

Long-term Plan 2024–34



Respondent No. 36

Response ID 5621121

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Personal information

First name Christopher

Last name Bray

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

Please let us know what ward you live in Raumati

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

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

Submission

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

Option 1: Fund \$4.7 million shortfall with an additional 5% rates increase in Year 1.

Would you like to expand on your answer for option 1?

Operational costs must be paid for from revenue (rates). The United Nations defines sustainable development as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Funding operational costs with debt solves a problem today but compromises the future.

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

Option 2: Apply average rates increases of 7% per year from 2025/26 to 2033/34

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

The best balance between impact today and impact tomorrow.

Proposal 3: Transfer Council's housing for older people
Which option should we choose? (select one option)

Option 1: Transfer our older persons' housing assets to a new Community Housing Provider

Would you like to expand on your answer for option 1?

Community housing is important, but should not be the responsibility of local government. Option One seems the best way of ensuring good quality community housing is available.

New climate action rate

Which option should we choose? (select one option)

Option 2: Make no change to how we allocate funding our climate change activities

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

Climate change is the new normal. Separating out the cost of responding will create the impression that Council has the option of discontinuing that response, or scaling back the response below what Council considers imperative, or somehow funding the response in some other way. By all means be transparent about the cost, but don't make it appear to be negotiable.

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

Well done. A very difficult situation, exacerbated by an absurd central government attack on three waters. Yes, the rates are going to increase, but that is inevitable when central government transfers more and more responsibility to local government without addressing the funding constraints of local government.