



KAWERAU DISTRICT COUNCIL

Te Kaunihera ā rohe o Kawerau

TAONGA O TE WHENUA - TREASURE OF THE LAND

**The Extraordinary Meeting of the
Kawerau District Council will be
held on Wednesday 4 June 2025
commencing at 9.00am**

A G E N D A

GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC FORUM AT MEETINGS

1. A period of thirty minutes is set aside for a public forum at the start of each Ordinary Council or Standing Committee meeting, which is open to the public. This period may be extended on by a vote by members.
2. Speakers may address meetings on any subject. However, issues raised must not include those subject to legal consideration, or be issues, which are confidential, personal, or the subject of a formal hearing.
3. Each speaker during the public forum is permitted to speak for a maximum of three minutes. However, the Chairperson has the discretion to extend the speaking time.
4. Standing Orders are suspended for the duration of the public forum.
5. Council and Committees, at the conclusion of the public forum, may decide to take appropriate action on any of the issues raised.
6. With the permission of the Chairperson, members may ask questions of speakers during the period reserved for public forum. Questions by members are to be confined to obtaining information or clarification on matters raised by the speaker.

**The Extraordinary Meeting of the Kawerau District Council
will be held on Wednesday 4 June 2025
in the Council Chambers commencing at 9.00am**

A G E N D A

1 Karakia Timatanga | Opening Prayer

2 Apologies

3 Leave of Absence

4 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Any member having a “conflict of interest” with an item on the Agenda should declare it, and when that item is being considered, abstain from any discussion or voting. The member may wish to remove themselves from the meeting while the item is being considered.

5 Meeting Notices

6 Nga Mihimihi | Acknowledgements

7 Public Forum

8 Confirmation of Council’s Preferred Options for the Mahere Iwa Tau | Long Term Plan 2025-2034 (Chief Executive Officer) (110555)

Pgs. 1 – 7

Attached is a report from the Chief Executive Officer covering the Confirmation of Council’s Preferred Options for the Mahere Iwa Tau | Long Term Plan 2025-2034.

Recommendations

1. *That the report “Confirmation of Council’s Preferred Options for the Mahere Iwa Tau | Long Term Plan 2025-2034” be received;*
2. *That the Council confirms the Long Term Plan 2025-2034 is finalised based on the strategies, supporting policies, performance framework and assumptions as adopted for the Long Term Plan Consultation Document;*
3. *That Council resolves for the Timeframe to Transition to targeted water and wastewater rates (as per consultation topic one of the Long Term Plan Consultation Document) is:*
 - i. *Option 1 – 9 year transition*
OR
 - ii. *Option 2 – 5 year transition*

4. *That Council resolves for the Funding of Depreciation for strategic assets (roading, water and wastewater networks and infrastructure) as per consultation topic two of the Long Term Plan Consultation Document is:*

- i. Option 1 – Remain at 65% funding levels in 2025-2026 (and then increase 3% each year for the next 12 years).*

OR

- ii. Option 2 – Increase funding to 70% in 2025-2026 an addition 0.8% increase of 9.3% overall rates increase (and then continue to increase funding by 5% each year until 2031-2032).*

5. *That Council resolves for consultation topic three of the Long Term Plan 2025-2034 to:*

- i. Proceed with concept plans budgeted at \$60,000 in year two 2026-2027 for a Community Library and Research Centre.*

OR

- iii. Incorporate the \$60,000 budget for concept plans for a Community Library and Research Centre into the next Long Term Plan in 2027-2028.*

9 Karakia Whakamutunga | Closing Prayer

M Godfery

Chief Executive Officer

\\kdccv\Working\KDC Taxonomy\Governance\Democratic Services\Meetings\Extraordinary Council\Agenda's\Extraordinary 2025.06.04.docx

Meeting: Extraordinary Council

Meeting Date: 4 June 2025

Subject: Confirmation of Council's Preferred Options for the Mahere Iwa Tau | Long Term Plan 2025-2034

File No.: 110555

1 Purpose

Following the receipt of submissions at the hearing and deliberations, the purpose of this report is for Council to confirm the preferred options for the Mahere Iwa Tau | Long Term Plan 2025-2034.

2 Background

Council is progressing a Long Term Plan for a nine-year period. Council resolved on 20 March 2024 to proceed with an enhanced annual plan for 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 due to the coalition government's Local Water Done Well reforms, in particular the Water Services Acts Repeal Act 2024.

At an Extraordinary Council meeting on 9 April 2025 Council adopted the draft Consultation Document and supporting documents and policies for the Mahere Iwa Tau | Long Term Plan 2025-2034. The special consultative procedure commenced on 11 April and closed at 5pm on Monday, 12 May 2025.

A total of 23 submissions were received and tabled at the Hearing on Wednesday 28 May 2025. Two submitters - Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Sport Bay of Plenty – spoke to their submissions.

Council wishes to thank Eastern Bay of Plenty General Constituency Councillor and former Mayor of Kawerau Malcolm Campbell as well as Sport Bay of Plenty General Manager Strategic Partnerships Larrissa Cuff and Locally-Led Advisor Devena Ruwhiu-Edmonds for presenting their submissions to the Mayor and Elected Members.

The Mahere Iwa Tau | Long Term Plan 2025-2034 is scheduled for adoption at the Council Meeting on 25 June 2025.

3 Significance and Engagement

Council completed a comprehensive consultation and engagement process utilising mixed modes of communications, a variety of Council communication channels, and regional and local media.

Council provided a number of opportunities for face-to-face (kanohi-ki-te-kanohi) engagement with the community at stakeholder, organisation, and public meetings. Council wishes to acknowledge and thank Grey Power Kawerau and Districts; Industrial Symbiosis Kawerau (ISK), Rautahi Marae, and the Kawerau Markets for hosting and/or supporting Council's engagement process.

Council also acknowledges and thanks the representatives who attended the Council-led and ISK-led business forums, and members of the community who attended public meetings. Thank you all for your support and your time to attend, ask questions, give feedback, and to discuss your ideas.

Council prepared a Comprehensive Consultation Document that underwent auditing by Audit New Zealand as part of the Long Term Plan 2025-2034 background documents and information process. Council also prepared a Summary Consultation Document (comprising an A3-folded flyer) that was distributed to every household in the District. This provided a summary of the proposals for the nine-year long term plan, outlined the achievements, future plans, and proposed rates.

Supplementary information, including the comprehensive consultation document has been made available via the website and provided via regular updates on social media (Facebook and Instagram) and in the Council Pānui, in advertisements in the Beacon newspaper, the Echo and Eastern Bay radio stations. The comprehensive and summary consultation documents are also attached to this report.

Process for engagement and availability of consultation material

Communication regarding the special consultative period, and engagement events for the Long Term Plan commenced in March 2025 via:

- Engagement meeting dates advertised in the Council Pānui on 20 March;
- Engagement meeting dates were advertised in the Echo and Beacon in late March and April 2025;
- Summary consultation document delivered to all residential households in the District during the first week of the consultation period from 11 May;
- Long Term Plan 2025-2034 Comprehensive Consultation Document was printed and available at meetings, in the Council office, district library and i-Site;
- Website pages developed and relevant documents available to view, including the submission form;
- Council's Pānui 17 April (online) contained a summary of the Long Term Plan 2025-2034;
- Council received submissions via all mediums.

Engagement meetings and events comprised a number of internal (staff) briefings, followed by external events with Council's valued stakeholders and community members:

- 1 April, 2 April and 3 April – Council staff engagement meetings with the Three Waters team, Council office staff, and the Operations team;
- 11 April - Grey Power Kawerau and Districts Meeting (attended by approx. 50 people).
- 14 April – Industrial Symbiosis Kawerau (ISK) hosted hui with industry and business leaders.
- 15 April – Kawerau business forum hosted by Council at the Concert Chamber (attended by approx. 30 people).
- 15 April – 5:15pm evening meeting for the public at Concert Chamber (attended by approx. 4 people).
- 17 April – Morning meeting for the public at Rautahi Marae (attended by approx. 6 people).
- 8 May – Drop in session at the Kawerau Market, Circus Paddock.

Council wishes to acknowledge the support of Council Iwi Liaison and Cultural Advisor Te Haukākawa Te Rire, the community and organisations who attended the meetings and the support of the Mayor and Councillors, Chief Executive, Senior Leadership team and staff.

The number of submissions at 23 is considerably lower than in the previous year's enhanced Annual Plan 2024-25 which received 59 submissions. There were eight submissions received from the community to the Annual Plan 2023-2024.

4 **Consideration of Submission Topics**

The special consultative and engagement process focused on the specific consultation matters within the Mahere Iwa Tau | Long Term Plan 2025-2034 Consultation Document.

Feedback was sought on the three consultation topics within the Long Term Plan and has been received on these questions and a range of other topics. The submitters' preferences are summarised below.

Council asked the community for feedback on the following consultation topics:

- 1. Topic 1: Moving to targeted water and wastewater rates** to fund the total delivery of water and wastewater services to the community. Overall, the total rate take remains the same, but changes to targeted rates will impact individual ratepayers differently.

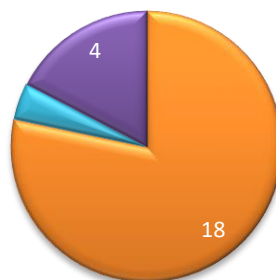
Option 1 (Council's preferred option) is a gradual increase over nine years to minimise the impact on lower value properties.

Note: the majority of submitters (18 of 23 submissions) supported Council's preferred option 1.

Option 2 (the alternative option) is to move to targeted water and wastewater rates over a faster, five-year period, which will mean higher increases in rates for lower value properties.

Note: Only one submitter preferred option 2.

Topic 1: Timeframe to transition to targeted water and wastewater rates (as part of Local Water Done Well)



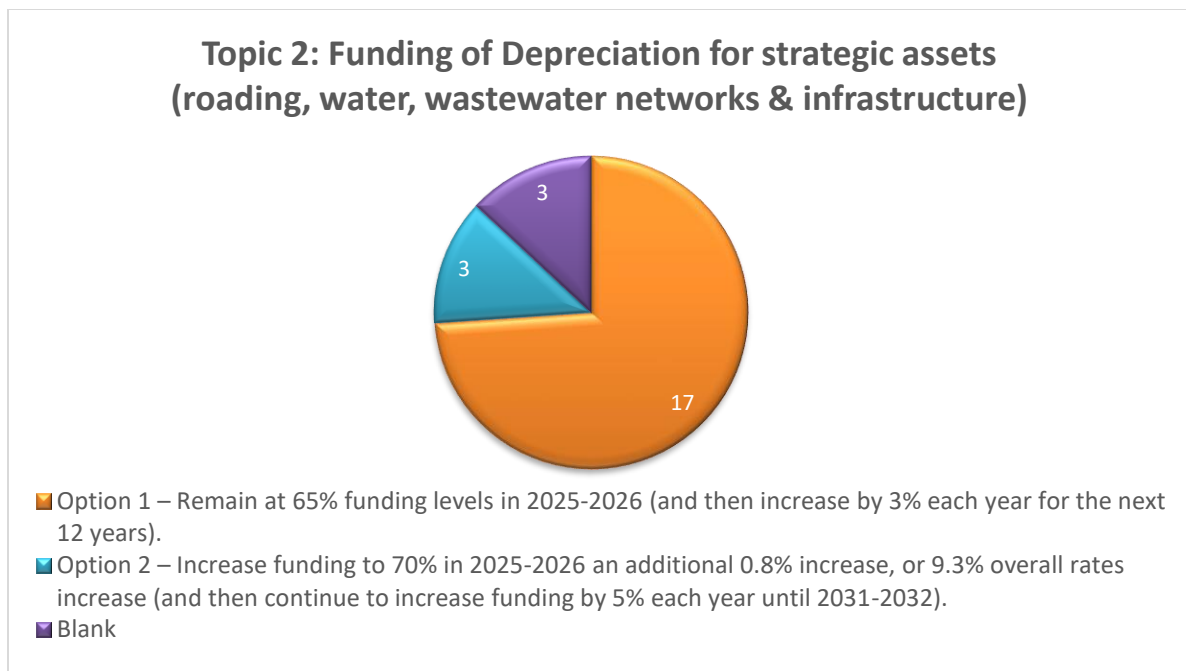
Option 1 - 9 year transition Option 2 - 5 year transition Blank

Topic 1 key feedback: Happy with the gradual transition; Will help to reduce the financial pressure over a longer time period

2. Topic 2: Funding of Depreciation: *Depreciation is the funding for the future renewals of strategic assets comprising water, wastewater and roading assets and infrastructure).*

Option 1 (Council's preferred option) is to retain 65% funding of depreciation of strategic assets in the coming year 2025-2026 and then increase funding by 3% each year after (for 12 years) until depreciation is fully funded 100% (for strategic assets). *Note: The majority of submitters (17 of 23) supported Option 1.*

Option 2 The alternative option to increase funding for depreciation by 5% to 70% for strategic assets in year one 2025-26, then continue increasing funding by 5% each year for seven years back to 100%. This would increase the rates in 2025-26 by 0.8% or \$119,280. *Note: Three submitters supported option 2.*



Topic 2 feedback received: Option 1 helps ease the burden of rates; Council can revisit once the economic climate improves.

3. Topic 3: Planning for the Future: *Council proposes investigating and developing concept plans for a Community Library and Research Centre.*

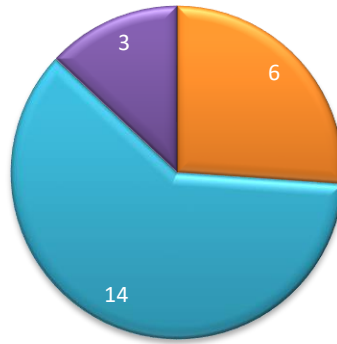
Option 1 Council proposes to invest \$60,000 in year two 2026-2027 to develop concept plans. Council aims to seek external funding to assist with delivery of the project.

Note: Six submitters supported progressing in year two.

Option 2 was to delay the investigations into the Community Library and Research Centre until the next Long Term Plan in 2027-28. This Long Term Plan is only two years away.

Note: The majority (14) submitters supported delaying the investigations until the next Long Term Plan in 2027-28.

Topic 3: Planning for the future



- Option 1 – Budget \$60,000 in year two 2026-2027 to investigate and develop plans for a Community Library and Research Centre.
- Option 2 – Delay the investigations into the Community Library and Research Centre until the next Long Term Plan in 2027-2028
- Blank

Topic 3 feedback received:

- *More digital resources will be great for the aging community*
- *The research centre would make this town more accessible*
- *Delay to ease financial burden*
- *Fix up everything else that has not been fixed e.g. the former stock pound*

Other Feedback and comments

Council also received feedback on several other points including:

- *Trial late nights at the pools e.g. open pools from 12 noon – 8pm at least once or twice a week*
- *Relocate the Kawerau markets back to the town centre*
- *Provide more opportunities for children to play in Kawerau*
- *Re-instate the Seniors' Forum*
- *Have an investment strategy where depreciation could be interest bearing*

Council Discussions to Date (on additional feedback received):

At the Ordinary Council meeting of 28 May 2025 Elected Members discussed, in addressing the additional feedback, the following points. The Chief Executive Officer will ensure these points are incorporated into the individual responses to the relevant submitters:

- *Pool opening hours:* a work programme will commence shortly to investigate operational aspects of the Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre (i.e., entry charges, opening hours, further utilisation of land and facilities, etc). This was resolved as part of the Aquatic Centre's statutory s17a review.
- *Request to relocate the Kawerau Markets:* this request was made in 2024, and then withdrawn by the market committee. Communication will continue regarding the location of the fortnightly markets.

- Council is considering reinstating a *representative forum* (such as the Seniors' Forum) and further contact with the community will be made to seek interest from all groups and organisations to set up a new forum *and* Terms of Reference.
- *Ron Hardie Recreational Centre* is being revisited, with essential maintenance undertaken, along with other areas of community recreation with support from community and regional organisations.
- Council has reviewed the Investment Policy and Financing Strategy in conjunction with the Long Term Plan 2025-2034. Council aims to maximise *interest on all financial investments*.

Long Term Plan Supporting Documentation

Feedback on the Long Term Plan supporting financial documents (listed below) was also sought as part of the process. There was no specific feedback about the following documents and policies comprising:

- Draft Significant Forecasting Assumptions
- Draft Performance Management Framework
- Draft Financial Strategy (2025-2034)
- Draft Infrastructure Strategy (2025-2034)
- Draft Revenue and Financing Policy
- Draft Financial Contributions Policy
- Draft Significance and Engagement Policy

5 Financial Considerations

The Mahere Iwa Tau | Long Term Plan 2025-2034 for 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2034 sets the budget for the services, operations and projects for the years ahead and outlines how these will be funded.

6 Timeline of Mahere Iwa Tau | Long Term Plan 2025-2034

9 April 2025	Council adopts Long Term Plan 2025-2034 Draft Consultation Document and Policies
11 April–12 May 25	Special Consultative Procedure commences and closes
28 May 2025	Council Meeting: Hearing and Receipt of Submissions
4 June 2025	Extra Ordinary Meeting: Council Confirms Preferred Options for the Long Term Plan 2025-2034
26 May – 16 June	Audit of Long Term Plan 2025-2034
26 May – 16 June	Audit recommendations are implemented into Long Term Plan 2025-2034 financial model and full document
16-20 June 2025	Audit New Zealand 'Hot Review' of Long Term Plan 2025-2034 by Office of the Auditor-General
25 June 2025	Council Meeting: Adoption of the Long Term Plan 2025-2034 (statutory deadline to adopt is 30 June 2025)
1 July onwards	Council responds to all submitters following adoption

7 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the report “Confirmation of Council’s Preferred Options for the Mahere Iwa Tau | Long Term Plan 2025-2034” be received.
2. That the Council confirms the Long Term Plan 2025-2034 is finalised based on the strategies, supporting policies, performance framework and assumptions as adopted for the Long Term Plan Consultation Document.
3. That the Council resolves for the Timeframe to Transition to targeted water and wastewater rates (as per consultation topic one of the Long Term Plan Consultation Document) is:
 - i. Option 1 – 9 year transition
 OR
 - ii. Option 2 – 5 year transition
4. That Council resolves for the Funding of Depreciation for strategic assets (roading, water and wastewater networks and infrastructure) as per consultation topic two of the Long Term Plan Consultation Document is:
 - i. Option 1 – Remain at 65% funding levels in 2025-2026 (and then increase 3% each year for the next 12 years).
 OR
 - ii. Option 2 – Increase funding to 70% in 2025-2026 an addition 0.8% increase of 9.3% overall rates increase (and then continue to increase funding by 5% each year until 2031-2032).
5. That Council resolves for consultation topic three of the Long Term Plan 2025-2034 to:
 - i. Proceed with concept plans budgeted at \$60,000 in year two 2026-2027 for a Community Library and Research Centre.
 OR
 - iii. Incorporate the \$60,000 budget for concept plans for a Community Library and Research Centre into the next Long Term Plan in 2027-2028.



Morgan Godfery

Chief Executive Officer

z:\kdc\taxonomy\governance\democratic services\meetings\extraordinary council\reports\confirmation of councils preferred options for the mahere iwa tau | long term plan 2025-2034 | mg final.docx