

01-15-228
RDC-1138160

Kaupapataka Agenda

NOTICE OF AN ORDINARY MEETING FOR THE STRATEGY, POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date: Thursday 10 June 2021**Time:** 9.30am**Venue:** Council Chamber

MEMBERSHIP

Chair

Cr Raukawa-Tait

Deputy Chair

Cr Kai Fong

Members

Mayor Chadwick

Cr Bentley

Cr Donaldson

Cr Kumar

Cr Macpherson

Cr Maxwell

Cr Tapsell

Cr Wang

Cr Yates

Mr Thomass (Lakes Community Board member)

Mrs Trumper (Rural Community Board member)

Mr Biasiny-Tule (Te Tatau o Te Arawa Board Member)

Mr Berryman-Kamp (Te Tatau o Te Arawa Board Member)

Quorum**8**

STRATEGY, POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE DELEGATIONS

Type of Committee	Committee
Subordinate to	Council
Subordinate Committees	n/a
Legislative Basis	Schedule 7, clause 30 (1) (a), Local Government Act 2002.
Purpose	The purpose of the Strategy, Policy and Finance Committee is to have oversight and make recommendations to the Council on the adoption and development of all Council's strategic, policy, planning and regulatory frameworks.
Reference	01-15-228
Membership	<p>Councillor Raukawa-Tait (Chair) Councillor Kai Fong(Deputy Chair)</p> <p>The Mayor and all councillors 2 Te Tatau o Te Arawa members 1 Lakes Community Board member 1 Rural Community Board member</p> <p>Full voting rights for all members</p>
Quorum	8
Meeting frequency	Monthly
Delegations	<p>The Committee's function is recommendatory only.¹ It is authorised to take actions precedent to the exercise by the Council of its statutory responsibilities, duties and powers, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receiving, considering, hearing submissions and making recommendations on draft plans (except the District Plan), strategies and policies (such as the Long-term Plan, Annual Plan; funding and financial policies; reserves management plans and asset management plans); • Considering and making recommendations on the development of the Council's rating policy; financial strategy and budgets; • Considering and making recommendations on the development of Council bylaws, including hearing submissions in relation to making, amending and revoking bylaws; • Considering and making recommendations on Council's strategic direction to ensure efficient and effective delivery of Council's objectives and District Vision; • Receiving and considering reports from working/strategy groups; • Considering and making recommendations on the development of guidelines for decision making to assist Council in achieving its strategic outcomes; • Considering and making recommendations on the establishment of levels of service across Council services to ensure alignment with strategic goals and priorities; • Considering and making recommendations on the development of Treasury and funding functions; • Considering and making recommendations on proposals for the establishment of Council controlled organisations (including the appointment and remuneration of Directors, formation of constitutions and shareholder agreements);

¹ Council is authorised to delegate anything precedent to the exercise of Council's powers, duties and functions - Schedule 7, clause 32, Local Government Act 2002

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considering and making recommendations on proposals for the sale and purchase of land; • Considering and making recommendations on issues relating to Council leases; • Considering and making recommendations on draft Council submissions/responses in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Central government policies, plans and proposed legislative reform; ○ Proposals by other organisations/authorities (Local and Regional). • Performing such other functions as the Council may direct from time to time.²
Relevant Statutes	All the duties and responsibilities listed above must be carried out in accordance with the relevant legislation.
Limits to Delegations	<p>The Committee does not have the delegated authority to make decisions for and on behalf of the Council. All matters requiring a decision of Council must be referred, by way of recommendation, to the Council for final consideration and determination.</p> <p>In the event that the Council resolves not to approve or adopt a Committee recommendation, the item shall be returned to the Committee via the Chief Executive for review and subsequent referral to the Council for further consideration and determination.</p>

² A committee is subject in all things to the control of the local authority, and must carry out all general and special directions of the Council given in relation to the committee - see Schedule 7, clause 30(3), Local Government Act 2002.

Order of Business

1	Opening Karakia - Karakia Whakapuaki.....	5
2	Apologies - Ngā Whakapāha	5
3	Declarations of Interest - Whakapuakitanga Whaipānga	5
4	Urgent Items not on the Agenda - Ngā Take Whawhati tata kāore i te Rārangi Take .	5
5	Confirmation of Minutes – Te whakaū i ngā Meneti	6
5.1	Strategy, Policy and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes 13 May 2021	6
5.2	Strategy, Policy and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes 17 & 18 May 2021	11
6	Staff Reports – Pūrongo Kaimahi.....	29
6.1	Speed Limit Bylaw 2021 – Changes to Speed Limits	29
6.2	Rates Remission for Significant Natural Areas	39
6.3	Long- Term Plan 2021-31 – Approve Community Performance Measures.....	50

1 Opening Karakia - Karakia Whakapuaki

2 Apologies - Ngā Whakapāha

The Chairperson invites notice from members of:

1. Leave of absence for future meetings of the Rotorua Lakes Council; or
2. Apologies, including apologies for lateness and early departure from the meeting, where leave of absence has not previously been granted.

3 Declarations of Interest - Whakapuakitanga Whaipānga

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

4 Urgent Items not on the Agenda - Ngā Take Whawhati tata kāore i te Rārangi Take

Items of business not on the agenda which cannot be delayed

The Chairperson will give notice of items not on the agenda as follows:

Matters Requiring Urgent Attention as Determined by Resolution of Rotorua Lakes Council

The Chairperson shall state to the meeting:-

1. The reason why the item is not on the agenda; and
2. The reason why discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

The item may be allowed onto the agenda by resolution of the Rotorua Lakes Council.

s.46A (7), LGOIMA

Discussion of minor matters not on the agenda.

Minor Matters relating to the General Business of the Rotorua Lakes Council.

The Chairperson shall state to the meeting that the item will be discussed, but no resolution, decision, or recommendation may be made in respect of the item except to refer it to a subsequent meeting of the Rotorua Lakes Council for further discussion

s.46A (7), LGOIMA

5 Confirmation of Minutes – Te whakaū i ngā Meneti

5.1 Strategy, Policy and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes 13 May 2021

01-15-228
RDC-1132038

Minutes

**Strategy, Policy & Finance Committee meeting
held Thursday, 13 May 2021 at 9:30am
Council Chamber, Rotorua Lakes Council**

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cr Raukawa-Tait (Chair)
Cr Kai Fong (Deputy Chair), Mayor Chadwick, Cr Bentley, Cr Donaldson, Cr Kumar, Cr Macpherson, Cr Maxwell, Cr Tapsell, Cr Wang, Cr Yates, Mr Berryman-Kamp (Te Tatau o Te Arawa), Mr Thomass (Lakes Community Board) and Mrs Trumper (Rural Community Board).
- APOLOGIES:** Mr Potaua Biasiny-Tule (Te Tatau o Te Arawa)
- STAFF PRESENT:** G Williams, Chief Executive; C Tiriana, Manager, CE Office; O Hopkins, Manager, Corporate Planning & Governance; J.P Gaston, Group Manager Strategy; S Michael, General Manager Infrastructure; G Rangi, Manahautū Māori; N Michael, Senior Communications Advisor; R Pitkethley, Manager, Sport, Recreation & Environment; N Carling, Safe & Sustainable Journeys Manager; S Kelly, Senior Strategy Advisor; R Dunn, Governance Lead; G Konara, Governance Support Advisor.

The meeting opened at 9.30am.

The Chair welcomed elected members, staff and members of the public.

1 **KARAKIA WHAKAPUAKI OPENING KARAKIA**

Mayor Chadwick opened the meeting with a Karakia.

2. **NGĀ WHAKAPĀHA APOLOGIES**

Resolved:

That the apologies from Mr Biasiny-Tule and from Mayor Chadwick for early departure at 10.00am for a Zoom meeting with Minister Mahuta around 3 Waters be accepted.

Moved: Cr Wang

Seconded: Cr Donaldson

CARRIED

[Back to index](#)

**3. WHAKAPUAKITANGA WHAIPĀNGA
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**4. NGĀ TAKE WHAWHATI TATA KĀORE I TE RĀRANGI TAKE
URGENT ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None.

**5. TE WHAKAŪ I NGĀ MENETI
CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

5.1 MINUTES OF THE STRATEGY, POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 15 APRIL 2021

RDC- 1122074

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Strategy, Policy & Finance Committee meeting held on 15 April 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Moved: Cr Tapsell

Seconded: Cr Yates

CARRIED

**6. PŪRONGO KAIMAHI
STAFF REPORTS**

6.1 PROPOSED CHANGE OF CLASSIFICATION OF PART OF ROTORUA CEMETERY RESERVE

RDC-1127124

Resolved:

- 1. That the report titled 'Proposed Change of Classification of Part of Rotorua Cemetery Reserve' be received.**

Moved: Mrs Trumper

Seconded: Mr Thomass

CARRIED

Rob Pitkethley and Stephanie Kelly overviewed the report and tabled a map of the reserve. (Attachment 1)

Further resolved:

2. **That the Committee recommends to Council that consultation be undertaken on the proposal to change the classification of Part of the Rotorua Cemetery Reserve, being Part Section 26A SBRS of Rotorua, from Recreation Reserve to Local Purpose (Cemetery) Reserve, pursuant to Section 24 of the Reserves Act 1977.**

Moved: Mr Thomass
Seconded: Mayor Chadwick

CARRIED

6.2 PROPOSED REMITS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND'S 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

RDC-1129171

Resolved:

1. **That the report titled 'Proposed Remits to Local Government New Zealand's 2021 Annual General Meeting' be received.**

Moved: Cr Maxwell
Seconded: Cr Wang

CARRIED

Oonagh Hopkins overviewed the report.

Attendance: Mayor Chadwick left the meeting at 9.54am.

Further resolved:

2. **That the Committee recommends to Council that the proposed remit "Fly Tipping" be supported at the Local Government New Zealand Annual General meeting on 17 July 2021.**

Moved: Cr Tapsell
Seconded: Mrs Trumper

CARRIED

Further resolved:

3. **That the Committee recommends to Council that the proposed remit "Rating Valuation of Forestry Land" be supported at the Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting on 17 July 2021.**

Moved: Mrs Trumper
Seconded: Cr Macpherson

A division was called and committee members voted as below:-

For : - Cr Raukawa-Tait, Cr Kumar, Mrs Trumper and Mr Thomass

Against : - Cr Donaldson, Cr Kai Fong, Cr Yates, Cr Wang, Mr Berryman-Kamp, Cr Macpherson,
Cr Bentley, Cr Maxwell and Cr Tapsell

Four (4) members voted for the motion and nine (9) members voted against the motion. Therefore, the motion was lost.

Cr Donaldson requested the following motion to be resolved:

- 4. That the Committee recommends to Council that the proposed remit “Rating Valuation of Forestry Land” not be supported at the Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting on 17 July 2021.**

Moved: Cr Donaldson

Seconded: Cr Kai Fong

CARRIED

Mrs Trumper requested her vote against the motion be recorded.

6.2 HEARING ON SPEED LIMIT REVIEW 2021

RDC-1127805

Resolved:

- 1. That the report titled ‘Hearing on Speed Limit Review 2021’ be received.**

Moved: Mrs Trumper

Seconded: Cr Yates

CARRIED

Stavros Michael overviewed the process.

6.2.1 SCHEDULE OF SUBMITTERS

Following submitters spoke to their submissions;

1. Michelle Marino – Kaharoa Road –
Ms M Marino tabled documents in support of her submission (Attachment 2)
2. Gordon Crighton – Tarawera Road
3. Amanda Armer - Ash Pit Road
4. Matthew Armer - Ash Pit Road/ Broadlands Road
5. Helen Creagh – Tarawera Road

Attendance: Mayor Chadwick re-joined the meeting at 10.45am.

The Chair ruled that the only matter in the public excluded session is to adopt the confidential minutes of the previous meeting and as there are, no corrections or discussion required there is no requirement to move to Public Excluded.

RECOMMENDATION

7. STRATEGY, POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 15 APRIL 2021 (Confidential Item)

RDC-1122075

Resolved:

That the confidential minutes of the Strategy, Policy & Finance Committee meeting held on 15 April 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Moved: Mrs Trumper

Seconded: Cr Donaldson

CARRIED

Meeting closed at 10.49 am

To be confirmed at the Strategy, Policy & Finance Committee meeting on 10 June 2021.

.....
Chairperson

Note 1: Rotorua Lakes Council is the operating name of Rotorua District Council

Note 2: Attachments to these minutes are available on request or on Council's website –

www.rotorualakescouncil.nz

5.2 Strategy, Policy and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes 17 & 18 May 202101-15-228
RDC-1133635

Minutes

**Strategy, Policy & Finance Committee meeting
held Thursday, 17 May 2021 at 1.00pm
Council Chamber, Rotorua Lakes Council**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cr Raukawa-Tait (Chair)
Cr Kai Fong (Deputy Chair), Mayor Chadwick, Cr Bentley, Cr Donaldson,
Cr Kumar, Cr Maxwell, Cr Tapsell, Cr Wang, Cr Yates, Mr Biasiny-Tule (Te Tatau
o Te Arawa), Mr Thomass (Lakes Community Board) and Mrs Trumper (Rural
Community Board).

APOLOGIES: Cr Macpherson and Mr Berryman-Kamp (Te Tatau o Te Arawa).

STAFF PRESENT: G Williams, Chief Executive; C Tiriana, Manager, CE Office; O Hopkins, Manager,
Corporate Planning & Governance; J.P Gaston, Group Manager Strategy;
S Michael, General Manager Infrastructure; J Mikaere, Group Manager
Operations; I Tiriana, Manager, Council Communications; R Dunn, Governance
Lead; G Konara, Governance Support Advisor.

The meeting opened at 1.00 pm on 17 May 2021.

The Chair welcomed elected members, staff and members of the public.

**1. KARAKIA WHAKAPUAKI
OPENING KARAKIA**

Cr Donaldson opened the meeting with a Karakia.

**2. NGĀ WHAKAPĀHA
APOLOGIES**

Resolved:

That the apologies from Mr Berryman-Kamp and Cr Macpherson be accepted.

Moved: Cr Tapsell

Seconded: Cr Kumar

CARRIED

**3. WHAKAPUAKITANGA WHAIPĀNGA
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cr Donaldson declared an interest in Crankworx.

4. TEMPORARILY SUSPEND 'STANDING ORDER NO 21.5 – MEMBERS MAY SPEAK ONLY ONCE'

Standing Order No 3.5 provides for a temporary suspension of standing orders as below:-

Any member of a council, committee, subcommittee and subordinate body, and local and community board, may move a motion to suspend standing orders at a meeting of which they are a member. Any such motion must also include the reason for the suspension. If seconded, the Chairperson must put the motion without debate and at least 75 per cent of the members present and voting must support the motion for it to be carried.

cl. 27(4), Schedule 7, LGA 2002

As per the above provision, it is recommended to, temporarily suspend 'Standing Order 21.5 - Members may speak only once' to allow members sufficient opportunity to undertake LTP deliberations at the Strategy, Policy and Finance Committee Meeting on 17th and 18th of May 2021.

Therefore, it is resolved:

- 1) That the Committee, temporarily suspend 'Standing Order 21.5 - Members may speak only once to a motion at a meeting' for the 17th & 18th May SP&F meetings.**
- 2) The reason is to allow members sufficient opportunity to undertake LTP deliberations.**

Moved: Mrs Trumper

Seconded: Cr Yates

CARRIED

**5. PŪRONGO KAIMAHI
STAFF REPORTS****5.1 CONSIDERATION OF FEEDBACK TO THE ROTORUA LAKES COUNCIL LONG-TERM PLAN 2021-2031
CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**

RDC-1128932

Resolved:

- 1. That the report titled "Consideration of feedback to the Rotorua Lakes Council Long-term Plan 2021-2031 consultation document" be received.**

Moved: Cr Wang

Seconded: Cr Donaldson

CARRIED

Oonagh Hopkins spoke to a presentation titled '2021-2031- Long Term Plan Consultation' (Attachment 1) and overviewed the process.

Further resolved:

- 2. That the Committee receive the staff analysis and recommendations to the consultation document topics.**

3. That the Committee notes:

- (i) the direction set during the course of considering feedback will determine and guide the development of the final Long-term Plan 2021-2031.
- (ii) that the final Long-term Plan 2021-2031 will be adopted by Council on 28 June 2021.

Moved: Mr Thomass
Seconded: Mayor Chadwick

CARRIED

TOPIC 1: AQUATIC CENTRE**Preferred Option - Option 3**

Option 3 is Council's preferred option. Rotorua's strengths, in particular our active lifestyle and environment, are directly linked to the provision of a modern aquatic centre that meets the needs and expectations of its users. Investment into the Aquatic Centre has been delayed for a number of years while Council investigated options for future development. It is time to undertake this investment and deliver upon the connecting vision to action commitment made in the Long-term Plan 2018-28, of "reviving our facilities".

With our District being surrounded by lakes and rivers, it is important our tamariki/children have the skills and confidence to be safe in our waters and the Aquatic Centre plays a vital role in this.

RECOMMENDATION AS PER THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**Resolved:**

- 1. That the committee support the inclusion of the Aquatic Centre Full Master Plan redevelopment (Option 3 - \$28.3 million) into the final development of the Long-Term Plan to be adopted by Council on 28 June 2021.**

Moved: Cr Maxwell
Seconded: Mr Thomass

CARRIED

Cr Bentley and Cr Kumar requested their vote against the motion be recorded.

TOPIC 2: COMMUNITY SAFETY**Preferred Option - Option 1**

Council prefers Option 1. Council, Te Arawa, the Police and key stakeholders are all concerned about an increase in anti-social and criminal behaviour, affecting residents and visitors' experiences in Rotorua. Everyone has agreed to work together to address the issues. Safety initiatives will require an increased level of funding to implement. An additional \$500,000 a year throughout the next ten years is believed to be a solid commitment that can aid in delivery and at the same time is considered affordable.

RECOMMENDATION AS PER THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Resolved:

1. **That the committee support the Council's creation of a community safety plan and include an additional \$500,000 per year for the implementation of identified actions (Option 1) into the final development of the Long-Term Plan to be adopted by Council on 28 June 2021.**

Moved: Mayor Chadwick

Seconded: Cr Yates

CARRIED 7/6

A division was called for with the following results:-

For (7) - Mr Biasiny-Tule, Cr Tapsell, Cr Raukawa-Tait, Mayor Chadwick, Cr Donaldson, Cr Maxwell, Cr Yates

Against (6) - Mrs Trumper, Cr Kai Fong, Cr Wang, Cr Kumar, Cr Bentley, Mr Thomass

TOPIC 3: FEES AND CHARGES**Preferred Option - Option 2**

Option 2 is Council's preferred option. An in-depth review of the services and who benefits was undertaken in 2018. The basis of assumptions for the creation of the funding splits (funding policy) are still considered relevant today. The issue is that Council have been trying to absorb the rising costs and to keep fees and charges static. This is not sustainable going forward. An additional 2.8% rates increases to hold fees and charges at current levels is not perceived to be fair nor in alignment with the Council's rating principles.

RECOMMENDATION AS PER THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**Resolved:**

1. **That the committee supports Council in the setting of pricing for direct benefit services, increasing fees and charges across a number of service delivery areas, including planning, Energy Events Centre, Parks and Inspection into the final development of the Long-term Plan to be adopted by Council on 28 June 2021.**
2. **That the committee note the basis for price setting has been developed on, increasing fees where there has been no increase in over 2 years and where the current funding for the overall service does not meet the funding policy.**

Moved: Cr Donaldson

Seconded: Cr Wang

CARRIED

TOPIC 4: UAGC**Preferred Option - Option 1**

Option 1 is Council's preferred option. The level at which the UAGC is set can affect the proportion of rates collected. Because of Rotorua's high proportion of residential properties, the current UAGC has the effect of the majority of the general rates being applied to residential properties, in particular properties valued at \$500,000 and below. In reducing the UAGC we would see general rates shift back

to the proportion of our district's capital value. This would see the general rate for residential ratepayers shift to rural ratepayers, as well as seeing a shift from low value to high value properties.

RECOMMENDATION AS PER THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Resolved:

1. That the committee supports Council to reduce the UAGC from \$475.00 to \$425.00 - a decrease of \$50.00 (Option 1). That the new UAGC is incorporated into the final development of the Long-term Plan to be adopted by Council on 28 June 2021.

Moved: Mr Thomass

Seconded: Cr Donaldson

CARRIED

Mrs Trumper requested her vote against the motion be recorded.

The meeting adjourned at 2.40pm and resumed at 2.50pm.

TOPIC 5: HOMES AND THRIVING COMMUNITIES

RECOMMENDATION AS PER THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Resolved:

1. That the committee continues to support the outcomes and action plans identified in the He Papakāinga, He Hāpori Taurikura Te Poupou Rautaki Homes and Thriving Communities Strategic Framework.
2. That the committee notes the further feedback received and where appropriate incorporate the feedback into the framework and action plans.
3. That the committee supports ongoing work between Rotorua Lakes Council and partnership with stakeholders and the wider community, to lead the implementation of the plan.

Moved: Mayor Chadwick

Seconded: Cr Wang

CARRIED

TOPIC 6: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

RECOMMENDATION AS PER THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Resolved:

1. That the committee supports the outcomes identified in the draft EDS and notes that action plans will be created for each of the three priority areas.
2. That the committee notes that work is underway to finalise these action plans by the end of the year and that implementation will be initiated during the first three years of the Long-term Plan.

- 3. That the committee recommends to council to proceed with its commitment of \$29 million towards economic development (\$9.0 million 2020/21 and \$20 million 2021/22.)**
- 4. That the committee supports ongoing work between Rotorua Lakes Council, business leaders and partners, to lead the development of these plans.**

Moved: Cr Kai Fong

Seconded: Cr Donaldson

CARRIED

TOPIC 7: CLIMATE CHANGE

RECOMMENDATION AS PER THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Resolved:

- 1. That the committee supports the outcomes identified in the Climate Action Plan and notes the action plans identified in the 30 Year Infrastructure Strategy.**
- 2. That the committee notes that implementation will be initiated during the first three years of the Long-term Plan.**
- 3. That the committee supports ongoing work between Rotorua Lakes Council and partnership with stakeholders and the wider community, to lead the implementation of the plan.**

Moved: Cr Wang

Seconded: Cr Donaldson

CARRIED

Cr Bentley tendered his apologies for the meeting scheduled for 18 May 2021.

The meeting adjourned at 4.03pm.

Strategy, Policy and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes 18 May 2021

01-15-228
RDC-1133635

Minutes

**Strategy, Policy and Finance Committee meeting
held Thursday, 18 May 2021 at 1.00pm
Council Chamber, Rotorua Lakes Council**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cr Raukawa-Tait (Chair)
Cr Kai Fong (Deputy Chair), Mayor Chadwick, Cr Donaldson, Cr Bentley,
Cr Kumar, Cr Maxwell, Cr Tapsell, Cr Wang, Cr Yates, Mr Biasiny-Tule (Te Tatau
o Te Arawa), Mr Thomass (Lakes Community Board) and Mrs Trumper (Rural
Community Board).

APOLOGIES: Cr Macpherson and Mr Berryman-Kamp (Te Tatau o Te Arawa).

STAFF PRESENT: G Williams, Chief Executive; O Hopkins, Manager, Corporate Planning &
Governance; J.P Gaston, Group Manager Strategy; S Michael, General Manager
Infrastructure; J Mikaere, Group Manager Operations; I Tiriana, Manager,
Council Communications; R Dunn, Governance Lead; G Konara, Governance
Support Advisor.

The meeting resumed at 1.00 pm on 18 May 2021.

The Chair welcomed elected members, staff and members of the public.

**1. NGĀ WHAKAPĀHA
APOLOGIES**

Resolved:

That the apologies from Cr Macpherson and Mr Berryman-Kamp be accepted.

Moved: Mr Thomass

Seconded: Cr Yates

CARRIED

**2. WHAKAPUAKITANGA WHAIPĀNGA
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**3. PŪRONGO KAIMAHI
STAFF REPORTS (CONTD.)**

CONSIDERATION OF FEEDBACK TO THE ROTORUA LAKES COUNCIL LONG-TERM PLAN 2021-2031
CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

[Back to index](#)

TOPIC 8: INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY**RECOMMENDATION AS PER THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT****Resolved:**

1. That the committee recommends to Council to adopt the 30Year Infrastructure Strategy and notes that approximately 55% of the total capital expenditure programme is supporting delivery of the infrastructure strategy.

Moved: Cr Bentley

Seconded: Mayor Chadwick

CARRIED

TOPIC 9: LAKE TARAWERA RETICULATION SEWERAGE SCHEME**RECOMMENDATION AS PER THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT****Resolved:**

1. That the committee notes that from 2017 all properties with existing septic tanks should have either connected to a reticulated system, or should have upgraded to an Aerated Wastewater Treatment System with Nitrogen Reduction (AWTS + NR). The discharge of treated domestic waste water into the land from an existing septic tank became a discretionary activity.
2. That the committee notes that an AWTS + NR which meets the requirements in the OSET Plan is estimated to cost \$28,000 to install. In addition, the ongoing consenting, operational, maintenance, repair and renewal costs of such system would be the owner's responsibility. Routine maintenance and servicing costs are estimated to be approximately \$500 per year.
3. That the committee continue to support the design and delivery of a reticulated sewerage scheme for Tarawera.
4. That the committee recommends to Council that a Tarawera sewerage scheme sub-committee is set up, consisting of council officers, Lakes Community Board members and appropriate representation of local residents of Tarawera to jointly develop a set of criteria that lays out clear guidelines on identifying those ratepayers that are not able to provide lump sum repayments at the completion of the scheme and develops viable repayment options. Modelling the repayments has been based upon 75% residents being able to pay upfront. The outcomes of the sub-committee's work are reported to Council before adoption into the scheme's capital funding plan.
5. That the committee supports initial work to progress the detailed design and a scheme procurement process in year 1 of the LTP, bringing forward approximately \$2.5 million to provide the community with more certainty on the full project costs and the required household capital contribution.
6. That the committee supports bringing forward the project from year 5/6 into year 2-4 subject to continued community support, more accurate costings and the clearly defined repayment criteria after year one of the LTP.

Moved: Mr Thomass
Seconded: Cr Donaldson

CARRIED

TOPIC 10: WESTBROOK SPORTS PRECINCT

RECOMMENDATION AS PER THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Resolved:

- 1. That the committee supports the ongoing work to address the challenges in the District's provision for quality open space, sports fields development and housing.**
- 2. That the committee notes that if Council proceeds with the concept of a future sports it is most likely to be a key community discussion on the options within the next Long-term Plan review (2024-2027).**
- 3. That the committee acknowledge the requests within the 'Save Springfield Golf Course' petition to:**
 - 1. Declare the Springfield Golf Course a taonga**
 - 2. Continue leasing the land to the Springfield Golf Club.**
- 4. That the committee directs officers to consult directly with the organisers around any proposal relating to the Springfield Golf Course.**
- 5. That the committee note that the current lease for the Springfield Golf Course does not expire until 2027.**
- 6. That the committee acknowledge the submissions to the LTP with respect to the Westbrook Sport Precinct and directs officers to include these comments as feedback to any proposal relating to the Springfield Golf Course.**
- 7. That the committee note any commitment made by Council to develop a future sports precinct will be subject to the development of a full business case and community wide consultation.**
- 8. That the committee defer any decision with respect to the lease at the Springfield Golf Course until a decision has been made following receipt of a full business case and community wide consultation.**

Moved: Cr Donaldson
Seconded: Cr Yates

Mrs Trumper requested the following amendment to the motions above:

Resolved:

- 1. That the discussion on the future of the Springfield Golf Course be deferred until such time as a full assessment is conducted by Council on a future sports facility that is fit for purpose to meet the future needs of the Rotorua community to go out for full consultation at the appropriate time.**

Moved: Mrs Trumper
Seconded: Mayor Chadwick

CARRIED 8/5

A division was called for with the following results:-

For (8) - Mayor Chadwick, Cr Donaldson, Cr Wang, Mrs Trumper, Mr Thomass, Mr Biasiny-Tule,
Cr Tapsell and Cr Raukawa-Tait
Against (5) - Cr Bentley, Cr Kai Fong, Cr Kumar, Cr Maxwell and Cr Yates

The amended motion became the substantive motion.

The meeting adjourned at 2.20pm and resumed at 2.35pm.

TOPIC 11: RATES INCREASES

RECOMMENDATION AS PER THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Resolved:

1. **That the committee supports Council in the delivery of the proposals set out in the consultation and in order to deliver acknowledge that a 9.2% average rates increase is required in year one (2021/22) and average annual rates increases of 3.75% forecast for the following nine years.**

Moved: Mayor Chadwick
Seconded: Cr Maxwell

CARRIED

TOPIC 12: OTHER FEEDBACK

12.1: COMMUNITY HUBS

- Request to reinstate and provide funding for the Upper Atiamuri Community Hall.
- Request for community hubs particularly for lakes and rural community.
- Community Hubs would work and they need to be iwi focused, Ngāti Pikiao, and inclusive of the community as a whole.
- Community services funded that can help communities to help themselves.

RECOMMENDATION

Resolved:

- 1) **That the committee note the feedback.**
- 2) **That the Council notes the requests for community hubs and considers these within the Housing and Thriving Communities Strategy.**

Moved: Cr Donaldson
Seconded: Cr Wang

CARRIED

12.2: NGĀPUNA

- Request for the Ngāpuna pump station to be demolished.
- Ngāpuna village have been experiencing long-term health complications because of the industry surrounding them. They would like this addressed and strategies put in place to clean this up.
- Requested Council please address health issues in Ngāpuna.

RECOMMENDATION**Resolved:**

- 1) **That the committee note the feedback.**
- 2) **That the committee refers the feedback to the Infrastructure business unit to be incorporated where possible.**

Moved: Mayor Chadwick

Seconded: Cr Yates

CARRIED

12.3: POWER, INTERNET AND PHONE CONNECTIONS (RURAL AND LAKES COMMUNITIES)

- Request for better internet connectivity in rural and lakes areas, as the current service is unreliable; there are many blackspots with little to no coverage.
- Frequent power cuts are another concerning issue. They occur too often and sometimes over many hours.

RECOMMENDATION**Resolved:**

- 1) **That the committee note the feedback.**
- 2) **That the Council continues to advocate and work with partners to look into options to address connectivity issues across the Rotorua District.**

Moved: Mrs Trumper

Seconded: Mr Thomass

CARRIED

12.4: MAMAKU

- Requested public toilet amenities.
- Suggested Council provide funding and the Mamaku community self-manage contracts for lawn mowing maintenance and other grounds work.
- Want more police in Mamaku.
- Requested a designated boy racer pad to improve road safety in the village.
- Requested Council increase the funding in Mamaku.
- Mamaku residents think it is unfair that they pay water rates when others who live in town do not. Suggested everyone should pay for water.
- Would like the library bus to return to Mamaku.

RECOMMENDATION**Resolved:**

- 1) That the committee note the feedback.**
- 2) That the committee refers the feedback to the operations business unit to be incorporated where possible.**

Moved: Mrs Trumper

Seconded: Cr Wang

CARRIED

12.5: CONSENTING PROCESS

- Housing regulation, compliance and consenting process needs to be addressed if Council wants more houses as it needs to be made easy for the public.
- Requested an in-house Council staff member, ideally with a Māori heart, to help advise and navigate members of the community through the consenting process.

RECOMMENDATION**Resolved:**

- 1) That the committee note the feedback.**
- 2) That the committee refers the feedback to the operations business unit.**

Moved: Cr Yates

Seconded: Cr Tapsell

CARRIED

12.6: ROADING AND FOOTPATHS (PARTICULARLY FOR RURAL AND LAKES COMMUNITIES)

- Last 4km of South Road has been partitioned to be tar sealed.
- Requested footpaths along streets off South Road & South Rd up to Tawhero St.
- Requested reduce speed limit in urban areas to 40km/hr to improve safety.
- Pedestrian safety on rural and lake roads is a problem – it is not safe to cross these roads due to the speed limit. The current speed limits on the main highways make them very unsafe and children cannot use the footpaths as the logging trucks on the roads come flying past too fast. Requested slower speeds through these villages, footpaths and lighting.
- Need footpaths in rural and lakes communities - footpaths are not on both sides of the road and there is no choice but to have to cross the road which is not safe.
- Roads around the District need more regular maintenance.

RECOMMENDATION**Resolved:**

- 1) That the committee note the feedback.**
- 2) That the committee refers the feedback to the Infrastructure business unit to be incorporated where possible.**

Moved: Mr Thomass
Seconded: Mrs Trumper

CARRIED

12.7: PUBLIC SPACE

- Requested better use of public space e.g. dog exercise area in Lynmore near play centre only has grass. Suggested more native planting, pump track, community garden, fruit and citrus trees. There is evidence for urban green space improving mental health outcomes.
- Wish to see improvements for our sports grounds made a priority for our kids today and not in 10 years' time.
- Provide for people with disabilities, consider accessibility of people with mobility challenges - walking frames and wheelchairs as well as pushchairs and strollers (for example when constructing or repairing footpaths and curbs or parks and playgrounds).

RECOMMENDATION

Resolved:

- 1) That the committee note the feedback.**
- 2) That the committee refers the feedback to the operations business unit to be incorporated where possible.**

Moved: Cr Tapsell
Seconded: Mayor Chadwick

CARRIED

12.8: THREE WATERS

- Requested the sewerage station pushed back across the river (Puarenga). It is not handling all the rains especially with the increase forecasted in your climate change plan.
- Requested upgrading of the storm water and sewage system problems in Petrie Street.
- Encourage Rotorua Lakes Council to ensure full compliance with its Resource Management Act obligations as it relates to three waters infrastructure.

RECOMMENDATION

Resolved:

- 1) That the committee note the feedback.**
- 2) That the committee refers the feedback to the Infrastructure business unit to be incorporated where possible.**

Moved: Cr Yates
Seconded: Mr Thomass

CARRIED

12.9: SUPPORT FOR THE ELDERLY AGE GROUP

- The elderly age group will become an increasingly high proportion of Rotorua's population within the timescale of this long-term plan. It becomes increasingly important that their interests are specifically recognised and provided for. It is urged that, in any proposed policy, programme or project, consideration of the impacts and consequences for the elderly is an automatic and key component of the planning process. As a mechanism to achieve this, it has been recommended that Council considers the creation of a specific role within the Council and/or the creation of an effective means of early consultation with organisations representing the elderly as projects and programmes are developed.
- Financial assistance to Parksye for the following reasons: Towards Parksye's operating costs given the benefits offered to Rotorua older people at the Activity Centre and the impending increase of numbers of older people in the city over the next six to eight years. Towards the Leadership role that the Parksye Trustees are increasingly having to take to ensure the older people in Rotorua are being looked after in terms of planning and facilities eg its role this year facilitating the Age Friendly Rotorua Strategy. Towards the costs of developing and running an Older Persons Community Services Hub at Parksye (due to be built 2022-23). Support the development of an Age Friendly City Strategy in terms of both funding and leadership from Council (at both staff and governance levels).
- Address in the Housing Plan specific reference for accommodation for older people, in and around Kuirau Park/Tarewa Place.

RECOMMENDATION**Resolved:**

- 1) **That the committee note the feedback.**
- 2) **That the committee refers the feedback to the operations business unit to be incorporated where possible.**

Moved: Cr Raukawa-Tait

Seconded: Mrs Trumper

CARRIED

12.10: PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- As part of transport for locals in outlying areas, and to increase public transport for tourists (e.g. walks, cycling etc). I am suggesting that we have a water taxi/bus, that travels around the lake (and maybe Rotoiti as well) with stops along the way (e.g. near Hamurana Springs) and to Mourea. There could be two water taxis, one that goes clockwise the other anti-clockwise.

RECOMMENDATION**Resolved:**

- 1) **That the committee note the feedback.**
- 2) **That the committee refer this request to the Bay of Plenty Regional Council.**

Moved: Cr Yates

Seconded: Mr Thomass

CARRIED

12.11: OTHER FINANCING OPTIONS

- The Council consider asset recycling as another funding option.
- The Council introduce new rates for Air BnB properties.
- The Council adopt a Development Contributions Policy to help fund development.

Regarding wastewater remissions:

- Create a new Rates Remission Policy (Section 109 of LGRA 2002) for part remission of the target sewage rate. This could be targeted directly towards non-profit organisations and Marae where the utilisation of Sewage Disposal facilities is low (30-50%) and is verifiable.
- Use the existing rates remission for Extraordinary Circumstances which can be targeted to individual properties who apply. This currently specifies that rates can be remitted because of extraordinary circumstances arising from a change to Council's Rating or Rates Remission policies have resulted in unintended consequences for a rating unit. This implies that there needs to have been a change as opposed to a historical inequity. If this was reworded slightly it could then be applied to new as well as historic situations e.g. "Council may remit rates on a rating unit where it considers it just and equitable to do so because of extraordinary circumstances or arising from a change to Council's Rating or Rates Remission policies that have resulted in unintended consequences for a rating unit".

RECOMMENDATION**Resolved:**

- 1) **That the committee note the feedback.**
- 2) **That the committee refers the feedback to the finance business unit.**

Moved: Cr Kai Fong

Seconded: Cr Raukawa-Tait

CARRIED

12.12: NEW ZEALAND MEMORIAL MUSEUM AND VISITOR CENTRE

- Request that Rotorua Lakes Council supports the project to build a Museum and Visitor Centre in Le Quesnoy with a donation equivalent to \$1 per resident of the District, to remember those who gave their lives in the World Wars to give us freedom.

RECOMMENDATION**Resolved:**

- 1) **That the committee note the feedback.**

Moved: Mr Thomass

Seconded: Cr Maxwell

CARRIED

12.13: WATER SAFETY

- Recommends that Rotorua Lakes Council continues to recognise preventable drowning in the Bay of Plenty as a critical community issue, which requires a collective response to reduce.

- RLC recognises that access to safe water-based activities is essential to personal wellbeing as we help the community recover post COVID-19.
- RLC acknowledges the importance of having a regional water safety strategy in place for the Bay of Plenty and the priority areas for action identified in the Bay of Plenty water safety strategy and considers a long-term contribution for the role of Strategy Manager for the Bay of Plenty water safety strategy and into the drowning prevention priorities identified in the strategy.

RECOMMENDATION

Resolved:

- 1) That the committee note the feedback.**
- 2) That the committee refer this request to the Bay of Plenty Regional Council.**

Moved: Mr Thomass

Seconded: Cr Wang

CARRIED

12.14: CONSERVATION AND BIODIVERSITY

- RLC continue support and implementation of He Mahere Taiao mō ngā Wai o Te Arawa - Te Arawa Lakes Environmental Plan.
- RLC implementation proactive strategies to build relationships and engagement models with tangata whenua, including methods to strengthen Māori representation in Council decision-making relating to conservation and biodiversity.
- RLC ensures Council's Long Term Plan incorporates the relevant aspects of the "Proposed national policy statement for indigenous biodiversity" & "Aotearoa NZ Biodiversity Strategy 2020, Te mana o te Taiao".
- RLC ensures the Department of Conservation remains a partner through the design and implementation phases of the Rotorua Destination Management Plan.
- Suggestion that Rotorua Lakes Council considers a sufficient level of funding to support the planning and delivery of local biodiversity programmes.
- Expanding the funding available to private landowners who have SNAs on their property and who wish to undertake management of those sites; an appropriate level of expenditure in Council's own parks and reserves budgets where reserves include important biodiversity assets, to support the development of appropriate reserve management plans and delivery programmes (such as pest and weed control).

RECOMMENDATION

Resolved:

- 1) That the committee note the feedback.**
- 2) That the committee refers the feedback to the sports, recreation and environment business unit for consideration.**

Moved: Cr Wang

Seconded: Cr Donaldson

CARRIED

12.15: LINTON PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE FUNDING REQUEST

- The Linton Park Community Centre leases the land from RLC, has on-going growth, developments, and strategic plans for activity in place. Here is where I ask, for the opportunity to consider and support to redevelop and upgrade our iconic venue. The car-parking is needing an expansion away from the Centre, the public often dump items, drugs and alcohol, rubbish, belongings and hide away. The rubbish and activity here is appalling. We would like to see expansions of the carparking, away from the access to Linton Park Community Centre, our staff are often taking care of issues, moving us away from our core mahi. Currently we fund and finance our own parking lines, judder bars, posts with reflectors, signage, cleaning and maintenance weekly. These costs cannot continue to come from our facility income, we need a more sustainable and viable budget or planning to eliminate our area.

RECOMMENDATION**Resolved:**

- 1) **That the committee note the feedback.**
- 2) **That the committee refers the feedback to the operations business unit for consideration.**

Moved: Mrs Trumper

Seconded: Cr Yates

CARRIED

12.16: GRANTS TO COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

- Council to retain the financial support it provides community organisations via the various grants – Community, Neighbourhood Matching and the Partnership Grants. The CAB urges that the current funding level for grants is retained or increased.

RECOMMENDATION**Resolved:**

- 1) **That the committee note the feedback.**
- 2) **That the committee refers the feedback to the strategy business unit for consideration.**

Moved: Cr Donaldson

Seconded: Cr Yates

CARRIED

Mrs Trumper declared an interest in Citizens Advice Bureau.

Cr Yates closed the meeting with a Karakia.

Meeting closed at 4.13pm

To be confirmed at the Strategy, Policy & Finance Committee meeting on 10 June 2021.

.....
Chairperson

Note 1: Rotorua Lakes Council is the operating name of Rotorua District Council

Note 2: Attachments to these minutes are available on request or on Council's website –
www.rotorualakescouncil.nz

6 Staff Reports – Pūrongo Kaimahi

01-15-228
RDC-1137111

ROTORUA LAKES COUNCIL

Mayor
Chair and Members
STRATEGY, POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

6.1 Speed Limit Bylaw 2021 – Changes to Speed Limits

Report prepared by: Niki Carling, Safe & Sustainable Journeys Manager

Report reviewed by: Stavros Michael, General Manager Infrastructure

Report approved by: Geoff Williams, Chief Executive

1. TE PŪTAKE PURPOSE

The purpose of the report is to obtain Council's agreement to set speed limits on a number of local roads in the Rotorua district, following public consultation of the draft proposal.

2. TE TUHINGA WHAKARAPOPOPOTOTANGA EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has undertaken consultation on proposed speed limit changes to a number of local roads, in accordance with the special consultative procedures in the Local Government Act. Written submissions and minutes of hearings are attached to this report.

Speed limits are set in accordance with the Land Transport Rule "Setting of Speed Limits 2017" (the Rule), a key tool in the Government's strategy for addressing road safety. Under the Rule, a Road Controlling Authority must consult with persons and groups that may be affected by a proposed speed limit. This includes local communities considered affected by the existing or proposed speed limit and other stakeholders, including Waka Kotahi.

The recommendations of this report are based on the original assessments of speed environment, actual measured speeds and feedback from both submissions and hearings.

3. HE TŪTOHUNGA RECOMMENDATION

1. That the report 'Speed Limit Bylaw 2021 – Changes to Speed Limits' be received.
2. That the Committee recommends to Council that the changes to speed limits on the roads identified in Section 5 - Table 1 are made in accordance with the requirements of the rule "Setting of Speed Limits 2017".

4. TE TĀHUHU BACKGROUND

The rule 'Setting of Speed Limits 2017' is a key tool in the Government's strategy to reduce the number and severity of crashes on NZ roads. Council reviews its speed limits typically every three years, the last speed limit review having been carried out in 2017/18. The review is carried out to ensure consistency within our region and across adjoining road networks. Any speed changes approved will need to be included in the Speed Limit Bylaw.

WSP have undertaken a speed review on behalf of Council, in accordance with the 'NZ Speed Management Guide' published by Waka Kotahi. Each road has been reviewed on its individual merit and then an appropriate speed limit has been proposed.

The factors taken into account when assessing recommended speeds include:

- Function (one network road classification - arterial, primary collector, access, etc)
- Appropriate speed evaluated in accordance with guidelines
- Actual measured speeds
- Any requirement for engineered intervention
- Impact and consistency with wider network

Further to the consultation process, there is now also public feedback to be considered, both written and from hearings.

5. TE MATAPAKI ME NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA DISCUSSION AND OPTIONS

The next stage in the speed limit review requires Council to decide the appropriate speed limits to be set for the roads under consideration.

Staff have reviewed the recommended speed limits in the light of submissions received and Table 1 shows updated recommendations for safe and appropriate speeds.

Table 1

Road Name	Current Speed Limit (km/h)	Staff Recommended Speed (km/h)
Government Gardens		
Oruawhata Drive	50	20
Queens Drive	50	20
Hatupatu Drive & Hinemoa Street	50	20
Kuirau Park Reserve		
Kuirau Street	50	20
Kuirau Park Access	50	20
Aquatic Centre Access	50	20
Hannahs Bay		
Waikawau/Hannahs Bay Reserve	None	20
Waingaehe Reserve (Willow Avenue)	None (30 signed)	20
Western Heights/Pukehangi		
Mountain Road	100	60
Pukehangi Road	70	60
Lynmore/Owhata		
Owhata Road	70	50
Tarawera Road (up to and including Manawa Road and Redwood Road within Redwood Park)	70	50
Long Mile Road	None (30 signed)	30
Ngongotahā		
Waiteti Road	70	50
Leonard Road	70	50
Other Urban Areas		
Henderson Road	None	50
Scott Road	None	50
Awahou		
Gloucester Road	None	40
Maxwell Road	None	40
Rotoiti		
Te Puakanga Road	None	40
Emery Road	None	40
Wharetoroa Drive	None	40
Aoturoa Avenue	None	40
Te Urumahoe	None	40
Rotehu		
Morehu Loop Road	None	40
Tikitere		
Okahu Lane	70	40
Parkcliff Road	None	40
Banksia Place	None	40
Rangiteaorere Road	None	40
Mataikotare Road	None	40

Road Name	Current Speed Limit (km/h)	Staff Recommended Speed (km/h)
Mourea		
Okawa Bay Road	None for first 70m	40
Rotokawa		
Cookson Road	100	60
Hawthornden Drive	100	60
Okere Falls		
Okere Falls Road	70	60
Trout Pool Road	70	60
Hoko Road (East)	70	60
Mamaku		
Arahiwi Road (section leading up to village)	70	60
Cecil Road (section leading up to village)	70	60
Maraeroa Road (section leading up to village)	70	60
Old State Mill Road	70	60
Rerewhakaitu		
Ashpit Road (through village)	70	50 40km/h variable speed limit outside school
Yankee Road (through village)	70	50 40km/h variable speed limit outside school
Rerewhakaitu Road (50m section into village)	70	50
Reporoa		
Broadlands Road (section by school)	70	60 40km/h variable speed limit outside school
Earle Road (from Broadlands Road for 230m)	70	60
Vaile Road (from Broadlands Road for 260m)	70	60
Hamurana		
Kaharoa Road (section by school)	70	60
Jackson Road	100	80
Other Rural Areas		
Keith Road	70	60
Paradise Valley Road (section at SH5 end)	70	60
Waikite Valley Road (section by school)	70	60 40km/h variable speed limit outside school
Whirinaki Valley Road (section by school)	70	60
Waipa State Mill Road	None (50 signed)	50
Waipa Carpark Access Road	None (30 signed)	30
Te Pūtaka o Tawa Access (Forest Hub 2)	None (30 signed)	30

Submissions

In summary, there were 184 written submissions received and 5 verbal submitters were heard by the Strategy, Policy & Finance Committee. The full list of submissions received is included as Attachment 1. In general, written submissions supported lowering of speed limits in line with the original recommendations of staff.

Ash Pit Road, Rerewhakitū

- 77 (42%) of written submissions were in support of the recommended speed reduction from 70km/hr to 50km/hr on Ash Pit Road (with 40km/hr variable speed limit outside Rerewhakitū School). No submitter was opposed.
- Verbal submitters on Ash Pit Road emphasised the risks associated with children crossing the road daily to access other buildings, given the volume of heavy vehicles. They advised that they have received substantial support from trucking companies for a lowered speed limit in the village.
- Waka Kotahi have made recommendations for the revised location of the 50km/hr speed signs proposed for the village. They agree with the 40km/hr variable speed proposal round the school. The AA has consulted with truck drivers on the proposed change and also supports reduction through the village.

Staff recommendation:

- **70km/hr posted speed limits on Ash Pit Road, Yankee Road and Rerewhakitū Road reduced to 50km/hr.**
- **40km/hr variable speed limit outside Rerewhakitū School.**
- **50km/hr speed limit signs to be located as advised by Waka Kotahi.**

Kaharoa Road

- The 5 written submissions received regarding the proposed speed reduction from 70km/hr to 60km/hr on Kaharoa Road (past Kaharoa School) supported speed reduction, but requested further reduction to the speed limit or variable speed signs.
- Verbal submitters on Kaharoa Road tabled letters from the Kaharoa Community Association, the Acting Principal, the Chair of the Board of Trustees and the PTA from Kaharoa School, requesting a 40km/hr variable speed zone from 8.00am – 3.30pm. They also presented a petition from 80 residents proposing “a speed limit reduction from 70km/hr to 40km/hr from 282 Kaharoa Road to past the Kaharoa Hall” (see Attachment 2).
- Waka Kotahi agree with the proposed speed reduction. The AA does not agree on Waka Kotahi’s ‘blanket’ reduction of 70km/hr speed limits, but supports the use of variable speed signs to reduce limits outside schools temporarily at key times.

Staff recommendation:

- **70km/hr posted speed limit on Kaharoa Road reduced to 60km/hr.**

It is important to note that a 40 km/hr variable speed for the Kaharoa School zone cannot be set without an assessment and consultation, if the speed limit is to be legally enforceable. A variable speed zone also requires electronic signage for which budget would need to be made available.

In response to submissions, this variable speed limit will be included in the next speed limit review, which is likely to be within the next year. Waka Kotahi are currently consulting on a draft ‘Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2021’ which includes Councils consideration and setting of speed limits round all schools as part of a speed management plan. It is anticipated that this Rule will be signed off by the end of 2021.

NB. Variable speed signs may operate for a maximum period of:

- **35 minutes before the start of school until the start of school.**
- **20 minutes at the end of school commencing no earlier than five minutes before the end of school.**
- **10 minutes at any other time of day when children cross the road or enter or leave vehicles at the roadside.**

Tarawera Road, Lynmore

- 33 (18%) of written submissions were in relation to the recommended speed reduction from 70km/hr to 50km/hr on Tarawera Road, of which:
 - 5 opposed any change in speed
 - 7 supported a 50km/hr limit extended as far as Forest Place only
 - 15 supported the extension of the 50km/hr section to include the Redwoods subdivision
 - 9 supported changing the existing 70km/hr limit to a 60km/hr limit.
- Verbal submissions on Tarawera Road were in support of the recommended speed reduction, primarily to improve the safety of those crossing the road to access the Forest.
- Waka Kotahi agree with the proposed speed reduction. The AA opposes the proposed speed reduction based on the area's semi-rural 'look and feel'.

Staff recommendation:

- **70km/hr posted speed limit on Tarawera Road reduced to 50km/hr and extended to RP 2.52 to include Redwood Park subdivision.**

Broadlands Road, Reporoa

- 10 (5%) of written submissions were in support of the recommended speed reduction from 70km/hr to 60km/hr on Broadlands Road (with 40km/hr variable speed limit outside Broadlands School). No submitter was opposed.
- Waka Kotahi agree with the proposed speed reduction. The AA does not agree on Waka Kotahi's 'blanket' reduction of 70km/hr speed limits.

Staff recommendation:

- **70km/hr posted speed limits on Broadlands Road, Earle Road and Vaile Road reduced to 60km/hr.**
- **40km/hr variable speed limit outside Broadlands School.**

Whirinaki Valley Road, Ngākuru

- All 5 written submissions received regarding the proposed speed reduction from 70km/hr to 60km/hr on Whirinaki Road (past Ngākuru School) opposed the change as not being low enough, with some requesting a 40km/hr variable speed.
- Waka Kotahi have made recommendations for the revised location of the 60km/hr speed signs proposed for the village.
- The AA does not agree on Waka Kotahi's 'blanket' reduction of 70km/hr speed limits, but supports the use of variable speed signs to reduce limits outside schools temporarily at key times. It questions why a variable speed limit is not proposed outside Ngākuru School, as this is *'inconsistent with other schools included in the proposal'*.

Staff recommendation:

- **70km/hr posted speed limit on Whirinaki Valley Road reduced to 60km/hr.**
- **60km/hr speed limit signs to be located as advised by Waka Kotahi.**

It is important to note that a 40 km/hr variable speed for the Ngākuru School zone cannot be set without an assessment and consultation, if the speed limit is to be legally enforceable. A variable speed zone also requires electronic signage for which budget would need to be made available.

In response to submissions, this variable speed limit will be included in the next speed limit review, which is likely to be within the next year. Waka Kotahi are currently consulting on a draft 'Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2021' which includes Councils consideration and setting of speed limits round all schools as part of a speed management plan. It is anticipated that this Rule will be signed off by the end of 2021.

Cookson Road and Hawthornden Drive, Rotokawa

- 2 written submissions were received regarding the proposed speed reduction from 100km/hr to 80km/hr on Cookson Road and Hawthornden Drive requesting further reduction to the limit.
- Waka Kotahi disagree with the proposed 80km/hr speed limit for these roads. They recommend a 60km/hr limit based on the low mean operating speeds on these roads.
- The AA supports the proposed reduction from 100km/hr to 80km/hr.

Staff recommendation:

- **100km/hr posted speed limit on Cookson Road and Hawthornden Drive reduced to 60km/hr.**

Waikite Valley Road

- 2 written submissions were in support of the proposed speed reduction from 70km/hr to 60km/hr on Waikite Valley Road (with 40km/hr variable speed limit outside Waikite Valley School).
- Waka Kotahi have made recommendations for the revised location of the 60km/hr signs at the speed limit change point. They disagree with the proposed 40km/hr variable speed limit because the mean speed past the school is 68km/hr, so 40km/hr is unlikely to meet the clause in the Setting of Speed Limits Rule ie. *'a RCA ... must aim to achieve a mean operating speed less than 10% above that speed limit'*.
- The AA does not agree on Waka Kotahi's 'blanket' reduction of 70km/hr speed limits, but supports the use of variable speed signs to reduce limits outside schools temporarily at key times.

Staff recommendation:

- **70km/hr posted speed limit on Waikite Valley Road reduced to 60km/hr.**
- **40km/hr variable speed limit outside Waikite Valley School.**

Other rural roads

Awahou (Gloucester Road and Maxwell Road)

Rotoiti (Te Puakanga Road, Emery Road, Wharetoroa Drive, Aoturoa Avenue, Te Urumahoe)

Rotoehu (Morehu Loop Road)

Tikitere (Okahu Lane, Parkcliff Road, Banksia Place, Rangiteaorere Road and Mataikotare Road)

Mourea (Okawa Bay Road)

- Waka Kotahi disagree with the proposed 50km/hr speed limit for these roads that currently have no speed limit. They recommend a 40km/hr limit based on the mean operating speeds on these roads being less than 30km/hr.

Staff recommendation:

- **40km/hr posted speed limit for roads identified in Awahou, Rotoiti, Rotoehu, Tikitere and Mourea.**

Urban reserves

Government Gardens

Kuirau Park

Hannahs Bay

- Waka Kotahi encourages Council to consider reducing the proposed 30km/hr speed limit for Government Gardens, Kuirau Park and Hannahs Bay to 20km/hr which is considered the safe and appropriate speed for roads within a park environment.

Staff recommendation:

- **20km/hr posted speed limit for roads identified in Government Gardens, Kuirau Park and Hannahs Bay.**

Roads outside the review

Submissions were also received in relation to:

Ōkāreka Loop Road

Hamurana Road

Iles Road

Larcy Road

South Road

Tarena Street

Gee Road

Te Puea Road

Whilst these roads are not part of the current Speed Review, they will be considered as part of the next review.

6. TE TINO AROMATAWAI ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The decisions or matters of this report are not considered significant in accordance with the council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

7. NGĀ KŌRERO O TE HAPORI ME TE WHAKATAIRANGA COMMUNITY INPUT/ENGAGEMENT AND PUBLICITY

The speed limit review has been subject to public consultation in accordance with the process required under the LGA.

8. HE WHAIWHAKAARO CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 He Whaiwhakaarotanga Mahere Pūtea Financial/budget considerations

There are no significant financial costs to the setting of speed limits. However, new signage will be required, including variable speed signage, the cost of which is relatively high. The Rural Community Board is supporting financially the potential installation of variable speed signs at 3 rural schools. Any other signage costs will need to be found from within operating budgets.

Any future engineering intervention to mitigate speeds over some sections would be prioritised under the Minor Safety Improvements programme.

8.2 Kaupapa Here me ngā Hiraunga Whakariterite Policy and planning implications

Speed management is a key road safety issue directly aligned to national, regional and local strategies and a key outcome required under the Asset Management Plan.

It is also directly aligned with 2030 outcomes and in particular:

- a) Resilient Community
- b) Enhanced Environment.

8.3 Tūraru Risks

Speed setting is a core infrastructural function of Council. Diverse community views may result in some negative perceptions, despite widespread community consultation. However overall there is general support for the strategic outcome of improved road safety.

In relation to the 40km/hr variable speed recommended by staff for Waikite Valley School, should Council accept the staff recommendation, there is a risk that Waka Kotahi could reject the Council resolution and the variable speed would not be gazetted. If this was to happen, a 40km/hr speed on the variable speed signs would not be legally enforceable.

8.4 Te Whaimana Authority

The Authority to approve this decision is with Council.

9. TE WHAKAKAPINGA CONCLUSION

Proposed changes to speed limits on some roads have been evaluated in accordance with the 'Setting of Speed Limits 2017' rule under the Land Transport regulations, and consultation including a hearing process is complete.

Council in its consideration of these recommendations may make changes to staff recommendations. Setting of final speed limits by Council is subject to oversight by Waka Kotahi who retain the authority to require Council to justify any decisions made under this rule.

**10. NGĀ ĀPITI HANGA
ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1: Submissions on Speed Limit Review 2021 (RDC- 1139255 - Distributed separately)

Attachment 2: Speed Limit Review 2021 - Letters of Support from Kaharoa
(RDC- 1139256 - Distributed separately)

ROTORUA LAKES COUNCIL

Mayor
Chair and Members
STRATEGY, POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

6.2 Rates Remission for Significant Natural Areas

Report prepared by: Kim Smith, Senior Policy Advisor and Rob Mumford, Financial Services Manager

Report reviewed by: Justine Wilmoth, Finance and Business Performance Leader

Report approved by: Geoff Williams, Chief Executive

1. TE PŪTAKE PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to request approval to amend the Council's Rates Remission Policies to provide remission of rates for rateable land with Significant Natural Areas (SNAs) mapped in the Rotorua District Plan.

2. HE TŪTOHUNGA RECOMMENDATION

1. That the report 'Rates Remission for Significant Natural Areas' be received.
2. That the Committee recommends to Council to amend the rates remission policy, as set out in Attachment 2 of this report, to provide for a remission of \$5 per hectare for rateable land that is identified as an SNA in the Rotorua District Plan where the area of rateable land that is identified as an SNA is a minimum of 20 hectares.

3. TE TĀHUHU BACKGROUND

Significant Natural Areas are areas identified in the District Plan that are significant areas of indigenous vegetation or provide significant habitat for indigenous species. District Plan rules restrict structures, earthworks and clearance of vegetation within SNAs. Approximately 800 valuation numbers and 20,000 hectares of rateable land are affected by SNAs. However many of these properties have only a small area of SNA (around 75% have less than 20 hectares).

Council commitment to investigate a remission

On 25 July 2019 Council passed a resolution to investigate an amendment to its rates remission policy for the next annual plan to provide for remission of rates for significant natural areas at a uniform rate per hectare.

The context to this resolution was Council's plan change to the Rotorua District Plan (Plan Change 3) to include a number of new SNAs and amend the boundaries of some existing SNAs. Consultation on

this plan change highlighted a concern about a lack of incentives to acknowledge the contribution that landowners make to the protection of biodiversity for the benefit of the district.

Current Rates Remission Policies

Council currently provides no rates remission for SNAs.

The remission policy does, however, provide for remission where natural areas are legally protected with a QEII Open Space Covenant. Remissions for QEIs are calculated on a case-by-case basis. Practice has been, on receipt of an application by a landowner, to discount those rates calculated on capital value by the proportion of the capital value attributable to the QEII land. Remissions have not been applied to the uniform annual general charge and other rates calculated independent of the land. On this basis, remissions for QEII tend to be relatively small. The average remission received for QEII land is currently \$9 per hectare. 65% of remissions are less than \$14 per hectare.

It is noted that the District Plan currently excludes QEII covenanted land from SNAs.

Multiple owned Māori freehold land with an SNA can potentially claim remission under a more general policy allowing consideration on a case-by-case basis. This policy includes an objective of 'recognising and taking into account the importance for community goals relating to the protection of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna'. Under this objective up to 50% rates remission may be provided. Staff are not aware of any application for remissions on Māori land with an SNA under this objective but, if sought, the approach to calculating the remission would likely be the same as that for QEII land.

Extracts from the current remissions policies are attached as Attachment 1.

Other incentives

Council waives fees for resource consents for walkways and pest management tracks inside of SNAs or for the restoration of SNAs. Otherwise, Council does not currently provide any other specific support/incentives directed at SNAs.

4. TE MATAPAKI ME NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA DISCUSSION AND OPTIONS

Options

Four options have been identified as discussed below. Option 3 is the favoured option.

1. *Retain the current rates remission policy*

If the current rates remission policy is retained remission can be sought for SNAs on Māori land but there will continue to be no opportunity to apply for remissions for SNAs on general title land. For Māori land with SNAs landowners must also individually apply for remission. The costs of this process are likely to outweigh the remission received for many land holdings. Uptake is likely to continue to be low.

On the basis that limited support/incentives are currently available for landowners with SNAs, this option is not favoured. However, it is noted that by the time Council considers this paper the issue of incentives/support for biodiversity will be considered as a result of Waikato Regional Council's submission on the Long Term Plan. It may be that other options for support, aside from rates remission, may be identified.

2. *Extend the Current Approach for QEII Covenants to SNAs*

The second option identified is to apply a remission similar to that provided to QEII properties. Owners of general title land with SNAs would have the opportunity to apply for a remission. The remission would be calculated based on the estimated value of the land in the SNA and how this capital value flows through to the overall rates assessment.

It is expected that in most cases this approach of remitting to account for the impact of the land in SNA will make only a small difference to the rates assessment because:

- Much of the overall rates assessment is charged without reference to the land but instead per rating unit (in the case of Uniform Annual General Charge and lakes enhancement rate) or for the receipt of specific services (such as refuse collection or water supply).
- Most of the capital value of a property tends to be held in the improvements and curtilage around dwellings and not in outlying areas in SNAs. So even for those components of a rates assessment that are based on the land (i.e. the components based on capital value) the land within SNAs tends to make only a small difference to an overall rates assessment.

Attachment 3 details rates assessments for properties with QEII covenants to illustrate the overall low impact of the land in QEII to the overall rates assessment.

The average remission available per hectare under this approach is expected to be in the order of that applied to QEII Covenants, but perhaps a little less given the remote nature of land in SNAs.

This option is not favoured because:

- Uptake of the remissions policy may be low as land owners must individually apply.
- Each property would need to be individually valued and, given the expected value of the remissions, this is inefficient.

3. *Amend the policy to provide a uniform remission per hectare for SNAs for properties with a minimum of 20 hectares of SNA (preferred option)*

The favoured option is to apply a uniform remission per hectare to reduce administrative costs and increase efficiency. Landowners would have the benefit of the remission without the need to make an application. GIS information would be used to identify which properties would receive the remission and the extent of the land involved.

It is suggested that the underlying philosophy for calculating the remission used in the QEII remission and in option 2 provides the basis for identifying a reasonable rate per hectare. That is, the remission should be broadly based on consideration of how the land in SNAs will typically contribute to an overall rates assessment. For the reasons given above this approach results in a fairly low remission per hectare (that is, because the underlying land makes a relatively small difference to an overall rates assessment).

The proposed rate is \$5 per hectare. A lower rate than the average QEII remission is proposed because Council's valuers have advised, based on broad overview of land in SNA, the capital value of typical SNA may be lower than the average capital value of land receiving QEII remissions. The lower rate is also considered reasonable because QEII covenants are typically more restrictive than SNA rules and require fencing and pest management. It is noted that the \$5 per hectare is based on the current funding impact statement but could be reviewed in the future if considered necessary.

The favoured option also limits the remission to properties with over 20 hectares of SNA to:

- reduce the administration costs of processing the remission (reducing the number of affected valuation numbers to approximately 200); and
- focus on properties where the remission would be meaningful.

It is acknowledged that for many properties the proposed remission would remain fairly small, both in an absolute sense and as a proportion of the total amount of rates payable for the property. It is estimated that of the approximate 200 properties:

- 43% of the properties would receive between \$100 and \$199
- 31% would receive between \$200 and \$499
- 26% would receive more than \$500.

Nonetheless, it would provide some acknowledgement to landowners of the contribution made by the property to the maintenance of biodiversity. Many landowners consulted on the recent Plan Change 3 indicated they felt some kind of recognition is important.

The disadvantage of this automatic remission option is that it would not distinguish properties that are actively protecting natural areas through fencing, stock, exclusion and pest management from those that continue to graze SNAs with existing use rights or are otherwise negatively impacting ecological values. However, focusing on those properties that have retired or protected SNAs would add to the administrative costs. This is discussed further in option 4.

The estimated cost of the remission for this option is \$75,000-\$90,000.

The existing remissions policies would also continue to apply for Māori land and QEII covenants.

4. *Amend the policy to provide a uniform remission per hectare for SNAs for properties with (as for option 3) but require landowners to verify that the land is retired.*

The last option identified is to apply a remission at a set rate per hectare (as for option 3) but to require landowners to apply for the remission and demonstrate a commitment to protection of the values of the SNA.

An example of this approach is Kapiti Coast District Council. This Council offers rates remissions for private landowners with land in areas identified in the District Plan as SNAs. To qualify, applicants need to develop a Heritage Management Plan specifying how the site will be protected. The Council offers free advice from a biodiversity specialist on protective and restorative management to develop these plans.

As there is currently has no resourcing or expertise to assist with the development of management plans it is suggested that a simpler approach would be to require landowners to provide details to verify that the area is retired from grazing or other productive uses that could affect the values of the SNA.

The cost of this option is uncertain because it is unknown how many landowners would apply. The maximum cost at \$5 per hectare is around \$100,000. Although it is anticipated that the actual cost will be much less as many landowners would not apply.

This option would have the benefit of better aligning remissions with those properties that better protect the values of the SNAs. However, given the value of the potential remissions, uptake is likely to be small. Compared to option 3, this option would increase administration costs for both Council and landowners. This is not the favoured option for these reasons.

Practice in other authorities.

Neighbouring districts of Whakatāne, Western Bay of Plenty and Tauranga do not have any remission policies for SNA land. Tauranga and Taupō are similar to Rotorua: Māori land with SNAs may potentially be eligible for remissions under broader policies that provide for consideration of protection of natural areas.

Bay of Plenty Regional Council has the same remission policies as Rotorua Lakes Council so remission is available only for Māori land under a broader remission policy.

Waikato Regional Council has a remission policy for land protected for natural conservation purposes (not limited to SNAs) and retired from grazing. The land also must be of national or international significance. Under this policy landowners must apply and the remission is calculated on the basis similar to option 2 using a valuation of the land. The Waikato Regional Council recently received a report explaining that there had been no uptake of the remission to-date. The Waikato Regional Council has approved changes to the policy to extend the remission to areas of regional significance. The Council also approved further actions for staff to actively identify eligible properties and increase advertising so that landowners are aware of the ability to apply for remission.

**5. TE TINO AROMATAWAI
ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The decision about whether to amend the remission policy is not considered significant under Council's Significance Policy. It would affect all landowners with rateable SNAs, but with a positive effect. The effect on the remainder of the Rotorua community would be minimal given the financial scale of the options considered.

**6. NGĀ KŌRERO O TE HAPORI ME TE WHAKATAIRANGA
COMMUNITY INPUT/ENGAGEMENT AND PUBLICITY**

Before adopting an amendment to a rates remission policy the Council must consult on the proposed amendments in a manner that gives effect to the requirements of section 82, which sets out principles of consultation. These principles include: providing people with reasonable access to relevant information; encouraging people to present their views; giving clear information on the purpose and scope of the consultation; providing reasonable opportunities for people to present their views to the local authority; receiving those views with an open mind; and providing submitters with access to a clear record of relevant decisions and explanatory material.

The principles are to be observed by the Council in such a manner as the Council considers is appropriate in the particular instance having regard to matters such as the extent to which views and preferences are already known; the nature and significance of the decision; and the costs and benefits of any consultation process or procedure.

Consultation has occurred through discussions with landowners in relation to Plan Change 3. These landowners represent a sample of those affected by SNAs. While this was not consultation dedicated specifically to the issue of rates remission, rates remission was frequently identified as an issue of concern to those consulted on the plan change. Landowners with whom rates were discussed were informed about the approach to QEIs and that a similar approach was being considered for SNAs.

This consultation suggests that many landowners would be pleased to have their contribution to the protection of natural areas acknowledged through a rates remission, although small. Others will be disappointed that larger remission is not proposed. However, a higher remission rate per hectare

would represent the remission of rates that are not calculated on the basis of capital value. This is not identified as a real option and would exceed the approach taken to QEILs, which involve a higher commitment to protection of the natural area.

7. HE WHAIWHAKAARO CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 He Whaiwhakaarotanga Mahere Pūtea Financial/budget considerations

Under the favoured option around 200 valuation numbers would be affected by the remission. At a rate of \$5 per hectare the value of the proposed remission would be around \$75,000 to \$85,000 per year.

If agreed by Council the remission can be applied to the rates from 1 July 2021.

7.2 Kaupapa Here me ngā Hiraunga Whakariterite Policy and planning implications

The proposed remission aligns with the approach taken to QEILs but applying an estimated average value of SNA land.

7.3 Tūraru Risks

Public Perception

Consultation suggests there may be some negativity from some SNA landowners that a higher rates remission is not applied. However, the remission is considered appropriate for the reasons given above.

7.4 Te Whaimana Authority

Rates remission policies are optional under section 102 of the Local Government Act 2002. The policy can be amended at any time after consulting on the proposed amendments in a manner that gives effect to the requirements of section 82 (Principles of Consultation).

8. NGĀ ĀPITI HANGA ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Extracts from Current Rates Remission Policies (Page 45)

Attachment 2: Proposed Rates Remission Policy for SNAs (Page 48)

Attachment 3: Examples of rates assessments for QEIL covenanted land (Page 49)

Attachment 1: Extracts from Council's Rates Remission Policies**Rates remissions policies****Brief Statement**

Council has the following rates relief policies, effective from 1 July 2018, pursuant to the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, as follows:

- Remission of penalties on current overdue instalments;
- Remission of penalties on current overdue metered water invoices;
- Remission of penalties on arrears (including past overdue instalments);
- Remission of rates on land used for certain purposes;
- Policy for grants in lieu of rate remissions;
- Remission of targeted rates for sewage from schools;
- Remission of rates for QEII National Trust Open Space Covenants;
- Remission of rates in extraordinary circumstances;
- Remission of metered water charges where leak has been detected and repaired;
- Discount for early payment of rates;
- Remission policy on uncollectable rates;
- Remission of targeted rates for capital cost of sewerage schemes on payment of capital cost owing;
- Remission of rates on Māori freehold land;
- Rates postponement;
- Postponement of rates on Māori freehold land

Generally, all first time remissions and postponements approved will apply from 1 July in the year in which they are applied for. Subsequent applications will require necessary supporting documentation to be provided in accordance with the renewal process as advised by Council. The exception will be remission of arrears penalties.

Council has delegated to council officers authority to consider and approve all applications for remission or postponement of rates pursuant to Council's policies, except for "remission of rates in extraordinary circumstances". As a general rule, and where practicable, documentary evidence or statutory declaration should be provided in support of a written application.

Applications for remission or postponement or a grant in lieu of remission, must be in writing unless otherwise indicated in a policy.

All rates remission policies are at the discretion of Council, having regard to both the policy and circumstances.

Remission of Rates for Queen Elizabeth II National Trust Open Space Covenants**Policy Objective**

To provide rates relief where land is legally protected under a QEII Open Space Covenant.

Conditions and criteria

Council will consider remissions of rates on land that has a QEII Open Space Covenant where the land or portion of land has a legal binding QEII Open Space Covenant registered on the title.

Calculation of such remissions are to be on a case-by-case basis, with the determination of land value for the covenanted land to be made by Council's Valuation Service Provider.

Remission of rates on Māori Freehold Land

In developing this policy Council has given consideration to how either providing or not providing rates remissions would contribute to the following objectives.

Objectives

- Supporting the use of the land by the owners for traditional purposes.
- Recognising and supporting the relationship of Māori, and their culture and traditions, with their ancestral lands.
- Avoiding further alienation of Māori freehold land.
- Facilitating any wish of the owners to develop the land further for economic use.
- Recognising and taking account of the presence of waahi tapu that may affect the use of the land for other purposes.
- Recognising and taking account of the importance of the land in providing economic and infrastructure support for marae and associated papakainga housing (whether on the land or elsewhere).
- Recognising and taking account of the importance of the land for community goals relating to:
 - the preservation of the natural character of the lakes environment
 - the protection of outstanding natural features
 - the protection of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna
- Recognising the level of community services provided to the land and its occupiers.
- Recognising matters relating to the physical accessibility of the land.
- Encouraging productive use or occupation of part or all of the land and payment of rates on part or all of the land.
- Taking into account other factors (e.g. value of land based on highest and best use, compared with actual or most practical use) that contribute to the block being unoccupied and unproductive.

Specific conditions and criteria

- 50% rates remission may be provided where any of the objectives 1-9 are supported.
- 75% rates remission may be provided for a period of 5 years where land that is previously not used is brought into productive economic use. After 5 years the remission will be either removed or reduced where conditions continue to prevent full economic use of the land, e.g. zoning value, access difficulties, flooding or erosion. This remission may only be applied for once every ten years in respect of the same property. (objectives 4 and 10 supported).
- Multiple sets of uniform annual general charges and uniform targeted rates may be remitted where multiple rating units are being used as one property, e.g. forestry, farming. Rating units need not necessarily be contiguous (objectives 4 and 10 supported).
- Part of the rates may be remitted where some other aspect beyond the reasonable control of the owners prevents the full economic use of the land e.g. access, flooding, erosion etc. Remission amount will be on a case by case basis at the discretion of council (objective 9 supported).
- Part of the rates may be remitted where:
 - The land is multiple owned and unoccupied, and
 - Remission of part of the rates assessed will enable all or part of the land to be utilised, and enable payment of the balance of the rates assessed (objective 10 supported).
- Part of the rates may be remitted where:
 - The land is multiple owned, and
 - The rateable value exceeds the value that is relevant for the purpose for which the land will be used, e.g. land is zoned residential yet is used for farming (objective 11 supported).

Calculation of remissions under objective 11 are to be on a case by case basis, with the determination of 'actual use' rateable value to be made by Council's valuation service provider.

General conditions and criteria

- If any remaining rates after a remission is applied are not paid by the relevant due date no further remission will be provided.
- No remission of service charges will be provided.
- No rates postponements will be provided on Māori freehold land.
- Consideration will be given to the following matters (but not limited to these) as part of the decision-making process:
 - The number of owners
 - The rateable land value per hectare relative to similar parcels of land
 - Any restriction of access, bearing in mind this will have been accounted for to some extent by Council's valuers
 - Potential for future use/economic development of the land.
- For the purposes of this policy, multiple owned Māori freehold land means Māori freehold land owned by more than two persons.
- Each case will be considered on its individual merits at Council's discretion. This means that an application for remission that seems to meet the conditions and criteria may not necessarily be approved.
- Properties approved to receive a remission will be subject to regular review and generally this will be on an annual basis.
- Application for rates remissions under any of the above conditions is required to be submitted on the 'MFL remission application form'. Contact Council's customer service centre for a copy. Further information may be requested by council officers to support any application lodged.

Attachment 2: Proposed Remission Policy for SNAs**Remission of Rates for Significant Natural Areas identified in the District Plan****Policy Objective**

To provide rates relief where land is identified as a Significant Natural Area (SNA) in the District Plan.

Conditions and criteria

Council will remit rates for rateable land identified as a SNA in the District Plan provided that the rating unit has a minimum of 20 hectares of land identified as a SNA and rates remission is not already provided to the land under another policy.

Remissions will be calculated at a rate of \$5/hectare of land identified as a SNA and applied to the General Rates of the particular rating unit.

Attachment 3: Examples of rates assessments for QEII covenanted land

	Property 1	Property 2	Property 3
General location	Broadlands	Ngongotahā Valley	Broadlands
Total Land Area	151.5 hectares	7.1 hectares	46.8 hectares
Area identified as a SNA	5.3 hectares (3.5%)	2.4 hectares (33.8%)	9.9 hectares (21.2%)
Total Capital Value	\$6,260,000	\$1,210,000	\$1,470,000
Capital Value Assigned to SNA	\$17,000	\$29,000	\$38,000
RLC Rates Assessment (excl. GST and remission)	\$19,927	\$2,955	\$3,048
Remission	\$51.32 (\$9.70/hectare)	\$58.91 (\$24.51/hectare)	\$53.16 (\$5.40/hectare)

ROTORUA LAKES COUNCIL

Mayor
Chair and Members
STRATEGY, POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

6.3 Long- Term Plan 2021-31 – Approve Community Performance Measures

Report prepared by: Oonagh Hopkins, Corporate Planning and Governance Manager

Report approved by: Geoff Williams, Chief Executive

1. TE PŪTAKE PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for council to approve the 2021-2031 Community Performance Measures for inclusions into the final development of the 2021-31 Long-term plan document.

2. HE TŪTOHUNGA RECOMMENDATION

1. That the report 'Long-term Plan 2021-31 – Approve Community Performance Measures' be received.
2. That the Committee recommends to Council to approve the suite of Community Performance Measures and include them in the final Long-term Plan 2021-31.

3. TE TĀHUHU BACKGROUND

A Long-term Plan is developed by Council every three years and covers a period no less than 10 years.

The Local Government Act stipulates that as part of the Long-term plan development local authorities are required to develop indicators to enable them to be able to report on how well they are performing in delivering levels of service to their communities. It is proposed that in the 2021-31 Long-term plan that 56 measures are agreed upon as the measures for Level of Service for each activity plan for the next ten years. It should also be noted that 24 of the measures are mandatory as per section 261B of the Local Government Act.

4. TE MATAPAKI ME NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA DISCUSSION AND OPTIONS

As part of Schedule 10, clause 4 of the Local Government Act a Long-term Plan (LTP) must, in relation to each group of activities of the local authority, include a statement of the intended levels of service provision that specifies:

- a) Any performance measures specified in a rule made under section 261B for a group of activities described in clause 2(2); and
- b) the performance measures that the local authority considers will enable the public to assess the level of service for major aspects of groups of activities for which performance measures have not been specified under paragraph (a); and
- c) the performance target or targets set by the local authority for each performance measure; and
- d) any intended changes to the level of service that was provided in the year before the first year covered by the plan and the reasons for the changes; and
- e) the reason for any material change to the cost of a service.

The development of the 2021-2031 community measures are derived from Council's key priorities areas (Homes and Thriving Communities, Community Safety, Economic Development, Climate Change and the 30-year Infrastructure Strategy).

Following approval of the measures they will be included into the final Long-term Plan document which will be put to council for adoption on 28 June 2021.

5. TE TINO AROMATAWAI ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The decisions or matters of this report are not considered significant in accordance with the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

6. NGĀ KŌRERO O TE HAPORI ME TE WHAKATAIRANGA COMMUNITY INPUT/ENGAGEMENT AND PUBLICITY

Council undertook its consultation for the Long-term Plan 2021-2031 in April 2021. "Mahi" lead community conversations based on the Council's key priorities - Homes and Thriving Communities, Community Safety, Economic Development, Climate Change and the 30-year Infrastructure Strategy.

The measures are considered to reflect the key strategies and delivery presented in "Mahi". Separate consultation on the setting of the measures is not required due to the correlation of the measures to the council's key priority areas.

7. HE WHAIWHAKAARO CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 He Whaiwhakaarotanga Mahere Pūtea Financial/budget considerations

There is no additional financial implication in making this decision. Performance management is a requirement of the Local Government Act and as such is a must do and auditable.

7.2 Kaupapa Here me ngā Hiraunga Whakariterite Policy and planning implications

No policy and planning implications have been identified.

7.3 Tūraru Risks

There are no major risks associated with the decisions or matters.

7.4 Te Whaimana Authority

Council under the Local Government Act 2002 have authority to receive this report.

8. NGĀ ĀPITI HANGA ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: 2021-31 Community Performance Measures (to be circulated separately).