these things! Please restore the water tower.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Margaret

Last Name

Henwood

Organisation

Id

356

Submission/Event: 443

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

My reservation is around dropping the funding for the Promotion Fund, Community Events, iSites and Tourism. |It's a short term win, but the economy will come right. The reserve contributions will come. |Where councils have kept funding in place, the community will be in better shape to take advantage of the next economic boom. |This is a time for long-term thinking, not short-term reaction.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

I cannot imagine people in 500 years flocking to see the Cambridge water tower. |Let's have a nice plaque, or a model statue, or a virtual reality depiction you can see on your phone from a downloaded app. | I am also writing in support of the Predator Free Cambridge group. I am one of two people responsible for a group of traps that protect the bush around the Moon spring. |Maungatautari mountain provides a unique source of birds that come to Cambridge and some are now living here permanently. I don't recall seeing tui and kereru in town before the fence went up around the maunga. Now they are a regular part of the landscape. Another thing that makes Cambridge (and no doubt Te Awamutu) special! |The small investment by council is multiplied many times over by the volunteer labour that keeps the traps maintained. Please keep up (or increase) funding to this group.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Graham
<i>Last Name</i>	Scott
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	355

Submission/Event: 442

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I think you have it right, but I hope that the Town Hall refurbishment can be funded in the near future.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Jane
<i>Last Name</i>	Thompson
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	354

Submission/Event: 441

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
The privet trees along the river bank in Cambridge need to be removed permanently - this is a noxious weed that is bad for health - if a resident has these trees on their property they are asked to remove them. |I don't know how you can morally think of an increase to the recycling charge considering the appalling service the current contractor provides. |Get professional contract negotiators to take over the negotiating and management of contracts - we receive a shoddy service on roads and recycling because the contracts appear to be mis managed. Or make the contract process more transparent so residents understand this process better

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
As much as this is going to cost money for ratepayers - there is no replacement for history and we should preserve as much of our past as we can. Cambridge is becoming like any other provincial town it is these things that provide the point of difference. Have Heritage NZ been approached for funds? I was under the impression there was funds put aside for earthquake strengthening?

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Bobbie
<i>Last Name</i>	Moughan
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	353

Submission/Event: 440

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
Yes

I have attached additional information
https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/150

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Jo
<i>Last Name</i>	Davies-Colley
<i>Organisation</i>	Cambridge Community Board
<i>Id</i>	352

Submission on the 2024/2025 Enhanced Annual Plan

The Cambridge Community Board (CCB) acknowledges the significant financial pressures and constraints Waipa District Council is under and the resulting impact on aspirational projects, and indeed rate payers.

Pause on Projects: The CCB accepts the pause on the Te Awamutu museum project, Te Ara Wai, to be financially prudent.

The CCB submits that the Cambridge Library project planning continues in the Enhanced Annual Plan. We understand that existing budget limitations means no detailed design work could be undertaken at this point, however a comprehensive feasibility study has been completed and we believe this gives WDC the framework to begin essential early decision making around land acquisition for a future library site.

The CCB has serious concerns that if the Cambridge Library project is shelved in this annual plan, and not picked up until several years into the next Long Term Plan, that when the library eventually does get built, it will already be missing service delivery targets for the anticipated growth facing Cambridge and the surrounding communities.

We urge Waipa District Councillors to visit the Cambridge library and experience the immense pressure that library staff work under, as well as the significant space constraints for library patrons, the ever-growing collection of books stored on the floor, as well as the “cheek-by-jowl” library user experience across the building.

The CCB does not accept that the Cambridge Library project be removed from the Enhanced Annual Plan but advocates that planning continue specifically around land acquisition, and that it be kept front of mind for WDC as a key project in the first year of the next Long Term Plan.

In light of the significant and unavoidable rates increases, we believe a new library will present better value for Cambridge and Waipa residents than other significant projects.

Likewise, we understand the pause in funding for Cambridge Town Hall improvements but would like to see investment in this important community asset back in early years of the LTP.

Water Tower: The CCB accepts that removal of the water tower is the most financially prudent decision on the table but acknowledges that our community is split on the issue of demolishing this heritage structure.

Due to the Category 2 Heritage status of the water tower and the need for resource consent the CCB perceives there to be significant risk of the project cost escalating beyond the estimated budget without achieving the ultimate goal of ensuring public safety. This does not seem to be clear in the consultation document.

Rates Increases: We acknowledge the need to increase rates due to inflation and the cost of borrowing that WDC carries as well as the continued cost of growth. We also understand and want to highlight that increased rates will only add to the financial stress that many residents are already facing.

Funding Cuts: The CCB is prepared to accept funding cuts to our discretionary fund in light of the current economic environment. We would urge council not to take this a precedent-setting shift in the funding of community boards and recommend that this is reviewed at the earliest possible opportunity. The discretionary fund grants may seem small, but they go a long way to empowering our community to take ownership of their town and work together for positive outcomes.

The CCB submits that delegations to the board by council be funded in **addition** to the discretionary fund. For example, the CCB currently manages the Sister Cities relationship and this funding is granted in addition to the discretionary funding. We submit that funding for Anzac Day and Armistice Day commemorations, which are also council delegations, be in **addition** to the Discretionary Fund granted to the board by WDC. It will be very difficult for the board to operate any projects that support community wellbeing or advocacy if we are required to fund Anzac and Armistice commemorations from within the proposed smaller Discretionary Fund.

Event Funds: The CCB is concerned by the proposal to discontinue the Community Event Fund, our local community events do far more for the wellbeing of our people than just the economic benefit of bringing in people from out of town. We recommend that the criteria of the District Promotion Fund are changed so that Community Events can apply.

i-SITE: The CCB submits that some level of funding for the i-SITE should continue. The i-SITE supports local commerce and tourism through their work, as well as running key community events; this will be significantly compromised with a complete removal of funding. We also perceive a risk in duplicating this service by increasing staffing at WDC as opposed to funding this locally run and volunteer supported organisation to continue its positive work in the community. We suggest that the funding proposed for the communications team to do “online visitor promotional activity” could instead be directed to Cambridge i-SITE. A quick comparison of the i-SITE run www.cambridge.co.nz events page shows far more extensive event listings than www.whatsonwaipa.co.nz – perhaps there are some savings to be made here?

Urban mobility: There is no allocation in the EAP to further walking and cycling infrastructure. We know these safety improvements only add value to our community, especially school children. The CCB will continue to advocate for funding to be made available for walking and cycling improvements.

Further Projects: A vibrant town centre continues to be an important priority for CCB and we submit that future budgets include projects such as increased seating in Cambridge CBD, drinking fountains in Cambridge CBD as well as reserve spaces and sports fields and a business case for Riverside Park redevelopment.

Submission/Event: 439

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/149

Stakeholder

First Name

Russell

Last Name

Alexander

Organisation

Hobbiton Movie Set

Id

351



Rings Scenic Tours Limited T/ A
Hobbiton™Movie Set
501 Buckland Road, Hinuera,
Matamata, 3472
New Zealand

Waipa District Council

Dear Councilors,

I am writing to express my unwavering support for Destination Cambridge and to implore you to support their funding shortfall in the 24/25 Enhanced Annual Plan.

Tourism serves as a cornerstone of our local economy, driving economic growth, creating job opportunities, and bolstering businesses across various sectors. It is a vital source of revenue that not only sustains our livelihoods but also enriches the fabric of our community here in the Waikato region.

Destination Cambridge has been instrumental in showcasing the unique attractions and experiences that our region has to offer, including Hobbiton Movie Set. Their promotion and marketing efforts help to effectively position our district as a premier destination for domestic and international leisure travelers and business events visitors alike.

In the wake of recent challenges, the tourism industry faced due to the global pandemic, it is crucial that we continue to invest in initiatives that support tourism recovery and growth so that we as an industry can recover and be stronger than ever. Ensuring funding requirements are met for Destination Cambridge is not just an investment in our region's economic future but also in the preservation and promotion of our region's status as a top tourism destination for visitors to New Zealand.

Thank you for considering my perspective on this matter, and I trust that you will make the decision that best serves the interests of our community and our future prosperity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Alexander".

Russell Alexander

CEO and Founder

Hobbiton Movie Set

Hobbiton™Movie Set • office@hobbitontours.com • www.hobbitontours.com

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Tours Limited and Wingnut Film Productions Limited, which are independently owned and operated.

Submission/Event: 438

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

When I was asked to comment on the Cambridge cycle way I was asked for my opinion on this, which was that it should not proceed. The cost has been huge, and we are now apparently budgeting for the “finishing touches” to the Cambridge and Te Ara Rimu Kihikihi cycleway project. No cost has been given for this! I suspect that the overall cost to Cambridge has been horrendous. I thought Waka Kotahi were paying for the Cambridge Cycleway. Why is this being paid for out of Council rates? | | I notice that the contribution to Hamilton Council has been reduced. Given that, as outsiders, we are now required to pay for entry to the gardens. Why are we still paying them? | | Implementation of the Lake Te Koo Ute Concept Plan is going ahead. I oppose this on the basis that playgrounds on the upper part have been completed in this financial year, and I believe this is an unnecessary project. It would be good to know how much in total will be spent on this project. Likewise for the Leamington Domain master plan implementation! | | Given the large number of Retirement villages, do we know how much revenue is provided from them, and are they undergoing the same level of rate increases? | | If the rates increase for 24/25 is impacted by slower revenue from new construction/sale, then it would perhaps be possible to charge the new rates for the 24/25 year, and to revert to the 23/24 rates figures as a starting point for the 25/26 year?

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

See above

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Denis
<i>Last Name</i>	White
<i>Organisation</i>	N/A
<i>Id</i>	350

Submission/Event: 437

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I am happy with the balance

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
no

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Graeme
<i>Last Name</i>	Foote
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	349

Submission/Event: 436

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

No, the concentration on increasing the population of Cambridge is damaging both the lived environment and the reputation of the town. The argument that increases in the population is inevitable is based on the fact that Council has allowed developers to build more retirement and other "villages" which has attracted people here - would they have come anyway, I very much doubt it. Cambridge is becoming a concrete jungle and Council's concentration on corporate issues rather than community issues speaks volumes to what Council thinks of its residents. The balance certainly is not right. Residents should come first, not corporations.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

The Cambridge Water Tower is a historic part of this town. It had an important role in bringing water to the inhabitants of Cambridge. The lack of Council's respect to heritage in Cambridge and Waipa as a whole is appalling.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Jo

Last Name

Barnes

Organisation

Id

348

Submission/Event: 435

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I very much believe that funding for the Town Hall should be increased as it is the centre piece for our community. It provides the perfect venue for music, entertainment, festivals and other events. |Funding should be increased for the Town Hall so that it functions better. We could be the centre for musical excellence as well as sport ! That would be such a huge benefit for our community as well as bringing joy and pleasure to many people.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
This is also an historic monument. Please do not destroy it. Restore it and then celebrate it.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
-

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Judith
<i>Last Name</i>	Browne
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	347

Submission/Event: 434

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I think you need to stop taking the parking away. What you have done in Bryce St is a disgrace. It seems you have a vendetta against the elderly who needed that parking to visit friends and family at the Moxon centre, meet for lunch at the cafe etc. You have also taken away the ability of the residents to have parking for visiting family and friends. How dare you!
|All of the humps and bumps are such overkill. Hopefully we will be able to change the Council next election and take advantage of the new Governments offer to provide funds to remove them.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
I have already had my say on the Water Tower. Of course it should be restored. | |Remove the Hamilton payment yes, as they are now charging us to enter the gardens. | |The I-site is an important part of the very large Cambridge tourism of course the payments should continue. | |Te Ara Wai needs to be permanently taken out of the equation. I haven't spoken to anyone in the Waipa District is in favour of it. It is a VANITY PROJECT and as such should not go ahead. The district will never be able to afford such a huge costing white elephant.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Norma
<i>Last Name</i>	Mackie
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	276

Submission/Event: 433

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

We believe reducing funding to Cambridge i-site will be detrimental to our town. |From the perspective of the Cambridge Christmas Festival the Cambridge i-site assists with promoting our festival throughout our town and beyond. They promoted our shop and Santa visits reaching many more people and places than we have been able to in the past. |This assisted not only us to raise funds for our community but brought many more visitors to other businesses throughout the town.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Philippa

Last Name

D'Ath

Organisation

Cambridge Christmas Festival Society
Incorporated

Id

346

Submission/Event: 432

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
We need to continue to question on going maintenance. Is it necessary now. We are still getting new footpaths being put in. These should be stopped an redirected elsewhere. Tighter cost control is needed on business as usual. |Do we need to slow down growth on new blocks. Construction is slowing down, let's take time to breath. Restrict sale of developments over time. |Are we questioning what a council should provide? Do we need as many libraries, museums? Is it as relevant in the current times. What do we need to provide in the future?|Do we not need future planning on new bridge?|How do we keep Waipa an attractive place to live?|Do we need better control/ supervision of maintenance contracts on roads etc, with responsibility of doing a good job going back on contractors.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Does this have to be done immediatly?

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Justin
<i>Last Name</i>	Read
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	344

Submission/Event: 431

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Bill
<i>Last Name</i>	Robinson
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	335

Submission/Event: 430

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/148

Stakeholder

First Name

Peter

Last Name

Nation

Organisation

New Zealand National Fieldays Society Inc

Id

333



18 April 2024

**Submission to Long Term Plan
Specifically funding for Hamilton/Waikato Tourism**

Background

The New Zealand National Fieldays Society Inc (**Society**) is an incorporated Society and a registered charity whose office is situated at 125 Mystery Creek Road, Hamilton, New Zealand. The Society operates within the Waipa District Council's territorial boundaries. However, our impacts stretch across the Waikato region and New Zealand and beyond.

The Society is a member-based organisation governed by an independent Board and operated by 31 full-time staff along with 200 volunteers and contractors. We take great pride in our contribution to the community and the economy of the Waikato Region and New Zealand.

The Society owns and operates the event facility known as the Mystery Creek Event Centre (**MCEC**), which comprises 114ha of freehold land and buildings along with associated event related infrastructure.

The Society owns the event brand Fieldays® and stages many other events (non-owned) from the MCEC event platform. In the 2022/2023-year MCEC held 40+ events across the calendar year. The Society runs the world-renowned event Fieldays annually in June. This event alone contributes in excess of \$480m annually to the NZ economy, \$180m to the Waikato economy and is estimated to contribute to over 2,500 equivalent full-time jobs.

The following is a summary of the contribution the Fieldays attracts annually:

- More than 40 countries from all corners of the globe.
- Over 300 media both nationally and internationally register to attend Fieldays.
- Fieldays is the largest event of its type in the Southern Hemisphere and ranks in the top 5 events of its type on the world stage.
- As a registered charity, the Society makes a considerable contribution to the community through sponsorships, donations, and educational contribution.
- The Society has operated its business for 53 years from the MCEC site and the Fieldays event for 55 years.

The Society is an independent entity and does not attract local or central Government funding for its operation. The organisation is funded by running a commercially sustainable business model funded predominantly by events and sponsorship. Various Government agencies sponsor sub events of Fieldays; however, in the greater business, this funding is minimal.

The basis on why we consider the Hamilton Waikato Tourism (HWT) entity should be funded and retained.

- It is well documented that Hamilton City is now the fastest growing city in New Zealand. We would argue that Waikato is the fastest growing region. Therefore, the fastest growing region should be represented for the attraction of tourism and events.

- We should be clear that Waikato is not a destination for tourism like Rotorua or Queenstown for example. Therefore, it requires a higher degree of promotion and marketing than many regions.
- This region is however famous for iconic destinations which while popular need marketing. Many organisations like MCEC, Hobbiton, Waitomo and H3 for example spend substantial investment in marketing their individual needs. However, the region would be underrepresented should HWT not exist in our opinion.
- Like any business in growth mode, we should be investing in growth not divesting. We should capitalise on our strengths, promoting our region and planning for the population growth, investments that come with that growth and attracting both events, conferences, tourists and day visitors from other regions and tourists from international destinations.
- With the demise of I-Sites in the region, we risk having no promotion at all, and the region overall may risk being labelled as having the lights out when it comes to attractions. Other regions will capitalise on this lights- out opportunity we believe.
- It would seem that the region should look at another way of investing in promotion, taking the average economic contribution of the collective and attributing a ratio to then create a funding mechanism. Many of the large operators work hard to bring economic benefit to the region, at their own cost as a business, while paying rates and membership to the likes of HWT, and then seeing little investment back in support of these attractions and events of both regional and national significance.
- This region for example is the heart of high-performance sport (Cycling, Rowing, Motorsport, Marathons, Water skiing) to name a few, yet these attractions are under invested in as an ongoing single point of difference to the region and townships.
- The Tourism and events market bring huge economic benefit to all towns and cities within our region (not valued) and thus cannot be measured. This contribution is at the heart of business, business growth and ratepayer income to councils.
- We would argue strongly that an Event and Tourism body has much clearer economic outcomes and contributions than many other ratepayer funded lines and we are confused as to the cuts proposed for HWT, which is really a small proportion of total rate take by all councils, yet benefits the region and ratepayers hugely.
- We would also comment, we feel HWT does need some renewed focus to meet the changing needs and opportunities of our region but underfunding it will not capitalise on these opportunities.

We urge all Councils to review their ongoing contribution to this organisation, with a view to placing funding levels back to a similar level as the past.

The risk of losing it will mean our growing region will not be represented and we will effectively hand growth opportunity to other regions who seem very well posed to capitalise on growth and opportunity (e.g. Christchurch/Canterbury).

Yours sincerely



Peter Nation
Chief Executive Officer

Submission/Event: 429

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

THE CHAMBER SUPPORTS | |The Chamber supports council's 'back to basics' approach to the proposed capital works. |The Chamber supports the Enhanced Annual Plan (EAP) pausing key projects this year so that they can be fully considered in next year's 2025-35 LTP. (6 projects listed in the EAP page 11) | • Te Ara Wai – a New Zealand Land Wars Museum planned for Te Awamutu | • A new Cambridge Library | • Cambridge Town Hall upgrades | • The Te Awamutu to Pirongia Cycleway | • Construction of new pensioner housing | • Sports fields improvements | |The Chamber supports, the five projects council is planning to do in 2024/25. (EAP page 11) | |The Chamber supports, council no longer funding or temporarily reducing the amount spent on some planned renewals. (This includes renewals in cemeteries, libraries, parks and reserves, property, public toilets, community halls, roading and footpaths, water and wastewater.) | |The Chamber supports the increase in fees and charges annually, to reflect the true cost of providing services and to ensure an unsubsidised user pay approach. | |The Chamber supports a scaled back Te Ara Wai, the New Zealand land war museum destined to go into the old Bunnings Building which will be great for Te Awamutu and the Waipā District. | |The Chamber is concerned that contestable projects do not have a cost / benefit assessment. |The Chamber supports the selling of surplus property which would contribute to the available the budget. | |The Chamber supports the restoration of the Cambridge Water Tower, but submits that this should be by a targeted rate for Cambridge only, if the majority of Cambridge rate payers want this. | |The Chamber suggests a massive scale back in the current projects for a new Cambridge Library, the Cambridge Town Hall upgrades, the Te Awamutu to Pirongia Cycleway and the Te Ara Wai museum, all projects which will be contested in the next LTP. | |THE CHAMBER DOES NOT SUPPORT |The Chamber does not support the cutting the funding for local Community organisations, grants and event funding and considers that further cuts be made in capital and growth funding. For clarity: Maintain the existing level of Council discretionary grant funding, District Promotion Fund, Heritage Fund and Community Events Fund. The Chamber considers that this can be achieved by further reduction in capital spending from \$158.4m. | |The chamber does not support the quantum of investment allocated to support growth expectations which, according to councils analysis of keys risks, are at best uncertain. The Chamber is aware of current job losses in the building sector, reduced consent activity and delays in payment of Development Contributions. | |The Chamber does not support the total elimination of funding to both iSites. The Chamber requests continued, possibly reduced funding, for the Cambridge and Te Awamutu iSites, to enable both Trusts to transition to a lower cost model, supported by volunteers. The Chamber makes the point that the iSites Board and other volunteers have represented the district to domestic and international visitors and provided services to residents for decades. The cessation of the grants without consultation is unacceptable. | |CAPITAL PROGRAMME |The Chamber is alarmed that it is proposed that the 2024/25 financial year starts with \$296.8m debt and ends with \$398.5m debt. | |A big capital expenditure programme of over \$158 million is earmarked for core activities like wastewater (\$47.1 million), roads and footpaths (\$47.3 million), stormwater (\$24.8 million) and water (\$20.7 million). | |The Chamber submits that further capital projects especially including projects with limited economic benefit be scaled back to maintain funding for community organisations. |Possibly Council has over borrowed in the good times and is now considering huge rate increases in the middle of a recession. | |Chamber is concerned about the quantum of capital investment allocated to support growth expectations which, according to councils analysis of keys risks, are at best uncertain. |The draft plan notes that at the end of the 2024/25 year, 57.8 percent of council debt is estimated to be growth-related. Growth-related three waters debt makes up 35 percent of the total debt. | |Infrastructure costs significantly impact council debt levels, especially for high-growth councils that are seeing slowdown based on the current economic climate. This concern is expressed by council in their referenced revised risk assessment. | |Council Revised Risk Assessment (ECM_11197751_v6) says: |The economic environment will continue to be uncertain. Interest rates remain relatively high. Economic activity has reduced, with most recent GDP information confirming New Zealand is in an economic recession. Reduced resource and building consent activity reducing the level of vested assets and development contributions. Should actual population growth be less than

forecast, a risk is building infrastructure without the ability to recover costs quickly via development contribution revenue. | | Appendix | | Risks assessed as HIGH by Council for the Enhanced Annual Plan are as follows | (in no specific order) | | • The economic environment will continue to be uncertain. Interest rates remain relatively high. Economic activity has reduced, with most recent GDP information confirming New Zealand is in an economic recession. Reduced resource and building consent activity reducing the level of vested assets and development contributions. Should actual population growth be less than forecast, a risk is building infrastructure without the ability to recover costs quickly via development contribution revenue. | | • Risk that Projects requiring community funding are not able to proceed because fundraising is unsuccessful either in terms of reaching the agreed target or timeframe. Projects dependent on successful fundraising initiatives include Te Ara Wai and the Pirongia – Ngā Roto – Te Awamutu cycling connection. | | • Risk that a significant emergency event occurs during the next 10- year period which Council cannot afford to fund within the current budgets. | | • Additional costs and complexity added by legislative change and reform as a result of central government initiatives. | | • The risk that the water demand exceeds 190 litres/person/day and capital infrastructure will need to be brought forward to match increased demand. If capital infrastructure is brought forward to meet increased water demand there will be consequential increases in capital expenditure which will be funded through debt, development contributions and depreciation. | | • Risk of insufficient internal and external resources available to undertake capital works and maintain operational needs in the years outlined in the financial statements, over and above resourcing required for business as usual responsibilities. | | 2024/25 Annual Plan – review of significant assumptions from 2021-31 Long Term Plan | ECM_11197751_v6_2024-25 Annual Plan. Revised assumptions from 2021-31 LTP

- 2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
- b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 The Chamber supports the restoration of the Cambridge Water Tower, but submits that this should be by a targeted rate for Cambridge only, if the majority of Cambridge rate payers want this.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 Yes

I have attached additional information
https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/147

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Fran
<i>Last Name</i>	Jones
<i>Organisation</i>	Te Awamutu Business Chamber
<i>Id</i>	332

Te Awamutu Business Chamber Submission on Draft 2024/25 Enhanced Annual Plan

Te Awamutu Business Chamber
PO Box 608
Te Awamutu 3800

Waipā District Council
Private Bag 2402
Te Awamutu 3840

25 April 2023

To the Mayor and Councillors

Enhanced Annual Plan – Submission

Enhanced Annual Plan key points

The Enhanced Annual Plan Draft details the Council focus for the next 12 months.

This Annual Plan will be followed in 2025 by a delayed 2025-35 Long Term Plan (LTP) covering the next 10 years, providing a comprehensive outline of planned activity going forward.

Waipā District Council has proposed an average rates increase of 14.8 percent, after calling on \$5.5 million in reserves funding to reduce the rise from an otherwise 16 percent increase. There is no indication of forward rate rises for the out years.

The Chamber wishes to present their submission verbally.

THE CHAMBER AND COMMUNITY

Te Awamutu Business Chamber has worked with local business since 1911. The Chamber helps to create an environment where businesses thrive. This depends on a strong community supporting Te Awamutu as a place where people choose to live.

The Chamber is an independent voluntary organisation run by business owners who freely give their time for the benefit of the community. Over the last 40 years the Chamber has contributed to the vibrancy and economic sustainability of the community. The Chamber has done this without regular council grant funding.

There are many community organisations in Waipā that contribute to the success of our towns and districts. People live in Te Awamutu because of a rich and vital community which, has until now has been in partnership with Waipā District Council.

The Chamber is concerned about the decision to cut funding to the iSites and community groups without giving these groups the courtesy to hear their views and consider other options they may present. These groups are made up of members of the community who give their time freely for the benefit of the community. The quantum of money saved by cutting local community support and event funding is insignificant compared to the savings available from several major projects.

Chamber submits that existing funding for local community organisations be maintained and several major projects be reduced in scale or delayed.

The Chamber has suggested many ideas that would benefit Te Awamutu. These have been endorsed by Te Awamutu/Kihikihi Community Board and supported by the community but seem to be ignored by Council. An example is Holmes Garage Community space idea, the Youth Business Incubator and the outcomes from Who Are We Te Awamutu survey which included improving main shopping street and diverting trucks away from the main street. A seemingly adversarial relationship with council needs to be rectified.

Chamber submits that further growth projects could be scaled back to maintain funding for community organisations. Projects with limited economic benefit, for example spending \$5m at Memorial Park, sport ground enhancement, cycleways, rural road sealing could be delayed until more certain times. Outside of growth projects, there seems to be little assessment of the economic benefit of projects.

The Chamber strongly submits for Council to find efficiency in their own operations and use of consultants, which is a huge cost item that keeps growing.

What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

THE CHAMBER SUPPORTS

The Chamber supports council's 'back to basics' approach to the proposed capital works.

The Chamber supports the Enhanced Annual Plan (EAP) pausing key projects this year so that they can be fully considered in next year's 2025-35 LTP. (6 projects listed in the EAP page 11)

- Te Ara Wai – a New Zealand Land Wars Museum planned for Te Awamutu
- A new Cambridge Library
- Cambridge Town Hall upgrades
- The Te Awamutu to Pirongia Cycleway
- Construction of new pensioner housing
- Sports fields improvements

The Chamber supports, the five projects council is planning to do in 2024/25. (EAP page 11)

The Chamber supports, council no longer funding or temporarily reducing the amount spent on some planned renewals. (This includes renewals in cemeteries, libraries, parks and reserves, property, public toilets, community halls, roading and footpaths, water and wastewater.)

The Chamber supports the increase in fees and charges annually, to reflect the true cost of providing services and to ensure an unsubsidised user pay approach.

The Chamber supports a scaled back Te Ara Wai, the New Zealand land war museum destined to go into the old Bunnings Building which will be great for Te Awamutu and the Waipā District.

The Chamber is concerned that contestable projects do not have a cost / benefit assessment.

The Chamber supports the selling of surplus property which would contribute to the available the budget.

The Chamber supports the restoration of the Cambridge Water Tower, but submits that this should be by a targeted rate for Cambridge only, if the majority of Cambridge rate payers want this.

The Chamber suggests a massive scale back in the current projects for a new Cambridge Library, the Cambridge Town Hall upgrades, the Te Awamutu to Pirongia Cycleway and the Te Ara Wai museum, all projects which will be contested in the next LTP.

THE CHAMBER DOES NOT SUPPORT

The Chamber does not support the cutting the funding for **local** Community organisations, grants and event funding and considers that further cuts be made in capital and growth funding.

For clarity: Maintain the existing level of Council discretionary grant funding, District Promotion Fund, Heritage Fund and Community Events Fund. The Chamber considers that this can be achieved by further reduction in capital spending from \$158.4m.

The chamber does not support **the quantum of investment allocated to support growth expectations which, according to councils analysis of keys risks, are at best uncertain.** The Chamber is aware of current job losses in the building sector, reduced consent activity and delays in payment of Development Contributions.

The Chamber does not support the total elimination of funding to both iSites.

The Chamber requests continued, possibly reduced funding, for the Cambridge and Te Awamutu iSites, to enable both Trusts to transition to a lower cost model, supported by volunteers. The Chamber makes the point that the iSites Board and other volunteers have represented the district to domestic and international visitors and provided services to residents for decades. The cessation of the grants without consultation is unacceptable.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The Chamber is alarmed that it is proposed that the 2024/25 financial year starts with \$296.8m debt and ends with \$398.5m debt.

A big capital expenditure programme of over \$158 million is earmarked for core activities like wastewater (\$47.1 million), roads and footpaths (\$47.3 million), storm water (\$24.8 million) and water (\$20.7 million).

The Chamber submits that further capital projects especially including projects with limited economic benefit be scaled back to maintain funding for community organisations.

Possibly Council has over borrowed in the good times and is now considering huge rate increases in the middle of a recession.

Chamber is concerned about the quantum of capital investment allocated to support growth expectations which, according to councils analysis of keys risks, are at best uncertain.

The draft plan notes that at the end of the 2024/25 year, 57.8 percent of council debt is estimated to be growth-related. Growth-related three waters debt makes up 35 percent of the total debt.

Infrastructure costs significantly impact council debt levels, especially for high-growth councils that are seeing slowdown based on the current economic climate. This concern is expressed by council in their referenced revised risk assessment.

Council Revised Risk Assessment (ECM_11197751_v6) says:

The economic environment will continue to be uncertain. Interest rates remain relatively high. Economic activity has reduced, with most recent GDP information confirming New Zealand is in an economic recession. Reduced resource and building consent activity reducing the level of vested assets and development contributions.

Should actual population growth be less than forecast, a risk is building infrastructure without the ability to recover costs quickly via development contribution revenue.

Appendix

**Risks assessed as HIGH by Council for the Enhanced Annual Plan are as follows
(in no specific order)**

- The economic environment will continue to be uncertain. Interest rates remain relatively high. Economic activity has reduced, with most recent GDP information confirming New Zealand is in an economic recession. Reduced resource and building consent activity reducing the level of vested assets and development contributions. Should actual population growth be less than forecast, a risk is building infrastructure without the ability to recover costs quickly via development contribution revenue.
- Risk that Projects requiring community funding are not able to proceed because fundraising is unsuccessful either in terms of reaching the agreed target or timeframe. Projects dependent on successful fundraising initiatives include Te Ara Wai and the Pirongia – Ngā Roto – Te Awamutu cycling connection.
- Risk that a significant emergency event occurs during the next 10- year period which Council cannot afford to fund within the current budgets.
- Additional costs and complexity added by legislative change and reform as a result of central government initiatives.
- The risk that the water demand exceeds 190 litres/person/day and capital infrastructure will need to be brought forward to match increased demand. If capital infrastructure is brought forward to meet increased water demand there will be consequential increases in capital expenditure which will be funded through debt, development contributions and depreciation.
- Risk of insufficient internal and external resources available to undertake capital works and maintain operational needs in the years outlined in the financial statements, over and above resourcing required for business as usual responsibilities.

[2024/25 Annual Plan – review of significant assumptions from 2021-31 Long Term Plan](#)

ECM_11197751_v6_2024-25 Annual Plan. Revised assumptions from 2021-31 LTP

Submission/Event: 428

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
The Cambridge Town Hall is an important community facility and deserves to be fully funded to help keep its status. Please reconsider and provide more money to support it. Many different sectors of the town's community use and appreciate the Town Hall.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Heritage is a relative term. The water tower is not aesthetically beautiful, and if it has no use, should be removed.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Kate
<i>Last Name</i>	Hillerton
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	331

Submission/Event: 427

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I do not believe reducing the grants to the community is right. I believe the projects that are on hold is good and yes the increase in rates but do not agree to a reduction in community grants.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Pixie
<i>Last Name</i>	Stockman
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	330

Submission/Event: 425

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I think you can't possibly spend so much money on the clock tower which gives almost nothing to the community and then cut back on funding the town hall. |I am a rate payer and i want to fund the town hall. It is the heart of the town, and where people gather and meet. Don't raise our rates and then under-fund the town hall? Who the hell makes these daft decisions????

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Please just fund the town hall properly! For gods sake!

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Anna
<i>Last Name</i>	Leese
<i>Organisation</i>	Rate payer
<i>Id</i>	328

Submission/Event: 424

Full
Res
ponse

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-
2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

I strongly OBJECT & DO NOT support the Annual Plan; 2024 – 2025 | The Annual Plan is UNAFFORDABLE! | The Annual Plan is UNSUSTAINABLE! | The Annual Plan is PRICE GOUGING ratepayers, through publicly unsanctioned GROWTH, negatively increasing DEBT LEVELS! Growth is neither being forced onto Council and the district, as the Mayor has proven that Growth can be deferred and STOPPED – but it’s a CHOICE that Council makes without the PEOPLE ‘having a say.’ | CONCERNS - OBJECTING to, and NOT supporting the Annual Plan; 2024 -2025 (33 Pages + | Addendum/ Letter): | INTRODUCTION: | In my opinion, nothing regarding Waipa District Councils proposed rates increase of 14.8% is; honest, transparent, nor having any true relationship to; the Three Waters Costs or, the cost of living, or inflationary cost increases, as the 14.8% proposed rates increase far exceeds the impacts of such. | Simply the 14.8% proposed rates increases are; a) Unsustainable. (WDC; Audit & Risk Report/ Agenda: March 13th 2023; Page 25) | b) Unaffordable. (WDC; Audit & Risk Report/ Agenda: March 13th 2023; Page 25) And demonstrates; | c) Non prudent, fiscal irresponsibility; where Council is ‘incapable’ and ‘failing to deliver’. | (WDC; Audit & Risk Report/ Agenda: March 13th 2023; Page 25 WDC; Audit & Risk Report/ Agenda: June 12th 2023; Page 26) | Nothing of the document, or meetings attended on the subject matter of ‘Annual Plan’, have instilled confidence within myself to Councils ability to PLAN, or mitigate such at the very least in making rates remotely affordable in accordance with Clauses 10, 11 & 17 of the Local Government Act – its most certainly, not for having been repeatedly warned by experts and Central Government, or myself over the last 15 years, to which my predictions have been ‘bang on’ – so why can’t WDC be ‘bang on’? | Yet here we are now? | Ratepayers are ONLY here now, in this very precarious financial position facing HUGE RATES increases, not by themselves, but because of you Council Elect, and the inept actions and leadership within Council, failing again; to PLAN, and have the foresight to mitigate or account for such, its’ not that we have not encountered in the past 10 years, global events, from which Council should have learnt from and PLANNED ahead for - ONLY something that can be achieved, by having competent, experienced staff – something I DO NOT, and struggle to see in my opinion at Council, even within this draft document – is this not something that Council should be focusing on as a priority, employing cost affordable capable individuals? | Both Council's actions or lack thereof, and the outcomes of the draft Annual Plan are reflected in WDC’s shocking and revealing audit of the organisation; | (WDC; Audit & Risk Report/ Agenda: March 13th 2023; Page 25, WDC; Audit & Risk Report/ Agenda: June 12th 2023; Page 26).....VERY HIGH RISK of; ‘incapable staff’, ‘failing to deliver’, ‘failing to communicate to the public’, and district being ‘financially unsustainable’, not my words, the words of WDC. | Nothing about the proposed rates increases has CHANGED over the past 15 years – the onslaught by Council is relentless, with unaffordable, unsustainable increases – accompanied by evolving more elaborate excuses and feeble attempts to win awards to deflect – never taking responsibility or accountability for placing the district in this very precarious irreversible position – likely to ONLY mirror the present, or worsen in years to come! | As far back as 2011, not even the procurement of the Deloitte’s Report, at a cost of \$80,000 approximately to ratepayers, was enough to curb Councils lavish unsustainable spending habits, and forecasted to have a negatively profound effect on the financial sustainability of the district – true words from the wise, as the situation has worsened, with Council Expenditure and District Wide Debt Levels Exponentially Increasing, to a point of no return or breathing room. | The longevity of something can only be attributed to how it’s nurtured, protected and cared for – neglect it, ignore it, gouge it, you are only destined to destroy what’s precious to you, and in this case the district and the ratepayer base. | The financial sustainability of the ratepayers needs protecting, or Council Elect, RISK losing the district and Council, all thanks to ignorance and arrogance in my opinion – as if not for ratepayers, Council would not EXIST – so if ratepayers are willing, and prepared to tolerate, services and staff cuts in making rates affordable, then Council should ACT accordingly, as it’s not their call. | On, 25th August 2012, you may recall a successful public demonstration (March & Petition Protest) to OBJECT to the proposed rates increases at the time, a proposed rates increase of 4.8% no less, considered at the time as being unaffordable and unsustainable, and here we are now with 14.8% being proposed - Council Elect, you are deluding yourselves in thinking this is acceptable, only highlighting your inexperience and knowledge in the

administration and management of the district – profoundly costing ratepayers. || And to think now, that a proposed rates increase of 14.8% is fiscally responsible, borders on utter; madness, insanity and absurdity – anyone arguing to be professional, competent and experienced, would arguably have planned, or at least had the foresight, or contingency to avoid the inevitable having already endured global impacting events in the last decade.....yet here we are, nowhere near any Council Plan in a bulls roar, and elaborate excuse after excuse, readying yourself to gouge ratepayers for a lack thereof prudent fiscal responsibility. || To demonstrate this, let's look at the proposed rates increases in the 2018-2028 LTP, and compared to this document (a document at the time said by Council as being 'ambitious' and 'achievable'), highlights a proposed rates increase of 1000% and over, to then and now, in just a few years. || ABSOLUTELY SHOCKING – where's the PLANNING, where's the experience, where's the knowledge? || And there are NO 10 Year LTP's, NO 10 year LTP ever sees the day of light past three years, with every detail being CHANGED.....so STOP calling it such! || Instead, this Council under the loosely so called watch full eye of Council Elect has NOW made things over 1000% worse for ratepayers and the district – Thank you for nothing! || And now I have 3050 reasons to NOT trust Council! || In summary of the Introduction; how is the proposed rates increase of 14.8%, and its comparison with the 2018-2028 LTP in having over 1000% increase to the proposed rates increase identified in that document for the same period, considered in accordance with Clause 10, 11 & 17 LGA, in maintaining the health, wellbeing, and rates affordability of the district? Especially, when Council has used the excuse that growth will pay for itself, helping the district – when has it ever? All we have seen are obscene rates increases, urban chaos, congestion, environmental disasters, greater demand on resources, and constantly neglected infrastructure - all by the hands of our Council. || BELOW I WILL CONVEY MY CONCERNS TO OBJECTING AND NOT SUPPORTING THE 2024-2025 ANNUAL PLAN, QUESTIONING THE VERY NATURE OF WHY RATEPAYERS SHOULD BE EXPECTED to HONOUR PAYING RATES FOR A DOCUMENT THAT DEMONSTRATES SUCH UNPROFESSIONAL FISCAL IRRESPONSIBILITY IN THESE AUSTERE TIMES; || CONCERNS || CONCERNS: GENERAL || - CONCERN ONE: || Council ONLY exists because of Ratepayers: || Council and Elected Council needs to be reminded, as to whom they are PAID to |represent, that is – the RATEPAYERS not themselves. || Without RATEPAYERS, Council and Elected Council would NOT EXIST. || Without RATEPAYERS, Council and Elected Council would NOT have access to 79% of FUNDS - a significant portion of their REVENUE SOURCE. || The district is funded majority by RATEPAYER FUNDS, not COUNCIL FUNDS (as COUNCIL has NO FUNDS), FUNDING IS ONLY ACHIEVED primarily due to RATES, FEES/ COMPLIANCE CHARGES, and DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS all collected off again residents and ratepayers. || Therefore, it goes without saying that RATEPAYERS – HEALTH, WELLBEING, FINANCIAL SECURITY and SUSTAINABILITY should be both Council and Council Elects PARAMOUNT PREROGATIVE not their own AGENDA. || Councils nationally have lost sight of; || ☒ Their primary objective. || ☒ To whom they represent. || Honesty, Accountability and Transparency, are merely brandished terms to instil confidence and false hope to the masses, just as the illusion of having complaint regulatory policy, and procedure in accordance with the LGA – yet with the ever increasing closed door, public excluded mentality, Council is likening itself more to a secret society than a Public Council for the PEOPLE. || Council and Council Elect should heed the warning signs that once plagued Tauranga District Council, who took its funding source (ratepayers) for granted, just as what appears to be occurring here in Waipa in my opinion, before its untimely catastrophic financial demise, now under Central Government Stewardship, because Council cannot be TRUSTED. || Just how far off is Waipa from becoming a Tauranga's 'Bella Vista'? All it took was a drop in the bucket to send it over the edge. In these austere times; on the cusp of GFC recovery, now in a recession, job insecurity, pay freezes, public sector job cuts (oh but NOT Waipa) has Council and Council Elect PRUDENTLY and TRUTHFULLY taken into consideration all feasible fiscally responsible options to ensuring the district remains affordable and sustainable to mitigate the VERY REAL - VERY HIGH RISKS as outline in the WDC – Audit and Risk Reports: March 13th 2023; Page 25? || Reference: <https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/business/513871/companies-more-selective-about-who-gets-salary-increases-recruitment-agency> || Simply the answer in my opinion is a resounding NO, as rates increases continue to be higher than forecasted in the 10 Year LTP, and Annual Plan's – there appears NO bounds to Councils relentless onslaught to price gouging of ratepayers – growth is doing nothing to offset this, except to bring unprecedented debt levels, and heartache. || HOW long is it before our District potentially falls to a similar fate of Tauranga District Council.....one month, six months, a year or two? || - CONCERN TWO: || Calling the Annual Plan and 'Enhanced' Annual Plan: || Council and Council Elect, please desist from misleading the people into believing that this Annual Plan is anything other than being a 'less than ordinary' Annual Plan, as required by law for Council to prepare annually. || This is NOT an 'enhanced' document, and should NOT be termed as such, or used to falsely describe the Annual Plan (a document that Council should be more than capable of preparing as required to do so on an Annual basis) – and, as it stands, it's NOT providing anything greater in value or quality, instead dishing up misery and

heartache for the district. || The Annual Plan is nothing more, and nothing less than 'less than ordinary'. There is nothing 'special' about this Annual Plan, especially when compared with the 2018-2028 LTP, even the 2021-2031 LTP – only then do you realise Council and Council Elect's catastrophic FAILURE in my opinion – and there is NO EXCUSE from Elected Members trying to justify their actions publicly to a system that they quoted as being BROKEN – this has always been the system regardless, it may not be a perfect system, but it is the system, and has been to the end of time, so if you cannot plan or have the foresight to work around this, then it only exemplifies certain individuals inexperience and lack thereof knowledge to be in that position in the first place, in my opinion. || If Council and Council Elect, are struggling to find more aptly, accurate, truthful terms to best describe the Annual Plan, maybe you can choose one or more from below, in my opinion; | a) Fiscally irresponsible | b) Unsustainable | c) Unaffordable | d) Unobtainable | e) Negligent | f) Overly ambitious | g) Extortionate | h) Price gouging of ratepayers | i) Unprofessionally delayed | | Below are references to WDC Audit & Risk Reports/ Agenda's, highlighting the RISKS, but no ordinary risks, that is; low, medium, or high risks – instead outlining VERY HIGH RISKS, that are profoundly affecting the, Council, the district and costing ratepayers dearly financially. | | What's above VERY HIGH RISK? Bankrupt/ Insolvent???

|| Council and Council Elect have known about these RISKS for at least over a year now, | yet nothing in my opinion appears to have been planned to mitigate such, instead things have gotten worse for the district and ratepayers, as the proposed level of rates increase can attest to that - as though below is being non-prudently and unprofessionally swept aside and ignored. | | Reference: Waipa District Council Audit & Risk Report/ Agenda Waipa District Council – Audit & Risk Agenda March 13th 2023; Page 25 | <https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/repository/libraries/id:26zgz4o7s1cxbyk7hfo7/hierarchy/agendasandminutes/Agendas%202023/March%202023/Audit%20and%20Risk%20Committee%20Public%20Agenda%20-%2013%20March%202023.pdf> | | Waipa District Council – Audit & Risk Agenda June 12th 2023; Page 26 | | <https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/repository/libraries/id:26zgz4o7s1cxbyk7hfo7/hierarchy/agendasandminutes/Agendas%202023/June%202023/Audit%20and%20Risk%20Committee%20Public%20Agenda%2012%20June%202023.pdf> | | In my opinion, what the above references reveal is that NO ONE in my opinion in house is; capable, experienced or has the knowledge to take up the CEO's position, as they are failing on all counts as per Page 25 & 26 respectively of the reports, a position that will have to be outsourced, just as a large majority of Council's services are to Consultants – questioning the very need for Staff. | | - CONCERN THREE: | | Annual Residents Survey – Councils Public Image: | Council and Council Elect, that is, Waipa District Councils public image is at an all-time low, worsening under the current leadership regime and new appointments. | | To think it will improve, after suggesting a proposed rates increase of 14.8%, and a lack thereof public notification of the Annual Plan Meetings by Council, would be a complete understatement. | | Just where is; honesty, transparency, professionalism, and accountability? | | Likely to continue, and worsen for the foreseeable future and years to come, with Overall Satisfaction in Council's ability at an all-time low of 19%, and not likely helped by in my opinion, by the latest fiscal irresponsibility and indebting of the district as outlined in the draft error ridden Annual Plan. | | Just when has Council or Council Elect ever tantamount stuck the information, or proposed rates increases as outlined in LTP's as Annual Plans inevitably always CHANGE for worse for some extraordinary excuse or late minute tick it up to the rates charges! | | It's very hard to TRUST Council and Council Elect, when you ignore us, and price gouge us. | | Especially when the excuses driving the exponential increase to the proposed rates increases are; cost of living increases, inflationary increases, and the re-inclusion of three waters. Admittedly, yes these have some but little driving force to cost adjustments in the Annual Plan, as seen, but are not by a bulls roar the main driver to ratepayers being price gouged. Not even the deceit, for the re-inclusion of Three Waters can take credit for this title (as later identified Three Waters has never truthfully fully left the administration of Council, and ratepayers have in its supposed absence been rated 82% of Three Water charges). | | The title goes to the negative impacting GROWTH, the same growth the district has been removed from 'having a say', the same growth destroying our beloved rural, village like lifestyle – thank you Council. | | The same GROWTH the Mayor would have you believe we are forced to have as a growth district, but next minute on the other hand, she is telling us to save costs in the Annual Plan, we have deferred or stopped some growth cells, so Council is NEITHER forced, nor required to push growth, and has every option to STOP growth in its entirety – it's just a publicly excluded choice they choose not to! | | Growth destroyed empires, toppling them to their knees! | | It's very unlikely Council or Council Elects image will improve any time soon, especially under this current regime, demonstrating fiscal irresponsibility by wasting public funds, on overseas trips, or feeble 'awards' amongst other things, will not CHANGE the outcome, or distract from the district wide neglect, only destined to increase the divide between Council and the PEOPLE – when will you learn, to be TRUSTED you first have to earn the respect of those intended. | | Reference: Annual Residents Survey 2023: Overall satisfaction with Council – 19%; Page

8 | <https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/repository/libraries/id:26zgz4o7s1cxbyk7hfo7/hierarchy/our-council/documentsandpublications/annualresidentssurvey/Waip%C3%A0DC%20Residents%20Survey%20Annual%20Report%202023.pdf> | Annual Residents Survey 2022: Overall satisfaction with Council – 25%; Page 8 | <https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/repository/libraries/id:26zgz4o7s1cxbyk7hfo7/hierarchy/our-council/documentsandpublications/annualresidentssurvey/documents/Waip%C3%A0DC%20Residents%20Survey%202022> | Annual Residents Survey 2021: Overall satisfaction with Council – 27%; Page 8 | <https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/repository/libraries/id:26zgz4o7s1cxbyk7hfo7/hierarchy/our-council/haveyoursay/Waip%C3%A0DC%20Residents%20Survey%202021.pdf> | - CONCERN FOUR: | Treaty of Waitangi - Obligations: Council, and Council Elect, that is; Waipa District Council, should desist immediately from in my opinion; misleading, lying, and falsely portraying that they are supposedly obligated to upholding the obligations of the Treaty of Waitangi. Instead, using it as what appears as a decisive tool in creating; division, disharmony and favouritism towards a minority based on race – whilst financially/advantageously gaining from such. | Yet the majority of the district at a whole, is at a racial disadvantage, suffering emotionally and financially from such, just where is equality? | The 1840 Treaty of Waitangi document, like the falsely perpetrated non ratified fabricated concepts - that is; the 1989 Treaty Principals and the 1987 Treaty Partnership (never mentioned in the 1840 treaty) – have ever been a mandate or statutory requirement by Central Government for local Councils – (Note: The concepts and terms; Treaty Partnership and Treaty Principals, DO NOT exist within the 1840 Treaty – if WDC believe they do, please show me where in the 1840 document to where they exist – especially in your charging of ratepayers an additional significant percentage tariff on all future projects – for what exactly? | Nothing that ALL NORMAL people can exercise under the law when invited to ‘have a say’, why does their need to be separate system at additional cost, than what was already provided prior to creating this race based division and positions.....I don’t see a Scottish, Irish, Walsh, French, Dutch, German, American, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Indian, etc etc race based position that WDC wilfully discriminates against). | specifically refer to the past Labour led Central Government review and report on Local Government, it clearly highlights that there has never existed a ‘statutory’ requirement to uphold or develop Partnership Frameworks (ie. Obligations, Principals and Partnership) to the Treaty, only NOW recommending now for its possible inclusion and the direction Councils should go – therefore WDC have not been forthright, or truthful over this matter in my opinion, at significant incurred cost to ratepayers – who pays this back, and what is there to show for it? | Quote: ‘Takarangi Research principal researcher Professor Poara Tapsell said the | recommendation of a statutory requirement for councils to develop partnership frameworks with Māori was a critical signpost to where councils needed to go.’ | Reference: | <https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/492410/brave-timely-and-courageous-maori-leaders-positive-about-local-government-review> | 1999; Justice Eddie Durie (Chair of Waitangi Tribunal) | <https://treatygate.wordpress.com/.../tre.../sir-eddie-durie/> | In addition to the above, I find it ironic, having watched a number of live streamed Council Meetings (for the few that are not behind closed doors, or publicly excluded), I cannot but help notice a striking commonality; that is, that our SECOND elected Maori Ward Councillor in less than a term, without hesitation and with such regularity, will undoubtedly comment that her people (that is unelected representatives) cannot participate on council matters without having greater access to more resources, because her people are apparently at a disadvantage compared to other Elected Members with the same access to resources already available/ granted. Yet, at no point, have I heard any mention or discussion to the effect that her people, (as in her constituents that she represents) are or will be suffering greater at the hands of Council with the planned proposed rates increases – So am I missing something, are her people, unlike the majority, immune to such negative financial effects of rates – maybe WDC can enlighten me? For not having to endure listening to her struggles at the Annual Plan meeting regarding her job insecurities and lack thereof pay remuneration, that is comparable to others, this was NOT the forum for such, and merely took up valuable question time for disconcerting ratepayers. | - CONCERN FIVE: | Accuracy of Council Information on Official Sites/ and Documentation: | Can the information presented on Council Official Sites (ie. Official Website, Official | Facebook Page), and Official Documentation (in particular the ‘Draft Annual Plan 2024-2025’) be TRUSTED to be accurate, let alone the incorrect usage of the Macron name. | Especially, when it can be established that quintessential information, being used by Council to justify its very financial position and the rating of the district, for having been warned, is still INCORRECT on Official Sites, and later in the Submission identifying INCORRECT ERRORS within the ‘Draft Annual Plan’ that clearly has not for Quality Assurance been REVIEWED. | Questioning the very nature of whether this information internally has been used to further compound errors, of by its very nature in place on Official Sites or Official Documentation is misleading the public. | Is this to what the WDC: Audit and Risk Report/ Agenda; March 13th 2023, refers to the ‘incapable’, ‘failing to deliver’, with the district at VERY HIGH RISK of ‘financial

unsustainability'? | Regardless, is this considered professional, prudent action/ services, to which ratepayers should be expected to pay rates for – do we not expect better? | Evidence Example: | CRLG000026/22 - LGOIMA RESPONSE – POPULATION FIGURES USED FOR 2021; WDC CFO confirmed on the 8th March 2022, that WDC's Official Website – About Waipa; was showing INCORRECT information regarding the population figures for WAIPA on a site 'copyrighted' with the date stamp 2022 – IT IS NOW the 7th April 2024 whilst typing this submission, AND THE SAME INFORMATION IS SHOWN & date stamped 2024 – About Waipa – STATES Waipa's Population Officially as being 53,600, just as it was two years ago. And on the Official WDC Facebook page the population is still 56,200, this also been the case for going on two years too. Yet Council would have you believe its now 61,000 in Official Documentation. So which of the Information is CORRECT – there is three examples to choose from? Information that is potentially misleading the public, begging the question 'what other information is potentially incorrect on the so-called Official Website or in any other public document for which the information may be relevant?' | How can one TRUST Council? | Especially if the information located to Official Sites and Official Documentation is neither consistent, nor accurate in cases – for not having been notified/ warned of the issue, and yet it still remains for the public to see after two years – not a good look and is this considered spreading miss information. | - CONCERN SIX: | Transportation – Collector Bus Service/ Mobility Scooter Safety: | I have already raised this issue before, but feel it needs to be repeated for it to sink in, especially when Council and Council Elect, plan to push without the public truly 'having a say' that's valued and listened to; | Growth | 10/ 20 minute Urban Centres | Cycle/ Walkways | Spatial Plans | For any the above to have any future success, be demographically compatible, affordable, and all weather capable – a Public Transport Collector Service modelled on the Tokoroa designed service needs implementing here in Waipa. However, addressing the Elephant on the room – the economic climate! It is highly improbable that the district can sustain or afford such at present, but just as important to consider its inclusion in future Annual and LTP Plans. | Public Transport – Consideration made for the allocation of funding to Waipa District Council for the establishment of a Steering Committee to administer the establishment of a Public Bus Transport Service to facilitate a Local Collector Circuit to respective townships; Te Awamutu & Cambridge, Waipa. | Inclusion of Public Bus Transport Service for Waipa District to Regional Transport Plan to include the following routes; o Township Local Collector Circuits for Cambridge & Te Awamutu. o Connecting Direct Circuits for Townships Cambridge & Te Awamutu rather than detouring to Hamilton. o Continuation of Circuit Links to Hamilton. | NOTE: | It has to be noted that Local Collector Circuits for both Cambridge & Te Awamutu will provide a Public Bus Transport Service that will inevitably (based on the very successful model implemented by Ben Smit in Tokoroa – attached addendum); | a) Provide a cost-effective public service, compared with more expensive options; Miss Daisy, & Local Taxis. | b) Reduce general and CBD carbon footprint. | c) Reduce the need for greater CBD parking requirements. | d) Reduce traffic congestion and improve traffic safety. | e) Connect the district and its services to a wide-ranging demographic. | f) A lifeline for proposed new aged care housing and those without the means of transport within the main townships of Te Awamutu & Cambridge, Waipa. | g) If Tokoroa, can successfully put on a Local Collector Circuit - Bus Service then there is no reason why a district considered by many as being affluent cannot, unless it is considered the poor neighbour to South Waikato District. | Mobility Scooter Safety – Allocation of funding to assist Waipa District Council in managing the increase number of mobility scooters in ongoing alterations required to existing roading/ footpath infrastructure to accommodate and promote public awareness of safe travel within the district. | Arterial/ Collector Roding Infrastructure – Allocation of funding to Waipa District Council to implement improvements to roading infrastructure to arterial/ collector roads servicing a high volume of traffic as a result of growth to the district. Surfaces should be resurfaced using 'hot mix' to reduce ambient noise levels and dust/ debris runoff (for eg: Rewi Street, Cambridge Road, Kihikihi Road & Ohaupo Road) | Removal of/ or replacement of planting to Waipa District roundabouts to minimise obstruction to traffic safety sightlines. | NOTE: Please refer to attached supporting information; | a) CEO Letter | b) Addendum | - CONCERN SEVEN: | Total Mobility Taxi Service: | Just as important to having a Public Transport Collector Service, is to consider updating policy on the Total Mobility Taxi Service to ensure the service providers provide a fully transparent affordable service in line with the true intent of the Total Mobility Scheme; | ALL Waipa Taxi Service providers to apply for Total Mobility Funding. | ALL Waipa Taxi Service providers to publicly display identifying information that they are part of the Total Mobility Scheme. | - CONCERN EIGHT: | Three Waters Re-Inclusion ??: | Waipa District Council plans to supposedly re-include Three Waters Costs back into the budget (but at any stage did it ever leave Councils hands or their administration of it, as you would have the public believe) | Reference: | <https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/our-council/newsitem=id%3A2pfkerd2c1cxbyrlzpnv&fbclid=IwAR21Lhz5Qek0YQ2A9iUstgDVVeVX0PusWLFyCZF>

sY-4UzT_rDC5YEai6vLo| |Quote from above;| 'The Council made the decision last week to hit pause on its Long Term Plan in favour of a 12-month budget due to financial challenges presented after being required to re-include three waters costs for the 10-year period, and the uncertainty around funding moving forward.'| |The points that can be taken from the above WDC – Public Statement are as follows; |a) Three Waters Costs to be and I quote 'reincluded' – for it to 'reincluded', it has to be assumed in the first instance to have been fully EXCLUDED. |b) Exclusion, of Three Waters Costs is being used as the penultimate excuse for the deferral of the 'Long Term Plan', due to rumoured financial challenges by staff who are apparently incapable of, and failing to deliver a prudent fiscal document they produce with such monotonous regularity up until NOW. | |c) The re-inclusion, of the Three Waters Costs has been attributed as being one of the significant contributing factors to having huge rates increases being applied to rateable households. | |Central Government NEVER took over the Three Waters, NEVER passed legislation to control Three Waters, so how can an asset never REMOVED or taken over by Central Government be re-included – shouldn't it be 'business as usual'? Just what has Waipa District Council been doing with our Three Waters and the money collected/ rates for – isn't Waipa District Council obligated to maintain the health and wellbeing of the district by providing functioning Three Water infrastructure to its paying ratepayers in accordance with the LGA?| |The Three Waters review below, will demonstrate in my opinion, that Waipa District Council has been collecting off the Three Waters, in fact 82% of the Three Waters charges after its apparent REMOVAL, this seems oddly high for an item supposedly removed from the budget. | |Is this deceitful, and was there any malicious intent to financially gain here – if not what was this money for, where did it go, and if for Three Waters do the funds still exist or will ratepayers be rated again for work implied as being EXCLUDED?| |Three Waters Review:| Firstly, let's look at several years' worth of rating invoice breakdowns to get a general picture of the rating descriptions and charges; | |(Please refer to next page for details)| |01 July 2023 to 30 June 2024:| |01 July 2022 to 30 June 2023:| |01 July 2020 to 30 June 2021:| |01 July 2019 to 30 June 2020:| |Secondly, let's analyse these invoices;| You will notice with uniform regularity the rates invoices prepared by Waipa District Council, show consistent descriptive mirrored entries ranging from 'Governance' to 'Roading' across all invoices above, and for the periods supposedly having the 'inclusion' of Three Waters, the following entries are shown; Stormwater, Water and Waste Water. | |Except for the '01 July 2019 to 30 June 2020' invoice, Three Waters descriptions; 'Stormwater, Water and Waste Water' has been replaced with a NEW singular descriptive term consistent across ALL subsequent future rating invoices up until present day – and this NEW term is 'Policy, Monitoring & Enforcement of Utilities', with an associated charge reflecting 82% of the charges previously seen in the '01 July 2019 to 30 June 2020' invoice for combined Three Waters charges. | |In summary:| It is of my opinion, that whilst Waipa District Council has publicly stated in a public address dated 12th March 2024, to 're-include' Three Waters Costs. Since 2019/2020, it would appear through deductive reasoning, ratepayers have been systematically rated for a significant portion of Three Waters under what appears the guise of a NEW rating charges term: 'Policy, Monitoring & Enforcement of Utilities', at approx. 82% of the combined costs identified in the '01 July 2019 to 30 June 2020' invoice for Three Waters, when said to have been EXCLUDED. | |Are ratepayers being taken advantage of here? Has any potential deceit been perpetrated?| | - CONCERN NINE:| |Playgrounds, Skateparks and Cycleways:| |STOP all Playgrounds, Skateparks, and Cycleways - these are not considered essential infrastructure for the wellbeing and health of the district for paying ratepayers. | |We have roads to cycle on, rather than the expensive nationally underutilized, cycleways only built for a minority lazy self-entitled individuals – if they want it so badly, they can pay for it themselves. We have parks to play in, we don't need playgrounds to be able to play in the park. We have carparks, and footpaths for skateboarders to still utilise. | | - CONCERN TEN:| |Te Awamutu War Memorial:| |Whilst I commend the Te Awamutu Community Board's Chair for having the courage to challenge Council Elect over the Te Awamutu War Memorial having partial success – a true Champion. | |I DISAGREE to the REVIEW of ONLY the 'unresolved' design items, who qualifies what an 'unresolved' design item is, and haven't all major items been finalised by Council – so this is merely a cheap cop out. | |An immediate FULL REVIEW of the FULL budget and design needs to occur, as these | |details were NEVER available at the time of submission on ONLY a concept plan and | |design. | |I am APPALLED by the NEW oversized, dominating eye sore known as the playground to the War Memorial, its; In this economic climate a waste of funds, especially when no effort was made to recycle existing equipment. | |Made from flimsy, destructible materials, likely to need replacing after a short period of use – let alone the graffiti already on the NEW bridges. | |The playground now dominates the War Memorial, no longer will it be a peaceful place of remembrance, but instead a noisy disruptive jungle. In addition, to the above, STRONGLY OBJECT to the cultural appropriation of the War Memorial, by nature of the combined war efforts, this was already a 'sectional' monument – NOT requiring the WOKE movement to be shoved down our throats – its simply insulting and offensive. | |Not to mention the INCORRECT location of the POLE planned across the

road from the Mutu Street Entrance, the POLE is in the WRONG location and is factually incorrect – the PA site is behind the Netball Courts across the stream, it has nothing to do with the War Memorial Site.....If this is the case, is WDC planning at the Rangiaowhia Site to have a HUGE plaque, billboard to commemorate the lost British Troops, and a background story of the families and loved ones? | - CONCERN ELEVEN: | Waipa Cemeteries: | I STRONGLY OBJECT to the wasteful funding allocated to the cultural appropriation of sacred Waipa sites – I AGREE that these neglected district wide facilities need maintaining and upkeep from their neglected state, however I DO NOT agree to the WOKE additions – put the shoe on the other foot, are ratepayers allowed to submit on what happens to/ or on a Marae? | - CONCERN TWELVE: | Flouridation of Waipa’s Water Supply: | I commend the research and dedicated work undertaken by Kane Titchener over the proposed fluoridation of Waipa’s Water Supply, primarily Cambridge being the first water supply – a true Champion. | Waipa District Council are RECOMMENDED to PAUSE all work on fluoridation of Waipa’s Water Supply, pending the outcome from the High Courts. Waipa District Council would be better to adopt the ‘Smiles for Life’ program implemented in Scotland – as tooth decay prevention starts with educating, and what better platform but to run it from school, NOT by sticking an UNKNOWN industrial runoff chemical substance into our water supply, a substance already reported to Council Elect as eating the application equipment due to its toxicity, so on that basis, if Council Elect still thinks its safe, maybe they can hold a public demonstration to consume a glass of the chemical to prove that its SAFE to consume. | - CONCERN THIRTEEN: | External Audit of 2024-2025 Annual Plan: | It is RECOMMENDED that Council and Council Elect, APPROVE the immediate allocation of necessary funds for an External Auditor (Deloitte/ KPMG) to undertake an Audit of the 2024-2025 Annual Plan and pending LTP, with the findings publicly released - similar to that of the SHOCKING Deloitte Audit Report back in 2011. | - CONCERN FOURTEEN: | Public Consultation Process: | It is recommended that Council and Council Elect pass policy, to the ‘Public Consultation’ process to include the following CHANGES; APPROVED LTP projects ONLY go out to Public Consultation at ‘Detailed/Developed’ design stage NOT at Concept Design Stage – when greater design and financial budgetary detail is available to review. | The Public Consultation process truly be a democratic unbiased process, showing all options, including to NOT BUILD – not the current tailored controlled undemocratic submission processes. Council and Council Elect, then HONOUR the majority of the views and opinions of submitters. | - CONCERN FIFTEEN: | Annual Plan – Staff and Services Cuts: | Council and Council Elect have chosen to NOT explore this option in the Annual Plan. However, there lies the opportunity to make additional cost savings in making rates more affordable – by making Staff and Services Cuts. It is recommended that Council and Council Elect present this as an option to the true and ONLY stakeholders (ratepayers) to consider, and if they are happy for a cut in services, then so be it – Council should HONOUR it, as they ONLY exist because of the 79% of funding from ratepayers. | Reference: | <https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/business/513871/companies-more-selective-about-who-gets-salary-increases-recruitment-agency> | - CONCERN SIXTEEN: | 10 Year Review of Key Council Charges: | (Please refer to next page for 10 year review of key Council charges – figures extracted and taken from WDC Annual Plans for the past 10 years) | To say the least, the review presented some SHOCKING results, even through Covid, as it would appear in my opinion that WDC were potentially price gouging ratepayers, most certainly developers - with the following areas noted below seeing significant increases. | Demonstrating that there has been no conscious effort to CUT COSTs in making RATES AFFORDABLE or SUSTAINABLE. | Where is prudent fiscal responsibility from WDC? | Rates (88.2% increase over 10 years) | Employment Benefit Expenses (108.5% increase over 10 years) | Other Expenses (87.4% increase over 10 years) | Capital Expenditure (281.1% increase over 10 years) | Development Contributions (1077.2% increase over 10 years) | - CONCERN SEVENTEEN: | Waste Incineration Plant – Te Awamutu | It is important that WDC proactively support its district, its PEOPLE, and the majority of its submitters - by OBJECTING/ PROTESTING the Proposed Waste Incineration Plant to Racecourse Road; Te Awamutu. | The potential and probable NEGATIVE impact it will have on Te Awamutu’s environment, health, wellbeing and infrastructure is PROFOUND – especially with WDC planning Growth Cell T13 Residential, to be built in around and encompassing the proposed future facility and site. | - CONCERN EIGHTEEN: | Public (or Closed Door) Meetings – Annual Plan 2024-2025 | I am personally shocked, and disappointed in the lack thereof professional courtesy, and compliance by WDC with its own Policy, Procedure, the RMA and LGA - in holding OPEN, TRANSPARENT, PUBLICLY MARKETED & NOTIFIED meetings to discuss the Annual Plan 2024-2025 (Meetings held on the 9th April 2024 at Te Awamutu RSA, and 10th April Te Awamutu Library invitation ONLY) only having released the document several days earlier, giving no time for the public to access or digest the document, and only being advised/ notified by word of mouth from members of the public. | Where was the promotion and notification by WDC? | - CONCERN NINETEEN: | Debt Levels | I have observed and monitored district wide debt levels for over fifteen years now. So it comes as a shock, to see such fiscal irresponsibility by Council, here and now in these austere times - to blatantly disregard

affordability and sustainability of the district and rates increases – favouring growth over the health and wellbeing of its PEOPLE. || Planning to extend debt levels by another \$100 Million, for a total debt level, that consists of Growth contributing to 58% of that DEBT, is sheer absurdity and madness. || In the past 10 years, WDC has raised Development Contribution charges by 1077%, so it is bewildering why the Principal Borrowing sum appears at no point to significantly decrease, instead further compounding to a NEW staggering DEBT total, and potentially edging to a point of no return. || Just where are the Development Contributions, going really? || I struggle to see any positive impact from growth, but see plenty of negative reasons to NOT have it! || STOP THE GROWTH, DESTROYING OUR RURAL, VILLAGE LIKE LIFESTYLE! ||

|| CONCERNS: DRAFT 2024-2025 ANNUAL PLAN CONSULTATION DOCUMENT || - CONCERN: Page 4 || Quote: ‘When you combine the increase in costs with our assets rising in value by \$120 million, and the need for us to fund depreciation (to pay for replacement assets in the future), we need another 16.1 percent in revenue in 2024/25 to be able to meet those costs.’ || That is: ‘.....depreciation (to pay for replacement assets in the future).....’ || If this statement was TRUE, then maybe Waipa District Council would like to explain why past and present publicly depreciated assets, as rated for, as paid for, and owned by ratepayers, have been in my opinion neglected - naming just a few; || Kihikihi Clock Tower | Te Awamutu Rotunda | Te Awamutu War Memorial | Cambridge Clock Tower | Cambridge Town Hall | Cambridge Water Tower | Te Awamutu Old Library | Te Awamutu Old Museum | Cambridge Pool | Etc, etc..... a picture seems to be emerging here. || Note: In 2007; the publicly released findings of the Shand Report – noted the use of depreciation funds, were not being used by Local Authorities in the truest sense of the ‘depreciation’ meaning, for the replacement/ renewal of the asset – and advised, that depreciation was being used as tantamount a ‘slush’ fund compared with again what is stated above ‘to pay for the replacement of assets in future’. || (NOTE: If you would like a copy of the this report and other relevant documents, please feel free to ask) || Many of the above named projects, have if not already, or in future, are expected to be rated again for – asking the fundamental question; as to why these NEGLECTED assets were never maintained or upgraded in the first, why wasn’t the funds paid back from which they were taken, and is it fair that ratepayers be expected to pay again for which they have already paid? || Elected Members, again I feel it important to repeat what is not sinking in - why should ratepayers be expected to pay again, for which they have already paid – how many more times over is this to occur, or to be tolerated, before you act as the people’s representation as paid to do so, in the truest sense? || - CONCERN: Page 4/ 5 || Quote: ‘At the end of the 2024/25 year, 57.8 percent of our debt is estimated to be growth- related. Growth-related three waters debt makes up 35 percent of the total debt.’ || Quote: ‘Our opening debt for the 2024/25 year is forecast to be \$296.8 million. By the end of 2024/25, that is expected to grow to \$398.5 million. More than half the debt on our books is growth related.’ || Extending the debt levels by another \$100 Million, is in my opinion, fiscally irresponsible, especially, when ONLY in the first instance on paper, it is looking to ONLY gain a percentage of the 10% expected revenue from Development Contributions – yes, in future there maybe rating revenue generated from such, but that is a long way off yet, leaving the district exposed to great RISK of subdivision/ development contribution default - and it is likely at the that time, as currently seen, that additional rating revenue would probably already be planned/ allocated for by Council on luxury white elephant projects that have already been deferred/ on-hold/ or stopped, rather than providing for the basic maintained core infrastructure that ratepayers pay and expect to have. || Reference: https://www.waikatotimes.co.nz/business/350239408/charles-mas-rotokauri-north-liquidation?fbclid=IwAR12weiq_oLfuBnvaefRS1jb4IrbTd6VS75Yixdatl8vcsqvEq90_aem_AZuEVS7uoBuKwy5cqpOFdmCDfOCshicSXGZ2YFwjVo9a6AfU_-Kea6YccNLNUHR6TH7nmueOAF-c2SZnYxwB6bH4 || We are now considered in a technical recession, yet you expect ratepayers to cover the additional RISK and interest repayments on the principal borrowing of another \$100 Million debt – when personal borrowing and lending criteria rules are currently tightening, so to think you will gain 100% return on your 10% Development Contribution Revenue Take with sections selling during this period, is being highly optimistic and extremely foolish – especially at a time no-less when WDC reports promote that the district is at VERY HIGH RISK of being financially unsustainable – this is NIETHER cost neutral, nor growth paying for itself, as falsely promoted by Council in the past. || This is utter madness, and irresponsible – ratepayers are NOT seeing any immediate benefit or breathing room created from growth – instead all they see are INCREASING rates increases and debt levels – whilst our rural, village like lifestyle is destroyed! || Look at the past, empires; Greece, Egypt, Rome, Persia, Germany etc etc – all pushed for growth, and the promises of vast control and wealth that it would bring – but they all COLLAPSED. || In future, it is statistically unlikely, growth will have any effect on the percentage breakdown of the revenue chart on Page 4, or any future expenditure trends of Council, (except for the period during Covid). So in summary; taking HUGE RISK for very little to NO immediate gain is utter absurdity, nor is there any guarantee that these growth cells/ and developers will stand the test of time against economic recessions, with what appears the practice of price

gouging of development contributions over the past 10 years - see any possible future rating revenue return or possible rumoured benefits, where funds are more likely to be reallocated as follows; |Paying off the principal borrowed sum to debt levels|Paying off internally borrowed funds|Paying for the upkeep and maintenance to existing neglected assets|Paying for retro fitted infrastructure to support the growth built|Then and only then, maybe growth might be used to reduce rates ☹️ |Pay for the maintenance and upkeep of infrastructure related to such growth| |But more likely based on past Council Expenditure Trends, Funding of deferred/ on-hold/ stopped luxury projects | |CONCERNS:DRAFT 2024-2025 ANNUAL PLAN GROUPS OF ACTIVITIES & FINANCIALS| | - CONCERN: Page 34/35 – Support Services | |Waipa District Council has FAILED to adopt a more prudently fiscal responsible attitude, like Hamilton City Council, New Plymouth District Council, Auckland City Council and even Central Government, in stepping up and taking responsibility, in taking a more proactive stance to making rates more affordable for the district by exercising staff & services cuts. | |Whilst I see a number of minor variances to Operating and Capital, relating to overhead running costs of Council, there is in my opinion, NO proactive review of redundant/ superfluous staff & services that can be cut to further reduce the impact of the rates increases on ratepayers. | |Especially, when taking into consideration the Audit & Risk Report/ Agenda; March 13th 2023; Page 25 – where there appears plenty of VERY HIGH RISK areas to CUT! | |Possible areas to review;|General Staff|Management Team|Cut Staff Numbers & Funding to Facilities/ Services making annual loses (for ex. Library, Museum, Pools, Gyms)|Cut Unelected Positions| |References: Hamilton City Council |<https://hamilton.govt.nz/your-council/news/community-environment/reduced-services-and-staff-cuts-proposed-at-council> | |New Plymouth District Council|<https://www.stuff.co.nz/taranaki-daily-news/news/133100697/new-plymouth-district-council-leadership-team-slashed-in-first-stage-of-major-restructures-noticeable-reduction-in-roles> | |Auckland City Council|<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/politics/local-government/131787777/about-150-jobs-to-go-at-auckland-transport> | | - CONCERN: Page 19 – Governance| |Firstly, Waipa District Council (WDC) has made a tabulated ERROR. Does WDC plan to, pay out and expose ratepayers to the funding of Grants to the tune of \$474 Million approximately? |Or, was this meant to be \$474,000? | |There is a BIG difference between \$474 Million vs \$474,000, or does WDC consider this minor? | |Where is/ or was the Quality Assurance Review for the Annual Plan before it being issued for Consultation? These mounting errors are of concern, potentially compounded if carried through to other financials. | |Secondly, WDC needs to again, like the comments already made to potential cuts to Support Services - take a proactive, prudent, fiscally responsible attitude in cutting back on Grants to Community Organisations in these austere times – maybe CUTTING them entirely in an effort to making rates remotely affordable and sustainable! | | - CONCERN: Page 9 – Property Services| |Quote;| |‘A reduction of \$1.4 million worth of development contribution revenue is expected to be received compared to what was in year 4 of the 2021-31 Long Term Plan due to the timing of developments.’ | |With reference to Page 55, Prospective statement of comprehensive revenue and expense for the year ending 30 June 2025; The table indicates a reduction of \$18.2 Million worth of Development Contributions NOT \$1.4 Million as identified on Page 9. | |Quote; ‘Payments to staff and suppliers have increased from an inflationary impact on salaries, insurance, rates, contracts, electricity, and maintenance.’ Again, too much revenue is lost to Employment Remunerations. Staff cuts need to be made similar to that of Hamilton City Council, New Plymouth District Council, and Auckland City Council whom are all taking professional responsibility under prudent leadership. | |Also a more robust public tendering process, needs to occur and be honoured, especially with what appears the issuing of contracts/ appointments on a in my opinion, a bias/ conflict of interest - selected/ nominated basis - to ensure the most cost affordable, and impartial solution, is adopted to mitigate the cost impact and potential of contract manipulation to ratepayers. | |For example: Karapiro Domain Contract, Contracts with ex. Council Staff| |Quote; ‘There is a \$2.7 million reduction in operating projects costs due to the Te Ara Wai | project being deferred to the 2025-34 Long Term Plan process.’ | |Firstly, it’s NOT a 2025-34 LTP, it’s a 2025-35 LTP. Secondly, what exists is a building known as the Bunnings Warehouse, NOT a museum, nor a building bestowed/ tagged with a publicly unsanctioned name – ‘The Ara WHY’. | |The Ara WHY, only exists on paper and bares NO resemblance to the proposed Te Awamutu Museum Submission, as follows; |It’s a NEW Building|It’s a NEW Site|It’s a NEW Budget|It has a NEW name|It has been culturally appropriated with its primary focus on Land Wars| – just whose story will be told here, or just another example of what Eddie Durie publicly stated as Chair of the Waitangi Tribunal at the time – that facts and history was being fabricated. | |So for a building that neither exists or operates under that site, or name sake bare operational costs? | |Quote;| |‘There has been a \$5.9 million increase in funding for the reinstatement of the office and Te Awamutu Museum at 135 Roche Street.’ | |Simply we CANNOT afford what should already have been allocated for from Depreciation – just another example of questionable leadership. This should be REMOVED from the Annual Plan, and the Museum remain in its temporary location – this will SAVE

ratepayers \$5.9 Million in additional expenditure. ||Quote;||‘Deferring the Te Ara Wai project to the 2025-34 Long Term Plan has resulted in a \$12.7 million decrease in capital expenditure.’ Firstly, again, it’s NOT a 2025-34 LTP, it’s a 2025-35 LTP. Secondly, when is Public Consultation going to be HELD for the first time on this NEW Building, NEW Site, and NEW Budget – that bares NO similarity to a submission held for building of similar namesake on a different site, different building design, and different budget – or again is Council confused thinking the Bunnings Site is the Mahoe Site to which the Holmes Garage exists. ||Quote; ‘Further work on the Lake Te Koo Utu project has been paused leading to a decrease |in expenditure of \$863,000.’ ||‘Further work on sports field improvements has been paused leading to a decrease in expenditure of \$851,000. ||A decrease, just where did the funds go? Were they never rated for in the first instance, or have they been conveniently internally borrowed to another location? If internally borrowed, is Council expecting to rate ratepayers for work they potentially have already been rated for?|Additional Items of Concern;||Whilst WDC has FORCED growth onto the district without the public’s opinion or say - the negative effects are being felt, ever more so, in Cambridge. ||A growing need for a third vehicle bridge exists (NOT to end up with just two bridges, one being repurposed as a pedestrian/ walkway bridge – you build the foundation from which to grow first, not build from the roof down as in Waipa’s case).||However, again, in light of the austere economic climate, Waipa simply CANNOT afford a third bridge for Cambridge NOW. ||A motion to be moved to REMOVE all absurd traffic calming measures district wide. |A motion to be moved to REMOVE all absurd traffic calming measures to Ohaupo, reinstate SH3, and to fund the installation of a pedestrian underpass/ overpass to alleviate forced traffic congestion and disruption to businesses. |A motion to be moved to REMOVE absurd urban Cycleways to Cambridge and Te Awamutu. |A motion to be moved to REMOVE absurd Kihikihi Cul de Sac project, and to reinstate Kihikihi to its once former glory. |A motion to be moved to SELL Karapiro Farms. |A motion to be moved to SELL Bunnings Building. |A motion to be moved to remove Walton Street One Way project. |A motion to be moved to remove Market Street pedestrian scheme. |A motion to be moved to remove Stuart Law Building Market Place Conversion project. || - CONCERN: Page 41 – Transportation| |Hautapu Structure Plan and Cycleway \$10.7 Million|Cycle Projects District Wide \$6.5 Million|These nationally underperforming cycleway projects (as advised by WDC Staff to Elected Members last June 2023), should ultimately be STOPPED and REMOVED from ALL LTP’s and Annual Plans, as they are an absurd, wasteful use of ratepayers funds, when there are higher more pressing issues that need attention. These TWO projects alone will SAVE \$17.2 Million for the district. || - CONCERN: Page 55 – Financials| |Firstly, the rates take for 2024 – 2025 is unaffordable and unsustainable. |Secondly, the amount WDC are reliant on as a revenue source ‘grants and subsidies’ is overly ambitious and RISK adverse, especially in this economic climate, especially if any of these grants and subsidies are from Central Government as there exists the likelihood that they will be CUT in the near future. It is of my opinion that WDC should prudently reduce, defer, or cancel any project to mitigate any RISK associated with this funding source. Thirdly, reduce the amount of staff and use of consultants. If you require consultants, what real need is there to retain staff (especially when taking into consideration the Audit & Risk reports – also would it be cheaper to remove the entire FINANCE TEAM and outsource to an actual real accountant firm – there may be some real cost saving incentives here?| |Finally, please leave the Cambridge water tower alone. Please explain the 700k (now 810k?????) if it needs to be removed. Where is the report to say it needs to be removed? And to restore it at 6 million? Where is the report explaining the expense?

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

First Name	Bernard
Last Name	Westerbaan
Organisation	
Id	342

Submission/Event: 423

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

We realise that a lot of thought from the WDC has gone into the planning and that spending|reductions are necessary in the current climate. Our only comment would be that our Committee consider the Te Awamutu and the Cambridge Isites would be more beneficial to local Waipa tourism than the Hamilton Waikato Tourism.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

The Committee's view is that it is up to Cambridge residents to make this decision. We understand that the Cambridge Tower is one of only two remaining in NZ and originally|sited on Council parkland. Tourists are always looking for interesting and significant sites to|visit. ||Additional Information Centre we wish to include:|The Pirongia Heritage & Information Centre is situated on the main street of Pirongia on SH39 highway which is the main route between Hamilton and New Plymouth. The PHIC opened in 2003 on its present site. Previously it had been the original St Saviours Church in|Pirongia erected in 1900 on the Alexandra Redoubt. In 1959 it was replaced by the more modern St Saviours Church in Franklin Street. The de-consecrated building was sold and moved to the Waikeria Village. In 2000 the Waikeria Village was closed and the Waikeria and Pirongia communities petitioned for its return to to Pirongia site on the Rangimarie Reserve under the agreement with/from Lady Mahuta. From this, we developed a Heritage Centre which is a focal point of the township's history. ||We are a Visitors Centre, a Museum, an information Centre and the gateway to the historic Pirongia Forest Park with its numerous tracks and walks. Our centre is a wealth of | information, from the Maori and European history from the 1860's and records, maps and photographs of the settlement of the district as well as valuable artefacts. ||We play a very important part in both Pirongia and the wider Waipa district as seen from our visitor numbers. This past year visitor numbers were 2,427 and which included locals, Kiwis and a large number of overseas visitors. In addition we have a resident research historian, Alan Hall, who fields inquires for a large range of people, in particular their connections to Pirongia and their family history. He also undertakes tours and talks for various family groups for which he receives donations which are a welcome boost to our Centre funds. ||We have an archive room where additional volunteers regularly work on recording acquisitions and are currently digitalising our records of the district from early times to the present. We have an appointed representative on our Committee for both the Purekireki and the Te Kauhanganui, who attend our regular monthly meetings with our executive committee. We have one paid part time Administrator who fills a number of roles together with 14 unpaid volunteers which enables us to be open 6 days a week from 10.30am to 3.30pm including Mondays that fall on Public Holidays. ||Financially, we have limited income sources and we have the normal range of expenses any business would have. Without grants, we would not be able to function. We have received the same amount from the Waipa District Council Operational Grant of \$9,200 (GST Inc) for the last 9 years without any increase with all our costs having increased. Many of these costs are fixed so we are unable to make any reductions in these. ||We will need an increase in our Waipa District Council annual grant relating to 2024/2025|inflationary costs so we would like to present our submission verbally to a public Council hearing 20- 21 May 2024 with our workings for the current years and beyond.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Marilyn; Charlie; Jenny
<i>Last Name</i>	Yeates; Coles; Mortland
<i>Organisation</i>	Pirongia Heritage and Information Centre
<i>Id</i>	341

Submission/Event: 422

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

In my opinion, there are still too many vanity projects. | Put further growth and subdivision projects on hold until financial situation improves. | Cancel existing work on cycle paths. | My suspicion is that you are increasing the rates by 14.8 percent in order to increase W.D.C.'s debt levels. | Your grip on the financial situation of your ratepayers appears to be unclear at best, and dangerously ignorant at worst.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

I think we should leave it alone until the council's books are better balanced. The Water Tower is not an urgent concern.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Gareth

Last Name

Wulf-Robertson

Organisation

Id

327

Submission/Event: 421

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
don't know enough about it all to comment

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Effort needs to be put into supporting and preserving the Town Hall. It is a community facility, a key and pivotal part of our town, part of the history and heritage, and operated as a charitable trust. It is ludicrous that it should be expected to fund its own safety upgrades - this is council responsibility. Removing the historic Water Tower makes it even more essential that iconic places such a the town hall are supported. With increased usage of our town facility, costs increase and therefore support needs to be provided. Please support this community facility appropriately.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Carol
<i>Last Name</i>	Home
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	326

Submission/Event: 420

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I'm concerned to hear of the funding deficit for Cambridge Town Hall's operating costs grant. The Hall is an important central hub for the community. It's also difficult for the Trust to raise funds when the hall is in a state of decline. Investment in the hall now will allow the Trust to market the space and improve its ability to attract new business and increase income. Cambridge is a heritage character town and we risk losing that special status if we don't maintain our heritage buildings.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

-

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Amanda
<i>Last Name</i>	Livingston
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	325

Submission/Event: 419

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Overall the council has mismanaged finances and focused on growth (and the bike paths) rather than supporting the infrastructure for our existing population. Placing us in the current need for high increases and straining household finances. Our town has lost its identity and become a mismatch of new subdivisions with limited development policies guiding them on green belts, playgrounds, green spaces or their contribution to the town. As for growth you do have a say, as our council you can pause developments, our schools and children are|Paying the price for the rapid growth they can not be sustain any more. The council has relying on developers as a large|Contribution to the revenue stream but this shouldn't be at the expense of schooling, medical availability, transport and our land that is no longer available for stock as you're squeezing out entire industries the town was founded on.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Narelle
<i>Last Name</i>	Cameron
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	324

Submission/Event: 418

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

No. In hard economic times wishful thinking and blind subservience to "green" issues cannot be tolerated.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Removing the Water Tower is inevitable. The destruction of part of the heritage of Cambridge is deplored. A commemorative structure etc. is a cost with little, if any benefit.

Why not use the materials from the Tower to provide something useful and cost-effective? A plaque to mark the spot is sufficient. Preserve the history in the Museum.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Sean

Last Name

Brady

Organisation

Id

323

Submission/Event: 417

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I don't believe I'm getting anything extra, for what is proposed to be a 15.4% increase for my property. || We supply all our own water, pay for a third party rubbish collection and have had to repair the rim on our car three times this year due to pot holes on the roads leaving to our house. Not to mention the disastrous waste of money and resources being implemented in Kihikihi with the new road design. || If council wants to lessen the blow for those who are already struggling, perhaps consider a single digit increase in rates and give more clarity to your customers to help them understand "what more they're getting for their money" Vs lifting rates year in year and not delivering anything additional.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Erin
<i>Last Name</i>	Hawker
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	322

Submission/Event: 416

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Mostly, although I support the Cambridge Town Hall receiving its required grant of \$500K so it can continue to operate. If the town hall had to close it would impact our community's cultural and social wellbeing. Having access to facilities in my local community such as the Town Hall is important to me because it helps me to connect with other people. I also believe that holding events at our local town hall brings in people from outside our district, which benefits local businesses.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Robyn
<i>Last Name</i>	Pell
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	321

Submission/Event: 415

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
I've lived in cambridge 15 years and never paid any attention to the water tower let alone visit it. Alot of money has gone into the clock tower. Time to let the water tower go

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Karina
<i>Last Name</i>	Fox
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	320

Submission/Event: 414

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

I understand that you are proposing to reduce your contribution to the maintenance and running of Cambridge Town Hall. However, I am unable to locate your reasoning for this on your draft Enhanced Annual Plan website page. | It is disappointing that you intend to proceed with this and yet at the same time not substantiate your justifications for these actions. | The Town Hall is an important asset and provides a centrestage for Cambridge. It is easy to see the difference the CTH Community Trust are making to further encourage the use of the facility by not only the local community but further afield users. To discourage this progress at this point now by removing significant funding can only impact of the good progress and work of the Trust. | If I have missed the reference to the actual amount that you are reducing in respect of the Trust then I apologise, but it would be good to see some justification for your actions

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Steve

Last Name

Home

Organisation

Veros Property Services Limited

Id

74

Submission/Event: 413

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Yes I believe you have the balance right .I see that there are limitations of spending both nationally and locally . I think a regular development of needs is better than "boom or bust " approach .Taking each year with small increases in charges and widening income streams will be a balanced approach ..

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Comparing the costs of the two options I feel strongly that the tower should be removed because there are much more pressing needs including the Town Hall and regarding the "new bridge " may I suggest the following . A thorough "work up " of the options ,cost to benefit studies bearing in mind that we care for & maintain a] the special historical character of Cambridge that is also a unique "Town of Trees"to be preserved. b] Minimise the negatives to residential housing. Control heavy traffic eg construction, tankers and trucks from using residential housing route(s). Control traffic congestion as well as pollution eg noise, dust, dirt, vibration & visual (heavy vehicles) by creating a town bypass. [c] Place "new bridge" in a green area that connects directly with existing motorway and provides access to Leamington and Te Awamutu. d] Minimise the negatives to businesses. Allow easy access for the public that wish to utilise the Central Business District. Increase parking facilities in the shopping vicinity.[e] stop spending council funds on unkempt concrete planter boxes and road batons that litter attractive residential areas. [f] Untold expense on multiple road ramps on the Hamilton Road which is surely excessive when traffic lights have also been installed where as no speed ramps exist on Victoria St; traffic speed down the parallel route to bypass the congestion on the main road. This is a dangerous hazard not only to residents that include the elderly in council dwellings but also to children going to and from the kindergarten.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

First Name	Chris and Hilary
Last Name	Smiley
Organisation	
Id	319

Submission/Event: 412

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Sometimes it's hard to understand the council's decisions to approve projects that only benefit a minority. eg how much money has been poured into the redesigning of a back street for the benefit of a primary school? What was wrong with the original layout? It seemed to work fine. The Town Hall is a landmark and has a beautiful front entrance. The interior needs work. It would be great to have funding to complete whatever needs to be done inside. |It is not acceptable to sit in rows of chairs on one level for a classical performance. Very hard to engage and enjoy a concert with that sort of amateurish seating. We could do much better.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Only a handful of people feel attached to the water tower and it is now not a significant landmark considering Hamilton Road is not the main entrance to Cambridge any longer.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Val
<i>Last Name</i>	Harman
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	318

Submission/Event: 411

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
 I note that there is no allowance for future work to be done on Cambridge Connections before a Programme Business Case is submitted to Waka Kotahi for Funding. | |As I have noted, the bluetooth modelling that the entire Cambridge Connections is built on was carried out from 24th February to 30th March 2022 when the entire country was in Red Traffic Light Omicron Covid Setting. During this time, on average 31% of the population worked from home. | |This is combined with the fact that the bridge crossings did not change between the Beca 2018 report (28,000 daily bridge crossings based on 2016 WRTM data and 28,100 daily bridge crossings based on the 2022 bluetooth modelling), although both Leamington and Cambridge had grown significantly during that time period. | |Further, I met with two councillors who expressed their surprise that the results of the modelling showed a strong difference to what was 'previously perceived' by themselves and the public about where people travelled (ie hardly anyone travelled to Hamilton compared to what was expected). | |It may be that the information is accurate, but there is high degree of uncertainty around this information and I strongly recommend that the Council make an allowance to rerun this data and get accurate information, and then to produce accurate and robust modelling, with all options considered on a like with like basis (instead of Option A having road changes and Option C having all the bells and whistles like modal change to pedestrian, cycle and public transport), and with a range of scenarios modelled with Victoria Bridge open to one way or two traffic as well, so that the work that is put forward to Waka Kotahi for funding for more detailed investigations is as thorough as possible. | |Additional funds need to be added into the Expenditure to allow for this between 2024 and 2025.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
 a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 History is important, but the changed situations with funding for three waters and the economic environment with high construction inflation (and other inflation) mean that it is likely to be unaffordable to retain the Water Tower as it is. | However, I urge the Waipa District Council to be innovative with your 'commemorative structure'. At the very least there should be a smaller structure (maybe 10m high) built as a replica from the bricks. | My personal preference would be for the council to investigate (and if cost effective) put in place a permanent hologram of the Water Tower. This requires hologram projectors, and a design programme. The design programme could show the Water tower and life around it from the start until today, could split open the tower to show what is in the middle and could become a modern and innovative tourist attraction.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 Yes

I have attached additional information
 -

Stakeholder

First Name	Carey
Last Name	Church
Organisation	
Id	317

Submission/Event: 410

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No | Balance is not right | You have already planned for the future by employing an outstanding manager | What are you doing to him | Beating him | Before he even gathers momentum? | Watch it | This council needs to look at priorities | Yes what intelligence it has or be voted out in the next election | This looks likely

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Carole
<i>Last Name</i>	Hughes
<i>Organisation</i>	Personal
<i>Id</i>	314

Submission/Event: 409

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Demolish the tower!

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Kirsty

Last Name

Ryde

Organisation

Showcase Jewellers

Id

316

Submission/Event: 408

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No it is not far reaching and sufficiently strategic to reflect the needs of Cambridge.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
I would recommend that you restore it but to reduce it significantly in height. Retain around 2 - 3M in height and then place the "turret" on top of it. If rebuilt in total you are unlikely to allow the public access although reducing it in height and providing the turret at a more appropriate level will still provide connection with the public. A suitable footpath would also improve the connection.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
Yes

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Steve
<i>Last Name</i>	Home
<i>Organisation</i>	Veros Property Services Limited
<i>Id</i>	74

Submission/Event: 407

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Once careful removal has occurred, it would be awesome to repurpose the bricks into local paving or brickwork in the area. Maybe some brick seating?

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Julia

Last Name

Raupī

Organisation

Id

315

Submission/Event: 406

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
The balance is perfect

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Stop wrecking this town |I ha been here 50 years plus and have always been an active member |Council take a long look at yourselves

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Carole
<i>Last Name</i>	Hughes
<i>Organisation</i>	Personal
<i>Id</i>	314

Submission/Event: 405

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Many people are drawn to buy property here, as I was, because of its historic aspects, and the Water Tower being one. Please don't remove it, it is a wonderful aspect of the past, it looks amazing, no commemorative structure will replace it. The tower is unique, historic, eye catching, and simply too many historic structures are being removed for the business of progress, those building considered progress will be historic as time passes, but few will have the beauty, its unique form, and simply glory of the Tower. Please keep it I love it along with many others. Maybe a corporation with charity funding could take an interest?

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Bronwen

Last Name

Byers Dr

Organisation

Id

313

Submission/Event: 404

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No|After 2021 it was obvious the cost of living was increasing |Whoever was the accountant should have been aware of increasing expenditure |Not sure how many more cycle lanes, road narrowing or closures are planned. Need to stop, concentrate on maintaining roads and infrastructure |The bridge should link up with the big new round about on Hamilton Road

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
It's a historic building, you shouldn't be demolishing these|Have you checked to see if a company or companies would be interested in support/sponsorship behind the tower rebuild

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Denise
<i>Last Name</i>	Hall
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	312

Submission/Event: 403

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Note - this is my second submission, separate from my previous submission relating specifically to the water tower. | | In general I think the balance is roughly right in the sense that there has been an effort to trim the expenditure where possible. No doubt there will be some disappointment in the community but the council approach seems to be a bona fide attempt to manage expenditure versus revenue. | | If I were to make one comment however it is around growth management. The problem appears to be the cost to the community of growth. My view is that there is nothing to lose by slowing down growth so that council could "catch up" with more deliberate planning and more control over development requests. One way to do this could be to raise development contributions, the 10% revenue stream seems too low given the impact on Council's systems, resources, funds, etc. The disbenefit is higher land purchase costs, but this seems appropriate given the impacts on the wider community.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

As per separate submission

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Shaun

Last Name

Lion-Cachet

Organisation

Id

246

Submission/Event: 402

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I do not support the proposed reduction in Hamilton & Waikato Tourism’s budget, and instead would support Council maintaining their current level of funding for the organisation.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Amber
<i>Last Name</i>	Oien
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	311

Submission/Event: 401

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

I think further reductions in spending is necessary. You could definitely stop the wasteful spending on ruining the roads in Kihikihi. Council has already done enough damage there, stopping now would at least save money and stop Kihikihi ending up even worse than they have already.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Sell the water tower?

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Shelley

Last Name

Kennerley

Organisation

Id

310

Submission/Event: 400

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
money needs to be invested in activities which support the ongoing viability of local businesses and services that genuinely make a difference to the success of the region & less bureaucracy. |In our business, we have found great support from Destination Cambridge.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Joelene
<i>Last Name</i>	Ranby
<i>Organisation</i>	Resolution Retreats, Lakeside Health & Wellness Resort
<i>Id</i>	340

Submission/Event: 399

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Please keep Destination Cambridge. The service provided over past years has been excellent and invaluable to local hospitality businesses, plus we have some long serving staff members there that we shouldn't be losing.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
-

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Terry
<i>Last Name</i>	McDonnell
<i>Organisation</i>	Onyx Restaurant
<i>Id</i>	309

Submission/Event: 398

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
 Your balance is so unbalanced it sets a new record for deceit, scaremongering and fiscal mismanagement. You claim to be no longer funding roads but have budgeted \$47m for roads and footpaths. One can only imagine that what you actually mean is millions of ratepayers money plus borrowing is earmarked for your precious cycle lanes and not for the roads which you are tasked with maintaining. |The Water Tower isn't yours to pull down! It belongs to the people of Cambridge and as a heritage listed structure, your only job is to make sure it has the care it needs to remain a wonderful landmark in Cambridge. Your priorities are most definitely completely out of whack and I oppose strongly everything you are proposing - including everything we haven't been told about.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
 b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 As I have stated above, the Water Tower is not yours - it's ours. You don't even get to have a 'preferred option' because this is not about what you want. You can't even be honest about why you are pushing to have it pulled down! The structure is perfectly safe, as your report states so leave it alone. Now, where is the poll results from the last time you asked the community for their input?

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 No

I have attached additional information
 -

Stakeholder

First Name	Angela
Last Name	Frost
Organisation	
Id	308

Submission/Event: 397

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
To much spent on things that could have waited a year or three. Ie the town clock.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Rather than just restore it and spend millions on something to look at why not for not much more turn it into something useful and novel for Resthaven. Maybe accommodation or just an accessible recreational facility,

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Ian
<i>Last Name</i>	
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	307

Submission/Event: 395

Full Response

- 1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No.

- 2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
ALL cycle way and footpath work must stop. This is not essential work in this economic climate. |Stop ALL funding to the mountain bike club at once. No matter how little they receive, absolutely no money should be spent on this. It is a disgrace to read in one document that you are only reducing funding to a mountain bike club but stopping plans for pensioner housing altogether. Absolutely disgraceful. |Although this document reflects a start to addressing the wasteful spending of public money more must be done. Acknowledging years of mismanagement have also contributed to the pickle we find ourselves in is important, we can't just blame it on the tough economic climate.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Tracy
<i>Last Name</i>	Tychsen
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	305

Submission/Event: 394

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Council needs to be focused on core aspects of the community, being careful to continue to care for the critical assets is important for future generations. Creating more nice to haves needs to be paused until we are in more stable economic times.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Emma
<i>Last Name</i>	Good
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	187

Submission/Event: 393

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No, you don't have the balance right. | My short and sharp suggestions: | 1. Freeze all spending on Cambridge cycleways. Cancel existing partially completed cycleway projects. WDC have been unduly influenced by the cycling lobby. | 2. Review the performance and decisions in transportation taken by Dawn Inglis and Bryan Hudson, and take steps to correct this going forward. | 3. Install traffic lights at the present roundabout at Victoria and Hamilton Road immediately. Plan for replacement of that roundabout with traffic lights and intersection redesign over the next couple of years. Hire the people who designed the Hillcrest Road roundabout/lights redesign in Hamilton which has had amazing results. | 4. Refocus on CBD parking improvements and additions, such as angle parking on Lake St. | 5. Slash the spend on the bloated communications/spin doctors department, and refocus on collecting ratepayer feedback, and taking note of that feedback. | 6. Scrub the rule that councillors cannot express opinions in public on council matters. Councillors should be out there and representing the views they hold, rather than supposedly being biased. | 7. Make council debate and decision-making happen during public sessions, not workshops, not "commercially sensitive" off-the-record meetings.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
Yes

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Robert
<i>Last Name</i>	McQueen
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	304

Submission/Event: 392

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I think overall the balance is very good. You will never please all the people. |I would like to see all spending on cycleways suspended. I see them as a "want" not a "need" and are therefore something to complete when economic times have improved and we can afford them. |Also, why close the high level bridge to all traffic? Why not share it with cyclists and pedestrians but allow traffic in rush hour to travel from Leamington to town in the morning only but reverse that in the evening.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
There is no way the tower should be demolished, it's part of the heritage of Cambridge and could be an asset to the town. Lets use it as part of the museum or turn it in to an arts and history centre.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Colin
<i>Last Name</i>	Morley
<i>Organisation</i>	JCM Images
<i>Id</i>	303

Submission/Event: 391

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Amanda

Last Name

Tunley

Organisation

Id

302

Submission/Event: 390

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Hard to say. The Rolleston Street debacle needs fixing so that it is sensible. At the moment the changes are stupid in that Rolleston Street is now less safe than previously. Council have been told this alot and are clearly deaf to feedback. | Perhaps some staff cuts as in government departments would help reduce debt. | Not sure why the museum is a priority if times are tough | Perhaps some salary caps or reductions could assist.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Learn how to consult and understand the definition consultation.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Peter
<i>Last Name</i>	Reid
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	301

Submission/Event: 389

Full Response

- 1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

- 2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 I understand the constraints around restoring the water tower in the current economic climate. However I worry that a short term solution is outweighed by the loss of a heritage icon which can never be replaced. I would like to see a cost to restore the water tower, not a pie in the sky estimate and it appears, a council, only to eager to see the back of it. I understand priorities and the efforts you take to stretch the rate payer dollar until it twangs, but I equally value our heritage and unique buildings and the attraction of Cambridge to visitors. This includes our icons like the clock and the water tower. As a tour manager who regularly takes groups around NZ, I know how Cambridge is valued, I hear what it is people want to see here and a restored water tower with access, seating, sympathetic plantings, panels with a story to be told. It can only add to the reasons to bring the tourist dollar to Cambridge.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 No

I have attached additional information
 -

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Penny
<i>Last Name</i>	Pickett
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	300

Submission/Event: 386

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
On current form the answer must be no. Infrastructure comes first before the nice to have. Point cycleway - necessary in these hard economic times - no. I have lived in Cambridge for 33 years and this has to be the most controversial time. It is at your peril when you do not listen (and mean the majority not 30 or 35) to your community. Councillors and staff work for the community and paid by the community but we are being listening to. It is good to plan for the future but take the community with you and not do things in secret.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
I oppose the demolition of the water tower. Refer attachment.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
Yes

I have attached additional information
https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/145

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Jennie
<i>Last Name</i>	Gainsford
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	298

Cambridge Water Tower No to Demolition!

The Cambridge Water Tower is a quintessential and important architectural landmark in the town of Cambridge. Protected by Waipa District Council with the highest ranking indicating the importance placed on this structure. Heritage New Zealand also gives an important ranking category 2; the information on the heritage register reflects its importance nationally. All this is clearly defined in the information stated by Heritage NZ.

I am appalled this is even coming up for discussion by the WDC. When I was a member of the WDC Heritage Council there was a definite commitment by the WDC to protect heritage buildings and structures. In the District Plan those selected have protection including the water tower. A considerable amount of effort was made by the WHC members during the selection process to maintain the special character of Cambridge. The WDC through the heritage councils gained a lot of knowledge of the town's history - we were all volunteers with lots of local knowledge.



Water Tower under construction

Contractor: J.J. Holland

Bricklayer: George Russell Fellows

Cost £1077

Robert Morse of Cambridge used a pulley System to lift the bricks up to the bricklayer

The photograph depicts the construction of the tower on the green belt. It clearly shows no buildings on the surrounding land. It was when Resthaven was allowed to build a rest home on the greenbelt and then was later given permission to extend closer to the water tower, issues arose. The tower came first, perhaps Resthaven could remove their cottages that are close to the tower.

I oppose the demolition as do many of my friends. As a ratepayer there seems at present a lot of ratepayer money is/has been wasted on ideological projects.

It appears you have lost the trust of the community when it is your job to listen, consult and pay attention to them - not hide away. Trust is hard won and it may take sometime for the community to actually trust what what you say in the future.

The Water Tower is an important historical landmark in Cambridge. Protecting our heritage is paramount.

Jennie Gainsford (MARCH)
94 Princes Street Cambridge 3434

Submission/Event: 385

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

The Cambridge water tower has been part of my life since childhood when I used to call it the Rapunzel Tower. So my family always refer to it as that. But I know that it is now in a dangerous state so unfortunately needs to be demolished. The cost to repair it is ridiculous. What I do want to see is a memorial on the same site, with perhaps a miniature replica tower there, made from the bricks of the original tower, with a plaque of some sort showing the history of the tower. Also would be nice to have some seating there, under the trees nearby to sit and enjoy the memorial. Thank you.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Marie-Clare

Last Name

Jones

Organisation

Id

120

Submission/Event: 384

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Debbie

Last Name

Matthews

Organisation

Id

343

Submission/Event: 383

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

I believe that the water tower should be demolished. Residents of Resthaven would have better views. Also it would be better for there to be some play equipment so that residents could watch the youngsters playing.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Eric Graeme

Last Name

Scott

Organisation

Barbara

Id

297

Submission/Event: 382

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Restoration of the water tower would create another historical site for Cambridge.
Cambridge is lacking in historical sites.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Ella
<i>Last Name</i>	Cross
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	296

Submission/Event: 381

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Jack

Last Name

Redpath

Organisation

Id

295

Submission/Event: 380

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/143

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/144

Stakeholder

First Name

Hayden

Last Name

Woods

Organisation

Id

334

SUBMISSION

Annual Plan; 2024 -2025

Email: Send your feedback to

haveyoursay@waipadc.govt.nz

info@waipadc.govt.nz

with the subject line "Enhanced Annual Plan 2024/25 – Submission".

Name: Hayden Woods
Email Address: haydengwoods@yahoo.co.nz
Postal Address: 1/232 Rewi Street, Te Awamutu 3800
Town: Te Awamutu
Postcode: 3800
Day time phone: 07 871 7877

I **Do NOT** wish to attend a council/ submission meeting to be heard in support of my submission.

I strongly **OBJECT** & **DO NOT** support the Annual Plan; 2024 – 2025

The Annual Plan is **UNAFFORDABLE!**

The Annual Plan is **UNSUSTAINABLE!**

The Annual Plan is **PRICE GOUGING** ratepayers, through publicly unsanctioned GROWTH, negatively increasing **DEBT LEVELS!** Growth is neither being forced onto Council and the district, as the Mayor has proven that Growth can be deferred and STOPPED – but it's a CHOICE that Council makes without the PEOPLE 'having a say.'

CONCERNS - OBJECTING to, and NOT supporting the Annual Plan; 2024 -2025 (44 Pages + Addendum/ Letter):

INTRODUCTION:

In my opinion, nothing regarding Waipa District Councils proposed rates increase of 14.8% is; honest, transparent, nor having any true relationship to; the Three Waters Costs or, the cost of living, or inflationary cost increases, as the 14.8% proposed rates increase far exceeds the impacts of such.

Simply the 14.8% proposed rates increases are;

- a) Unsustainable.
(WDC; Audit & Risk Report/ Agenda: March 13th 2023; Page 25)
- b) Unaffordable.
(WDC; Audit & Risk Report/ Agenda: March 13th 2023; Page 25)

And demonstrates;

- c) Non prudent, fiscal irresponsibility; where Council is 'incapable' and 'failing to deliver'.
(WDC; Audit & Risk Report/ Agenda: March 13th 2023; Page 25)
WDC; Audit & Risk Report/ Agenda: June 12th 2023; Page 26)

Nothing of the document, or meetings attended on the subject matter of 'Annual Plan', have instilled confidence within myself to Councils ability to PLAN, or mitigate such at the very least in making rates remotely affordable in accordance with Clauses 10, 11 & 17 of the Local Government Act – its most certainly, not for having been repeatedly warned by experts and Central Government, or myself over the last 15 years, to which my predictions have been 'bang on' – so why can't WDC be 'bang on'?

Yet here we are now?

Ratepayers are ONLY here now, in this very precarious financial position facing HUGE RATES increases, not by themselves, but because of you Council Elect, and the inept actions and leadership within Council, failing again; to PLAN, and have the foresight to mitigate or account for such, its' not that we have not encountered in the past 10 years, global events, from which Council should have learnt from and PLANNED ahead for - ONLY something that can be achieved, by having competent, experienced staff – something I DO NOT, and struggle to see in my opinion at Council, even within this draft document – is this not something that Council should be focusing on as a priority, employing cost affordable capable individuals?

Both Councils actions or lack thereof, and the outcomes of the draft Annual Plan are reflected in WDC's shocking and revealing audit of the organisation;

(WDC; Audit & Risk Report/ Agenda: March 13th 2023; Page 25, WDC; Audit & Risk Report/ Agenda: June 12th 2023; Page 26).....VERY HIGH RISK of; 'incapable staff', 'failing to deliver', 'failing to communicate to the public', and district being 'financially unsustainable', not my words, the words of WDC.

Nothing about the proposed rates increases has CHANGED over the past 15 years – the onslaught by Council is relentless, with unaffordable, unsustainable increases – accompanied by evolving more elaborate excuses and feeble attempts to win awards to deflect – never taking responsibility or accountability for placing the district in this very precarious irreversible position – likely to ONLY mirror the present, or worsen in years to come!

SHAME ON YOU!

As far back as 2011, not even the procurement of the Deloitte's Report, at a cost of \$80,000 approximately to ratepayers, was enough to curb Councils lavish unsustainable spending habits, and forecasted to have a negatively profound effect on the financial sustainability of the district – true words from the wise, as the situation has worsened, with Council Expenditure and District Wide Debt Levels Exponentially Increasing, to a point of no return or breathing room.

The longevity of something can only be attributed to how it's nurtured, protected and cared for – neglect it, ignore it, gouge it, you are only destined to destroy what's precious to you, and in this case the district and the ratepayer base.

The financial sustainability of the ratepayers needs protecting, or Council Elect, RISK losing the district and Council, all thanks to ignorance and arrogance in my opinion – as if not for ratepayers, Council would not EXIST – so if ratepayers are willing, and prepared to tolerate, services and staff cuts in making rates affordable, then Council should ACT accordingly, as it's not their call.

On, 25th August 2012, you may recall a successful public demonstration (March & Petition Protest) to OBJECT to the proposed rates increases at the time, a proposed rates increase of 4.8% no less, considered at the time as being unaffordable and unsustainable, and here we are now with 14.8% being proposed - Council Elect, you are deluding yourselves in thinking this is acceptable, only highlighting your inexperience and knowledge in the administration and management of the district – profoundly costing ratepayers.

And to think now, that a proposed rates increase of 14.8% is fiscally responsible, borders on utter; madness, insanity and absurdity – anyone arguing to be professional, competent and experienced, would arguably have planned, or at least had the foresight, or contingency to avoid the inevitable having already endured global impacting events in the last decade.....yet here we are, nowhere near any Council Plan within a bulls roar, and elaborate excuse after excuse, readying yourself to gouge ratepayers for a lack thereof prudent fiscal responsibility.

To demonstrate this, let's look at the proposed rates increases in the 2018-2028 LTP, and compared to this document (a document at the time said by Council as being 'ambitious' and 'achievable'), highlights a proposed rates increase of 1000% and over, to then and now, in just a few years.

ABSOLUTELY SHOCKING – where's the PLANNING, where's the experience, where's the knowledge?

And there are NO 10 Year LTP's, NO 10 year LTP ever sees the day of light past three years, with every detail being CHANGED.....so STOP calling it such!

Instead, this Council under the loosely so called watch full eye of Council Elect has NOW made things over 1000% worse for ratepayers and the district – Thank you for nothing!

And now I have 3050 reasons, in rates as invoiced, to NOT trust Council!

In summary of the Introduction; how is the proposed rates increase of 14.8%, and its comparison with the 2018-2028 LTP in having over 1000% increase to the proposed rates increase identified in that document for the same period, considered in accordance with Clause 10, 11 & 17 LGA, in maintaining the health, wellbeing, and rates affordability of the district? Especially, when Council has used the excuse that Growth will pay for itself, helping the district – when has it ever? All we have seen are obscene rates increases, urban chaos, congestion, environmental disasters, greater demand on resources, and constantly neglected infrastructure - all by the hands of our Council.

BELOW I WILL CONVEY MY CONCERNS TO OBJECTING AND NOT SUPPORTING THE 2024-2025 ANNUAL PLAN, QUESTIONING THE VERY NATURE OF WHY RATEPAYERS SHOULD BE EXPECTED to HONOUR PAYING RATES FOR A DOCUMENT THAT DEMONSTRATES SUCH UNPROFESSIONAL FISCAL IRRESPONSIBILITY IN THESE AUSTERE TIMES;

CONCERNS

CONCERNS: GENERAL

- CONCERN ONE:

Council ONLY exists because of Ratepayers:

Council and Elected Council needs to be reminded, as to whom they are PAID to represent, that is – **the RATEPAYERS** not themselves.

Without RATEPAYERS, Council and Elected Council would NOT EXIST.

Without RATEPAYERS, Council and Elected Council would NOT have access to 79% of FUNDS – that being a significant portion of their REVENUE SOURCE for Operating –whilst Capital is now primarily FUNDED by Debt.

The district is majority funded by RATEPAYER FUNDS for Operating, and the ratepayers ability to service the interest on again primarily the debt for Capital, not COUNCIL FUNDS (as COUNCIL has NO FUNDS), therefore summarising; FUNDING IS ONLY ACHIEVED primarily due to RATES, FEES/ COMPLIANCE CHARGES, DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS, and the ability to service interest on the DEBT all collected off again residents and ratepayers – as I am yet to see how growth has in any way reduced the principal borrowing.

Therefore, it goes without saying that RATEPAYERS – HEALTH, WELLBEING, FINANCIAL SECURITY and SUSTAINABILITY should be both Council and Council Elects PARAMOUNT PREROGATIVE not their own AGENDA.

Councils nationally have lost sight of;

- Their primary objective.
- To whom they represent.

Honesty, Accountability, and Transparency, are merely brandished terms to instil confidence and false hope to the masses, just as the illusion of having compliant regulatory policy, and procedure in accordance with the LGA – yet with the ever increasing closed door, public excluded mentality, Council is likening itself more to a secret society than a Public Council for the PEOPLE.

Council and Council Elect should heed the warning signs that once plagued Tauranga City Council, who took its funding source (ratepayers) for granted, just as what appears to be occurring here in Waipa in my opinion, before its untimely catastrophic financial demise, now under Central Government Stewardship, because Council cannot be TRUSTED.

Just how far off is Waipa from becoming a Tauranga's 'Bella Vista'? All it took was a drop in the bucket to send it over the edge.

In these austere times; on the cusp of GFC recovery, now in a recession, job insecurity, pay freezes, public sector job cuts (oh but NOT Waipa) has Council and Council Elect PRUDENTLY and TRUTHFULLY taken into consideration all feasible fiscally responsible options to ensuring the district remains affordable and sustainable to mitigate the VERY REAL – 'VERY HIGH RISKS' as outlined in the WDC – Audit and Risk Reports: March 13th 2023; Page 25 as below;

Reference:

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/business/513871/companies-more-selective-about-who-gets-salary-increases-recruitment-agency>

Risks as identified as per WDC – Audit and Risk Reports: March 13th 2023; Page 25;

- Inadequate staffing capacity and capability to deliver Councils objectives.
- Failure to deliver the programme of Capital Works.
- Risk to Financial Sustainability.
- Failure to effectively engage with the Community.
- Failure to manage an effective response to climate change impacts.
- Failure to manage response to and the impacts of central government reforms.

And High Risk;

- Failure to give effect to Nepotistic Partnerships.
- Failure of relationships with key stakeholders.
- Failure to manage Health and Safety and Wellbeing.

Simply the answer in my opinion is a resounding **NO**, as rates increases continue to be higher than forecasted in the 10 Year LTP, and Annual Plan's – there appears NO bounds to Councils relentless onslaught to price gouging of ratepayers – growth is doing nothing to offset this, except to bring unprecedented debt levels, and heartache.

HOW long is it before our District potentially falls to a similar fate of Tauranga City Council.....one month, six months, a year or two?

- CONCERN TWO:

Calling the Annual Plan an 'Enhanced' Annual Plan:

Council and Council Elect, please desist from misleading the people into believing that this Annual Plan is anything other than being a 'less than ordinary' Annual Plan, as required by law for Council to prepare annually.

This is NOT an 'enhanced' document, and should NOT be termed as such, or used to falsely describe the Annual Plan (a document that Council should be more than capable of preparing as required to do so on an Annual basis) – and, as it stands, it's NOT providing anything greater in value or quality, instead dishing up misery and heartache for the district.

The Annual Plan is nothing more, and nothing less than 'less than ordinary'.

There is nothing 'special' about this Annual Plan, especially when compared with the 2018-2028 LTP, even the 2021-2031 LTP – only then do you realise Council and Council Elect's catastrophic FAILURE in my opinion – and there is NO EXCUSE from Elected MEMBERS trying to justify their actions publicly to a system that they quoted as being BROKEN ('Broken': referring to the limitations of funding sources, being totally reliant on ratepayers) – this has always been the system regardless, it may not be a perfect system, but it is the system, and probably will be to the end of time, so if you cannot plan or have the foresight to work around this, then it only exemplifies certain individuals inexperience and lack thereof knowledge to be in that position in the first place, in my opinion.

If Council and Council Elect, are struggling to find more aptly, accurate, truthful terms to best describe the Annual Plan, maybe you can choose one or more from below, in my opinion;

- a) Fiscally irresponsible
- b) Unsustainable
- c) Unaffordable
- d) Negligent
- e) Overly ambitious
- f) Price gouging of ratepayers
- g) Unprofessionally delayed

Below are references to WDC Audit & Risk Reports/ Agenda's, highlighting the RISKS, but no ordinary risks, that is; low, medium, or high risks – instead outlining VERY HIGH RISKS, that are profoundly affecting the, Council, the district and costing ratepayers dearly financially.

What's above VERY HIGH RISK? Bankrupt/ Insolvent???

Council and Council Elect have known about these RISKS for at least over a year now, yet nothing in my opinion appears to have been planned to mitigate such, instead things have gotten worse for the district and ratepayers, as the proposed level of rates increase can attest to that - as though below is being non-prudently and unprofessionally swept aside and ignored.

Reference:

Waipa District Council Audit & Risk Report/ Agenda

- Waipa District Council – Audit & Risk Agenda March 13th 2023; Page 25

<https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/repository/libraries/id:26zgz4o7s1cxbyk7hfo7/hierarchy/agendasandminutes/Agendas%202023/March%202023/Audit%20and%20Risk%20Committee%20Public%20Agenda%20-%202013%20March%202023.pdf>

- Waipa District Council – Audit & Risk Agenda June 12th 2023; Page 26

<https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/repository/libraries/id:26zgz4o7s1cxbyk7hfo7/hierarchy/agendasandminutes/Agendas%202023/June%202023/Audit%20and%20Risk%20Committee%20Public%20Agenda%2012%20June%202023.pdf>

In my opinion, what the above references reveal is that NO ONE in my opinion in house (ie. Within Council) is; capable, experienced or has the knowledge to take up the CEO's position, as they are failing on all counts as per Page 25 & 26 respectively of the reports, a position that will have to be outsourced, just as a large majority of Councils services are to Consultants – questioning the very need for Staff.

- CONCERN THREE:

Annual Residents Survey – Councils Public Image:

Council and Council Elect, that is, Waipa District Councils public image is at an all-time low, worsening under the current leadership regime and new appointments.

To think it will improve, after suggesting a proposed rates increase of 14.8%, and a lack thereof public notification of the Annual Plan Meetings by Council, would be a complete understatement.

Just where is; honesty, transparency, professionalism, and accountability?

Likely to continue, and worsen for the foreseeable future and years to come, with Overall Satisfaction in Council's ability at an all-time low of 19%, and not likely helped by in my opinion, by the latest fiscal irresponsibility and indebting of the district as outlined in the error ridden Draft Annual Plan.

Just when has Council or Council Elect ever tantamount stuck to the information, or proposed rates increases as outlined in LTP's as Annual Plans inevitably always CHANGE for worse for some extraordinary excuse or late minute tick it up to the rates charges!

It's very hard to TRUST Council and Council Elect, when you ignore us, and price gouge us.

Especially when the excuses driving the exponential increase to the proposed rates increases are; cost of living increases, inflationary increases, and the re-inclusion of three waters. Admittedly, yes these have some but little driving force to cost adjustments in the Annual Plan, as seen, but are not by a bulls roar the main driver to ratepayers being price gouged. Not even the deceit, for the re-inclusion of Three Waters can take credit for this title (as later identified Three Waters has never truthfully fully left the administration of Council, and ratepayers have in its supposed absence been rated 82% of Three Water charges).

The title goes to the negative impacting GROWTH, the same growth the district has been removed from 'having a say', the same growth destroying our beloved rural, village like lifestyle – thank you Council.

The same GROWTH the Mayor would have you believe we are forced to have as a growth district, but next minute on the other hand, she is telling us to save costs in the Annual Plan, we have deferred or stopped some growth cells, so then Council is NEITHER forced, nor required to push growth, and has every option to STOP growth in its entirety – it's just a publicly excluded choice they choose not to!

Growth destroyed Empires, toppling them to their knees!

It's very unlikely Council or Council Elects image will improve any time soon, especially under this current regime, demonstrating fiscal irresponsibility by wasting public funds, on overseas trips, or feeble 'awards' amongst other things, will not CHANGE the outcome, or distract from the district wide neglect, only destined to increase the divide between Council and the PEOPLE – when will you learn, to be TRUSTED you first have to earn the respect of those intended.

Reference:

Annual Residents Survey 2023: Overall satisfaction with Council – 19%;
Page 8
<https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/repository/libraries/id:26zgz4o7s1cxbyk7hfo7/hierarchy/our-council/documentsandpublications/annualresidentssurvey/Waipac%20DC%20Residents%20Survey%20Annual%20Report%202023.pdf>

Annual Residents Survey 2022: Overall satisfaction with Council – 25%;
Page 8
<https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/repository/libraries/id:26zgz4o7s1cxbyk7hfo7/hierarchy/our-council/documentsandpublications/annualresidentssurvey/documents/Waipac%20DC%20Residents%20Survey%202022>

Annual Residents Survey 2021: Overall satisfaction with Council – 27%;
Page 8
<https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/repository/libraries/id:26zgz4o7s1cxbyk7hfo7/hierarchy/our-council/haveyoursay/Waipac%20DC%20Residents%20Survey%202021.pdf>

- CONCERN FOUR:

Treaty of Waitangi - Obligations:

Council, and Council Elect, that is; Waipa District Council, should desist immediately from in my opinion; misleading, lying, and falsely portraying that they are supposedly obligated to upholding the obligations of the Treaty of Waitangi.

Instead, using it as what appears as a decisive tool in creating; division, disharmony and favouritism towards a minority based on race – whilst financially/ advantageously gaining from such.

Yet the majority of the district as a whole, is at a racial disadvantage to the minority - suffering emotionally and financially from such - just where is equality?

The 1840 Treaty of Waitangi document, like the falsely perpetrated non ratified fabricated concepts - that is; the 1989 Treaty Principles and the 1987 Treaty Partnership (never mentioned in the 1840 treaty) – have ever been a mandate or statutory requirement by Central Government for local Councils –

(Note: The concepts and terms; Treaty Partnership and Treaty Principles, DO NOT exist within the 1840 Treaty – if WDC believe they do, please show me where in the 1840 document to where they are – especially in your charging of ratepayers an

additional significant percentage tariff on all future projects – for what exactly? Nothing that ALL NORMAL people can exercise under the law when invited to ‘have a say’, why does there need to be separate system for Maori at additional cost, than what was already provided prior to creating this race based division and multitude of Elected and Unelected positions.....I don’t see a Scottish, Irish, Welsh, French, Dutch, German, American, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Indian, etc etc race based elected position, for which WDC wilfully discriminates against by not having such).

I specifically refer to the past Labour led Central Government review and report on Local Government, it clearly highlights that there has never existed a ‘statutory’ requirement to uphold or develop Partnership Frameworks (ie. Obligations, Principles and Partnership) to the Treaty, only NOW recommending now for its possible inclusion and the direction Councils should go – therefore WDC have not been forthright, or truthful over this matter in my opinion, at significant incurred cost to ratepayers – who pays this back, and what is there to show for it?

Quote: ‘Takarangi Research principal researcher Professor Poara Tapsell said the recommendation of a statutory requirement for councils to develop partnership frameworks with Māori was a critical signpost to where councils needed to go.’

Reference:

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/492410/brave-timely-and-courageous-maori-leaders-positive-about-local-government-review>

1999; Justice Eddie Durie (Chair of Waitangi Tribunal)

<https://treatygate.wordpress.com/.../tre.../sir-eddie-durie/>

In addition to the above, I find it ironic, having watched a number of live streamed Council Meetings (for the few that are not behind closed doors, or publicly excluded), I cannot but help notice a striking commonality; that is, that our SECOND elected Maori Ward Councillor in less than a term, without hesitation and with such regularity, will undoubtedly comment that her people (that is unelected representatives) cannot participate on council matters without having greater access to more resources, because her people are apparently at a disadvantage compared to other Elected Members with the same access to resources already available/ granted. Yet, at no point, have I heard any mention or discussion to the effect that her people, (as in her constituents that she represents) are or will be suffering greater at the hands of Council with the planned proposed rates increases – So am I missing something, are her people, unlike the majority, immune to such negative financial effects of rates – maybe WDC can enlighten me? For not having to endure listening to her struggles at the Annual Plan meeting regarding her job insecurities and lack thereof pay remuneration, that is comparable to others, this was NOT the forum for such, and merely took up valuable question time for disconcerting ratepayers.

- CONCERN FIVE:

Accuracy of Council Information on Official Sites/ and Documentation:

Can the information presented on Council Official Sites (ie. Official Website, Official Facebook Page), and Official Documentation (in particular the 'Draft Annual Plan 2024-2025') be TRUSTED to be accurate, let alone the incorrect usage of the Macron name.

Especially, when it can be established that quintessential information, being used by Council to justify its very financial position and the rating of the district, for having been warned, is still INCORRECT on Official Sites, and later in the Submission identifying INCORRECT ERRORS within the 'Draft Annual Plan' that clearly has not for Quality Assurance been REVIEWED.

Questioning the very nature of whether this information internally has been used to further compound errors, of by its very nature in place on Official Sites or Official Documentation is misleading the public.

Is this to what the WDC: Audit and Risk Report/ Agenda; March 13th 2023, refers to the 'incapable', 'failing to deliver', with the district at VERY HIGH RISK of 'financial unsustainability'?

Regardless, is this considered professional, prudent action/ services, to which ratepayers should be expected to pay rates for – do we not expect better?

Evidence Example:

CRLG000026/22 - LGOIMA RESPONSE – POPULATION FIGURES USED FOR 2021; WDC CFO confirmed on the 8th March 2022, that WDC's Official Website – About Waipa; was showing INCORRECT information regarding the population figures for WAIPA on a site 'copyrighted' with the date stamp 2022 – IT IS NOW the 7th April 2024 whilst typing this submission, AND THE SAME INFORMATION IS SHOWN & date stamped 2024 – About Waipa – STATES Waipa's Population Officially as being 53,600, just as it was two years ago. And on the Official WDC Facebook page the population is still 56,200, this also been the case for going on two years too. Yet Council would have you believe its now 61,000 in Official Documentation. So which of the Information is CORRECT – there is three examples to choose from? Information that is potentially misleading the public, begging the question 'what other information is potentially incorrect on the so-called Official Website or in any other public document for which the information may be relevant?'

How can one TRUST Council?

Especially if the information located to Official Sites and Official Documentation is neither consistent, nor accurate in cases – for not having been notified/ warned of the issue, and yet it still remains for the public to see after two years – not a good look and is this considered spreading miss information.

- CONCERN SIX:

Transportation – Collector Bus Service/ Mobility Scooter Safety:

I have already raised this issue before, but feel it needs to be repeated for it to sink in, especially when Council and Council Elect, plan to push without the public truly 'having a say' that's valued and listened to;

- Growth
- 10/ 20 minute Urban Centres
- Cycle/ Walkways
- Spatial Plans

For any the above to have any future success, be demographically compatible, affordable, and all weather capable – a Public Transport Collector Service modelled on the Tokoroa designed service needs implementing here in Waipa.

However, addressing the Elephant on the room – the economic climate!

It is highly improbable that the district can sustain or afford such at present, but just as important to consider its inclusion in future Annual and LTP Plans.

Public Transport –

- Consideration made for the allocation of funding to Waipa District Council for the establishment of a Steering Committee to administer the establishment of a Public Bus Transport Service to facilitate a Local Collector Circuit to respective townships; Te Awamutu & Cambridge, Waipa.
- Inclusion of Public Bus Transport Service for Waipa District to Regional Transport Plan to include the following routes;
 - Township Local Collector Circuits for Cambridge & Te Awamutu.
 - Connecting Direct Circuits for Townships Cambridge & Te Awamutu rather than detouring to Hamilton.
 - Continuation of Circuit Links to Hamilton.

NOTE:

It has to be noted that Local Collector Circuits for both Cambridge & Te Awamutu will provide a Public Bus Transport Service that will inevitably (based on the very successful model implemented by Ben Smit in Tokoroa – attached addendum);

- a) *Provide a cost-effective public service, compared with more expensive options; Miss Daisy, & Local Taxi's.*

- b) *Reduce general and CBD carbon footprint.*
- c) *Reduce the need for greater CBD parking requirements.*
- d) *Reduce traffic congestion and improve traffic safety.*
- e) *Connect the district and its services to a wide-ranging demographic.*
- f) *A lifeline for proposed new aged care housing and those without the means of transport within the main townships of Te Awamutu & Cambridge, Waipa.*
- g) *If Tokoroa, can successfully put on a Local Collector Circuit - Bus Service then there is no reason why a district considered by many as being affluent cannot, unless it is considered the poor neighbour to South Waikato District.*

Mobility Scooter Safety –

- Allocation of funding to assist Waipa District Council in managing the increase number of mobility scooters in ongoing alterations required to existing roading/ footpath infrastructure to accommodate and promote public awareness of safe travel within the district.

Arterial/ Collector Roding Infrastructure –

- Allocation of funding to Waipa District Council to implement improvements to roading infrastructure to arterial/ collector roads servicing a high volume of traffic as a result of growth to the district. Surfaces should be resurfaced using **‘hot mix’** to reduce ambient noise levels and dust/ debris runoff (for eg: Rewi Street, Cambridge Road, Kihikihi Road & Ohaupo Road)
- Removal of/ or replacement of planting to Waipa District Roundabouts to minimise obstruction to traffic safety sightlines.

NOTE: Please refer to attached supporting information;

- a) *CEO Letter*
- b) *Addendum*

- CONCERN SEVEN:

Total Mobility Taxi Service:

Just as important to having a Public Transport Collector Service, is to consider updating policy on the Total Mobility Taxi Service to ensure the service providers provide a fully transparent affordable service in line with the true intent of the Total Mobility Scheme;

- ALL Waipa Taxi Service providers to apply for Total Mobility Funding.
- ALL Waipa Taxi Service providers to publicly display identifying information that they are part of the Total Mobility Scheme.

- CONCERN EIGHT:

Three Waters Re-Inclusion ??:

Waipa District Council plans to supposedly re-include Three Waters Costs back into the budget (but at any stage did it ever leave Councils hands or their administration of it, as you would have the public believe)

Reference:

https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/our-council/news?item=id%3A2pfkerd2c1cxbyrlzpnv&fbclid=IwAR21Lhz5Qek0YQ2A9iUstgDVVeVX0PusWLFyCZFfsY-4UzT_rDC5YEai6vLo

Quote from above;

'The Council made the decision last week to **hit pause on its Long Term Plan** in favour of a 12-month budget due to financial challenges presented after being required to **reininclude three waters costs** for the 10-year period, and the uncertainty around funding moving forward.'

The points that can be taken from the above WDC – Public Statement are as follows;

- a) Three Waters Costs to be and I quote 'reincluded' – for it to 'reincluded', it has to be assumed in the first instance to have been fully EXCLUDED.
- b) Exclusion, of Three Waters Costs is being used as the penultimate excuse for the deferral of the 'Long Term Plan', due to rumoured financial challenges by staff who are apparently incapable of, and failing to deliver a prudent fiscal document they produce with such monotonous regularity up until NOW.

- c) The re-inclusion, of the Three Waters Costs has been attributed as being one of the significant contributing factors to having huge rates increases being applied to rateable households.

Central Government NEVER took over the Three Waters, NEVER passed legislation to control Three Waters, so how can an asset never REMOVED or taken over by Central Government be re-included – shouldn't it be 'business as usual'?

Just what has Waipa District Council been doing with our Three Waters and the money collected/ rates for – isn't Waipa District Council obligated to maintain the health and wellbeing of the district by providing functioning Three Water infrastructure to its paying ratepayers in accordance with the LGA?

The Three Waters review below, will demonstrate in my opinion, that Waipa District Council has been collecting off the Three Waters, in fact 82% of the Three Waters charges after its apparent REMOVAL, this seems oddly high for an item supposedly removed from the budget.

Is this deceitful, and was there any malicious intent to financially gain here – if not what was this money for, where did it go, and if for Three Waters do the funds still exist or will ratepayers be rated again for work implied as being EXCLUDED?

Three Waters Review:

Firstly, let's look at several years' worth of rating invoice breakdowns to get a general picture of the rating descriptions and charges;

(Please refer to next page for details)

- 01 July 2023 to 30 June 2024:

Activity	General Rate (Capital Value)	Targeted Rate per Area	UAGC per SUIP	Total
Governance	74.30	30.75	83.97	189.02
Community Grants	0.00	26.38	0.00	26.38
Planning & Regulatory				
Compliance (Resource Management/ Building Control /Enforcement)	39.43	0.00	44.56	83.99
Environmental Health	14.52	0.00	16.41	30.93
Animal Control	6.71	0.00	7.59	14.30
Development Engineering	8.96	0.00	10.12	19.08
Community Services & Facilities				
Parks & Reserves	135.99	0.00	153.69	289.68
Mighty River Domain	17.50	0.00	19.78	37.28
District Museums	13.13	64.22	14.84	92.19
District Libraries	24.71	25.95	14.62	65.28
District Pools	17.39	117.89	32.96	168.24
Heritage	5.40	0.00	6.10	11.50
Cemeteries	3.08	0.00	3.48	6.56
Public Toilets	11.21	0.00	12.67	23.88
Properties	34.81	13.20	39.34	87.35
Rural Fire/ Civil Defence	2.21	0.00	2.50	4.71
Waste Management	3.89	0.00	4.40	8.29
National Cycling Centre of Excellence	0.00	3.66	0.00	3.66
Roading	184.45	17.10	208.46	410.01
Policy, Monitoring & Enforcement of Utilities	21.68	0.00	24.51	46.19
Total	\$619.38	\$299.15	\$700.00	\$1,618.53

- 01 July 2022 to 30 June 2023:

Activity	General Rate (Capital Value)	Targeted Rate per Area	UAGC per SUIP	Total
Governance	77.33	28.12	110.22	215.67
Community Grants	0.00	25.54	0.00	25.54
Planning & Regulatory				
Compliance (Resource Management/ Building Control /Enforcement)	28.29	0.00	40.33	68.62
Environmental Health	11.29	0.00	16.10	27.39
Animal Control	5.42	0.00	7.72	13.14
Development Engineering	6.68	0.00	9.53	16.21
Community Services & Facilities				
Parks & Reserves	105.02	0.00	149.70	254.72
Mighty River Domain	11.95	0.00	17.03	28.98
District Museums	11.41	57.63	16.27	85.31
District Libraries	21.33	25.90	15.77	63.00
District Pools	16.29	97.61	37.86	151.76
Heritage	3.94	0.00	5.62	9.56
Cemeteries	2.30	0.00	3.28	5.58
Public Toilets	10.10	0.00	14.40	24.50
Properties	28.11	14.02	40.07	82.20
Rural Fire/ Civil Defence	2.09	0.00	2.97	5.06
Waste Management	3.46	0.00	4.94	8.40
National Cycling Centre of Excellence	0.00	2.88	0.00	2.88
Roading	162.50	15.39	231.63	409.52
Policy, Monitoring & Enforcement of Utilities	19.34	0.00	27.56	46.90
Total	\$526.85	\$267.09	\$751.00	\$1,544.94

- 01 July 2020 to 30 June 2021:

Activity	General Rate (Capital Value)	Targeted Rate per Ward	UAGC per SUIP	Total
Governance	93.49	24.54	133.13	251.16
Community Grants		29.78	0.00	29.78
Planning & Regulatory				
Compliance (Resource Management/ Building Control /Enforcement)	24.23	0.00	34.51	58.74
Environmental Health	10.74	0.00	15.29	26.03
Animal Control	5.25	0.00	7.47	12.72
Development Engineering	3.78	0.00	5.38	9.16
Community Services & Facilities				
Parks & Reserves	94.20	0.00	134.15	228.35
Mighty River Domain	9.64	0.00	13.73	23.37
District Museums	9.57	39.00	13.62	62.19
District Libraries	23.42	26.86	17.07	67.35
District Pools	15.18	106.31	21.62	143.11
Heritage	2.55	0.00	3.62	6.17
Cemeteries	2.28	0.00	3.25	5.53
Public Toilets	8.02	0.00	11.42	19.44
Properties	21.46	12.94	27.96	62.36
Rural Fire/ Civil Defence	1.71	0.00	2.44	4.15
Waste Management	3.21	0.00	4.57	7.78
National Cycling Centre of Excellence		2.97	0.00	2.97
Roading	162.19	9.29	230.96	402.44
Policy, Monitoring & Enforcement of Utilities	19.53	0.00	27.81	47.34
Total	\$510.45	\$251.69	\$708.00	\$1,470.14

- 01 July 2019 to 30 June 2020:

Activity	General Rate (Capital Value)	Targeted Rate per Ward	UAGC per SUIP	Total
Governance	72.80	36.74	114.74	224.28
Community Grants		27.42		27.42
Planning & Regulatory				
Compliance (Resource Management/ Building Control /Enforcement)	17.86	2.99	28.16	49.01
Environmental Health	7.88	1.32	12.43	21.63
Animal Control	3.58	0.60	5.65	9.83
Development Engineering	4.38	0.73	6.90	12.01
Community Services & Facilities				
Parks & Reserves	87.36	14.61	137.72	239.69
Mighty River Domain	10.25	1.71	16.15	28.11
District Museums	10.00	44.03	15.76	69.79
District Libraries	18.65	28.09	29.40	76.14
District Pools	8.34	110.36	13.15	131.85
Heritage	6.04	1.01	9.51	16.56
Cemeteries	2.13	0.36	3.36	5.85
Public Toilets	7.71	1.29	12.15	21.15
Properties	21.10	17.54	30.90	69.54
Rural Fire/ Civil Defence	1.73	0.29	2.73	4.75
Waste Management	2.60	0.43	4.09	7.12
National Cycling Centre of Excellence		2.52		2.52
Roading	146.85	34.88	231.31	413.04
Stormwater	3.33	0.56	5.26	9.15
Water	10.19	1.70	16.07	27.96
Waste Water	7.96	1.33	12.56	21.85
Total	\$450.74	\$330.51	\$708.00	\$1,489.25

Secondly, let's analyse these invoices;

You will notice with uniform regularity the rates invoices prepared by Waipa District Council, show consistent descriptive mirrored entries ranging from 'Governance' to 'Roading' across all invoices above, and for the periods supposedly having the 'inclusion' of Three Waters, the following entries are shown; Stormwater, Water and Waste Water.

Except for the '01 July 2019 to 30 June 2020' invoice, Three Waters descriptions; 'Stormwater, Water and Waste Water' has been replaced with a NEW singular descriptive term consistent across ALL subsequent future rating invoices up until present day – and this NEW term is 'Policy, Monitoring & Enforcement of Utilities', with an associated charge reflecting 82% of the charges previously seen in the '01 July 2019 to 30 June 2020' invoice for combined Three Waters charges.

In summary:

It is of my opinion, that whilst Waipa District Council has publicly stated in a public address dated 12th March 2024, to 're-include' Three Waters Costs.

Since 2019/2020, it would appear through deductive reasoning, ratepayers have been systematically rated for a significant portion of Three Waters under what appears the guise of a NEW rating charges term: 'Policy, Monitoring & Enforcement of Utilities', at approx. 82% of the combined costs identified in the '01 July 2019 to 30 June 2020' invoice for Three Waters, when said to have been EXCLUDED.

Are ratepayers being taken advantage of here? Has any potential deceit been perpetrated?

- **CONCERN NINE:**

Playgrounds, Skateparks and Cycleways:

STOP all Playgrounds, Skateparks, and Cycleways - these are not considered essential infrastructure for the wellbeing and health of the district for paying ratepayers.

We have roads to cycle on, rather than the expensive nationally underutilised, cycleways only built for a minority lazy self-entitled individuals – if they want it so badly, they can pay for it themselves.

We have parks to play in, we don't need playgrounds to be able to play in the park.

We have carparks, and footpaths for skateboarders to still utilise.

- CONCERN TEN:

Te Awamutu War Memorial:

Whilst I commend the Te Awamutu Community Board's Chair for having the courage to challenge Council Elect over the Te Awamutu War Memorial having partial success – a true Champion.

I DISAGREE to the REVIEW of ONLY the 'unresolved' design items, who qualifies what an 'unresolved' design item is, and haven't all major items been finalised by Council – so this is merely a cheap cop out.

An immediate FULL REVIEW of the FULL budget and design needs to occur, as these details were NEVER available at the time of submission on ONLY a concept plan and design.

I am APPALLED by the NEW oversized, dominating eye sore known as the playground to the War Memorial, its;

- In this economic climate a waste of funds, especially when no effort was made to recycle existing equipment.
- Made from flimsy, destructible materials, likely to need replacing after a short period of use – let alone the graffiti already on the NEW bridges.
- The playground now dominates the War Memorial, no longer will it be a peaceful place of remembrance, but instead a noisy disruptive jungle.

In addition, to the above, STRONGLY OBJECT to the cultural appropriation of the War Memorial, by nature of the combined war efforts, this was already a 'sectional' monument – NOT requiring the WOKE movement to be shoved down our throats – its simply insulting and offensive.

Not to mention the INCORRECT location of the POLE planned across the road from the Mutu Street Entrance, the POLE is in the WRONG location and is factually incorrect – the PA site is behind the Netball Courts across the stream, it has nothing to do with the War Memorial Site.....If this is the case, is WDC planning at the Rangiaowhia Site to have a HUGE plaque, and billboard to commemorate the lost British Troops, giving a background story on their families and loved ones?

- CONCERN ELEVEN:

Waipa Cemeteries:

I STRONGLY OBJECT to the wasteful funding allocated to the cultural appropriation of sacred Waipa sites – I AGREE that these neglected district wide facilities need maintaining and upkeep from their neglected state, however I DO NOT agree to the WOKE additions – put the shoe on the other foot, are ratepayers allowed to submit on what happens to a Urupa or on a Marae?

- CONCERN TWELVE:

Fluoridation of Waipa's Water Supply:

I commend the research and dedicated work undertaken by Kane Titchener over the proposed fluoridation of Waipa's Water Supply, primarily Cambridge being the first water supply – a true Champion.

Waipa District Council are RECOMMENDED to PAUSE all work on fluoridation of Waipa's Water Supply, pending the outcome from the High Courts.

Waipa District Council would be better to adopt the 'Smiles for Life' program implemented in Scotland – as tooth decay prevention starts with educating, and what better platform but to run it from school, NOT by sticking an UNKNOWN industrial runoff chemical substance into our water supply, a substance already reported to Council Elect as eroding the application equipment due to its toxicity, so on that basis, if Council Elect still thinks its safe, maybe they can hold a public demonstration to consume a glass of the chemical to prove that its SAFE to consume.

- CONCERN THIRTEEN:

External Audit of 2024-2025 Annual Plan:

It is RECOMMENDED that Council and Council Elect, APPROVE the immediate allocation of necessary funds for an External Auditor (Deloitte/ KPMG) to undertake an Audit of the 2024-2025 Annual Plan and pending LTP, with the findings publicly released - similar to that of the SHOCKING Deloitte Audit Report back in 2011.

- CONCERN FOURTEEN:

Public Consultation Process:

It is recommended that Council and Council Elect pass policy, to the 'Public Consultation' process to include the following CHANGES;

- APPROVED LTP projects ONLY go out to Public Consultation at 'Detailed/ Developed' design stage NOT at Concept Design Stage – when greater design and financial budgetary detail is available to review.
- The Public Consultation process truly be a democratic unbiased process, showing all options, including to NOT BUILD – not the current tailored controlled undemocratic submission processes.
- Council and Council Elect, then HONOUR the majority of the views and opinions of submitters.

- CONCERN FIFTEEN:

Annual Plan – Staff and Services Cuts:

Council and Council Elect have chosen to NOT explore this option in the Annual Plan.

However, there lies the opportunity to make additional cost savings in making rates more affordable – by making Staff and Services Cuts.

It is recommended that Council and Council Elect present this as an option to the true and ONLY stakeholders (ratepayers) to consider, and if they are happy for a cut in services, then so be it – Council should HONOUR it, as they ONLY exist because of the 79% of funding from ratepayers.

Reference:

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/business/513871/companies-more-selective-about-who-gets-salary-increases-recruitment-agency>

- CONCERN SIXTEEN:

10 Year Review of Key Council Charges:

(Please refer to next page for 10 year review of key Council charges –figures extracted and taken from WDC Annual Plans for the past 10 years)

To say the least, the review presented some SHOCKING results, even through Covid, as it would appear in my opinion that WDC were potentially price gouging ratepayers, most certainly developers - with the following areas noted below seeing significant increases.

Demonstrating that there has been no conscious effort to CUT COSTs in making RATES AFFORDABLE or SUSTAINABLE.

Where is prudent fiscal responsibility from WDC?

- *Rates* (88.2% increase over 10 years)
- *Employment Benefit Expenses* (108.5% increase over 10 years)
- *Other Expenses* (87.4% increase over 10 years)
- *Capital Expenditure* (281.1% increase over 10 years)
- *Development Contributions* (1077.2% increase over 10 years)

Description	YEARS/ Percentage Increase/ Decrease										TOTALS	DIFF	2023-2024											
	2023 (\$'000)	2022 (\$'000)	2021 (\$'000)	2020 (\$'000)	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)	2017 (\$'000)	2016 (\$'000)	2015 (\$'000)	2014 (\$'000)														
Rates (1)	83796	8721488	77074	5,326883131	73176	7,197164	68263	7,88646	63273	6,244753	59554	17,71194	50593	6,305682	47992	4,087658	45723	2,676787	44531	613575	66,15881	39265	88,17453	
Employment Benefit Expenses (1)	34834	8,358478	32147	11,4667239	28840	6,723902	27031	11,24238	24292	12,08416	21673	13,82878	18040	2,841093	18514	3,895531	17826	6,678656	16710	240899	77,08366	18124	108,462	
Depreciation (1)	32437	1,84041	31848	5,049971963	30317	19,07231	25461	7,394129	23708	7,587584	22036	0,57049	21911	5,200726	20810	5,908698	19649	2,815133	19111	247288	55,53815	13326	69,7548	
Other Expenses (1)	46962	5,27236	44610	8,268815378	41203	-5,200419	43465	8,556667	40099	-3,01918	41294	51,27116	27298	-12,8361	31118	5,511758	29682	18,4721	25054	370925	76,27341	21906	87,44312	
Fees & Charges (1)	16521	-31,4188	24089	58,61592152	15187	3,172554	14720	29,15046	11365	-1,89901	11585	-21,548	14367	-3,84822	15374	6,697203	14409	15,40125	12486	150503	54,59528	4035	32,31619	
Fuel Tax (1)	412	0	412	0	412	0	412	-3,71832	428	40,78947	304	-11,1111	342	2,702703	333	2,461538	325	0	325	3705	31,10429	87	28,76923	
Capital Expenditure (1)	154850	-37,5725	187862	2,268434009	183695	-1,56103	186698	74,62195	108864	25,08808	85431	55,01306	54794	-10,1826	61098	23,80218	49277	21,2823	40630	1111017	178,6596	114020	281,1223	
Population (2)	61100	1,833333	60000	0,840936134	59500	1,709407	58500	3,72404	56800	2,545455	55000	12,93624	48700											

Note:
 (1) Figures taken from WDC Annual Plans
 (2) Figures taken from NZ Stats Subnational Population Estimates for Region

Year	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014													
Development Contributions	27216	16,36737	23388	19,2048297	19620	62,52485	12072	309,1476	5772	10,30002	5238	27,23073	4119	6,169334	3874	89,43765	2045	-11,5484	2312	105645	328,834	24904	107,7163
				12072	8,66447	11594	120,4089	5233															

- CONCERN SEVENTEEN:

Waste Incineration Plant – Te Awamutu

It is important that WDC proactively support its district, its PEOPLE, and the majority of its submitters - by OBJECTING/ PROTESTING the Proposed Waste Incineration Plant to Racecourse Road; Te Awamutu.

The potential and probable NEGATIVE impact it will have on Te Awamutu’s environment, health, wellbeing and infrastructure is PROFOUND – especially with WDC planning Growth Cell T13 Residential, to be built in around and encompassing the proposed future facility and site.

- CONCERN EIGHTEEN:

Public (or Closed Door) Meetings – Annual Plan 2024-2025

I am personally shocked, and disappointed in the lack thereof professional courtesy, and compliance by WDC with its own Policy, Procedure, RMA and the LGA – in NOT holding PUBLICLY OPEN, TRANSPARENT meetings, that should also be publicly marketed, promoted and notified, in particular, to discuss the Annual Plan 2024-2025.

Meetings held on the 9th April 2024 at Te Awamutu RSA, and 10th April Te Awamutu Library (being invitation ONLY I believe) were only made known to the public by word of mouth, NO OFFICIAL notification, and were held only several days after the document was released, providing very little time for the public to assess or digest the content.

Where was the promotion and notification by WDC – does WDC have something to HIDE?

- CONCERN NINETEEN:

Debt Levels

I have observed and monitored district wide debt levels for over fifteen years now.

So it comes as a shock, to see such fiscal irresponsibility by Council, here and now in these austere times - to blatantly disregard affordability and sustainability of the district and rates increases –favouring growth over the health and wellbeing of its PEOPLE.

Planning to extend debt levels by another \$100 Million, for a total debt level, that consists of Growth contributing to 58% of that DEBT, is sheer absurdity and madness.

In the past 10 years, WDC has raised Development Contribution charges by 1077%, so it is bewildering why the Principle Borrowing sum appears at no point to significantly decrease, instead further compounding to a NEW staggering DEBT total, and potentially edging to a point of no return.

Just where are the Development Contributions, going really?

I struggle to see any positive impact from growth, but see plenty of negative reasons to NOT have it!

STOP THE GROWTH, DESTROYING OUR RURAL, VILLAGE LIKE LIFESTYLE!

CONCERNS: DRAFT 2024-2025 ANNUAL PLAN CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

- CONCERN: Page 4

Quote:

‘When you combine the increase in costs with our assets rising in value by \$120 million, and the need for us to fund depreciation (to pay for replacement assets in the future), we need another 16.1 percent in revenue in 2024/25 to be able to meet those costs.’

That is: ‘.....depreciation (to pay for replacement assets in the future).....’

If this statement was TRUE, then maybe Waipa District Council would like to explain why past and present publicly depreciated assets, as rated for, as paid for, and owned by ratepayers, have been in my opinion neglected - naming just a few;

- Kihikihi Clock Tower
- Te Awamutu Rotunda
- Te Awamutu War Memorial
- Cambridge Clock Tower
- Cambridge Town Hall
- Cambridge Water Tower
- Te Awamutu Old Library
- Te Awamutu Old Museum
- Cambridge Pool
- Etc, etc.....a picture seems to be emerging here.

Note: In 2007; the publicly released findings of the Shand Report – noted the use of depreciation funds, were not being used by Local Authorities in the truest sense of the ‘depreciation’ meaning, for the replacement/ renewal of the asset – and advised, that depreciation was being used as tantamount a ‘slush’ fund compared with again what is stated above ‘to pay for the replacement of assets in future’.
(NOTE: If you would like a copy of the this report and other relevant documents, please feel free to ask)

Many of the above named projects, have if not already, or in future, are expected to be rated again for – asking the fundamental question; as to why these NEGLECTED assets were never maintained or upgraded in the first, why wasn’t the funds paid back from which they were taken, and is it fair that ratepayers be expected to pay again for which they have already paid?

Elected Members, again I feel it important to repeat what is not sinking in - why should ratepayers be expected to pay again, for which they have already paid – how many more times over is this to occur, or to be tolerated, before you act as the people’s representation as paid to do so, in the truest sense?

- CONCERN: Page 4/ 5

Quote:

‘At the end of the 2024/25 year, 57.8 percent of our debt is estimated to be growth-related. Growth-related three waters debt makes up 35 percent of the total debt.’

Quote:

‘Our opening debt for the 2024/25 year is forecast to be \$296.8 million. By the end of 2024/25, that is expected to grow to \$398.5 million. More than half the debt on our books is growth related.’

Extending the debt levels by another \$100 Million, is in my opinion, fiscally irresponsible, especially, when ONLY in the first instance on paper, it is looking to ONLY gain a percentage of the 10% expected revenue from Development Contributions – yes, in future there maybe rating revenue generated from such, but that is a long way off yet, leaving the district exposed to great RISK of subdivision/ development contribution default - and it is likely at the that time, as currently seen, that additional rating revenue would probably already be planned/ allocated for by Council on luxury white elephant projects that have already been deferred/ on-hold/ or stopped, rather than providing for the basic maintained core infrastructure that ratepayers pay and expect to have.

Reference:

https://www.waikatotimes.co.nz/business/350239408/charles-mas-rotokauri-north-company-liquidation?fbclid=IwAR12-Arg-V4weiq_oLfuBnvaefRSIjb4IrbTd6VS75yiXdatl8vcsgvEq90_aem_AZuEVS7uoBuKwy5c

[gpOFdmCDfOCshicSXGZ2YFwjVo9a6AfU -Kea6YccNLNUHR6TH7nmueOAF-c2SZnYxwB6bH4](#)

We are now considered in a technical recession, yet you expect ratepayers to cover the additional RISK and interest repayments on the principle borrowing of another \$100 Million debt – when personal borrowing and lending criteria rules are currently tightening, so to think you will gain 100% return on your 10% Development Contribution Revenue Take with sections selling during this period, is being highly optimistic and extremely foolish – especially at a time no-less when WDC reports promote that the district is at VERY HIGH RISK of being financially unsustainable – this is NIETHER cost neutral, nor growth paying for itself, as falsely promoted by Council in the past.

This is utter madness, and irresponsible – ratepayers are NOT seeing any immediate benefit or breathing room created from growth – instead all they see are INCREASING rates increases and debt levels – whilst our rural, village like lifestyle is destroyed!

Look at the past, Empires; Greece, Egypt, Rome, Persia, Germany etc etc – all pushed for growth, and the promises of vast control and wealth that it would bring – but they all COLLAPSED.

In future, it is statistically unlikely, growth will have any effect on the percentage breakdown of the revenue chart on Page 4, or any future expenditure trends of Council, (except for the period during Covid).

So in summary; taking HUGE RISK for very little to NO immediate gain is utter absurdity, nor is there any guarantee that these growth cells/ and developers will stand the test of time against economic recessions, with what appears the practice of price gouging of development contributions over the past 10 years - see any possible future rating revenue return or possible rumoured benefits, where funds are more likely to be reallocated as follows;

- Paying off the principle borrowed sum to debt levels
- Paying off internally borrowed funds
- Paying for the upkeep and maintenance to existing neglected assets
- Paying for retro fitted infrastructure to support the growth built

Then and only then,

- Maybe growth might be used to reduce rates
- Pay for the maintenance and upkeep of infrastructure related to such growth

But more likely based on past Council Expenditure Trends,

- Funding of deferred/ on-hold/ stopped luxury projects

CONCERNS: DRAFT 2024-2025 ANNUAL PLAN GROUPS OF ACTIVITIES & FINANCIALS

- CONCERN: – **General Note**
(Note: Similar to other ‘service’ headings)

Quote:

‘There are no significant or material changes from the programme outlined in the 2021-31 Long Term Plan.’

STATEMENT NOT TRUE!

There ARE in fact; significant, material changes to the programme/ costs when compared with the 2021-2031 LTP, as noted by the varying number of Operating & Capital Variance CHANGES & COST DIFFERENCES – especially taking into consideration DEBT LEVELS expected to fund Capital Expenditure, since Operating Revenue (Rates) is barely enough to cover Empire Building; Staff Remuneration & Suppliers Costs

- CONCERN: Page 2 – **Community Services and Facilities**
(Note: Similar to other ‘service’ headings)

Quote:

‘We have financially sustainable decision making and work programmes.’

STATEMENT NOT TRUE!

In accordance with WDC: Audit & Risk Reports/ Agendas, March 13th 2023/ June 12th 2023; Pages 25/ 26 respectively – clearly states that the district is financially unsustainable or at the very least at VERY HIGH RISK of this occurring.....you ONLY have to look at the Debt Levels (@ above 90% debt ceiling) and proposed rates increases to ascertain the district is NOT financially sustainable.

Council is neither being; honest, or transparent.

- CONCERN: Page 2 – **Community Services and Facilities**
(Note: Similar to other ‘service’ headings)

Quote:

‘Environmental awareness and responsibility is promoted within the community.’

STATEMENT NOT TRUE!

- Where was Environmental Awareness & Responsibility, when WDC ignored expert warnings that resulted in the flooding of neighbouring City Suburb?

Reference:

<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/waikato-news/news/waipadistrict-council-manages-dam-ponds-that-burst-flooding-hamiltons-glenview/3TES6OEIUJFLHMRKJCVUTRRJU/>

- Where was Environmental Awareness & Responsibility, when WDC allowed Lake Ngaroto to become an extreme health RISK?

Reference:

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/waikato-times/news/127570121/health-warning-of-extreme-risk-at-lake-ngaroto-waikato>

- Where was Environmental Awareness & Responsibility, with WDC potentially reneging responsibility over the decision to have a probable toxic emitting Waste Incineration Plant proposed within a planned Resident Growth Cell T13 area.

Reference:

<https://www.newshub.co.nz/home/new-zealand/2023/10/te-awamutu-locals-march-against-proposed-waste-to-energy-plant-as-deadline-looms.html>

- Where was Environmental Awareness & Responsibility, when WDC adopted WDC-Plan Change 13: Removing the Uplift of Deferred Zones via Council Resolution, and potentially allowing the development of green belt areas.

Reference:

<https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/our-council/waipadistrict-plan/waipadistrict-plan-plan-changes/past-plan-changes/plan-change-13>

- Where was Environmental Awareness & Responsibility, when WDC approved millions of dollars, worth of concrete substrate cycleways to potentially line and leach into our rural landscape? And to also contribute to global warming as heat storage emitters.

Council is neither being; honest, or transparent.

- CONCERN: Page 2 – **Community Services and Facilities**
(Note: Similar to other ‘service’ headings)

Quote:

‘We champion the unique history of Waipa; We have a high level of cultural awareness.’

STATEMENTS NOT TRUE!

WDC’s nepotism towards a minority based on race, knows no bounds, especially when it comes to rewriting New Zealand’s history as part of their embracing of Land Wars for ‘The Ara WHY (phonetically spelt)’ – CHECK YOUR FACTS! In particular for Rangiaowhia, and other district wide sites being targeted for cultural appropriation.

Reference:

<https://treatygate.wordpress.com/2012/09/02/treatygate-part-2-maori-need-honest-ngatas-not-one-eyed-duries/>



- CONCERN: Page 2 – **Community Services and Facilities**
(Note: Similar to other ‘service’ headings)

Quote:

‘Waipa is a great place to live, work and play and invest;’

STATEMENT NOT TRUE!

How can this be TRUE, if again, in accordance with WDC: Audit & Risk Reports/ Agendas, March 13th 2023/ June 12th 2023; Pages 25/ 26 respectively – clearly states that the district is financially unsustainable or at the very least at VERY HIGH RISK of this occurring.....you ONLY have to look at the Debt Levels (@ above 90% debt

ceiling) and proposed rates increases to ascertain the district is NOT financially sustainable.

HUGE RATES INCREASES, HUGE RATES BASE, and HUGE DEBT LEVELS are NO INCENTIVE!

Council is neither being; honest, or transparent.

- CONCERN: Page 2 – **Community Services and Facilities**
(Note: Similar to other ‘service’ headings)

Quote:

‘Waipā provides a high quality of life for current and future generations.’

STATEMENT NOT TRUE!

Take for example; Te Awamutu Palmer Street Affordable Housing

- Firstly; Palmer Street Affordable Housing was neglected and dilapidated – which led to its quick sale by WDC to Habitat for Humanity.
- Secondly; Sale proceeds, was ear marked for NEW pensioner affordable housing – yet this has NOT occurred, so what happened to the funds, and where did they go?
- Thirdly; were ratepayers RATED for the proposed pensioner affordable housing to Cambridge Road, Te Awamutu, for which the Sale Proceeds from Palmer Street was ear marked for – its highly probable that the years delays resulted in significant cost increases, and why was this NOT mitigated or foreseen?

Council is neither being; honest, or transparent.

- CONCERN: Page 3 – **Community Services and Facilities; Emergency Management**

Quote:

‘We remain suitably capable to provide a high level response in the event of a Civil Defence emergency.’

STATEMENT NOT TRUE!

Where was Civil Defence during Covid, and the flooding to Hamilton City Suburb? A position that required two additional, NEWLY appointed roles, at a cost to ratepayers, to supposedly cope with the pandemic.

Additional points to consider;

- When has Waipa held Civil Defence drills? Would the Community know what to do?

New Zealand has NOT coped well with disaster in the past, take for example: Christchurch Earthquake, Kaikoura Earthquake, White Island Disaster, Hawkes Bay Cyclone – where was Civil Defence here, it was utter chaos? Questioning the very nature, of how affective is Civil Defence – is it worth it?

- Also, does the Community know where the Emergency Meeting Points are, and what to do during an Emergency – my guess is NO!

Council is neither being; honest, or transparent.

- CONCERN: Page 3/4 – **Community Services and Facilities; Heritage**

Quote:

‘.....to safeguard our district's rich and diverse heritage.’

STATEMENT NOT TRUE!

- So how did this statement apply to the Cambridge Water Tower, Kihikihi Water Tower, Te Awamutu War Memorial, and District Wide Memorials and features?
- In addition, how did this apply to Lake Ngaroto, when it was allowed to become an extreme health RISK?

Council is neither being; honest, or transparent.

- CONCERN: Page 6 – **Community Services and Facilities; Parks & Reserves**

Quote:

‘appropriate open spaces which provide for, and support opportunities for the community's health and recreation needs to be met;’

How is this achieved when WDC- Plan Change 13 contravenes the statement above?

- CONCERN: Page 7 – **Community Services and Facilities; Swimming Pools**

Quote:

‘.....are managed by the Waipā Community Facilities Trust.’

Council Elect, if you recall, the purpose of Waipa Community Facilities Trust, was to turn these annual loss making facilities around, to make a profit.

It has FAILED to achieve this, questioning the very nature of why the Waipa Community Facilities Trust remains.

These facilities functioned autonomously without the need for the Trust.

Significant savings could be made, by removing the Trust, the Trust Manager, and its fringe benefits.

- CONCERN: Page 8 – **Community Services and Facilities; Property Services**

Quote:

‘Waipa District Council has a portfolio of 167 council, community, and commercial properties.’

Does WDC still hold property for the proposed Te Awamutu Western Bypass?

If so, it is strongly recommended that WDC on sell this property to offset the proposed rates increases as it is unlikely after 30 years in the making that the Bypass will ever go ahead as required to support and sustain growth – having been negligently overlooked in my opinion for other non-essential projects like cycleways and skateparks.

- CONCERN: Page 8 – **Community Services and Facilities; Property Services**

Quote:

‘Upgraded destination playground at Leamington Domain; • Earthquake strengthening and reinstating council offices and the Te Awamutu Museum at Roche Street;’

- Upgrade to Leamington Domain should be STOPPED/ DEFERRED, this will save ratepayers an additional \$1.6 Million.
- Upgrade and strengthening of old Council Offices to Roche Street, Te Awamutu, should be STOPPED/ DEFERRED, this will save ratepayers an additional \$5.9 Million.

A total of \$7.5 Million can be further taken off Capital Expenditure to further REDUCE the impact of proposed rates increases.

- CONCERN: Page 9 – Property Services

Quote;

‘A reduction of \$1.4 million worth of development contribution revenue is expected to be received compared to what was in year 4 of the 2021-31 Long Term Plan due to the timing of developments.’

The statement alone could be considered to many, ambiguous, especially when comparing the figure to Page 55, Prospective statement of comprehensive revenue and expense for the year ending 30 June 2025;

The table indicates a reduction of \$18.2 Million worth of Development Contributions NOT \$1.4 Million as identified on Page 9, granted this is an allocated proportion of the \$18.2 Million under the designated heading of ‘Community Services & Facilities’ – it just needs clarification in my opinion to not be confused as a numerical error.

However, it does beg the question; if Council is pushing for growth, for it being their justification and reasoning behind the borrowing of another \$100 Million, increasing debt levels to an all-time high – why then, would you look to be reducing revenue from development contributions – when you should be looking to increase the revenue to reduce DEBT LEVELS?

Quote;

‘Payments to staff and suppliers have increased from an inflationary impact on salaries, insurance, rates, contracts, electricity, and maintenance.’

Again, too much revenue is lost to Employment Remunerations.

Staff cuts need to be made similar to that of Hamilton City Council, New Plymouth District Council, and Auckland City Council whom are all taking professional responsibility under prudent leadership.

Also a more robust public tendering process, needs to occur and be honoured, especially with what appears the issuing of contracts/ appointments on a in my opinion, a bias/ conflict of interest - selected/ nominated basis - to ensure the most cost affordable, and impartial solution, is adopted to mitigate the cost impact and potential of contract manipulation to ratepayers.

For example:

Karapiro Domain Contract, Contracts with ex. Council Staff

Quote;

‘There is a \$2.7 million reduction in operating projects costs due to the Te Ara Wai project being deferred to the 2025-34 Long Term Plan process.’

Firstly, it’s NOT a 2025-34 LTP, it’s in fact a **2024-34** LTP, and should be NOTED as such, with the 2024-2025 Annual Plan being Year 1 of the LTP, requiring its inclusion to ascertain the financial viability of the LTP – the Annual Plan is NOT a standalone plan/ document its part of a bigger picture.

Secondly, what exists is a building known as the Bunnings Warehouse, NOT a museum, nor a building bestowed/ tagged with a publicly unsanctioned name –

‘The Ara WHY’.

The Ara WHY, only exists on paper and bares NO resemblance to the original and ONLY proposed Te Awamutu Museum Submission, because as follows;

- It’s a NEW Building
- It’s a NEW Site
- It’s a NEW Budget
- It has a NEW name
- It has been culturally appropriated with its primary focus on Land Wars – just whose story will be told here, or just another example of what Eddie Durie publicly stated as Chair of the Waitangi Tribunal at the time – that facts and history was being fabricated.

So for a building that neither exists or operates under that site, or name sake, should in my opinion, bare any operational costs?

Quote;

‘There has been a \$5.9 million increase in funding for the reinstatement of the office and Te Awamutu Museum at 135 Roche Street.’

Simply we CANNOT afford what should already have been allocated for from Depreciation – just another example of questionable leadership.

This should be REMOVED from the Annual Plan, and the Museum remain in its temporary location – this will SAVE ratepayers \$5.9 Million in additional expenditure.

Quote;

‘Deferring the Te Ara Wai project to the 2025-34 Long Term Plan has resulted in a \$12.7 million decrease in capital expenditure.’

Firstly, it’s NOT a 2025-34 LTP, it’s in fact a **2024-34** LTP, and should be NOTED as such, with the 2024-2025 Annual Plan being Year 1 of the LTP, requiring its inclusion to ascertain the financial viability of the LTP – the Annual Plan is NOT a standalone plan/ document its part of a bigger picture.

Secondly, when is Public Consultation going to be HELD for the first time on this NEW Building, NEW Site, and NEW Budget – that bares NO similarity to a submission held for building of similar namesake on a different site, different building design, and different budget – or again is Council confused thinking the Bunnings Site is the Mahoe Site to which the Holmes Garage exists.

Quote;

‘Further work on the Lake Te Koo Utu project has been paused leading to a decrease in expenditure of \$863,000.’

‘Further work on sports field improvements has been paused leading to a decrease in expenditure of \$851,000.’

A decrease, just where did the funds go?

Were they never rated for in the first instance, or have they been conveniently internally borrowed to another location?

If internally borrowed, is Council expecting to rate ratepayers for work they potentially have already been rated for?

Additional Items of Concern;

- Whilst WDC has FORCED growth onto the district without the public’s opinion or say - the negative effects are being felt, ever more so, in Cambridge.

A growing need for a third vehicle bridge exists (NOT to end up with just two bridges, one being repurposed as a pedestrian/ walkway bridge – you build the foundation from which to grow first, not build from the roof down as in Waipa’s case).

However, again, in light of the austere economic climate, Waipa simply CANNOT afford a third bridge for Cambridge NOW.

- A motion to be moved to REMOVE all absurd traffic calming measures district wide.
- A motion to be moved to REMOVE all absurd traffic calming measures to Ohaupo, reinstate SH3, and to fund the installation of a pedestrian underpass/ overpass to alleviate forced traffic congestion and disruption to businesses.
- A motion to be moved to REMOVE absurd urban Cycleways to Cambridge and Te Awamutu.
- A motion to be moved to REMOVE absurd Kihikihi Cul de Sac project, and to reinstate Kihikihi to its once former glory.
- A motion to be moved to SELL Karapiro Farms.
- A motion to be moved to SELL Bunnings Building.
- A motion to be moved to remove Walton Street One Way project.
- A motion to be moved to remove Market Street pedestrian scheme.
- A motion to be moved to remove Stuart Law Building Market Place Conversion project.

- CONCERN: Page 12 – **Community Services and Facilities; Property Services**

Quote:

‘Karapiro / Arapuni Lakes Programme’

This is most certainly NOT an essential service and can be cut from Capital Expenditure.

A total of \$110,000 can be further taken off Capital Expenditure to further REDUCE the impact of proposed rates increases.

- CONCERN: Page 14 – **Governance**

Quote:

‘Financially sustainable decision-making.’

STATEMENT NOT TRUE!

Refer to explanation on Page 2 – **Community Services and Facilities**; Quote:

‘We have financially sustainable decision making and work programmes.’ for details.

- CONCERN: Page 14 – **Governance**

Quote:

‘• Unique history cultural awareness; • Tangata whenua partnership; • Respect cultural diversity.’

STATEMENT NOT TRUE!

Refer to explanation on Page 2 – **Community Services and Facilities**; Quote:

‘We champion the unique history of Waipa; We have a high level of cultural awareness.’

And, CONCERN FOUR: **Treaty of Waitangi - Obligations: Page 9** for details.

- CONCERN: Page 14 – **Governance; Communications and Engagement**

Quote:

‘getting information out to the right people at the right time on what’s happening and why;’

I’m sorry, how does this apply to the recent lack thereof communication, or notification regarding Public Meetings held on Annual Plan Feedback?

- CONCERN: Page 14 – **Governance; Representation**

Quote:

‘This activity enables democratic, local decision-making by, and on behalf of, communities with the support provided helping elected members make robust decisions in the best interests of the community.’

I’m sorry, is this how it works in reality, or merely a theoretical statement of intent?

I WILL ASK do Council and Council Elect actually LISTEN and ACT in the best interests of the majority, that is, the majority of submitters in the supposed un-biased submission processes, in our supposed democratic processes/ system we have? Or do you do, what you want to do?

Because the submissions on the Cambridge Pool, Te Awamutu Library, Te Awamutu Museum, etc etc, would suggest the later.

Also, where does the Community Board stand in terms of Council and Council Elect, are they being LISTENED to, or simply just IGNORED like the PEOPLE – the very same people being excluded from the consultation process, or subjected to bias submissions - by incapable individuals, failing to deliver, in accordance with WDC: Audit & Risk Reports/ Agendas.

Should the Community Boards, file for a Vote of NO CONFIDENCE in Council Elect?

Also, to participate in a consultation process, if given the opportunity by this Council, is one matter entirely, but as to whether that very same consultation process is fair, un-bias, and openly publicly notified to all demographics on ALL accessible media platforms, is entirely another, if past history is anything to go by – the same applies to Public Feedback Meetings during the submission processes.

- CONCERN: Page 17 – **Governance; Representation**

Quote:

'Some sectors of the community may be under-represented.'

I agree, many sectors of the community are being both under represented and excluded from many of Councils processes, with the media focus pushed via the internet in my opinion.....there are a lot of people who DO NOT have internet, nor can afford a computer or device that can access such, and are therefore at a disadvantage of being excluded from their legal right to participate.

Council needs to adopt a non-discriminatory universal regime when it comes to communicating to the PUBLIC.

- CONCERN: Page 19 – **Governance**

Firstly, Waipa District Council (WDC) has made a tabulated ERROR.

Does WDC plan to, pay out and expose ratepayers to the funding of Grants to the tune of \$474 Million approximately?

Or, was this meant to be \$474,000?

There is a BIG difference between \$474 Million vs \$474,000, or does WDC consider this minor?

Where is/ or was the Quality Assurance Review for the Annual Plan before it being issued for Consultation? These mounting errors are of concern, potentially compounded if carried through to other financials.

Secondly, WDC needs to again, like the comments already made to potential cuts to Support Services - take a proactive, prudent, fiscally responsible attitude in cutting back on Grants to Community Organisations in these austere times – maybe CUTTING them entirely in an effort to making rates remotely affordable and sustainable!

- CONCERN: Page 21 – **Planning and Regulatory: Building Compliance**

Quote:

‘We ensure that buildings, including earthquake-prone buildings, are safe and fit for purpose.’

Then it does not explain why public buildings, ratepayers have been rated ‘depreciation’ for, have failed to remain or be considered ‘safe and fit for purpose’ (when reminding those, that ‘depreciation’ is for the renewal or replacement of assets) - For example; Te Awamutu Old Library Building, Te Awamutu Old Museum Building, and Cambridge Water Tower.

- CONCERN: Page 28 – **Stormwater**

Quote:

‘Provision of a safe and reliable stormwater system which minimises flooding and environmental impact.’

‘Safe and reliable’, interesting terms to use, when suggestively used in the context of potentially minimising flooding and environmental impact.

In around the residential/ CDB borders of Te Awamutu, a CCTV study was undertaken – revealing disturbing findings – that is, that at least half of the cross sectional volume/ capacity for which the Stormwater System was designed, is/ was blocked by a build-up of material allowed to go down catchment grates – thus having a profound impact on infrastructure under loading during heavy precipitation – contravening/ contradicting your statement above.

Why was this allowed to happen? Has it been rectified? And, what plan has been developed, to mitigate this from ever happening in future?

- CONCERN: Page 34/35 – **Support Services**

Waipa District Council has FAILED to adopt a more prudently fiscal responsible attitude, like Hamilton City Council, New Plymouth District Council, Auckland City Council and even Central Government, in stepping up and taking responsibility, in taking a more proactive stance to making rates more affordable for the district by exercising staff & services cuts.

Whilst I see a number of minor variances to Operating and Capital, relating to overhead running costs of Council, there is in my opinion, NO proactive review of redundant/ superfluous staff & services that can be cut to further reduce the impact of the rates increases on ratepayers.

Especially, when taking into consideration the Audit & Risk Report/ Agenda; March 13th 2023; Page 25 – where there appears plenty of VERY HIGH RISK areas to CUT!

Possible areas to review;

- General Staff
- Management Team
- Cut Staff Numbers & Funding to Facilities/ Services making annual loses (for ex. Library, Museum, Pools, Gyms)
- Cut Unelected Positions

References:

Hamilton City Council

<https://hamilton.govt.nz/your-council/news/community-environment/reduced-services-and-staff-cuts-proposed-at-council>

New Plymouth District Council

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/taranaki-daily-news/news/133100697/new-plymouth-district-council-leadership-team-slashed-in-first-stage-of-major-restructures-noticeable-reduction-in-roles>

Auckland City Council

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/politics/local-government/131787777/about-150-jobs-to-go-at-auckland-transport>

- CONCERN: Page 41 – **Transportation**

Hautapu Structure Plan and Cycleway \$10.7 Million

Cycle Projects District Wide \$6.5 Million

These nationally underperforming cycleway projects (as advised by WDC Staff to Elected Members last June 2023), should ultimately be STOPPED and REMOVED from ALL LTP’s and Annual Plans, as they are an absurd, wasteful use of ratepayers funds, when there are higher more pressing issues that need attention.

These TWO projects alone will SAVE \$17.2 Million for the district.

- CONCERN: Page 50 – **Water Treatment & Supply**

Quote:

‘The percentage of real water loss from the networked reticulation system.
58[mandatory measure]’

It is concerning after the amount of money ratepayers have been expected to pay over the years on Water Upgrades and Water Main Pipework Replacement/ Upgrade, there still remains in my opinion, significant water losses – not at the fault of ratepayers, yet emanating from what can be best described as poor contract administration/ execution.

Now that ratepayers are PAYING for water, there is simply NO EXCUSE, or TOLERANCE, for any water losses of any kind - FULL STOP. That would likely pose a RISK of increasing the cost of WATER CHARGES to ratepayers from poor administration and management of our Water Network!

Water is a precious resource – yet, Potable Water is an even more finite precious resource that simply ratepayers CANNOT afford to waste at the hands of Council!

- CONCERN: Page 55 – **Financials**

Firstly, the rates take for 2024 – 2025 is unaffordable and unsustainable.

Secondly, the amount WDC are reliant on as a revenue source ‘grants and subsidies’ is overly ambitious and RISK adverse, especially in this economic climate, especially if any of these grants and subsidies are from Central Government as there exists the likelihood that they will be CUT in the near future.

It is of my opinion that WDC should prudently reduce, defer, or cancel any project to mitigate any RISK associated with this funding source.

Thirdly, reduce the amount of staff and use of consultants.

If you require consultants, what real need is there to retain staff (especially when taking into consideration the Audit & Risk reports – also would it be cheaper to remove the entire FINANCE TEAM and outsource to an actual real accountant firm – there may be some real cost saving incentives here?)

- CONCERN : **Cambridge Water Tower:**

Of Course the Cambridge Water Tower should be RESTORED, being that of an icon and a listed heritage building.

However, in light of the economic climate this may have to be deferred until such a time, that funds become readily available.

- CONCERN : Page 85 – **Consolidated Funding Impact Statement**

Analysis:

Of the two funding areas of Council; Operating & Capital

One is funded primarily by rates, fees & charges, and the other purely funded by debt and RISK ADVERSE variables (Development Contributions, Grants & Subsidies) subject to time lag/ default/ or cancellation.

This is NOT a sound financial model, RISK ADVERSE, and aptly described in WDC Audit & Risk Reports/ Agendas, of placing the district at VERY HIGH RISK of being 'Financially Unsustainable' – something that appears to be overlooked, or ignored.

Operating Expenditure, is only barely covering Councils Empire Building of Staff & use of Consultants, through; rates, fees & charges.

Whilst, any surplus, small as it may be, helps to assist, to what prevail, as the district sprints to the debt ceiling level, in the funding of Capital Expenditure, primarily by growth debt.

In my opinion, this operating model will NOT LAST, as it relies on two major variables that Council CANNOT control;

- a) The financial ability and sustainability, for ratepayers to meet the rating demand – as this is NOT being protected.
- b) The ability for Waipa District Council to extend the debt ceiling level, and capacity to continue borrowing and servicing that debt.

The negatively impacting problems facing Waipa's ratepayers, is; Growth, and Staff Numbers – this will NOT be resolved by pushing for more growth!

Less is MORE, wanting/ or pushing for MORE ONLY provides LESS – in this case, the likelihood and reality of bankruptcy for the district looms ever more closely!

Especially, when looking at Year 2 of the 2024-2034 LTP (correction, the triennial plan for the benefit of WDC), and nearing the debt ceiling level, just where does WDC think it will get funding for that respective years Capital Expenditure when it

is primarily reliant on debt to finance this – or does WDC think it will arrogantly impose rates increases of over 60% on ratepayers – whom will most certainly NOT ACCEPT this apart from your RESIGNATIONS in my opinion?

CONCLUSION:

Council and Elected Council, allude too, on many an occasion that they listen to the PEOPLE.

If that were TRUE, Council and Council Elects reputation and image would not be taking a serious dive in the eyes of the PEOPLE. ([Reference: Annual Residents Survey 2021/22/23](#)).

The PEOPLE, the very same that keep you employed, and OWN the assets.

It's no wonder, your image and reputation has taken a dive, when you consider the following;

- Engineered undemocratic submission processes.

(with in many cases predetermined line of questioning to get the outcome Council wants not the PEOPLE'S).

- Factually incorrect public statements.

(‘Growth pays for itself’ – yet rates continue to rise; ‘Water will not be charged’ – yet we are invoiced; ‘Council has done everything to keep rates increases low’ – yet the increases during an economic crisis, are higher than what’s outlined in the LTP, and 10 Year Plan)

- Continuous rates hikes.

(With a continuing focus on non-essential projects, when in these austere times, concentration of expenditure should ONLY be focused on the basics, that is; Core Infrastructure)

If Council and Elected Council want to be TRUSTED and LIKED by the PEOPLE, how about truly LISTENING to their CONCERNS, act on these CONCERNS, act on having PUBLIC INCLUSION not EXCLUSION (as per the laws setout in the RMA, and General Policies – where is GOVERNANCE?), and when they are financially hurting, FREEZE RATES INCREASES or KEEP RATES DOWN in the true sense – not fudging the figures!

ADDENDUM

South Waikato District Council

‘SYNOPSIS’

Business Case to Support a Public Transport Service

April 2016

*Authored: Ben Smit | Deputy Chief Executive | Executive Group
South Waikato District Council*

A. Background

The South Waikato District Council (SWDC) allocated \$200,000 to fund community transport services in 2014 after applications were sought from its Economic and Community Development Fund.

A Community Steering Group was established with the overall objective of improving public and community transport options for residents of the South Waikato.

Specific project objectives/steps were:

1. *Define the current transport services available to residents of the South Waikato provided (obviously excluding private vehicle) either from public transport, community groups or government agencies.*
2. *From the current public transport services schedule (detailed in point 1), and in conjunction with discussions with the community, define the public transport un-met needs in the South Waikato. The range of services to be investigated should include:*
 - *Transport from Tokoroa, Putaruru, Tirau to and from Waikato Hospital*
 - *Transport within District i.e., between towns*
 - *Transport within Tokoroa to hospital and around town*
3. *The project should then review and document the social services financial support available supporting the use of public transport and the funding available through the Waikato District Health Board's Transport and Accommodation Policy so that a clear view of financial support available to South Waikato District residents is documented and can be distributed to maximise its use.*

4. *The Steering Group, in conjunction with the Project Manager, should look at public/community service transport models used in other communities to assess what needs they are addressing and how these services are being delivered.*

From this a NZTA Strategic Case Investment Logic Mapping (ILM) exercise with the Steering Group, Waikato Regional Council, NZTA and South Waikato District Council Representatives was undertaken and a trial for an information service and Tokoroa and District service was implemented. This is detailed further in section 'Draft Strategic Case' below.

Pricing for the current trial service is as follows:

- *Tokoroa Circuit*

<i>Adults</i>	<i>\$2</i>
<i>Children</i>	<i>\$1</i>
<i>Pre-schoolers</i>	<i>Free</i>

- *District Circuit*

<i>Tokoroa to Tīrau</i>	<i>Adults \$8,</i>	<i>Children \$4</i>
<i>Tokoroa to Putāruru</i>	<i>Adults \$5,</i>	<i>Children \$2.50</i>
<i>Putāruru to Tīrau</i>	<i>Adults \$3,</i>	<i>Children \$1.50</i>

A survey of bus passengers was undertaken over a 4 day period 11-13 November and 17 November. The sample size was Tokoroa circuit 41 and district circuit 11. Even though the sample size was not large there were interesting patterns and the comments were useful. The results are in Appendix B.

B. Draft Strategic Case

South Waikato District Council have recognised that residents in Tokoroa and the District in general have significant challenges in accessing transportation and therefore reaching essential services. As a result a South Waikato Public Transport Steering Group was established to address the issue. This stakeholder group has brought together a range of knowledge and day to day experience of the access issues that the community faces in the South Waikato.

Following discussions with Waikato Regional Council, it was concluded that to build on the good work that the Steering Group had undertaken, a Better Business Case be developed for this issue. By putting the issue through the Better Business Case process, it would then be consistent with Treasury and NZTA processes. In running this process, South Waikato is aligning itself with potential external funders, which will be helpful, should in the future funding be required from external partners. As part of this process, two Investment

Logic Mapping (ILM) workshops were held. These workshops provide greater clarity around the issues seeking to be addressed.

The fact that multiple options and recommendations are being proposed highlights the complexity of the access issues in the South Waikato. It is anticipated that no one solution will address all the issues.

C. Options Considered

The options and their forecasted costs and recoveries to be considered for future South Waikato Public Transport Services are detailed below. They fit into seven components:

1. *Information Service*
2. *Service Delivery Options:*
 - a. *Tokoroa Circuits*
 - b. *District Service*
3. *Wheelchair Accessibility*
4. *University Service to Hamilton*
5. *Transport to Hamilton Health Services / Community Public Transport Services*

Below are two options to consider

(Note: Prices have been altered to maintain confidentiality between South Waikato District Council and Contract Providers, but provide an indication of affordability):

<i>Options for Permanent Service</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>
<i>Option 1 – No Service</i>	<i>Nil</i>
<i>Option 2 - Six Tokoroa Services, + two districts circuits</i>	<i>100,000</i>

Comments from users

- A few users have stated that “the bus service is one of the best things that has happened to the town and shouldn’t be taken away”
- Multiple elderly people were seen getting on and off with groceries, if they didn’t have the bus service they would have had to walk (many comments also about the convenience of having a stop outside each of the supermarkets)
- Saves people from having to ask friends or family for rides, which makes them feel bad and inconveniences the person they asked. It also helps people feel more independent
- One girl said that the bus allows her to drop her baby off at day care then go and get driving lessons, as without it she would have to take him out of day care and wouldn’t be able to attend lessons
- One woman said it would be good for her children during the holidays, as they will have more independence and can go anywhere they like, for a fee they can afford
- Several users have said they are on it just to support the service, as even though they don’t exactly need it other people do so they want it to continue
- Elderly users have said that even though they can still drive, soon they may not be able to at all and will have to rely on something like the service

31 October 2017

160-01-07

17105656

Sylvia Shere
53 Greenough Crescent
Te Awamutu 3800

Dear Mrs Shere

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Thank you for your letter 25 October 2017. I am aware that you have had correspondence from the Mayor and Bryan Hudson, our roading manager, covering many of these points but that you are not happy with the responses to date.

My understanding is that Council has several of your desired outcomes underway, namely;

1. Access for mobility scooters: Public consultation and public workshop undertaken in July this year. CCS Disability Support is engaged to do audits of Waipa towns to identify barriers to those with disabilities. We await the report from this audit and Council has funds to address crossings, footpaths, ramps etc on an on-going basis with highest priority sites to be done this year with a budget of \$190,000 specifically for disability problem sites. In addition Council regularly spends \$300,000 or more annually on crossing points in towns around the district for all road users.
2. Council has sought advice from the Regional Council on the cost and operation of a Total Mobility Scheme. Experts came and gave a presentation to Councillors on operation of such schemes. The cost is around \$0.5M over 10 years and it is under active consideration for inclusion in the next LTP.
3. Council staff are talking with Regional Council staff for the purpose of a review of passenger transport services in Waipa over the next 12 months, this review will include public consultation on what residents would like for passenger transport development.

While I understand that you have frustrations, we are conscious of and are playing our part in making sure our infrastructure and transport systems assist those living with disabilities. Change does take time and we do have to work within Local Government financial planning rules to propose budgets, undertake public consultation and plan and deliver sustainable services. We also have to work with the Regional Council to deliver public transport as under the current law they are the organisation that operates transport contracts with government subsidy.

/...2

31 October 2017

In the meanwhile if you have particular road crossing points or paths that are difficult for you then we will try and ensure these are addressed early with the proposed works programme. Please let Bryan Hudson know about these.

Yours sincerely



Garry Dyet
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Submission/Event: 379

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Kel

Last Name

Kilgour

Organisation

Id

294

Submission/Event: 378

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Karen
<i>Last Name</i>	Payne
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	293

Submission/Event: 377

Full
Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-
2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission. | We understand that budgets are tight and that cost cutting is the order of the day. We agree with cost cutting which is operational, but this should not be confused with wise intergenerational investment in your town and city centers, suburban centers and parks and recreational facilities. | Towns, cities and suburbs are judged by their centers. | Investing in public spaces, streetscape and making them more usable and vibrant is an investment in economic development as well as community development. | If you want to attract new businesses to your town or city, and retain the ones you have, and if you want to attract good people to work in these businesses, you have to appeal to the decision makers. | High up on their list will be “do I want to live there?” Is there a nice attractive town/city center with outdoor public spaces? Is there a good selection of cafes and restaurants? Are there good recreational facilities? Is the place vibrant? Are there events and attractions? These factors attract or repel business owners and the good people who work in these businesses. This is on top of the more obvious instant benefit of locals and visitors spending money in your town or city if there are nice public spaces to enjoy while they are doing so. It may be a break while shopping, enjoying a performance or a place to enjoy a coffee or lunch. | Stopping investing in such public spaces is a false economy. The investment has a long-term life over several generations so should be paid for by intergenerational loan which reduces the short-term effect on rates increases. The effect on rates is very modest, particularly when compared with the benefits to the community and local economy. | We know that wise public investment in streetscape and usable public spaces attracts private investment in buildings and businesses. Shutting up shop by not investing in public spaces will significantly and detrimentally affect business growth and economic development in your patch and leave your centers tired and unappealing. | While your community is doing it hard with high interest rates and cost of living, a modest investment in usable public spaces shows that you care for your local community. | Our company, Urban Effects, is the natural partner for your Council to create usable, affordable and attractive public spaces. Partnering with the right people is money well spent. | We can design or customize your streetscape furniture to reflect your place and your people, and also have an off-the-shelf product range. Our ‘placemaking’ approach means that we collaborate with you to help our clients reimagine and revitalize their spaces. | We are a New Zealand company with local manufacturing hubs in both the North Island and South Island. | Please see some pictures of a few council led projects we designed and manufactured plus a project for Hamilton Airport we designed and manufactured. | Timaru District Council – Caroline Bay Playground – 2nd Parklet | Selwyn District Council – Rolleston Town Library – Kai Table | Invercargill City Council – City Streets Upgrades Stage 1 – Custom Benches | Christchurch City Council – High Street Upgrade – Custom platform benches | Below are some case study links to a few council led projects we have worked on -
| <https://www.urbaneffects.co.nz/casestudies/invercargill-city-streets-upgradestage-1-don-and-esk-streets/> | <https://www.urbaneffects.co.nz/casestudies/tawa-town-centre-improvement-project/> | <https://www.urbaneffects.co.nz/casestudies/queenstown-central/> | <https://www.urbaneffects.co.nz/casestudies/cromwell-town-centre/> | -----
----- | For more than 30 years, Urban Effects has been working alongside communities across New Zealand. We are proud to be an industry leader committed to the creation of liveable and accessible public spaces and embracing the mega trend to build well-being and resilience for the community and climate through well-designed urban streetscapes and outdoor spaces. Our local manufacturing capability (with hubs in both Whanganui and Rangiora) makes this easy to do. | A snapshot of the range of products we manufacture are – | * Park Benches and Seats | * Outdoor Picnic Tables | * Public Litter Bins | * Bollards | * Bike & Scooter Racks | * Bus Shelters | * Tree Protectors | * Planters | * Drinking Fountains | * Portable Grandstands | * Commercial BBQs | * Commercial Table Tennis Tables | * Outdoor Shelters | | In the first instance contact – | Tania Osborne – South Island Public Spaces

Consultant |Tania.osborne@urbaneffects.co.nz | |Gayle Smith – Auckland and Northland Public Spaces Consultant|Gayle.smith@urbaneffects.co.nz | |Oslo Currie – Middle-Lower North Island Public Spaces Consultant|Oslo.currie@urbaneffects.co.nz | |Or phone 0508 487 226 (freephone).|I commend our Look Book to you by clicking on the link below - |https://9477367.fs1.hubspotusercontent-na1.net/hubfs/9477367/URBE28909%202023%20PROJECT%20LOOK%20BOOK_WEB3-2.pdf |or by going to one of our websites - |www.urbaneffects.co.nz. |<https://logicstreetscene.co.nz/>| |Thank you for your time in reading our submission, we look forward to being of service to you in the future. | |Kind regards,|The Team at Urban Effects

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Alinka
<i>Last Name</i>	Lindsay
<i>Organisation</i>	Urban Effects
<i>Id</i>	339

Submission/Event: 376

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No. Balance needs to be across Waipa and organisations more fairly - why so much to mountain bike club? | Why no funding to ISites? Which promote tourism to our towns (brings more money in) and boosts accommodation providers (people spend money in towns). We have a \$20 million library and NO MUSEUM in Te Awamutu; no community arts space for regular exhibitions (this was all in your ten year plan) and passed (part of library should be delegated for art). Council is going back on its word.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Heritage sites and buildings should be made structurally safe and restored (this is our history). Why such an increase in rates when there are so many new builds, 8 villages in Cambridge, 2 new ones in Te Awamutu, multiple duplex homes popping up everywhere all paying rates. Surely this boosts revenue enormously. Has thought been given to pensioners, low waged or beneficiaries? How they can afford 14.8% increase (ageing population)?

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Rex and Linda
<i>Last Name</i>	Bannister
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	292

Submission/Event: 375

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Council should deal with core responsibilities not nice to have extras. And stop stop stop building these RIDICULOUS traffic calming measures and cycle lanes which hardly get any use. JUST STOP IT

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Wendy
<i>Last Name</i>	Booth
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	291

Submission/Event: 374

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

No comment

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Put tower up for private sale, someone with the money may want to dismantle it and use it as a home somewhere (or just recycle the bricks). No sale? Then remove it as it is dangerous. FAR TOO CLOSE to Resthaven residents (my brother's room is right next to the tower and fence). Far too expensive for us ratepayers to restore.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Jessie Anne; Michael James

Last Name

Kerr; Myers

Organisation

Id

290

Submission/Event: 373

Full Response

- 1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

- 2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
The tower does nothing for the community. It's ugly. Time to move forward and get rid of it.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Kerry
<i>Last Name</i>	Milne
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	289

Submission/Event: 372

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Refer to attached submission

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Refer to attached submission

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/142

Stakeholder

First Name

Mark

Last Name

Morgan

Organisation

Waikato Regional Airport Ltd

Id

288

Submission to Waipa District Council Long Term Plan 2025-2035

17 April 2024

Waipa District Council
101 Bank Street
Te Awamutu

Waikato Regional Airport Ltd Submission to Waipa District Council – Long Term Plan

Tēnā koutou katoa

Executive Summary

Mark Morgan as CE of Waikato Regional Airport Limited (WRAL), writes this submission on behalf of the WRAL Board of Directors. WRAL is the sole shareholder of Hamilton Waikato Tourism (HWT). As a fully owned subsidiary of WRAL, the WRAL Board have appointed an independent HWT Board of Directors to govern the organisation in accordance with the Group Statement of Intent having regard for the expectations of the funding councils and industry partners.

Our submission intends to reinforce the importance of the organisation to promote tourism to the region and to indicate the risks associated with a proposed reduction in funding and our strong belief that funding for the organisation should be retained as status quo.

Hamilton & Waikato Tourism (HWT) is the official tourism organisation for the Waikato region. The organisation's role is to attract domestic and international visitors and increase length of stay and expenditure through effective destination marketing, development, and management activity. HWT promotes Hamilton and the Waikato as a preferred destination for domestic and international business, events and leisure travelers and provides leadership in regional product and event development, investment, and sector capability. As passionate ambassadors of the region, HWT aims to ensure visitors enjoy a wide variety of experiences and places throughout the mighty Waikato, in turn contributing to economic, social, environmental, and cultural benefits for the community.

Waipa District Council LTP indicates a 20% reduction in funding to HWT. Any reduction in funding will directly impact service delivery and effective outcomes. However, a proposed reduction of 20% along with the collective reductions proposed by other funding councils will result in a significant review as to the viability of the organisation. Reduction in funding directly impacts on the services provided to the visitor sector. Less resources = less services. Less services will equal less visitors. Less visitors equals less visitors spend. This will impact communities and tourism operators across the mighty Waikato.

In the 12 months ended October 2023 visitors spent \$1.9 billion in our region; of this just **over \$216million is in Waipa** district alone. This equates to **\$591,780 of new money** being spent in the district each day. A portion of this revenue is directly attributable to the activities and co-ordination by HWT and this will now be at risk should the RTO be required to significantly restructure its resources and therefore dilute its service delivery model.

While we acknowledge the council finances need addressing and 'tough decisions' need to be made, our submission to Waipa District Council urges reconsideration of funding allocation to Hamilton & Waikato Tourism. The Waikato Regional Airport Limited (WRAL) Board considers the current proposed 20% reduction in funding to be detrimental to regional economic development and growth aspirations of the district when considered alongside collective funding council's reductions.

Background

1. WRAL opposes the proposed 20% reduction in HWTs funding and requests this be reviewed and returned to the level outlined in the current Service Level Agreement.
2. Tourism Waikato was disestablished in 2006. This resulted in a significant decline in domestic and international visitor expenditure, a drop in overnight stays, lack of national and international tourism profile and destination marketing. Appendix 1 outlines the impacts of the RTO being disbanded in 2006 and established in 2011 in relation to International Visitors.
3. Waikato Regional Airport Limited funded and provided tourism services in 2009/2010 in order to secure Pacific Blue flights into Hamilton.
4. Hamilton & Waikato Tourism (HWT) was formally re-established July 2011 as a wholly owned subsidiary of Waikato Regional Airport Limited (WRAL).
5. HWT is a Limited Liability company, with its own board of directors who are responsible to the WRAL Board.
6. We acknowledge the economic climate is tough and councils need to make savings in operating expenses. We have therefore avoided requesting additional or increased funding. However, a 20% reduction is a step too far as a reduction of funding to this level will require the WRAL Board to assess the viability of the organisation and its ability to provide a credible and effective Regional Tourism Organisation.
7. WRAL currently provides financial assistance for HWT by way of a reduction in the commercial rent for its offices and cost savings for shared services at an approximate value of \$90k, however that financial support has always been capped noting that WRAL is not a core funder of the organisation. Additionally, WRAL and its other subsidiary Jet Park Hamilton Airport Hotel are industry funding partners of HWT, procuring over \$20,000 of HWT services on full commercial rates.

Risk of reduced funding

8. If/when international flights return to Hamilton Airport, a well-resourced RTO is needed to support any business case to secure international flights. The current proposed funding means the RTO would not be sufficiently resourced to assist with the marketing and promotion of international flights during these times and will impact the credibility of the region's response to Airline enquiry and therefore put any business case at risk.
9. Although reluctant to take such drastic actions, as WRAL is HWTs shareholder, the WRAL board will make the ultimate decision on whether the organisations capability and expected work outputs is viable to continue or whether HWT will need to be disbanded entirely. The current collective proposed funding reductions across the six funding councils is -41%. Any reduction in base level funding will result in less services that can be reasonably provided, however, the core viability of the organisation is seriously at risk at this proposed level.
10. WRAL has future considerations for the expansion of the Airport Hotel, currently trading as JetPark Hotel. In order for the potential expansion to be viable, a functioning RTO is required to promote not only the property but the attractiveness of the region for leisure, conferencing and corporate travel. WRAL would be mindful of any significant investment in the hotel without a functioning RTO.

Conclusion

11. For every dollar invested into tourism in the region, there is a significant return, funding of the RTO should be considered as an investment by Waipa District Council and not an expense line to be reduced. At a time when the district needs to encourage and support economic development, this proposal would seek to constrain or remove an organisation that promotes, supports, and drives initiatives to increase tourism receipts and fulfils a role as an economic enabler.
12. Reduced funding will at best result in a reduced and restructured organisation which will flow onto the services provided, with the corresponding reduction in effective outcomes.
13. **WRAL would like to request to speak to this submission at the LTPs hearings.** All enquiries should be made to Mark Morgan, CE of Waikato Regional Airport Limited. mark@hamiltonairport.co.nz or phone 07 848 9027

Recommendation

14. That Waipa District Council continues its partnership with Hamilton & Waikato Tourism in collaboration with other Waikato based councils;
15. We strongly urge Waipa District Council elected members to reconsider funding of Hamilton & Waikato Tourism.
16. That Waipa District Council commits investment to Hamilton & Waikato Tourism to the same level as currently invested (\$183,378) with annual CPI increases in the Long-Term Plan 2025-35.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit to Waipa District Council's draft Long Term Plan 2025-35.

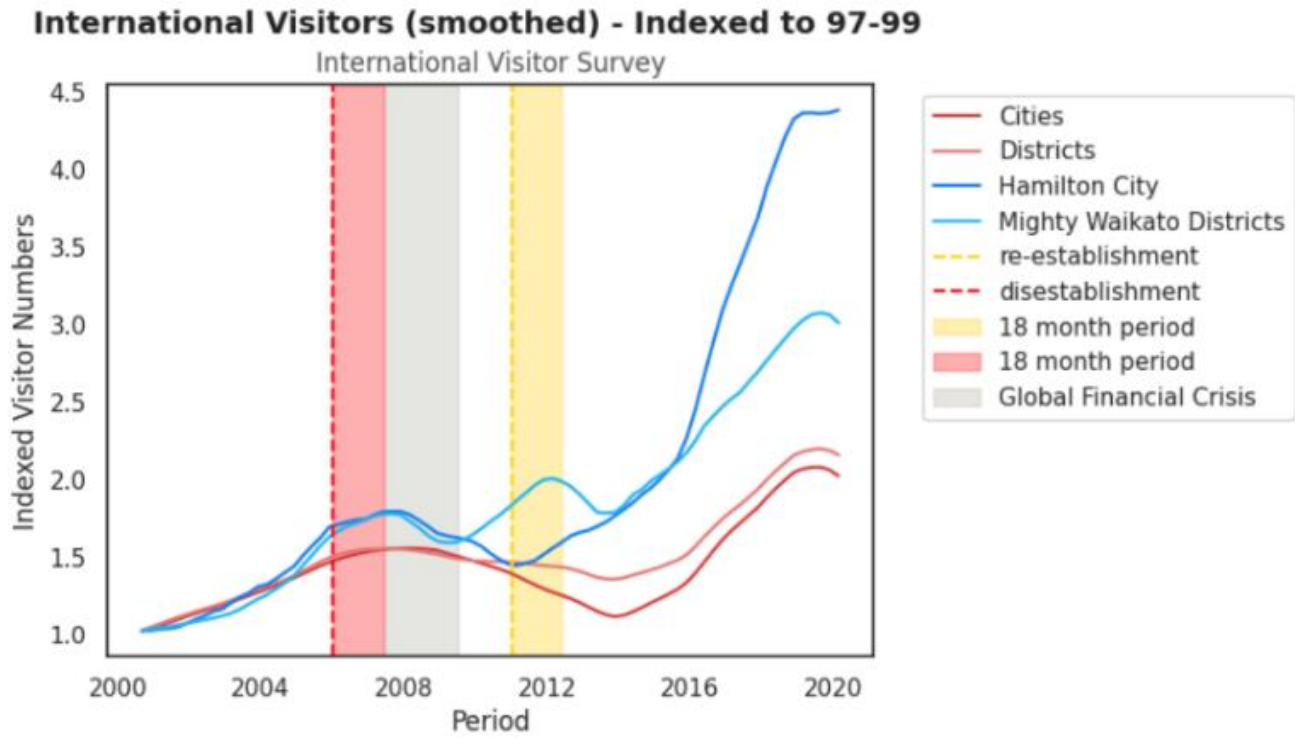
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Barry Harris'.

Barry Harris
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Mark Morgan'.

Mark Morgan
Chief Executive

Appendix 1



Submission/Event: 371

Full Response

- 1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

- 2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
While I acknowledge that the water tower has heritage value to some people, to me, it is an eyesore and should be removed. It's restoration is an unnecessary and unreasonable cost for Cambridge to bear. A plaque and some interpretation at it's site would be a nice way to remember it.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Margaret
<i>Last Name</i>	Dalton
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	287

Submission/Event: 370

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Hamilton & Waikato Tourism (HWT) provides this submission to encourage Waipā District Council to reconsider funding levels for the Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO) for the 2024-25 Enhanced Annual Plan and retain at the current level. | HWT is the Regional Tourism Organisation for Waipā; along with neighboring districts of Hamilton city, Waikato, Ōtorohanga, Waitomo and Matamata-Piako. | Submission and supporting documentation is attached as separate pdf.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/141

Stakeholder

First Name

Nicola

Last Name

Greenwell

Organisation

Hamilton & Waikato Tourism

Id

286



18 April 2024

Enhanced Annual Plan
Waipā District Council
Te Awamutu

Tēnā koutou katoa

Hamilton & Waikato Tourism (HWT) provides this submission to encourage Waipā District Council to reconsider funding levels for the Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO) for the 2024-25 Enhanced Annual Plan and retain at the current level.

HWT is the Regional Tourism Organisation for Waipā; along with neighboring districts of Hamilton city, Waikato, Ōtorohanga, Waitomo and Matamata-Piako. Recent research confirmed total combined funding for Hamilton & Waikato Tourism from our six partnering councils is significantly lower when compared to the other 30 Regional Tourism Organisations throughout the country. Per capita, the funding we receive through Service Level Agreements places us 28th out of the 31 RTOs.

While there is strong case and evidence to support a request for additional funding, we are not seeking any funding increase in this LTP, despite the fact our buying power has been severely impacted by rising costs over the last three years.

Tourism is very important for the region and Waipā with visitors contributing \$216million to the Waipā district economy for the year to October 2023 – \$44million of this is from international visitors, and \$172million from domestic visitors. This is \$592,000 of new money injected into your district economy each day.

Hamilton & Waikato Tourism's role is to grow tourism revenue through attracting more visitors to Waipā and the mighty Waikato who stay longer and spend more. We do this by raising awareness, changing perceptions and building demand in target markets. We aim to attract domestic and international visitors and increase their length of stay and expenditure through effective destination marketing, development, and management activity.

Hamilton & Waikato Tourism promotes the mighty Waikato, and the tourism businesses within it, as a preferred destination for domestic and international business, events and leisure travellers and provides leadership in regional product and event development, investment, and sector capability.

As passionate ambassadors of Waipā and the region, Hamilton & Waikato Tourism aims to ensure visitors are aware of and enjoy the wide variety of experiences and places on offer, in turn contributing to economic, social, environmental and cultural benefits for the community.

There is clear value and benefit from collaborating with neighbouring districts. Waipā and each district need each other to leverage the diverse visitor experiences and services to offer a compelling visitor experience. Partnering with HWT is proven to be a strong collaboration model ensuring the city and region are represented efficiently and effectively.

Working under a private-public partnership model, funding from partner councils enables HWT to undertake core activities including regional product development, sector capability building and the promotion of the region to leisure and Business Events visitors, media and the travel trade. When a project is appropriate, we work alongside and collaboratively with other regional entities: Te Waka, Creative Waikato, Waikato Screen, etc.

Tourism has the ability to actively benefit the community across the four wellbeing pillars – social, environmental, cultural and economic. Also increasing the profile of Waipā through HWT’s activities and channels is not only good for visitors – it is an important attractor for people who may want to invest and live in our region.

Supporting the sustainability of our visitor economy is not a luxury; it’s a necessity. The region cannot afford to lose visitor spend. We know with the right messaging, marketing, and mahi, tourism is an industry that adds value to the towns, city, region and communities. If we take our foot off the accelerator now, long term damage will be done, and it will take more money and a very long time to catch up lost ground.

We need our regional and local leaders to understand and acknowledge the contribution of tourism to Waipā and the mighty Waikato, and to recognise attracting visitors is a sound investment of ratepayer dollars. If funding is reduced, we will not be able to offer the level and breadth of current services. Cuts will be inevitable, which will result in less tourism revenue, less employment and a less prosperous Waipā. At the very least, we request our current funding to remain unchanged to be able to stay competitive with other regions in New Zealand.

The HWT Board and HWT Shareholder are clear the current proposed 20% reduction in funding will result in significantly less services from HWT, resulting in materially less tourism revenue into Waipā.

Therefore, the recommendation in our submission is to reinstate funding to the level of the last three years so Waipā’s tourism offer is able to be maintained at a compelling and competitive level.

On behalf of the board and management of HWT, we thank you for your consideration and urge reconsideration of the Enhanced Annual Plan budget for HWT.

Yours sincerely



Richard Leggat
Chairman
Hamilton & Waikato Tourism



Nicola Greenwell
Chief Executive
Hamilton & Waikato Tourism

Attached

- Submission to Enhanced Annual Plan
- Letter of Support – Tourism Industry Aotearoa TIA
- Letter of Support – Tourism New Zealand
- Letter of Support – Australasian Society of Association Executives
- Letter of Support – Explore Central North Island

Submission to Waipā District Council Enhanced Annual Plan 2024-2035

Regional Tourism Organisation – ~~nice to have~~



Regional Tourism Organisation – **must have**

Hamilton & Waikato Tourism (HWT) is the official tourism organisation for the Waikato region. Our role is to attract domestic and international visitors and increase the length of stay and expenditure through effective destination marketing, development, and management activity. HWT promotes Waipā and the Waikato as a preferred destination for domestic and international business, events and leisure travellers and provides leadership in regional product and event development, investment, and sector capability. As passionate ambassadors of the region, HWT aims to ensure visitors enjoy the wide variety of experiences and places throughout the mighty Waikato, in turn contributing to economic, social, environmental and cultural benefits for the community.



HWT is funded through a public/private partnership with the region's tourism industry and six local authorities including Waipā, Hamilton City, Matamata-Piako, Ōtorohanga, Waikato and Waitomo. Funding is provided for services agreed to within a signed Service Level Agreement. This submission is made to the Enhanced Annual Plan and subsequent Long Term Plan to continue funding through to 2035.

Our request

Waipā District Council EAP indicates a 20% reduction in funding. Any reduction in funding will directly impact deliverables and service delivery. Reduction in funding directly impacts the services we are able to provide to the visitor sector. Less resources = less services. Less services will inevitably lead to less visitors. Less visitors equals less visitor spend in our communities. This will impact communities across Waipā and the mighty Waikato.

In the 12 months ended October 2023 visitors spent \$1.9billion in our region; of this \$216million in Waipā district alone. This equates to \$592,000 new money being spent in your district each day. This is at risk should the RTO be unviable, or activities seriously diluted. (SOURCE: Month Regional Tourism Estimates)

While we acknowledge the council finances need addressing and 'tough decisions' need to be made, our submission to Waipā District Council urges reconsideration of funding allocation to the Service Level Agreement with Hamilton & Waikato Tourism. The HWT Board is clear the current proposed 20% reduction in funding will materially reduce the services we provide.

From past experience when the region had no RTO, tourism revenues were badly affected. The HWT board will endeavour to do all we can to keep some level of presence, however we will be less effective with any reduction in funding.

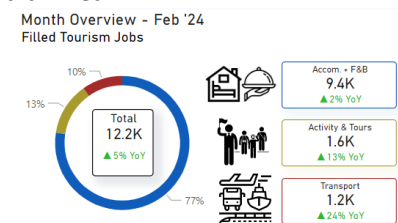
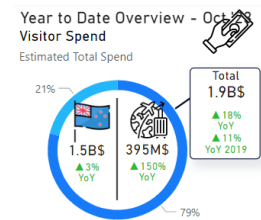


Introduction

1. Tourism Waikato was disestablished in 2006 when Hamilton City Council withdrew funding to secure the V8 Supercar event. This resulted in a significant decline in domestic and international visitor expenditure, a drop in overnight stays, lack of national and international tourism profile and destination marketing.
2. Hamilton & Waikato was re-established 1 July 2011. HWT is the Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO) for the mighty Waikato region. The core purpose of HWT is to promote the region as an appealing destination to international and domestic visitors in order to generate economic benefits for the region and its communities.
3. We understand the economic climate is tough and councils need to make savings in operating expenses. We therefore avoided requesting additional or increased funding. If funding can be maintained at current levels we will need to reduce some activity, given the impact of inflation on costs over the last three years, but overall, we believe we can be an active and effective RTO.
4. We understand savings need to be made. However, given the funding amount for HWT is just **0.12%** of the overall council operating budget the saving the proposed cut has minimal impact on your operating expenses but a large impact on HWT's viability. We propose the current reductions in the EAP are too great and must be reconsidered.

Value of Tourism to our economy

5. Visitors spend \$1.9billion in our region; this means \$5.1million each day is added to our regional economy, and as stated earlier \$216million is going directly to Waipā.
6. We achieve 6.3% market share of visitor spend across the country. With reduced activity from HWT, if the market share should drop just half a percent, this would mean \$149million less spent in the region per annum; or \$400,000 dollars less per day.
7. Data tell us 12,200 people are employed directly within the visitor sector in our region. On average, for every \$151,254 visitors spend, this equates to one job. Therefore, if our visitor spend reduces by \$149million, this has potential to impact 985 jobs in our community!
8. Similarly, 10% of New Zealand's Business Events are hosted in our region. This is 720 events hosting 94,400 delegates. If our market share should drop, the impact on venues, accommodation, event services etc would be negative.
9. Tourism is an important contributor to the region, not only in terms of the direct expenditure and employment generated, but also in terms of the broader economic development platform it provides. For example, the experience someone has in a region strongly influences their perception of that region as a place to live, work, study or invest. This applies to both visitors and residents.



Value of Tourism to Waipā district

10. Visitors spent over \$216million in Waipā YE October 2024 - \$44million from international manuhiri and \$172million from New Zealanders.

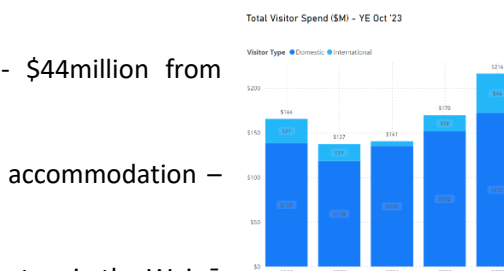
11. During 2023, 213,500 guest nights were enjoyed in commercial accommodation – occupancy rate of 52%.

12. The HWT team have provided support and expertise to many operators in the Waipā district over the last few years in particular.

13. Specific guidance and assistance has been provided to new and developing operators in Waipā, recently specifically Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari, Hidden Lake Hotel, The Clements, Riverside Adventures.

14. The new hotel soon to be opened in Cambridge is fantastic. A new hotel development is great news however the developer and operator will anticipate partnering with a well-functioning RTO to assist with filling their beds.

15. Waipā is home to significant events – NZ National Fieldays, events held at Karapiro, significant and sizable equine and cycling events. Our team showcase events coming up in the region to encourage visitation and extend length of stay. Many event organisers/promoters seek out and rely on the exposure the local RTO can provide for their event. The most recent and specific example was the International Breast Cancer Dragon Boat event hosted at Karapiro – the HWT team worked with the New Zealand committee to bid for and secure the event.



16. Due to HWT having strong events capability, the team are the Lead Entity for the Thermal Explorer Regional Events Fund. This fund has provided assistance to events hosted in your district – Sika Show, Great Kiwi Summer Festival, 2023 Olympic Weightlifting NZ National Championships; Autorama '23; Grins Night of Champions; Long Course Weekend and the NZ Fitness Festival. This is only accessible through the RTO – if there was to be no RTO, then central Government funding like this may not be available.

17. To quote Mayor Susan’s words at “Waipa Celebration event” in December 2023 at the Don Rowlands Centre: ***“now is the time to make ancestral decisions for the future generations”***.

What our residents say

18. Research carried out surveyed what our residents consider to be the benefits of tourism, and the challenges tourism brings to their community. 85% of our residents acknowledge they experience benefits from tourism, including more businesses, more employment, inspiration to travel domestically, and a greater variety of goods/services available.

19. Waipā residents identified the key benefits of tourism of more local businesses opening or being able to stay open and greater opportunities for employment.

Comparative funding for other RTOs

20. Research conducted comparing funding to each of New Zealand's RTOs by population indicate we are 28th out of the 31 RTOs, at our current funding levels. While we do all we can, it is a fact we compete with the other 30 RTOs for visitors, especially domestic visitors, and even on current funding we are pushing uphill. The proposed funding cut strongly suggests Waipā does not value the tourism dollar relative to other NZ towns and regions.
21. Regional Tourism Organisations compete for visitors, events and conferences. If HWT is not funded appropriately, we will not be able to remain competitive in the NZ tourism sector.

Result of reduced funding

22. Payment towards HWT activity is by way of Service Level Agreement, ie: HWT provides a service for our six councils. This is not a grant nor a handout. The RTO deliver these services on behalf of the partnering council. Without sufficient payment to conduct these services each council will need to have plans to deliver a number of these specialist tasks in-house or forgo them completely.
23. With other partnering councils also reducing by significant amounts, the current proposals have the potential to result in an approximate 40% reduction of budget. This will massively weaken the competitiveness of the RTO and our effectiveness.
24. Reduced council contributions will result in areas of work being reduced and some areas being removed from our activities and deliverables. We have a team of eight FTE staff who are subject experts, with experience and expertise in the visitor sector. Current proposed reduced funding means we will be forced to reduce staff.
25. When changes affect the visitor market, the RTO is there to provide expertise, support and guidance. This could be with negative incidents, ie: global pandemic, cyclone damage; or with positive changes, ie: new hotel development, investment and if/when international flights return to Hamilton Airport; or assisting maximising the impact of significant events, ie: FIFA Women's World Cup. A well-resourced RTO is here to support the sector through these times. Current proposed funding means the RTO would not be resourced sufficiently to assist during these times.
26. As Waikato Regional Airport Limited (WRAL) is HWTs shareholder, the WRAL board will make the ultimate decision on whether the organisation and work is viable to continue or disband the RTO function.

Conclusion

27. HWT thanks Waipā District Council for its support over the past 12 years.
28. Looking forward, the region needs tourism growth to increase the prosperity and living standards of its people. We can only do this by continuing a collaborative and long-term strategic approach, led by an appropriately funded and resourced Hamilton & Waikato Tourism.
29. Reduced funding will result in reduced services from HWT, with significant negative impacts on the sector and community.
30. **HWT would like to request to speak to this submission at the LTPs hearings.**
31. All enquiries should be made to Nicola Greenwell, CE of Hamilton & Waikato Tourism. Email nicola@waikatonz.com or phone 07 843 0056.

Recommendation

32. Waipā District Council continues its partnership with Hamilton & Waikato Tourism in collaboration with other Waikato based councils;
33. Waipā District Council elected members to reconsider funding of Hamilton & Waikato Tourism; and
34. Waipā District Council commits investment to Hamilton & Waikato Tourism to the same level as currently invested (\$183,378) with annual CPI increases in the Enhanced Annual Plan 2024-25; and through into the subsequent Long Term Plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit to Waipā District Council's draft Enhanced Annual Plan 2024-25.



Richard Leggat
Chairman
Hamilton & Waikato Tourism



Nicola Greenwell
Chief Executive
Hamilton & Waikato Tourism

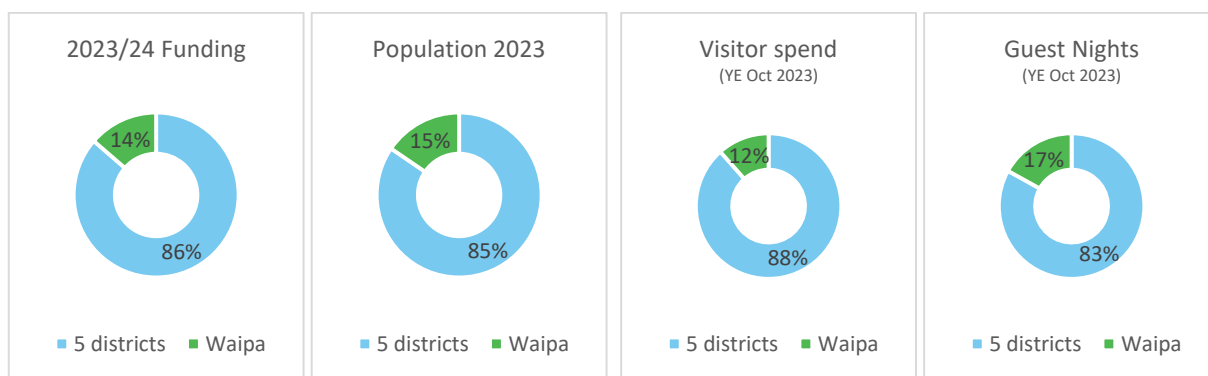
Appendix – quick facts, data and insights

Visitors contribute \$216million to Waipā’s economy – a return of \$1,180 for each dollar contributed by Waipā DC to HWT’s work. While no concise measure to indicate how much of this is due to the RTO’s work – if we assume as low as 3% - our activity directly contributes \$6.5 million.

(Source: [MBIE Monthly Regional Tourism Estimates](#))

Waipā’s **population of 61,100** contributes **\$2.99 per person** towards HWT’s activities.

(Source: [Regional Economic Activity Web Tool](#))



We are the only RTO with six contributing councils (every other RTO has less than this).

We have the 4th largest city in our region. We are a large region, and yet... our funding per person compared to other RTO’s – we are 28th out of 31 RTOs. Overall, HWT receives \$3.44 per person across the region.

(Source: [RTNZ Project Tōnuī](#))

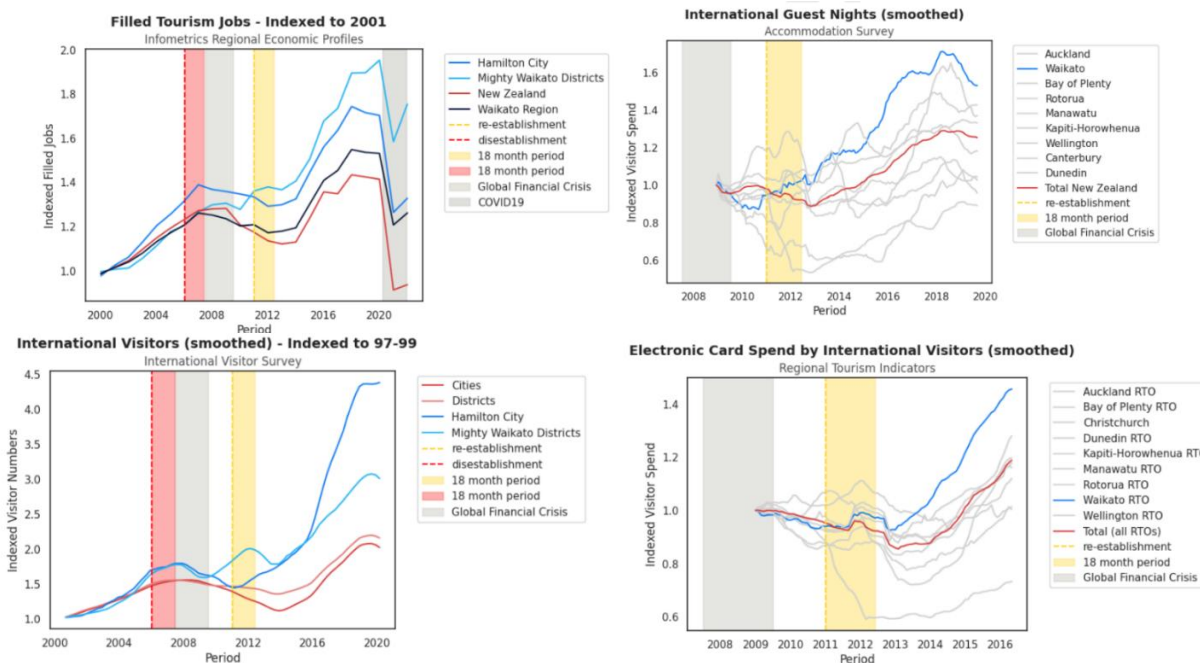
Proposed funding across the six partnering councils results in a smaller budget than the initial budget when HWT was re-established in 2011

The abstract, often unseen, support provided by the HWT team:

- Cyclone Gabrielle – Government provided Cyclone Recovery fund which omitted Hamilton and Waikato. HWT successfully advocated on behalf of the operators who suffered damage and had to close for weeks in order to repair such damage.
- Covid-19 Global Pandemic – hours and hours of work supporting our sector navigate the new rules and government subsidies. Provided many webinars on cash flow management, business plans, resilience, digital activations and many more subjects. Instigated the “mighty Local” activations, providing information to our local community at the various ‘alert’ levels.



Waikato Tourism disbanded in 2006. There was no RTO in our region for 5 years. Visitation, guest nights, visitor spend and jobs decreased during this period. We have seen increases in all since the re-establishment of HWT.



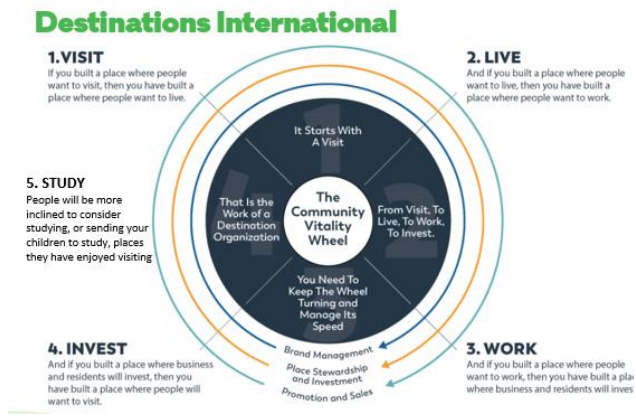
In 2019 tourism was number 1 export earner for NZ at \$41 billion. While the sector has suffered due to the Covid-19 pandemic, 2023 Tourism Satellite Account shows visitor sector contribution to NZ of \$38 billion. Recovery post-covid is very strong. Tourism is expected to once again claim the Number 1 export earner title very soon.

(Source: [Tourism Satellite Account 2023](https://rtnz.org.nz/project-tonui/))

Case Study: a video that showcases the impact of reduced RTO activities: [What happens when you cut a destination’s marketing budget? The story of Colorado Tourism – a cautionary tale](#). The report can be found [here](#).

Case Study: report from US Travel Association – [“What’s at Stake When Destinations Stop Marketing: The Power of Travel Promotion”](#)

Quote from **Stephen England-Hall** during early part of Covid-19 global pandemic. At the time, Stephen was CE of New Zealand Tourism: *“Tourism New Zealand continued to keep the New Zealand brand alive in other international markets to keep New Zealand’s destination brand present in the minds of our audience and avoid ‘going dark’.... A year of not promoting a destination could mean up to three years of trying to recover that lost ground, amid intense competition from other countries for tourists.”*



Destination promotion is essential to the quality of place in our community

Tourism builds community

9 April 2024



Nicola Greenwell
Chief Executive
Hamilton & Waikato Tourism

By email: nicola@waikatonz.com

Kia ora

Long-term Plans 2024-2034 for Waikato Councils: TIA Submission

Tourism industry Aotearoa welcomes the opportunity to set out the importance of continued Council investment into the tourism-related functions carried out by Hamilton & Waikato Tourism.

Key feedback

TIA views tourism as being an enormously beneficial contributor to people and place. The tourism and hospitality industry is integral to our national identity; when it thrives, so does New Zealand. It brings economic diversity, resilience, generates jobs and fosters regional prosperity while showcasing our cultural richness and timeless experiences, fostering pride and social connectivity both locally and globally.

Across New Zealand, local government is under immense pressure. TIA recognises this pressure, and the difficult decisions Councils are tasked with making. Notwithstanding this, we submit that funding for core tourism activities by Councils is an investment in the economic health and future prosperity of the towns, cities and region of the Waikato, an investment that will generate a healthy return on investment (ROI).

It is our understanding that tourism functions of Hamilton & Waikato Tourism are signalled as reducing in the long-term planning processes of the six Councils.

Given what the international evidence base tells us, we believe it is important to treat Council spend in these tourism functions as an investment, and not a cost. This spend will generate a dividend in the form of increased economic activity, increased Council revenues, more and better jobs, and increased vibrancy across the city. During this period of slowing economic growth and increasing headwinds, enabling buoyant tourism activity is a logical and prudent step for Councils to take.

TIA recommends that:

Each of the six Councils who collaborate and partner with Hamilton & Waikato Tourism ensure that funding provision for the Service Level Agreement is retained and maintained in their Long-term Plans so that the wider Waikato region can accrue its return on investment in these tourism functions.

Tourism Industry Aotearoa

TIA is the peak body for the tourism industry in Aotearoa New Zealand. With around 1,300 members, TIA represents a range of tourism-related activities including hospitality, accommodation, adventure activities, attractions, retail, airports and airlines, transport, as well as related-tourism services.

TIA is sharply focused on ensuring the sustainable future of the industry, and this is clearly articulated in our key guiding documents and programmes. These include the tourism industry's strategic framework, *Tourism 2050 – A Blueprint for Impact, He Pae Tukutuku, and the industry's sustainability platform New Zealand Tourism Sustainability Commitment - He kupu taurangi kia toitū ai te tāpoitanga*.

Tourism 2050 has ten Actions, one of which is 'Address Industry Funding' which includes local government funding for tourism. It is a priority for TIA that substantive progress is made in this area, and sustaining Council funding levels form part of this.

The tourism industry

Tourism is the movement of people to places where they don't normally live to 'do, see, visit or experience'.

In the year to March 2023 (the latest data point we have) tourism expenditure was \$37.7 billion, and with tourism making up 11.4% of exports and supporting 11.3% of New Zealand's employment.¹ Since then, further recovery has taken place as tourism works to restore its position alongside Dairy as New Zealand's largest export earning sectors.

The Waikato region received \$1.9b of international and domestic spending in the year to October 2023.² It hosted 1.3 million guest nights per year, or 3.3% of New Zealand's total guest nights.³ As such, tourism plays an important role within the region.

Nature of this submission

TIA recognises that the Regional Tourism Organisation of the Waikato region, Hamilton & Waikato Tourism, is supported and funded by six City or District Councils – Hamilton, Waipa, Waikato, Waitomo, Otorohanga and Matamata Piako.

This makes it important that the contributions from each Council are in place to ensure that Hamilton & Waikato Tourism has the capacity and critical mass to drive the growth and development of tourism in your region.

As such, this submission is designed to inform each of the six Councils about the importance of sustaining tourism functions as a driver of economic and social well-being in each of the Council areas and across the region.

Tourism spend is an investment

Council spending on tourism activities such as destination marketing and events promotion is widely considered to be an investment, not a cost.

As an investment, resources spent in these areas generate a return over and above the direct cost, and that is why countries and cities around the world invest in these functions. Generally, for every \$1 invested in the local visitor economy there is a direct return for the funding party, such as the local government entity, and with a larger benefit for businesses and people working in the local economy. This is the globally accepted rationale for destination marketing and events attraction activities.⁴

¹ Tourism Satellite Account, YE March 2023, Stats NZ, February 2024.

² Monthly Regional Tourism Estimates, YE October 2023, MBIE, 2023.

³ Data Accommodation Data, YE February 2024, MBIE, 2024

⁴ There is extensive literature on the Return on Investment from destination marketing. However, there is a vast number of ways ROI can be calculated depending on the methods used. What is common is that the ROI is invariably positive, and usually strongly positive. In analysis by Oxford Economics for the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTTC) the following ROIs were cited: Visit Denmark: ROI 16:1, Visit Scotland: ROI 20:1; Australia's 'A Different Light campaign': ROI 64:1; Canada Tourism Commission: ROI 38:1; Visit California: ROI of between 25:1 and 200:1 depending on target market.

In cases where such funding has been withdrawn, the consistent outcome is a discernible decline in tourism activity and, over time, reinstatement of the funding, followed by a gradual period of catch up. The case study evidence shows that when tourism related investment is cut, visitor spending starts reducing immediately and continues to decline. Fortunately, there are not too many of these case studies because funding reductions are quite rare which indicates that the boost generated from this type of investment is recognised and valued.

The Colorado example is widely held as the classic case study.⁵ When Colorado's \$12m tourism marketing budget was cut to zero in 1993, annual visitor spending reduced by \$1.4b initially and then to \$2b annually. State and local taxes fell by \$134m. With reinstatement of funding to \$17m in 2006, the advertising spending of \$10.7m generated an additional \$2.1b of visitor spend and additional tax revenue of \$139m. For the State funder, for every dollar it spent, it received an additional \$12.96 of tax revenue. A 13:1 return.

Similarly, in 2013 the San Diego Tourism Authority had its budget reduced by 83%, down from \$28m to \$4m.⁶ ⁷ Over the following year, this rapidly impacted the performance of the San Diego hotel industry, with room demand, occupancy and price levels all trailing other regional and national destinations that had maintained funding. As funding was returned, the market position was restored reasonably quickly.

Events play a very important role in creating demand of high value visitors, and as a lever for tackling hard-to-address issues such as seasonality or time-of-week fluctuations. This elevates the benefits from investing in programmes that attract events and particularly those that can provide a boost to fill what would be an otherwise quiet period. Through having an ability to attract events, regions can create a more even and predictable demand pattern that can sustain businesses and the jobs that they create.

TIA submits that, in line with international evidence, the Councils that support and enable Hamilton & Waikato Tourism to ensure there is sufficient base funding for tourism functions in the interest of gaining both the return on investment and the intangible place-making and community benefits that will accrue from this expenditure.

Conclusion

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views and we would be most happy to expand on any points raised in this submission.

Please do not hesitate to get in contact if you have any queries. Bruce Bassett can be contacted on 021 609 674 or bruce.bassett@tia.org.nz.

Ngā mihi,



Rebecca Ingram
Chief Executive

⁵ <https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn%3Aaid%3Ausc%3AUS%3A5f329423-2212-352a-91b4-718798f774c2#pageNum=1>

⁶ https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/tmd_tourismeconomics072916.pdf

⁷ https://www.ustravel.org/sites/default/files/media_root/document/POTP_Negative_Case_Studies.pdf



18 March 2024

Kia Ora Nicola

Thank you for your request to Tourism New Zealand for a letter of support to assist in your discussions with your funders around securing ongoing funding to enable you to continue to work effectively with our organisation. As New Zealand's National Tourism Organisation we are responsible for promoting New Zealand as a visitor destination in key markets overseas and our relationship with all the 31 Regional Tourism Organisations (RTOs) across Aotearoa including Hamilton & Waikato Tourism is critical.

To ensure tourism benefits New Zealand we target visitors from key international markets. Once here, it's important our visitors have a great experience, so we also guide them on travelling safely and caring for our home, people and culture.

To do these successfully we rely on having a close relationship with each RTO to ensure that we are closely aligned to their own specific regional identity and community desires, which are outlined in their current destination management plans. Without this close relationship our own marketing and operational plans cannot accurately reflect the diversity that exists across New Zealand, especially in local communities such as in Hamilton and Waikato.

Our role is to ensure that tourism contributes to a sustainable and productive future across:

- **Economy** The tourism economy thrives and grows adding incremental value to the New Zealand economy and its assets.
- **Nature** Tourism restores, maintains and nourishes the environment for the intergenerational benefit of New Zealand.
- **Culture** The tourism story and experience preserve and enhance our values, culture and heritage; the makeup of our identity.
- **Society** People in and part of tourism communities thrive through jobs, shared knowledge, and physical and mental well-being.

Our activity is carefully focused on several key markets around the world and a select group of consumers within those key markets. This is so we get the maximum yield for the tourism industry including operators across Hamilton and Waikato.

We work offshore to encourage our target market, those 'Actively Considering' New Zealand to book, visit more of our regions and do more during their time here. In a very competitive international market, our work with Hamilton & Waikato Tourism is critical to ensure that we can connect with local operators across the region.

As well as marketing to consumers, our trade training, marketing and media programme is designed to ensure that those who sell New Zealand have the knowledge and understanding to do so well. This includes our work in the business events area that provides business-specific funding and support for international conferences. Working in partnership with Hamilton & Waikato Tourism gives us the ability to connect the region to these audiences.

Nga mihi

Rene de Monchy
Chief Executive

Support Paper: The Essential Role of Regional Tourism Bureaus in Supporting New Zealand's Association Conferences and Events

Introduction

The Australasian Society of Association Executives (AuSAE) New Zealand, representing a vibrant community of chief executives and senior leaders from professional associations and trade associations across Aotearoa New Zealand. Our members are at the forefront of professional development, economic growth, and community wellbeing and underscores the urgent need to maintain or increase core funding for regional tourism organisations, specifically focusing on Hamilton and Waikato Tourism (HWT). This advocacy is driven by the looming threat of significant funding cuts across several councils, jeopardising the foundational support for our regional tourism and event-hosting capabilities. . This paper champions the critical need to sustain, if not increase, core funding for regional tourism bureaus.

The Value of Associations to Regional Economies

Membership bodies significantly boost regional economies through conferences and events, far beyond mere financial injections. These gatherings serve as catalysts for economic, social, and educational development, leaving a lasting positive impact on host regions. Our partnership with Hamilton and Waikato Tourism has been pivotal in elevating the region's profile, leading to a succession of business opportunities and securing the association community's business in an unparalleled manner.

Strategic Partnership with Hamilton and Waikato Tourism

Our collaboration with HWT has proven instrumental in enhancing the visibility and attractiveness of the Hamilton and Waikato region to the association sector. Together, we've positioned the region as a top destination for conferences and events, generating direct economic benefits and solidifying industry relationships. This partnership has facilitated memorable experiences for attendees and created substantial business opportunities, contributing to the region's economic vitality and expansion.

Impact of Funding Cuts

The substantial funding cuts proposed from the six councils places this valuable partnership in jeopardy. Such cuts threaten to dilute HWT's efforts and could inadvertently shift the association community's focus to other regions for their events. The forthcoming decision by our shareholder on whether to continue or dissolve HWT, followed by the board's decisions on operational focuses, presents a concerning outlook for the future of regional tourism and our collective endeavours.

11 March 2024

The Critical Nature of Continued Support

The potential downscaling or cessation of HWT's activities would not only be a loss for the Hamilton and Waikato region but also for the wider association community that AuSAE represents. The unique synergy between AuSAE and HWT has been a cornerstone of our mutual success, delivering enhanced professional development opportunities, economic benefits, and community engagement to the region.

Conclusion

The partnership between professional and trade associations and regional tourism organisations, exemplified by AuSAE and Hamilton and Waikato Tourism, is vital for the prosperity of regional economies and the association sector. We advocate for sustaining or enhancing funding for these organisations to ensure the continued success of such partnerships. As AuSAE New Zealand, we urge councils, and stakeholders to recognise the extensive benefits of these collaborations and to act decisively in support of our communities' and regional economies' future.

Urgent Call to Action

In light of these challenges, our collective voice must be heard louder than ever. We must unite to support the sustainability of HWT and similar entities, ensuring their continued invaluable contributions. The potential disappearance of such organisations would not only impact current operations but also diminish the region's future potential for economic and professional development in hosting association events.

Brett Jeffery/CAE – General Manager New Zealand

Australasian Society of Association Executives
159 Otonga Road, Rotorua 3015
New Zealand
027 249 8677
brett@ausae.org.au

11 March 2024

explore Central North Island

Thermal Explorer Highway / Pacific Coast Highway / Volcanic Loop



17 April 2024

Tēnā Koe

RE: Submission on 2024-34 Long Term Plan

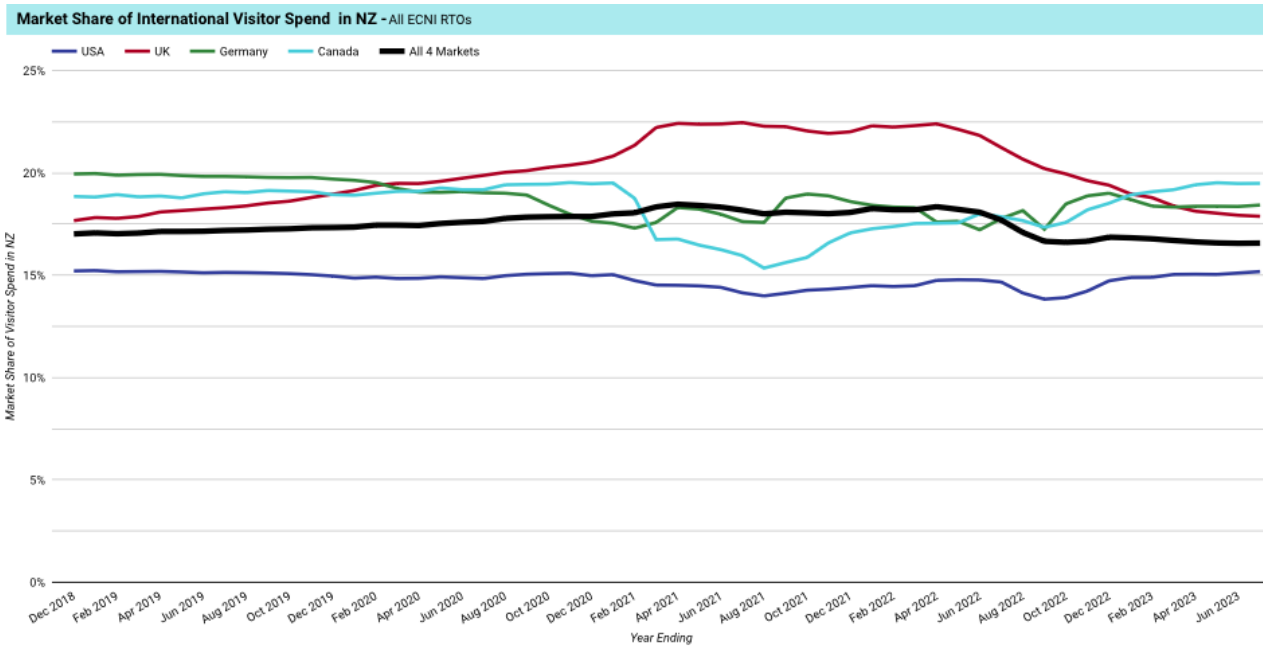
We are writing regarding the proposed changes in funding, contained in the draft 2024-34 Long Term Plan (LTP), for your Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO), Hamilton & Waikato Tourism. As a collective of eight RTOs who form the Explore Central North Island (ECNI) marketing alliance and make up a large portion of the North Island, we have significant concerns about the proposed changes.

ECNI is a central North Island collaboration between Destination Hauraki Coromandel, Tourism Bay of Plenty, Visit Ruapehu, Destination Great Lake Taupō, Rotorua NZ, Hamilton & Waikato Tourism, Activate Tairāwhiti, and Hawke's Bay Tourism who come together to market ourselves. We promote the three main touring routes through the central North Island; [Pacific Coast Highway](#), [Thermal Explorer Highway](#) and the [Volcanic Loop](#). In addition, we provide a number of specific itineraries through the eight regions of ECNI to assist both domestic and international travellers and industry members, to experience some of New Zealand's beautiful sights and activities. As a collective we host and attend trade training events in NZ and internationally, keeping Travel Buyers up to date with product offerings from central North Island tourism businesses for their clients traveling to NZ. Our collective voice is strong as we continue to drive and increase demand for North Island visitation.

The primary focus for ECNI is achieving growth in the key long haul western markets of North America and UK/Europe. For the year ending July 2023, international visitor expenditure for these key markets exceeded pre-Covid levels at \$209.49million across the ECNI regions. Following a summer season where we have experienced strong growth in the North American market, this figure will have increased significantly, underlining the value of tourism to your local communities and benefit of the ECNI partnership. The following table provides additional detail on the market growth for ECNI.

All ECNI RTOs - International Visitor Spend				Market Growth			Post-COVID Recovery		
Market	Year Ending July			% change 2022-23			Pre-COVID YE Jul-19	% recovered Jul 2023	
	2021	2022	2023	RTO	NZL	RTO		NZL	
USA	\$20.56M	\$25.84M	\$102.94M	+298.4%	+284.9%		\$77.61M	133%	132%
UK	\$32.70M	\$31.78M	\$75.45M	+137.4%	+182.1%		\$77.00M	98%	100%
Germany	\$1.50M	\$1.02M	\$16.73M	+1543.9%	+1485.5%		\$32.77M	51%	55%
Canada	\$2.13M	\$2.29M	\$14.37M	+526.7%	+474.3%		\$15.03M	96%	94%
All 4 Markets	\$56.90M	\$60.93M	\$209.49M	+243.9%	+267.3%		\$202.40M	104%	107%
Other Intl	\$71.86M	\$74.43M	\$278.28M	+273.9%	+271.7%		\$287.00M	97%	97%
Total Intl	\$128.76M	\$135.36M	\$487.77M	+260.4%	+270.0%		\$489.40M	100%	101%

From both an international and domestic perspective, tourism is a highly competitive sector. At a national level New Zealand must compete strongly to secure a small share of the total international tourism market and once a visitor has decided on New Zealand as their next destination, regions compete fiercely for a visitor’s time and money. In a New Zealand context, the larger metropolitan centres and those with an international airport are at a distinct advantage, with much larger marketing budgets and more opportunities to partner with airports and airlines. ECNI pools resource and has been very effective at maintaining market share across the target markets, as detailed in the following graph.



The proposed funding reduction in the draft LTP will jeopardise Hamilton & Waikato Tourism ongoing participation in ECNI. As discussed above, the ECNI partnership allows the 8 regions to compete successfully, as evidenced through market share and visitor expenditure, against the larger gateway regions that have significantly larger budgets. Put simply, each RTO’s investment in ECNI delivers excellent value for money as funds and resource allocated is boosted 8 times through the partnership. Any RTO not contributing will cease to be part of the partnership, will no longer appear in itineraries and marketing activity, and understandably lose market share.

It is important to highlight that the proposed reduction in funding will result in a very significant economic contraction, that will require significantly greater investment to reverse once enacted. There are a range of international case studies that demonstrate how even well-known destinations can suffer when they fail to promote themselves. One of the most relevant examples is Colorado, which shut down its travel promotion program in 1993 by cutting the states promotion budget from US\$12 million to zero almost overnight. The consequences were immediately felt as follows:

- Within one year, Colorado slipped from first place to 17th place in the summer resort category.
- By 1997, Colorado's overall share of the U.S. leisure market plummeted by 30%.
- Visitor spending fell dramatically, creating an immediate loss in revenues of US\$1.4 billion, which increased to US\$2.4billion by the late 1990s.
- As a consequence, state and local tax receipts dropped by US\$134 million between 1993 and 1997.
- In 2000, the state opened the Colorado Tourism Office with a US\$5 million annual budget, which increase to US\$19million in 2006 following a demonstrated return on investment of more than 12:1.
- The head of the Colorado Tourism Office in 2011 was quoted "Our lesson to [the state of] Washington is that it's been 18 years since we went dark in 1993, and we still haven't gotten back it the national market share we had."

Any reduction in the modest funding provided to Hamilton & Waikato Tourism will result in a significant economic contraction as competing regions secure market share. Once lost, this is difficult to regain and will require substantial new investment beyond the amount saved in the proposed cuts.

Tourism plays a pivotal role in the economic, social, and cultural fabric of New Zealand. Beyond the iconic landscapes and attractions that draw international visitors, tourism offers an opportunity for local communities to showcase their unique heritage, traditions, and natural wonders. Tourism fosters a sense of pride and identity among locals, encouraging preservation and stewardship of natural and cultural assets. Overall, tourism not only drives economic growth through visitor expenditure and employment but also creates vibrancy and a destination that is a great place to live, work and do business.

On behalf of Explore Central North Island



Andrew Wilson

Chief Executive RotoruaNZ and Chair Explore Central North Island

Destination Hauraki Coromandel, Tourism Bay of Plenty, Visit Ruapehu, Destination Great Lake Taupō, Rotorua NZ, Hamilton & Waikato Tourism, Activate Tairāwhiti, and Hawke's Bay Tourism.

THE VALUE OF TOURISM IN THE MIGHTY WAIKATO

Tourism significantly boosts a community's financial and social well-being. It drives local business innovation and growth, creates jobs, and generates revenue, while also contributing to infrastructure development and vibrancy of place. In addition, tourism helps to preserve cultural heritage, encourages social interactions between locals and visitors, fosters a sense of regional pride, and supports environmental conservation.

RTO Regional Statistics

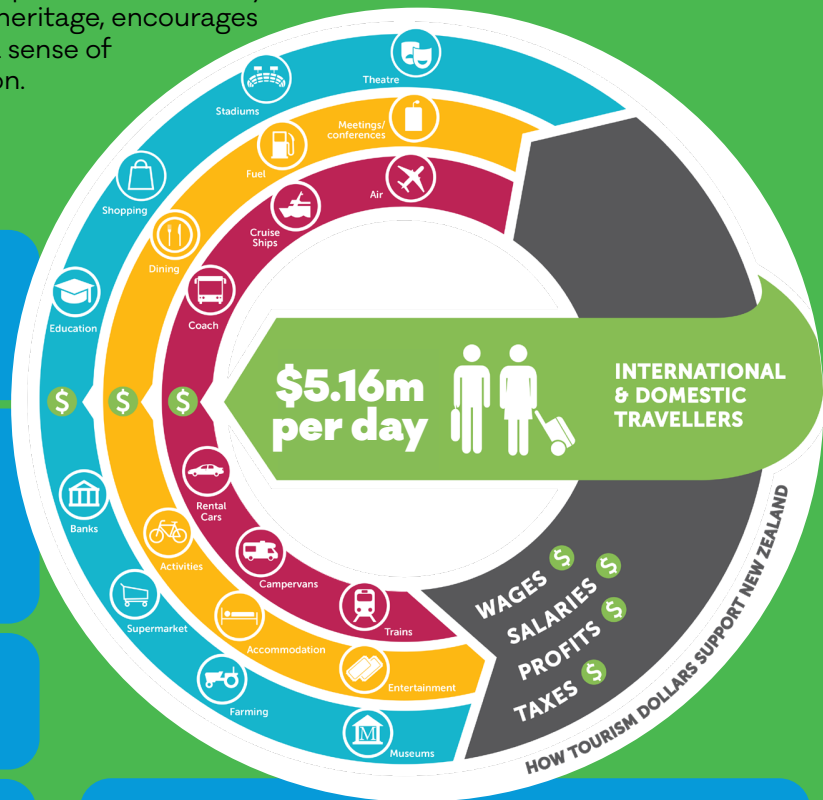
\$1.86b total visitor spend
5th highest in New Zealand
YE October 2023

105,600 delegates hosted across **815** Business Events

12,000+ people directly employed in tourism in Waikato RTO area

1,700,000 average monthly visitors to Waikato

56,000 average daily visitors
2nd highest in New Zealand
8.8% market share



\$1.807m Tourism GDP for Waikato RTO area in 2020 (pre-COVID)

\$216.3m total visitor spend contributed to Waipā District council economy.
YE October 2023

Domestic visitors contributed **\$172.1m**

International visitors contributed **\$44.2m**

211,900 commercial guest nights.
YE January 2024

National



2,902,787

International Visitor Arrivals to New Zealand
170% increase on previous year
YE November 2023

Key Markets:

Australia – 1,266,135
USA – 322,721
UK – 173,286
China – 136,479

Prior to Covid-19, NZ welcomed 3,854,716 international visitors per annum

HWT Activity - Highlights

1 July 2023 - 31 January 2024

- 13,474,712+** people reached through HWT marketing and PR activity
- 2** business events marketing campaigns
- 5** domestic leisure marketing campaigns
- 36** service requests for event professionals
- 17** capability building videos
- 11** operator case studies
- 8** in-person/online workshops and events and online resources
- 1353** travel trade trained
- 17** regional conference bids

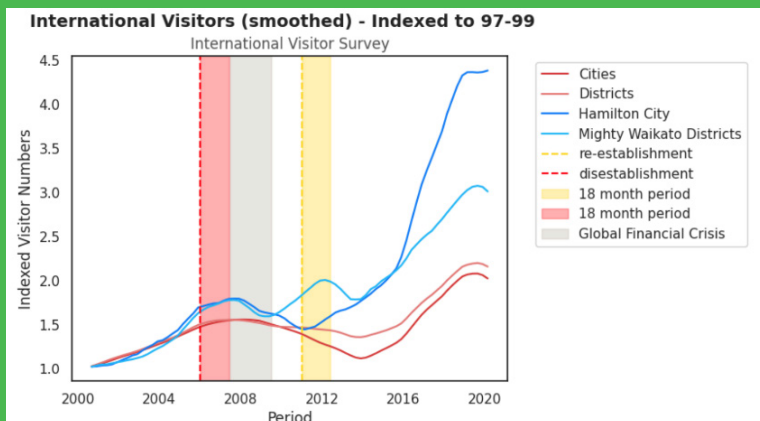
From 1 February 2024

- 4** domestic marketing campaigns
- 7** capability building videos
- 14+** familiarisation visits across travel trade, media and business events
- 6** in-person trade shows, events and expos
- 430+** travel trade to be trained
- 2** NZ Food Story episodes featuring Waikato
- 6** operator case studies

If we, HWT, conservatively equate our efforts to just 1% of the \$1.86 billion visitor spend in the 12 months to the end of October 2023, that's a total of **\$18.6 million extra** we have brought into the region.

We currently achieve 6.3% market share of visitor spend. With reduced activity from HWT, if the market share should drop just 0.5%, this would mean \$149million less spent in the region per annum; or \$400,000 dollars less per day.

On average, for every \$151,254 spent by visitors equates to one job. Therefore, if our visitor spend reduced by \$149million, this has potential to impact more than **980 jobs** in our community.



Submission/Event: 369

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No. I think you should also pause all funding to community boards and heritage funds for one year. And pause the resource recovery centre as well.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Karen
<i>Last Name</i>	Cousins
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	285

Submission/Event: 368

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

It would be great to offer it for sale for anyone who wants to renew/ repurpose it. |This council seems out of control with it's spending, so least amount should be spent. |If it's not unsafe, don't touch it & stop paying unnecessary amounts for feasibility studies!

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Tracy

Last Name

Munro

Organisation

Id

284

Submission/Event: 367

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Restore it with a purpose, so it is useful on some way. Definitely allow visitors to use stairs to the top, may attract fitness fanatics. Maybe even charge to go up the viewing tower.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Tracey
<i>Last Name</i>	Blackwell
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	283

Submission/Event: 366

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Emma
<i>Last Name</i>	Waa
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	282

Submission/Event: 365

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Yes I think that you have the balance right. We don't need to re-do the library, public toilets and cemeteries etc. we need to think about the growth of Cambridge. If Cambridge is getting bigger we need to focus the money around public transport and cycle ways.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
I don't see the point in restoring the water tower as it's just going to need more work done in the future.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Jessie
<i>Last Name</i>	Grubner
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	281

Submission/Event: 364

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Yes that seems reasonable. Some projects like the library are quite useless too, those places are made for the older generation that might be gone by the time the library is done.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Lorenzo
<i>Last Name</i>	Pugi
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	280

Submission/Event: 363

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

-

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Eric

Last Name

Hill

Organisation

Id

279

Submission/Event: 362

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

PLEASE don't demolish!! It's a part of Cambridge's history. While it may be expensive, rather sell it to someone who may like/have the money to restore it. This should be an option rather than demolish 😞 Grand Designs has many examples of what people are prepared to do!

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Rosanne

Last Name

Lion-Cachet

Organisation

Id

278

Submission/Event: 361

Full Response

- 1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

- 2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

- Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

- I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
-

- I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Greg
<i>Last Name</i>	Liddy
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	277

Submission/Event: 360

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Yes, except the Land Wars Museum should be scrapped completely. We are never going to afford something that will only cost the ratepayers of the future large ongoing costs.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Of course it should be retained and maintained. \$700,000 was put aside in a previous LTP because it was thought it would need maintenance before the building at Resthaven was started, to be sure it was safe. This money was never spent (and it seems to have disappeared as it isn't available now????), so the water tower must have been deemed safe then, so what has changed now? If continuous maintenance had been or is done I'm sure it will stand safe for many more years. I would like to see a fully independent report done and results given to Ratepayers.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Norma
<i>Last Name</i>	Mackie
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	276

Submission/Event: 359

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Yes I think you are doing a good job , I understand things need doing and you will never please everyone

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Yes there seems to be quite a few activists groups in Cambridge mostly elderly that don't like change. They are a minority group that shout a lot , but they are just a minority and they don't have the voice of the majority, the majority voted for this council , please just get the job done.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Greg

Last Name

Harris

Organisation

Id

181

Submission/Event: 358

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Yes

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Sam
<i>Last Name</i>	Brydon
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	275

Submission/Event: 357

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I think the proposal is mostly good. I think it is a shame to shut the iSites, and would prefer this to be avoided if possible.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
No

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Joseph
<i>Last Name</i>	Poultney
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	152

Submission/Event: 356

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
We live in pirongia area and get nothing from council catch our water pay for rubbish disposal etc so why increase my rates

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
It's iconic

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Peter
<i>Last Name</i>	Cumming
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	274

Submission/Event: 355

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Yes. Focus on the must haves, but reduce commitment to roading and cycle path projects that attempt to impose travel solutions on ratepayers rather than maintain and enhance the existing road network.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Please take the same practical approach to other dubious "icons" like the high level bridge. Commemorate it, but demolish it and replace with a functional bridge on the same site where infrastructure is established and apposite to town centre access.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Zane

Last Name

Holton

Organisation

Id

273

Submission/Event: 354

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Re the water tower. Could you investigate selling off a small parcel of land with the water tower, and placing an historic places category on the structure. This would allow private restoration/transformation into a private dwelling while maintaining the core of the structure. This would be a win/win in our opinion.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Allen Barry

Last Name

Christiansen

Organisation

Id

272

Submission/Event: 353

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Ashley

Last Name

Willans

Organisation

Id

271

Submission/Event: 352

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Mostly.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Helen

Last Name

Capes

Organisation

Id

270

Submission/Event: 351

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

The only question I have is what % of funds are set aside for repairs and maintenance?|I assume that all R&M is carried out by contractors but as an organization are you able / or do you budget specifically for R& M

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

I hope that proactive negotiations are taking place with neighbouring councils for 3 water provisions for the future which will safeguard horrendous increases in rates increases

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Alice
<i>Last Name</i>	Hicks
<i>Organisation</i>	NA
<i>Id</i>	53

Submission/Event: 350

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No, you don't listen to rate payers or community in regards to anything you do.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Tracey
<i>Last Name</i>	Brooker
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	269

Submission/Event: 349

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Everything has its life span, the cost to renovate far out ways any advantage, its not going to be a tourist attraction due to the location of the water tower being right beside Resthaven

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Julie
<i>Last Name</i>	Feisst-Jones
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	268

Submission/Event: 348

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No I think that if things like the water tower haven't been maintained in replacement of a new leamington park you fix what is needed to be maintained before you replace something new. ||If a person who owned a heritage house couldn't afford to maintain it they would have to sell it or is this a precedence you can rip down heritage buildings and things that mean something to this town and part of its history against your own rules and that should have seen maintenance and building wof to this point in the first place which we already have paid for. ||My family have all gone through Resthaven too and I know it was a peaceful sight for the elderly to sit in that lounge and look over the tower.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
I can't make minor alterations as part of my job that I have to consult with town planners over and apply for resource consent but your are going to rip down its water tower. ||Also are the figures accurate to repair. Maybe this should be put to tender or some more accurate form of estimating before it's decided. You could build a new tower for|That cost surely. ||Allot of people would probably say rip the tower down as allot of the people don't have the history and memories of what this town was to care, nor have paid rates for more than a few years. Why would they care. Their grandparents and parents didn't build or pay to maintain this kind of things over the last century. ||Those of us whose family's founded and were the first in this town feel differently obviously.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Chris
<i>Last Name</i>	Place
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	267

Submission/Event: 347

Full Response

- 1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

- 2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
The cost to restore is out of proportion to any benefit. At a time when most residents of Thai town are facing ongoing increasing costs it would be good to see the council being prudent with our money. | Perhaps sell off the brick or the entire tower. But no to spending any significant money to restore it.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Antony
<i>Last Name</i>	Brown
<i>Organisation</i>	Na
<i>Id</i>	266

Submission/Event: 346

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No qualified to say. But thank you asking and informing the community is the right way to go.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
If the option 1 is the preferred option by the community. Before undertaking the demolition.
You should ask people for their ideas of reducing the cost. Eg selling the bricks.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Melanie
<i>Last Name</i>	Midgley
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	44

Submission/Event: 345

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Sadly the cost to restore would be better used to support the infrastructure of our town with its current growth.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Maybe a miniature made from the bricks could be installed in its place with a history board with photos and a seat next to a tree. Put a sidepath off the cycle track with a water bottle refill station as a tribute to the water tower.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Amanda

Last Name

Barnes

Organisation

Id

265

Submission/Event: 344

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

No. I think you live in a dream world and don't understand the pressure familys in the district are under. | Stop spending our money please.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Stop wasting our noney on feelgood projects. | Focus on core responsibility and get real | Rate payers cannot afford your silly projects and fancy ideas.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Dominic

Last Name

Barnes

Organisation

Id

264

Submission/Event: 343

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Roger

Last Name

Laxon

Organisation

Id

337

Submission/Event: 342

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

-

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Daniel

Last Name

Ward

Organisation

Id

263

Submission/Event: 341

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Currently it is full of pigeon poo and attracts rats.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Sandy
<i>Last Name</i>	Fairhurst
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	262

Submission/Event: 340

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
It is important to preserve historic landmarks Cambridge. There are many projects Council wastes millions on, 2 lane bicycle highways to mention one of many. |Try preserving a little character of the town if it's not too late to attempt it.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Rosemary
<i>Last Name</i>	Bublitz
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	261

Submission/Event: 339

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
I work at Resthaven, been there 12yrs now, the water tower has been apart of my years at Resthaven. It's a stunning piece of our cambridge history

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Neil
<i>Last Name</i>	Williams
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	260

Submission/Event: 338

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

James

Last Name

Kay

Organisation

Id

259

Submission/Event: 337

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Shona

Last Name

Besford

Organisation

Id

258

Submission/Event: 336

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Jo

Last Name

Rusling

Organisation

Id

257

Submission/Event: 335

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

While I respect heritage, the initial cost to retain the water tower is too high and no doubt will incur ongoing costs, there are other more necessary and urgent matters that need addressing in the district. eg another bridge. |I'm struggling to understand how it can cost \$800k to remove.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Glenda

Last Name

Whitehead

Organisation

Id

256

Submission/Event: 334

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No, I don't think there's a clear understanding of what cambridge needs or where we're heading. Short term thinking with zero vision.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Marco
<i>Last Name</i>	Van Dam
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	255

Submission/Event: 333

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Iconic heritage structure. Needs to be saved. Turn it into a cambridge tourist attraction.
Could people go into it? Climb to the top?

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Kate
<i>Last Name</i>	Van Dam
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	254

Submission/Event: 332

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Put it up for sale, someone might want to take it on as a project. It would significantly reduce the costs associated with removal i.e. wouldn't cost the council anything and might have some money to go towards a commemorative structure. | If no one is interested in buying it then at least you tried to save some money for other community projects.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Sandra

Last Name

Hurst

Organisation

Id

253

Submission/Event: 331

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

No time to read but keep water tower :) || I think the roads are awesome and everyone needs to stop moaning since they are half funded elsewhere. || The bridge...maybe wasn't so on point but something has to happen about the traffic. || Maybe some lights might be necessary elsewhere or a public parking building

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

No way all of my grandparents and parents have looked over that in their twilight years. I would be really sad to see it go and once it's gone it's gone

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Nikki

Last Name

Mayor

Organisation

Signboss

Id

252

Submission/Event: 330

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

no

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Barry

Last Name

O'Connor

Organisation

Id

251

Submission/Event: 329

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Yes, I think you have got it right. We have great facilities to maintain and projects to complete along with a general increase in costs including salaries.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

I think it would be a shame to lose a structure of this historic nature. I would think there are some different options for restoring the water tower from a financial perspective such as community partnerships, sponsored options, etc. There is an opportunity to repurpose the structure and that could generate an income to help fund the restoration also.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

LesleyAnn

Last Name

Thomas

Organisation

Id

250

Submission/Event: 328

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Fair

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
The water tower is a feature of Cambridge, we need to keep our history which makes Cambridge different from other newly built areas.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Kelly
<i>Last Name</i>	Edwards
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	249

Submission/Event: 327

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Andrew
<i>Last Name</i>	Baker
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	248

Submission/Event: 326

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Yes

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
As sad as it is to say goodbye to the water tower , I've lived here all ny 52 years, it would be wiser to take it down . An idea would be to sell a piece of cambridge history ie the bricks , to residents . Make awesome paths , garden edges , fireplace surroundings.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Kaycee
<i>Last Name</i>	Message
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	247

Submission/Event: 325

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

I don't know if the balance is right, but I appreciate that the decisions are difficult to get right. There are so many people to keep happy, undoubtedly there will be many left unhappy. I believe you are doing your best to strike that balance however. I also think that asking the public directly about some of these decisions is good - the annual plan or long term plan has so much information that most ratepayers are dissuaded from submitting responses. Thanks for trying your best.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

I have selected option two because I believe we need to keep our heritage rather than lose it. Once removed, all we will have is a photo in the museum. My real preference is option (c) - sell it for a dollar and remove the planning restrictions so that it can be retained and repurposed. The landmark therefore can be retained albeit in private ownership.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Shaun

Last Name

Lion-Cachet

Organisation

Id

246

Submission/Event: 324

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

You have the right balance

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Remove it.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Bryan

Last Name

Clements

Organisation

Id

245

Submission/Event: 323

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Brian

Last Name

Prescott

Organisation

Id

244

Submission/Event: 322

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
no you do not. Your spending money on wrong stuff.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
please stop knocking down our heritage. please stop delaying maintenance on projects so that they get to the point of no return. I grew up with the water tower always being here. it is an icon of Cambridge. what are not icons are stupid expensive modern sculptures that actually reflect the sun and blind people as they drive round roundabouts. We were once a nice town with villas and other nice features. we are now road works, dead end streets, useless artwork, and cycle tracks. I agree we have to progress but please be more practical and stop destroying stuff.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Susan
<i>Last Name</i>	Dromgool
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	243

Submission/Event: 321

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Nope. Halt immediately any further cycleway works>| |Increase development fees substantially. That should curb growth that current rate payers have to fund but don't benefit from and if anything receive a negative impact from. | |Open up Hall and Grey st to traffic both ways that should reduce need for costly traffic management systems. | |Push for NZ Transport agency to integrate new on and off ramps for leamington traffic to enter and exit expressway north of golf course. Should push out demand for a third bridge

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Absolutely restore it in a manner that it can have continued use. You are already destroying the soul of Cambridge and structures such as this need to be retained as per Clock Tower and Remembrance Gates.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	David
<i>Last Name</i>	Garmonsway
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	242

Submission/Event: 320

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
The water tower is iconic and known landmark in Cambridge. As it is a heritage listed building it should also be preserved as part of the town's history.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Karen
<i>Last Name</i>	Maxwell
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	241

Submission/Event: 319

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No you dont have the balance right. |Leamington Domain - do not upgrade this in tough times, its perfectly fine for the moment - just fix the rubbish bins!|Waipa Mountain Bike Club - WHY?!?!?!?! This is a special interest group which should be user pays. This is NOT something the community should be funding. |i-Sites- fine to not fund the TA i-Site as it is not such a destination for events/attractions etc. To not fund the Cambridge i-site is extremely short-sighted and comes from a couple of people within council with an axe to grind. Cambridge is a thriving town with a huge amount of visitors each year for events, to visit the Te Awa ride, horse related activites etc - these people need help and advice. The i-site directs people to shops, tourism operators, accommodation, restaurants etc. Get a grip - you are prepared to give a mountain bike club \$11K but not fund something that benefits the WHOLE town

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
STOP the cycleways. they are a nice to have, only when we can afford them - we obviously can not. |STOP wasting money on idealistic transport plans. Get practical - people drive and they need to. For example - 3 new retirement villages in town, OLD PEOPLE DRIVE!!! No extra parks or provision for them. No practical solution to the bridge situation. No mention of on/off ramp to the expressway - while this may be a NZTA issue, the council would be better to spend time on advocating for practical solutions that make the towns peoples lives better.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Fiona
<i>Last Name</i>	Massey
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	240

Submission/Event: 318

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Spend less on flowers and plants deal to the pot holes

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Holly

Last Name

Watson

Organisation

Id

239

Submission/Event: 317

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

I'm writing in support of iSite in Cambridge, and the delightful women who work there. | My wife & I visit this beautiful city once or twice each year to visit our grandchildren, usually staying for a month or two. | Of course once we arrive we have no car and therefore rely on public transportation. That reliance takes us to iSite regularly to refill each of our Bee cards and say hello to the hosts. They also take time to suggest things to do and places to go while we're here. | Thank you for your consideration.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Joseph

Last Name

Gabriel

Organisation

Id

238

Submission/Event: 316

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

No council continues to throw out more land to be developed because it the short term you receive the money , but not thinking about where all the people are going to shop , park there cars , schools etc that costs a lot of money

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Absolutely repair the tower if you continue to destroy the history there is nothing left for future generations sick of this councils not thinking too the future , If the council had more thought into events historically you might not be in the situation with no money now

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Susan

Last Name

Jamieson

Organisation

Id

237

Submission/Event: 315

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Restore it and add to it to make it a great commercial space, something like a restaurant or cafe.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Gwyn

Last Name

Leadbeater-Bailey

Organisation

Id

236

Submission/Event: 314

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Not really - there are still too many projects that could be halted until we are in a better financial position and not looking at massive rate rises.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

This is as you say iconic to Cambridge and a very special structure to the town and its residents - once gone you cannot ever get it back - the majority of people I have spoken to believe that retaining this structure is very important to the community and would much prefer money to be spent on retaining this than many other of the "future" projects like streetscape upgrades!

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Elaine

Last Name

Ruis

Organisation

Id

46

Submission/Event: 313

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Luke
<i>Last Name</i>	Eason
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	235

Submission/Event: 312

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Closing the gate after the horse has bolted. You got on the band wagon just like the Labour Government with spending and now we ratepayers are paying the price. I just hope you have learnt your lesson

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Good luck getting this past the Heritage trust.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Gerda
<i>Last Name</i>	Venter
<i>Organisation</i>	LJ Hooker cambridge
<i>Id</i>	146

Submission/Event: 311

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Don't know.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

This is a landmark that folk use to give directions around Cambridge. As an A1 Heritage \listed buyilding I am not sure if it can be demolished. It is an historical landmark and many folk use it to give directions around town. I want it to stay.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Alison

Last Name

Hucke

Organisation

Rawleighs Health Care Products

Id

234

Submission/Event: 310

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Lee
<i>Last Name</i>	Powell
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	233

Submission/Event: 309

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
It's definitely time for a bit of financial belt-tightening. However unpopular it is.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
I support the removal of the tower if the cost is prohibitive. Need to prioritise spending the money on more important needs.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Elizabeth
<i>Last Name</i>	Fairweather
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	232

Submission/Event: 308

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Emma

Last Name

Michel

Organisation

Id

231

Submission/Event: 307

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Yes, but I liked the suggestion someone made to sell it and allow someone to build a home or office in it.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
As above

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Sarah
<i>Last Name</i>	Dudfield
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	230

Submission/Event: 306

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

I think given the economic situation we should be focusing on spending money on areas of waipa that will make life better for those who live here. Such as cycle paths for children getting to school, new libraries and community facilities. We should not be spending money on fixing things like town clocks and water towers. While they might be nice, what value do they add to the town?

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Carmen

Last Name

Kay

Organisation

Id

229

Submission/Event: 305

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

I walk my dog past the water tower every day,I was always for keeping it,but our council has never done anything to restore it and the smell from birds during summer is disgusting as for the poor people who live right beside in resthaven surely they would like some light in their homes.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Joyce

Last Name

Stubbs

Organisation

Id

228

Submission/Event: 304

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Yes

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
A circle seating area with a center garden constructed from the water tower bricks, also information boards sharing any facts and information regarding the tower as to preserve the history.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Shaun
<i>Last Name</i>	Thomas
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	227

Submission/Event: 303

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Andrew

Last Name

Organisation

Id

345

Submission/Event: 302

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

If the water tower was in immediate danger of falling down it would have done so during the building of Resthaven's Apartment Building. At the beginning of the preparation work there were tons of material dug up and dropped daily into huge containers. I live nearby and the amount of vibration caused was similar to small earthquakes I felt when living in Wellington. My house shook sufficiently that even the wall mounted heating unit vibrated as if it was going to fall off the wall, and all china rattled in the house. I know I am definitely not a structural engineer, but my understanding is that the tower was built by a method that was common in England with the way the bricks were laid. There, they seem to have had towers that are hundreds of years old. I am aware of earthquake risks but how many does Cambridge actually get? In the 50+ years I have lived here, have felt only two of any significance. We may get very minor tremors, that barely make a hanging lightbulb move. The tower is as important to Cambridge as the Church of England and the clock tower. They are landmarks that people remember. Personally I wouldn't mind if the clock actually didn't work, but a monument, and would love to see the top of the water tower tank removed, and fill the water tower with something to strengthen the inner if that is the problem.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Yvonne

Last Name

Lomey

Organisation

Id

226

Submission/Event: 301

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I think you have ballsed up the roading in Kihikihi, and will take any and every opportunity to tell you how abysmal your efforts are regarding that project| |Regarding the Cambridge project it would be good to restore the water tower

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Marcus Gower should resign

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Richard
<i>Last Name</i>	Williams
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	225

Submission/Event: 300

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
As you've mentioned, the water tower is a heritage site and is known as a very special part of Cambridge township. |And yes, the economic climate is dire. |BUT.... once you remove the water tower, you can't put it back. It's gone forever. |And a commemorative structure does nothing to show or tell future generations about the water tower. They need to see it. |See the workmanship, see how high it is, and appreciate it for what it is. |So, in my opinion, the same as the Cambridge Clock Tower is getting a makeover, I also feel the Water Tower should be given the same priviledge and stay. |Yes it costs more, but once it's gone, you can't get it back.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
In my opinion, the same as the Cambridge Clock Tower is getting a makeover, I also feel the Water Tower should be given the same priviledge and stay. |Yes it costs more, but once it's gone, you can't get it back.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Tracy
<i>Last Name</i>	Morgan
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	224

Submission/Event: 299

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Demolish.... | You didn't mention but I read that restoring it will cost \$6 Million Dollars. This is probably an entire years rates from nearly 2000 residents houses. That's a massive expenditure which brings zero benefit to those hard working people who pay those rates... It is not any kind of public attraction which will pay for itself - not ever and because of the trees which surround it visually is largely invisible to passers by.... Time to let it go..

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Perry

Last Name

Shilton

Organisation

Id

223

Submission/Event: 298

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I don't know, but I appreciate the delicate balance. Personally I favour the preservation of existing or historically significant assets with modernization to improve access - such as accessible parking (of which there is far too little in Cambridge and Te Awamutu meaning I do not get to spend much time in town and this lack of access to my local amenities definitely flavours my opinion), rather than prioritizing new projects such as cycleways.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
If we do not prioritize the restoration and ongoing care of unique heritage sites then we lose the charm and character of our area. New things can always be built but there is no do-over once an old thing has been destroyed.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

First Name

Last Name

Organisation

Id

222

Submission/Event: 297

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Sean
<i>Last Name</i>	O'Flynn
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	221

Submission/Event: 295

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Yes

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
There are lots of great cycle path and pedestrian infrastructure that have been constructed and implemented throughout Cambridge, however it is recognized that connectivity to this infrastructure is lacking when connecting from Leamington. | This is particularly recognized at the Shakespeare / Cook Street roundabout, where there is no safe crossing available for school kids to cross Shakespeare street (opposite Vetora). I note that there are a few pedestrian refuge areas installed, however it is noted that this round about is busy and there are limited opportunities for safe crossings. Often I see kids rushing to get across this road in breaks in traffic and it will only take for a child to trip and an accident to happen. A simple pedestrian crossing or traffic light system (like on Victoria Road) would work here. This then would enable kids to safely get across to the high level bridge which then links to the cycleway infrastructure. It should be acknowledged that a large catchment of Cambridge Primary School kids live in Leamington (as it is zoned).

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
https://haveyoursay.waipadc.govt.nz/download_file/139

Stakeholder

First Name	Hannah
Last Name	Osborne
Organisation	
Id	219



Submission/Event: 294

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Yes

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
There are lots of great cycle path and pedestrian infrastructure that have been constructed and implemented throughout Cambridge, however it is recognized that connectivity to this infrastructure is lacking when connecting from Leamington. | | This is particularly recognized at the Shakespeare / Cook Street roundabout, where there is no safe crossing available for school kids to cross Shakespeare street (opposite Vetora). I note that there are a few pedestrian refuge areas installed, however it is noted that this round about is busy and there are limited opportunities for safe crossings. Often I see kids rushing to get across this road in breaks in traffic and it will only take for a child to trip and an accident to happen. A simple pedestrian crossing or traffic light system (like on Victoria Road) would work here. This then would enable kids to safely get across to the high level bridge which then links to the cycleway infrastructure. It should be acknowledged that a large catchment of Cambridge Primary School kids live in Leamington (as it is zoned).

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Marne
<i>Last Name</i>	Lomas
<i>Organisation</i>	Barker & Associates
<i>Id</i>	218

Submission/Event: 293

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

On behalf of the Pirongia MTB Club, thanks for the proposal to provide a small increase to our funding for building mountain bike tracks on Pirongia. We appreciate that this is a significant step for Council in tough economic times and we are grateful for your ongoing support. Investing in the mountain bike park on Pirongia represents a great return for Council, further developing an asset which has a proven economic and recreational benefit for the Waipa District, so this increase will enable us to continue to develop what is already a renowned biking destination.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Adrian

Last Name

Bathgate

Organisation

Pirongia MTB Club

Id

217

Submission/Event: 292

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

The development of the Pirongia Mountainbike Park over the last decade has been extremely beneficial to district. It provides a great natural outdoor experience not only for Mountainbikers but also walkers and runners. |That is why I support the funding increase.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

-

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Steve

Last Name

Thomas

Organisation

Pirongia MTB Club

Id

216

Submission/Event: 291

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I think the rates rise could be higher if that's needed to control debt

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Rich
<i>Last Name</i>	Wylie
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	215

Submission/Event: 290

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Id prefer spending money upgrading this, than on further cycle ways that the majority of us who pay rates do not use as we live out in the rural areas

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Selina
<i>Last Name</i>	Eason
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	56

Submission/Event: 289

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Consideration be given to constructing a scale miniature of the water tower on its existing site, along with an information board outlining its history. I suggest I scale of one in 12 which would suit the original dimensions which were in imperial measurements. Copies of original plans were held by Council on microfiche in the early 2000s so I presume they are still available.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

John

Last Name

Dillon

Organisation

Id

214

Submission/Event: 288

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
In my opinion, the water tower is ugly and not worth spending any money on.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
-

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Barbara
<i>Last Name</i>	Holloway Scott
<i>Organisation</i>	Barbara
<i>Id</i>	213

Submission/Event: 287

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
 Council is making some decisions which are short sighted and appear to making up for mistakes made by Council and staff. || The idea that the policy around 3 Waters suddenly changed in December 2023 without warning is deliberately misleading. With a General Election to be held, it was more than clear that the policy could change. Council should have run an alternative budget incorporating the water infrastructure. || In relation to projects paused and planned, by pausing Te Ara Wai the Council is stalling a great economic opportunity to promote our history through tourism. At the same time Te Ara Rimu is being continued to satisfy a select few, yet will provide little return. The museum currently has a temporary home while it's old home is being strengthened. What is the purpose of strengthening given Te Ara Wai is the long term plan? || All cycleway projects should be halted, they are a nice to have. Some communities don't want them, and we are imposing what is a primarily urban model on a rural district. We are not Hamilton, nor should we strive to be. || Cutting funding for community projects, cuts community connections. Not only this, it also severs another opportunity for economic return, particularly the decision to reduce funding to Hamilton Waikato Tourism.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
 a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 While it would be nice to retain the water tower, there needs to be a discussion on what kind of value maintaining this heritage gives Waipa. || In regards to measuring of outcomes, it is disturbing to read that no measure of the cycleways is taking place given the amount of money council is putting into this. || The target for heritage is quite high and more than the 2 main secondary schools combined. Until there is a co-ordinated strategy for heritage in the wider Waikato, we will struggle to bring in new interest.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 Yes

I have attached additional information
 -

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Brian
<i>Last Name</i>	Winter
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	212

Submission/Event: 286

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

1. No more borrowing| 2. It is time to sack this Council and appoint a Commissioner. Not an ex councillor or MP or Minister.| 3. Continued on separate sheet| 4. This Council would not show balance even if it rose up and smacked it across the face.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

There is nothing special about this tower. It is junk. || The claim that there is some kind of 'Triple Whammy' against this Council is rejected. The issues before us at present can be summarised as a lack of financial prudence, over spending and a staff that has been out of control and allowed to push the council around. In particular, | the previous deputy and current CEO. | The only legitimate explanation for what is happening IS FIRSTLY INCOMPETENCE AMONG WDC Staff and secondly incompetency of the Waipa District Council elected members and various mayors. One of whom has had a 35 year career as a Council staff member and six years as Mayor. | It is reasonable to expect that a person with this experience would take reasonable and prudent care to manage the funds and resources of this council. | All councillors have a legal obligation and the legal standard applicable to act and make decision is reasonable care. I hear THE SONG BY Billy Joel "We Didn't Start the Fire" as I hasten to point out that the elected council campaigned that they would act fairly and they took an oath OF ALLEGIANCE promising to do right by the people. That did not extend to committing future generations to mountains of debt. Further, the public are now learning a lesson that voting for people based on how many grand children or children they have and how many clubs they are a member of are no proper qualification to show good governance conservation of money and sobriety. | We have paid millions of dollars to have long term plans and annual plans only to have these documents ignored by councils. | The finest example is the new museum. It was way down the list and nobody from the public sought to have it elevated and in particular I made sure the Council knew that there was no | proper public support or evidence of need for this yet is was able to jump the queue. Likewise all of the spending at Kaipaki on sports facilities. | These plans are statutory events designed specifically to keep council spending under control and so that continuous plans can be in place to ensure that Council will not be in the position | it is now in. Annual plans were designed to keep the council living within its means. | All of these excesses have come back to bite ratepayers. We have long term councillors who have been asleep at the wheel and most likely asleep in council meetings. Vern Wilson has told me that he has listened to Ken Morris for hours making no sense at all and councillors beside him saying they don't understand what is going on but they go on to vote to give staff | what they want with little regard for the future. | The only reasonable response would be to horse whip those councillors and staff responsible. | Three Waters | Three Waters is not a thing. A few years ago this council tried to join as a minority partner with Hamilton as a way to resolve water issues. Thankfully it did not happen [yet]. This council has always had an obligation to manage the water systems. My understanding is that it was given many millions of dollars by an incompetent Minister to 'join 3 Waters'. It was legally and still is legally bound to provide for future replacement by way of depreciation accounts. Therefore there should be money available now for these replacements. This council need not do anything more than keep on providing water assets and ensuring these are working. It is a 'strategic' and core issue. No extra money is needed as growth as noted below, requires land developers to gift these assets for new subdivisions to Councils. | Growth | As above this is funded by the public. This council is the recipient of funds given to it by population growth. Growth means more money in and a prudent council should not be | spending more than the amount coming in. A new library was not needed it was a 'want' and a 'nice to have'. Growth would mean a queue out the door and we had nowhere near | that at the old library. In fact no Council facility is overloaded with people or over-demanded. The issue of growth here is being used as a scare tactic. The combination of 'growth | related to 3 waters' as stated in the paper is a myth. | Council and staff were all aware that borrowing at low interest rates can only mean that

these will increase over the long term plan. They had no real reason to borrow and other Councils e.g. Otorohanga did not. As I understand things and they are virtually debt free. Growth is a good thing. It means more people spending more money here. Council should be looking that as a way to collect money by way of investing in profit making business and not glamor and vanity projects. Attitude Problem This council talks about "potable" water and other posh names for things. It should be thinking about the basics in basic language. It has an attitude of snobbery and wastefulness. It needs to get back to basics. As many are farmers, they should be talking of taking care of peoples basic needs and therefore words like piss, shit, smelly rubbish, mud disease and slime rather than when is the next catered lunch going to be delivered. Debt The paper says you are \$398.5 million dollars in the hole. More likely \$400 million. When I was on the council it was 19 Million. What the hell happened? What kind of party have you been having and why? You people have been spending other peoples money and that has been at a minimum, reckless. Your staff have made pigs of themselves. I think I read somewhere that your CEO went to work for WDC because he was not good at maths and could not get a job as a cook in the army. Well? His maths has become worse with six zeros after it. He is a poor example of leadership. Again the issue of debt should have been addressed and corrected well before now. Your accountants may be good at keeping tally but they have been hiding the real truth from you. In New Zealand judges must retire at 72 years old for very good reason. Councillors in their eighties have no place at the boardroom table. People in their dotage should not be running the show, again for obvious reasons. This is a time to be cutting back on spending. We are finally seeing this with central government and this council should be drawing a line and saying no more. No more debt, no more wastage and no more staff leaning on shovel handles until they bend. Pie charts The charting showing spending is a lie. Some roads are subsidised by fuel tax. Footpaths have a tiny budget and it is not often used to fix them. Again the 3 waters are blamed. Water is now charged for excessively and Council makes a huge profit out of it. Stormwater and waste water are things the council has always taken a gamble on and it rarely spends on these. New works are paid for by subdividers and gifted to council. Support services are hardly evident. So What has the council paused? A few big ticket items that we could never afford any way and these will be hardly missed. Cambridge Hall, upgrade. Not needed Sports fields — not needed and clubs can raise money for what they want. New pensioner housing. Well if the Te Awamutu flats and the land at Cambridge road were kept then those could have been self funding. Where did the money for those go? There is nothing wrong with the current Cambridge Library. Think about that and be fair on everybody. A museum provoking disharmony over 'Maori' wars is certainly, certainly certainly, did I say certainly???? is not needed. Ever. And it is not affordable. Buying a leased building for that was a huge mistake. AND the public never knew until after it was done. Flagrant waste of public money again. What a joke tis profligate waste is. By the way, Pakeha fought those wars too. Now we live in times of peace and equality. Cambridge is crying out for a new bridge or two. You have had the growth. Where is the money that should have been put aside? More 'internal borrowing'? That could be funded by a toll. Is the balance right? This will not be right until the spending is less than the income and the borrowing is paid back. This council needs to 're-jig' itself and live within its means. There was mention of buying more airport shares. The airport has only ever made a profit when there were flights direct to Australia. The rest of the time it is a lost cause. Cambridge Water Tower This question is a red herring. The Council will have already decided to remove the tower. Relocating it was just stupid. It is not a historic site worthy of anything. If it is unsafe then it has to come down and the Cambridge people who had the benefit of it should pay by way of a special one year rate. Councils tell lies about these things like when they want a velodrome or in the case of Hamilton they want the Founders Theatre gone. Generally this council needs to be seen for once taking austerity measures. The right direction is saving money and borrowing no more. Growth, if any can be funded by development impact fees and reserve contributions. It is a not a cost for current property owners. Let me know when the horse whipping starts. I would be pleased to come and help out.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	James
<i>Last Name</i>	Parlane
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	211

Submission/Event: 285

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I think you got it wrong. Living in Cambridge we are already paying very high rates plus water bills. I believe not many people can afford this many rates hikes and will be forced to leave Waipa.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Harmandip
<i>Last Name</i>	Sandhu
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	210

Submission/Event: 284

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

No you do not have your basic economics correct

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Jane

Last Name

West

Organisation

Id

209

Submission/Event: 283

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No. I am not convinced you have at all and in particular slashing funding to Te Waka, Tourism Waikato, both I-Sites and the District Promotion Fund. All very worthwhile and useful organisations tourist based... |A very short sighted slash and burn approach here. |We promote Waipa as an outdoor sports and tourism based area i.e. income based!!! = ridiculous approach and stance here.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
As an architect and resident of Cambridge, we need to protect and preserve our history and heritage especially a protected building/structure. Also get a current NBS seismic assessment. I have not viewed the Council's high level budget figures on the costings but I would appreciate the opportunity to. I am positive that with a 'healthy' review of these then cost savings are a very realistic expectation. The construction and tender markets are very competitive currently.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Martin
<i>Last Name</i>	Swann
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	336

Submission/Event: 282

Full Response

- 1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-
- 2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 We strongly advocate a reassessment of the proposed 20% reduction in supporting the Hamilton and Waikato Tourism Organisation. Last time funding was cut to our regional tourism organisation (RTO) the results were dramatic and disastrous. Rebuilding the relationships and momentum to the levels the region is now enjoying took years. The Hamilton and Waikato Tourism Organisation has been exceptionally effective in showcasing and promoting our region, and the wide range of services available, to both national and international markets. In doing so, they are supporting hundreds of businesses and thousands of employees that are either directly or indirectly reliant on tourism – including business tourism. Numerous international studies have proven the substantial multiplier effect of relatively small investments in RTOs on overall tourism revenue for the region. This, in turn, provides significant risk mitigation for businesses affected by tourism. It is imperative to view this funding not as an expense, but as an INVESTMENT in our region – our people, our vibrant community, our environment and our economic resilience and prosperity in the fabulous Waikato.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 No

I have attached additional information
 -

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Rhonda
<i>Last Name</i>	Beasley
<i>Organisation</i>	ForumPoint2 Conference Partners
<i>Id</i>	207

Submission/Event: 281

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

The balance is reasonably ok. However, as the LTP has been deferred on short notice, so the funding for the isites should also be rolled over until the LTP submissions are being discussed.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Re Cambridge water tower. I am not a Cambridge resident however the cost to all is too much to attempt restoration. |What is the estimated cost of earthquake strengthening and reinstating the office space and TA Museum in Roche St? |How much money did we get from the Labour Government for 3 Waters? How did we plan to spend this money? How has this been spent? |When will the TA to Kihī cycleway be resurfaced (concrete / bitumen)? Proposed / discussed more than a year ago. |How much has the Te Ara Rimu cycleway project cost? |Kihīkīhi has received a number of 'gentle' road speed bumps as part of the Te Ara Rimu cycleway project. When will Rewi St and Hazelmere get 'gentle' road speed bumps? |How much longer will the TA to Pirongia Cycleway be paused? |Please update Ahu Ake? When will we see increased investment in the West side of Waipa? |The growth in the two towns continues so isites are even more important now to assist both citizens (especially Māori e.g. Rangiaowhia, Ōrakau, our NZ Wars Commemoration 28 October, Te Ara Wai and the Te Wānanga o Aotearoa) and visitors. The long promised Te Ara Wai Discovery Centre has, once again, been paused! I strongly believe it is much more reasonable if the isites funding was reduced by no more than the 20% reduction as is the Hamilton Waikato Tourism funding. |As the LTP has been deferred on short notice, so the funding for the isites should also be rolled over until the LTP submissions are being presented, accepted and discussed.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

Yes

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Tom

Last Name

Davies

Organisation

ratepayer

Id

206

Submission/Event: 280

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

I strongly object to the decision not to fund the Cambridge I-Site. This facility provides numerous extremely valuable services to the Cambridge community. Closure of the I-Site would be a major loss to the community and would lead to a significant decline in visitors and hence revenue to Cambridge. The reputation of Cambridge would also decline significantly. The I-Site cannot be closed.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Michael Patrick

Last Name

O'Driscoll

Organisation

Id

205

Submission/Event: 279

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
With all the recent money spent on cycle way upgrades to me area of town that seems to have been forgotten is Leamington. Currently there is no meaningful connection between Shakespeare street area and the high level bridge. |We have a seven year old that attends Cambridge primary school but the roundabout at the Liquorland end of Shakespeare hardly provides a safe environment for someone his age to cross the road. |I'd love to see some sort of raised crossing or pedestrian crossing between Kingsley street area and the high level crossing

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
There is zero reason to keep a broken down old water tower that is currently blocking the expansion of the old folks home adjacent.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Dion
<i>Last Name</i>	Williams
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	204

Submission/Event: 278

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

The water tower is a landmark building in Cambridge. The cost to strengthen is minimal compared to other items given priority on the Council plan such as footpaths, roads and cycleways. Don't take the easy option to demolish in the interest of saving money, we should do all that we can to preserve our local heritage. Once lost it will be gone forever!

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Anthony

Last Name

Gainsford

Organisation

Id

203

Submission/Event: 277

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Yes.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

There are lots of great cycle path and pedestrian infrastructure that have been constructed and implemented throughout Cambridge, however it is recognized that connectivity to this infrastructure is lacking when connecting from Leamington. | | This is particularly recognized at the Shakespeare / Cook Street roundabout, where there is no safe crossing available for school kids to cross Shakespeare street (opposite Vetora). I note that there are a few pedestrian refuge areas installed, however it is noted that this round about is busy and there are limited opportunities for safe crossings. Often I see kids rushing to get across this road in breaks in traffic and it will only take for a child to trip and an accident to happen. A simple pedestrian crossing or traffic light system (like on Victoria Road) would work here. This then would enable kids to safely get across to the high level bridge which then links to the cycleway infrastructure. It should be acknowledged that a large catchment of Cambridge Primary School kids live in Leamington (as it is zoned).

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Simone
<i>Last Name</i>	Williams
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	202

Submission/Event: 276

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

N/A

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

N/A

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Kay

Last Name

Moore

Organisation

Id

201

Submission/Event: 275

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Rob
<i>Last Name</i>	Watson
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	200

Submission/Event: 274

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Largely, yes.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 Based on social media, there are a disproportionate number of ill-informed, tub-thumping folk in Waipā who want (nay, expect) to be provided with everything....but pay for nothing. ||They gnash their teeth, twitch their curtains and thump their keyboards about (gasp) building safe cycleways for kids for example....but DEMAND (demand I say!) Cambridge's heritage be "protected" and that ratepayers stump up to finance their fetish. ||I note Councillors have already agreed to spend \$721,000 fixing the historical Cambridge clock. \$721,000.....on a clock!!! I'm reminded of the term, dumbstruck. ||So the proposal (surely in jest?) to potentially spend an eye-watering \$6 million to save a dodgy old brick structure with a lean blows my Cambridge rate-paying mind. ||More so when Council has, of necessity, chopped funding to tourism, economic development, local community organisations....when it has said "nope - not right now" to Te Ara Wai, a new Cambridge library, more money to the Cambridge Town Hall, a cycleway, more sports fields and new pensioner housing. ||None of us like seeing heritage decline. In an ideal world we'd keep our weird little water tower, pop it on a postcard, organise walking tours, look up and watch a pigeon poop. And then we'd go and watch our much-lauded historical clock spin around because God knows, at that price, every tick-tock deserves an audience. ||But sadly, this not an ideal world. It is a fiscally challenged world. And much as I would like to see the tower restored, let's get real. ||We can't afford it. More specifically....ratepayers can't afford it. Let's focus on using the finite funds we have to build the future, not ring-fence the past. Cambridge heritage has had a fair lash; in fact there's an argument to say, a greater lash than elsewhere in the district. ||There will be plenty who disagree. They should feel soothed knowing that if the water tower goes, the bells on the restored clock tower will still ring loud enough to remind them on an hourly basis that nothing comes for free. And if they care that much, they could have a go at finding the funds themselves. ||So no....I respectfully submit that at this time, Council not spend \$6 million on restoration of the water tower. ||Absolutely, definitely, not.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 No

I have attached additional information
 -

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Jeanette
<i>Last Name</i>	Tyrrell
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	199

Submission/Event: 273

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No. | Too much non essential expenditure on things that are not utilised by a large proportion of the community. There are many nice to have but non essentials that are becoming simply unaffordable. Many ratepayers being forced to pay for things that they do not use and simply cannot afford.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Ridiculous amounts of money being spent on changes to our roads to try and force people out of their cars. There needs to be a more balanced approach between facilitating changes for those that can take advantage of them, whilst respecting the needs and practicalities of those who cannot.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Leslie
<i>Last Name</i>	Quinn
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	198

Submission/Event: 272

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

No. Rates increases above the quantified limit are not acceptable when your current projects such as changing roads to cater for a cycling minority to the extreme detriment of normal road users in Kihikihi, with claims of adequate consultation carried out when feedback of the local community would suggest otherwise. Your failures in trying to achieve grandiose monuments in the community when the ratepayers just want you to get the basics correct. Admitting when you get it wrong would also help.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

William

Last Name

Ormsby

Organisation

Id

197

Submission/Event: 271

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Angela

Last Name

Barnett

Organisation

Grey Power member

Id

196

Submission/Event: 270

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Anonymous

Last Name

Anonymous

Organisation

Anonymous

Id

127

Submission/Event: 269

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the allocation of funds for various projects, particularly the ongoing Kihikihi cul de sac street project. In the current economic climate, where many residents are struggling to make ends meet, it is unacceptable to continue spending taxpayer money on projects that do not serve the best interests of the community. | |The decision to prioritize the Kihikihi cul de sac street project, despite existing dissatisfaction among residents, reflects a disconnect between the council and the people it serves. It is evident that such projects do not align with the immediate needs and priorities of our community. | |I urge the council to engage in open dialogue with residents and consider their input before making decisions that affect us all. Transparency and accountability are essential in ensuring that taxpayer money is used wisely and effectively. | |It is time to stop wasting resources on projects that lack support and significance, and instead focus on initiatives that will truly benefit the community as a whole.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Olga
<i>Last Name</i>	Kravchenko
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	195

Submission/Event: 267

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Times are tough. I acknowledge reducing the value of grant funds will significantly impact community groups. |How else can Waipa DC enable volunteer capability? Could you use Volunteer Waikato to recruit and upskill local community committees?

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Sharon
<i>Last Name</i>	Cousins
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	193

Submission/Event: 266

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

Poor effort. You are still spending more than your income. You would not run your household budget like this. | There should be nothing other than basic services and maintenance. All vanity projects, even those already being implemented should be canned until such time as there is no debt and the books balance. | Ratepayers are not an ATM you can keep taking money from.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Leave it alone till the budget balances and then ask what to do with it.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Geoff

Last Name

Boxell

Organisation

Id

192

Submission/Event: 265

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
 There is extensive media coverage over New Zealands aging population, it was on the 6 o'clock news again last week. Currently 17% of our population (842,000 people) are over 65 and we will have over 1 million people over 65 by 2028. (Source: <https://www.stats.govt.nz/news/one-million-people-aged-65-by-2028/>). | | In my mind, it is incomprehensible to pause construction on new pensioner housing when our aged population is increasing every single year. The opposite should be happening - we should be building double of what is in the pipeline! Our pensioners have paid their rates to Waipa District Council their whole lives and they have earned the right to have assistance in affordable housing once retired. | | How can the council say they will progress with earthquake strengthening of the office space and TA museum building on Roche Street and finishing a cycleway but not build houses for the elderly and vulnerable? I feel morally and ethically we do need to do more for our elderly. Thank you.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
 a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 -

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 No

I have attached additional information
 -

Stakeholder

First Name	Shona
Last Name	Efremoff
Organisation	
Id	128

Submission/Event: 264

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Kihikihi tower was removed without consultation with iwi and residents so why is Cambridge any different

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Julie
<i>Last Name</i>	Lockey
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	191

Submission/Event: 263

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
 No, the cycle paths have been a complete waste of money and have actually caused more hazards than what they were proposed to curb. Would have been cheaper to build a sky bridge for the kids to cross or a tunnel under if it was truly about safety of the kids biking to school. Just a search through the community pages of Te Awamutu, Cambridge, and Kihikihi that show residents frustrations including pictures with descriptions. They are also not feeling heard. || Cost of living is through the roof and yet council seems to be spending frivolously on aesthetic projects, rather than addressing the issues needing addressed; such as actually fixing the reoccurring pot holes, new schools in Te Awamutu area as well as medical facilities, help with police the increasing crime due to poverty. There is an initiative to push us more towards public transport but the state of safety using it is a concern. || The rise of rates increasing is pushing people out of their homes that have lived here for generations, as it is driving rental prices up as well as rates. Due to the cost of living crisis people are choosing between paying their power bills or feeding their children. Meanwhile council wants more money to keep up with the Joneses. Long time residents are being forced to move as they can no longer afford to live in the area. A community is only as strong as their most vulnerable citizens. || Why is there not more of an incentive to preserve our heritage buildings? We are a relatively young country and yet since the 60's in Te Awamutu in particular seems to pull down its heritage. This is including zoning that is ripping out a lot of large orders homes to make way for small compact town houses. Being from overseas I know what problems condescend housing brings. We are in no way set to handle the ramifications this path is taking.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
 -

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 Why would removal be your preferred action

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 Yes

I have attached additional information
 -

Stakeholder

First Name	Kira
Last Name	Krieg
Organisation	
Id	190

Submission/Event: 262

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Kihikihis bike way is a waste of money could of upgraded the park rather then move and paint the exsisting playground.to much traffic up the main street need another pedestrian

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
-

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Eion
<i>Last Name</i>	Paton
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	189

Submission/Event: 261

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
 NO YOU DO NOT HAVE THE BALANCE RIGHT | Saving \$50,000 by no longer funding Te Waka: Waikato’s Regional Economic|Development Agency. | Brilliant idea! | Reducing Council discretionary grant funding. | Brilliant! | Bad idea! | No longer providing a Community Events Fund. | Is ANZAC day included? We need this and Armistice Day. Also Christmas Parade is needed. | This all brings the community together. | However this is great you won't be funding the cycle race through Cambridge. | Bad Idea! | No longer funding the Cambridge and Te Awamutu iSites. These sites provide integral information for the community and visitors, especially overseas visitors. Cambridge site also has the tokens for the public showers. For those who do not have the internet, bookings can be made for Intercity buses and Hobbiton and other local activities. | They also give information for hiking up Mangatautiri hill which recently a group from Tauranga enquired about, the map and information they had, did not include the, Ruth gave the man the knowledge needed and marked the map. | Do NOT increase \$1,080 to a total of \$11,080 for the Waipā Mountain Bike Club, either keep it as it is or DO NOT fund at all. | Brilliant! | Reducing funding to Hamilton Waikato Tourism from \$183,379 to \$146,703. Why do we do this??

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
 b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
 A sign would be good to give the history including Blackie the horse who was integral for carrying the bricks. | There is no risk to public health and safety. | It is not weak it has survived recent earthquakes and the cyclone and tornados. | If regular maintenance was done the cost would be low.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
 No

I have attached additional information
 -

Stakeholder

First Name	Tania
Last Name	Cochrane
Organisation	
Id	140

Submission/Event: 260

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No you do not have a balance right. This is the biggest rates increase we would have ever faced since living here and to propose it in such a tough time. Stop the planning for the future and stick with the urgent maintenance work.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Do the cheapest options

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Ruby
<i>Last Name</i>	McPhail
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	188

Submission/Event: 259

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
I think with increasing costs for all things infrastructure going back to doing the basics and doing them well is key.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Emma
<i>Last Name</i>	Good
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	187

Submission/Event: 258

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
The significant rise in Rates show the lack of foresight (or omittance) in Council decision making regarding population growth and infrastructure requirement costs. This data was available years ago in the 10 year plan and seems is not being accounted for accordingly in advance. The very people who are working desperately to keep our region thriving, are the ones who ultimately have everything to lose. I do not believe the balance is right for neither past nor present Council members who are trusted to supposedly represent us in achieving better outcomes have the capability to do so and this is unacceptable.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
Think of the people you are paid to represent in every single decision made, as opposed to maintaining an amateur band-aid approach that will never achieve success in sustainability for our region.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	R
<i>Last Name</i>	Richards
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	186

Submission/Event: 257

Full Response

- 1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
-

- 2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
-

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
I would like to make comments of the fees and charges for the Waipa District Libraries. The increases do not make sense for printing, photocopying and scanning in particular. Many of these charges that are suggested are for 5cents. We as staff will have a hard time explaining these charges as we frequently have people paying in cash and 5 cents is not legal tender. It will be awkward to calculate customers charges and our banking will always be out. It would be better if the charges are either rounded up or down. I suggest lowering price on photocopying as 50cents is really very steep.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Hilary
<i>Last Name</i>	Collinge
<i>Organisation</i>	Te Awamutu Library Staff member
<i>Id</i>	185

Submission/Event: 255

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
No. Stop the cycle path in Cambridge and the absolute debacle of Hamilton road.
Humps..unecessary.. bollards stop people pulling over and enjoying the park by Resthaven as there is no parking. Bryce is a disaster and also waste of \$\$\$\$. Stop the Leamington domain redo. Not an essential when people can't afford groceries. A nice to have. Also cannot believe funding cut to Lsite..this is essential to Cambridge as a destination. Take the \$ from Leamington playground plan and fund them!!! Change the clock to a digital with traditional clock face that doesn't require servicing by a German company. |Cancel.the ridiculous bridge plan to plop it in Bryce etc. We need a bridge to bypass Cambridge. Commuter traffic etc away from CBD. ..not add to current gridlock. People from Leamington will use lower level bridge.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
b) Option Two: Restore the Cambridge Water Tower

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Sue
<i>Last Name</i>	Hazlewood
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	183

Submission/Event: 254

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Yes, the balance seems to be right.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
The tower is too close to where people live, even if it was strengthened it does not guarantee the building would not collapse onto the residences. Demolish the tower.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Dawn
<i>Last Name</i>	Harpur
<i>Organisation</i>	
<i>Id</i>	182

Submission/Event: 253

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

I think in these uncertain times the tower should be demolished and the bricks kept for another use , maybe for some enhancement on a new cycleway , which by the way is great all the new cycleways

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Greg

Last Name

Harris

Organisation

Id

181

Submission/Event: 251

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?

No, stop cycle ways and footpaths for now. Sell off some Council land. There is some dead money lying there. Assess what can be sold to cover debt. May we know what the money has been spent on that Labour gave Council to "buy into" the 3 waters debacle

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?

a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

-

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:

No

I have attached additional information

-

Stakeholder

First Name

Gerda

Last Name

Venter

Organisation

LJ Hooker cambridge

Id

146

Submission/Event: 250

Full Response

1. What do you think? Do we have the balance right?
Seems to be a balanced approach, more consideration could be given to cuts. For example:
HWT funding reduced, community board funding cut, staff cuts etc.

2. Should we demolish the Cambridge Water Tower?
a) Option One: (preferred) Remove the Cambridge Water Tower.

Are there any further comments you would like to make?
It may have a heritage overlay but it's an eyesore - get rid of it.

I wish to present my submission verbally to a public Council hearing:
No

I have attached additional information
-

Stakeholder

<i>First Name</i>	Anonymous
<i>Last Name</i>	Anonymous
<i>Organisation</i>	Anonymous
<i>Id</i>	127