

Council Briefing Agenda

Date: Wednesday, 25 November, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

Location: Council Chamber
Forum North, Rust Avenue
Whangarei

Elected Members: Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai
(Chairperson)

Cr Gavin Benney
Cr Vince Cocurullo
Cr Nicholas Connop
Cr Ken Couper
Cr Tricia Cutforth
Cr Shelley Deeming
Cr Jayne Golightly
Cr Phil Halse
Cr Greg Innes
Cr Greg Martin
Cr Anna Murphy
Cr Carol Peters
Cr Simon Reid

For any queries regarding this meeting please contact
the Whangarei District Council on (09) 430-4200.

1. Apologies

2. Reports

2.1. Key issues for Consultation – Draft LTP 2021 - 2031

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3. Closure of Meeting

2.1. Key issues for Consultation – Long Term Plan 2021–2031

Meeting: Council Briefing
Date of meeting: 25 November 2020
Reporting officer: Jane Ashley (Manager – Communications)

1 Purpose

To present the proposed key dates and consultation activities for the Long-Term Plan (LTP) 2021–2031 for discussion.

2 Background

It is proposed that formal consultation begins on 3 March 2021 and runs through until 2 April 2021 (one calendar month). This involves releasing a public Consultation Document outlining the key issues that Council must make decisions on, any options available (including Council's preferred option), and seeking community input on these issues and options. The Consultation Document will be made available online, and at all Council Offices and Libraries throughout the consultation period.

The LTP communications and engagement programme will take place in three phases:

- **Phase 1:** Education and awareness – December 2020 to March 2021.
- **Phase 2:** Formal consultation (one calendar month – 3 March 2021 to 2 April 2021).
- **Phase 3:** Post-consultation hearings, deliberations and adoption (April to June 2021).

3 Consultation Document

The Consultation Document is not just a summary of the LTP, it is a document that tells our story and seeks input on key issues. It's an important way for the community to understand: what the challenges are that Council and the community face in the post COVID-19 environment; where does Council want to get to with those challenges; and what does it plan to do to get there?

Proposed key issues for consultation include:

- COVID-19 rates catch up
- Sustainability – response to sustainability and climate change, includes new funding for climate change risk assessments and waste minimisation
- City centre revitalisation – roading improvements to James and John Streets
- Theatre options

Key issues to also include in our LTP story:

- Navigating COVID-19 – one year on (growth is sustained)
- Outlining the difficult trade-offs that Council has had to make in prioritising a draft budget for consultation, noting that budget for additional pensioner housing is not currently in the plan.
- Ensuring we keep getting the basics right across our core business
- Supporting the recovery and reset with an ambitious capital works programme (while highlighting the complexities – govt funding, debt, capacity)
- Debt will be higher – but we're living within our means, stimulating the economy, benefitting from projects and govt funding
- Continued advocacy for Northport/Navy
- Potential for central government reform

How we will deliver the consultation programme

Staff will provide an update on the LTP consultation and engagement programme to explain how we will deliver the consultation, including the communication campaign, and opportunities for face-to-face engagement through meetings and events.

4 Supporting documents

Following direction provided in the Briefing of 19 November staff are working through changes to financial modeling for development of the draft Financial Strategy and Infrastructure Strategy. An update on progress will be provided in this briefing.