



## **2017/18 Proposed Annual Plan**

### **Officers' Response to Submissions 18–19 May 2017**

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<b>18 May</b>			
<b>Annual Plan submissions</b>			<b>Report Page No</b>
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Not Speaking	P76	Greater Wellington Regional Council	B35
Not Speaking	P77	Christopher Engel	B36

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P1</b>
<b>Pāua World (Rosie Carter)</b>	<b>10:10 am</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
Supports increased funding for Destination Wairarapa (DW) to ensure DW is able to market Wairarapa so it continues to gain from higher tourist numbers, and recognises tourism as the largest export earner for New Zealand (Tourism New Zealand)	

**Background/Context**

Destination Wairarapa is to receive \$54,000 under the proposed 2017/18 Annual Plan. This continues the existing commitment to Destination Wairarapa. Destination Wairarapa has submitted separately.

**Officers' Comments**

This submission supports any bid for increased funding by Destination Wairarapa (see Destination Wairarapa submission).

**Recommendation**

Note the support given to Destination Wairarapa.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P2</b>
<b>Ron Shaw</b>	<b>10:20 am</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
<p>Does not support deferral of the construction of the three chamber storage reservoir.  Supports the management of the water races as one, including its rating.  Supports the change in financial policy relating to the funding of depreciation.</p> <p>Acknowledges Council support for the <i>Resilient Carterton Initiative</i>, a community based initiative.</p> <p>Seeks responses to questions raised in 2016 in submission on the 2016/17 Annual Plan relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Earthquake prone buildings policy</li> <li>• Economic development</li> <li>• Heart of Arts – Toi Wairarapa</li> <li>• Amalgamation.</li> </ul>	

### **Background/Context**

In his submission to the 2016/17 Annual Plan, Mr Shaw supported the bringing forward of the Sewage Treatment proposal including the construction of the storage reservoir in 2017/18. In respect of the matters raised in his 2016 submission, Ron Shaw asked:

- Earthquake prone buildings policy – this was adopted in 2006 – had it been reviewed since 2006, when, and were the results published. The policy requires a high level assessment of buildings; was this done and what action had been taken.
- Economic development – in 2015 an economic development strategy and action plan was adopted by Council and to be reviewed in April 2016; was it reviewed, and did any actions occur.
- Heart of Arts – Toi Wairarapa; has the Council partnered with Toi Wairarapa to capture the cultural-based economic and social benefits for Carterton.
- Amalgamation – consultation did not occur as timetabled, and what did the Council think was the community perception of this failure to consult.

### **Officers' Comments**

Resilient Carterton is an important initiative in making Carterton resilient to a possible future event. It has enabled the Council to progress its own Emergency Management Plan, in partnership with the community.

Mr Shaw's position on the sewage treatment proposal is unchanged from 2016. In order to make the upgrade more affordable officers advise the Council to adopt the adjusted project programme as presented in the Consultation Document.

In respect of earthquake prone buildings, past activities by Council are now over-ridden by Government changes enacted in 2016. Currently Council is putting in place the system of assessment and other action required by the Earthquake Prone Amendment Act 2016 that takes effect from

1 July 2017. Council is required to report back to Government on what it has done. Council's involvement with building owners has included the formation of interest groups.

The onus is on building owners to ensure that their buildings are assessed and have a New Building Standard (NBS) score; that score must be advised to Council.

In respect of economic development Mr Shaw acknowledges that his current involvement with Go Carterton addresses his concerns. Go Carterton receives some financial support from Council. Toi Wairarapa has submitted separately.

In respect of the council amalgamation debate and process, the community consultation on the Local Government Commission proposals is led by the Commission.

### **Recommendations**

Decline the request to not defer the construction of the reservoir.

Adopt the amalgamation of the water races for the purpose of rating, as proposed in the Annual Plan Consultation Document.

Adopt the change in financial policy relating to the funding of depreciation, as proposed in the Annual Plan Consultation Document.

Congratulate Mr Shaw on his work leading the Resilient Carterton initiative and confirm CDC's commitment to working with him to make Carterton more resilient to major events.

Confirm CDC's commitment to continue to work with Go Carterton and others to promote economic development in the District.

Ask officers to discuss the earthquake buildings policy provisions currently in place with Mr Shaw.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P4</b>
<b>Toi Wairarapa (Ron Shaw)</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
<p>Toi Wairarapa has no view on the issues being consulted upon.</p> <p>The submission outlines recent history, notes its financial recovery and outlines its intentions for the next year. These include formation of a local art collective and initiating an art starts programme for fine arts graduates in line with the Wairarapa Councils' arts, culture and heritage (ACH) approach.</p> <p>Toi Wairarapa thanks the Council for continued support.</p>	

### **Background/Context**

Toi Wairarapa received \$16,000 in the Annual Plan 2016/17 and is to receive \$10,000 under the draft Annual Plan for 2017/18. In 2016/17 amount included an additional \$6,000 was to assist Toi Wairarapa to establish the arts hub in Carterton. Funding returns to normal levels in 2017/18.

### **Officers' Comments**

The sustainability of Toi Wairarapa is the responsibility of the Trustees who, in recent times, have been working hard to make the Trust financially viable. They are developing programmes that increase income through self-sustaining activities.

These income-based initiatives, along with those under their Arts and Cultural Heritage approach, should be set out in business planning that is shared with Council and other proposed funders.

Council should continue to work with Toi Wairarapa and support it to maintain its financial viability.

### **Recommendation**

Toi Wairarapa receives \$10,000 as provided under the draft 2017/18 Annual Plan, subject to receipt of a robust financial plan that identifies how financial viability will be achieved.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P6</b>
<b>Don Kinnell</b>	<b>10:40 am</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
Supports rescheduling the construction of the storage reservoir to 2018/19.	
Considers the issue under discussion avoids the public discussion about the affordability of the scheme; the impact of rates increases being greater on lower-income households; and the inability of lower income households to access the rates rebate scheme. Rates setting could be loading rates onto lower income ratepayers as they are able to access rates rebates.	

### **Officers' Comments**

The question of payer affordability and impacts on lower-income households are taken into consideration in any rates review, the last occurring in 2011 for Carterton, and in the design and timing of the project itself. Eligibility for the rates rebate scheme is set by Government. Rates rebates are not considered as part of Council's rating decisions.

Opportunities will be provided for ratepayer submissions during the consultation period for the next rating policy review. There is currently no date set for such a review. If there is an amalgamation of the Wairarapa councils (currently being considered by the Local Government Commission) then a review will happen as part of the new Council's Long Term Plan work. If amalgamation does not happen then it would be appropriate for this Council to programme a rating policy review to happen during the period of the next Long Term Plan – with a start date of the review in 2018/19. A review process is likely to take about eighteen months to complete.

### **Recommendations**

Adopt the revised wastewater treatment plant upgrade programme, as proposed in the Annual Plan Consultation Document.

Programme a review of the Council's rating policy to start in 2018/19.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P8</b>
<b>Destination Wairarapa (David Hancock)</b>	<b>10:50 am</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
Destination Wairarapa (DW) seeks:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council to provide resources to find a route now to connect Carterton with the NZ Cycle Trail</li> <li>• Continued funding of DW to ensure the ongoing promotion of Wairarapa and ultimately maximise the economic benefits of tourism.</li> </ul>	

### **Background/Context**

A partnership MOU has been signed by the three Councils and in accord with that MOU Destination Wairarapa is to receive \$54,000 under the proposed 2017/18 Annual Plan. Council has paid DW \$54,000 annually for some time. This proposed payment continues the existing commitment to DW.

### **Officers' Comments**

There is a continuing recognition of the efforts of DW and this encourages commitment by Council to fund DW. Where there is difficulty for DW is identifying the direct benefits Carterton receives through their marketing efforts. Officers have recognised that past marketing has focussed on an arts and culture aspect while in fact Carterton has broader activities that attract visitors and usage of its facilities.

Council has formed a Walking and Cycling strategy and advisory group working to improve facilities and the associated experience generally. This Group seeks to involve all the walking and cycling groups across the Wairarapa. Officers support the opportunities to work together and to connect Carterton to both Greytown and Masterton for cycling and walking.

As regards extending the NZ Cycle Trail experience, a Wairarapa Valley Cycleway does already traverse the district albeit on the eastern side and utilising roads. Alluded to in the submission is development of a cycleway on the western side of the valley from Featherston. Council officers are linked into the work investigating route options. Any extension of the trail in Carterton District will be considered in terms of the Walking and Cycling Strategy and if additional Council resources are required this will be brought back to the Council for consideration.

### **Recommendations**

Continue to support the regional tourism strategy through a partnership funding arrangement, with \$54,000 provided to Destination Wairarapa in 2018/19.

Continue to work with Destination Wairarapa and others as part of the Walking and Cycling Strategy and ensure the Advisory Group remains linked into and aware of initiatives and opportunities for extending the Wairarapa cycle trail.



<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P10</b>
<b>Howard Booth Park Sports Trust (Steve Hurley)</b>	<b>Not Speaking</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
Will present an overview of the strategic plan developed for the HUBCAP proposal at Howard Booth Park.	

**Officers' Comments**

No proposal has yet been received from the Howard Booth Park Sports Trust.

Mr Hurley and the Trust are due to attend a Council workshop on 17 May to discuss the proposed strategic plan for a community sports facility (HUBCAP) at Howard Booth Park. Given the submission did not contain details of the Trust's proposal, this effectively sits outside the Annual Plan process.

**Recommendation**

Note that consideration of the Sports Trust strategic plan by the Council will be outside the Annual Plan process.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P12</b>
<b>Project Wairarapa (Ron Shaw)</b>	<b>11:10 am</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
Project Wairarapa has initiated a number of successful ventures and thanks the Council for its continued support of these ventures.	

### **Background/Context**

Project Wairarapa is a Carterton-based group seeking to build community resilience within Carterton.

### **Officers' Comments**

The initiatives of Project Wairarapa are to be applauded and acknowledged. This is an example of community-led development where we support the community to implement and develop their initiatives. Council has worked closely with the Project Connect initiative and Carterton was the first in our region to complete our Emergency Hub activation training.

It is important to be working alongside groups such as this in a partnership and look forward to participating in other initiatives with Project Wairarapa. Community gardens project is ongoing and a good example of working with a cross section of the community. Their application to the Department of Internal Affairs for partnership while not successful shows the strength of community working together. Comments from DIA were favourable for future applications.

### **Recommendation**

Note the significant work being undertaken in the community through Project Wairarapa and congratulate the leaders and participants on the results already achieved.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P14</b>
<b>Five Towns Trail Trust (Bob Tosswill)</b>	<b>11:20 am</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
Invitation to the Council to work with the Trust to deliver a recreational cycling strategy for the Wairarapa.	

### **Background/Context**

Five Towns Trail Trust is recently formed with the objective of delivering a recreational cycling strategy for the Wairarapa. It seeks to do this by forming a working partnership with the District Councils and others, including Destination Wairarapa.

### **Officers' Comments**

The recently convened CDC Walking and Cycling Advisory Group is making contact with the many groups associated with walking and cycling in the Wairarapa to enable a joined up approach and decrease the possibility of group crossover. This has included the Trust. Officers anticipate a close working relationship with the Trust.

### **Recommendation**

Request officers to continue to establish close working relationships with the Five Towns Trail Trust, possibly as a participant in the Walking and Cycling Advisory Group of Council, as a means to progress our shared objectives.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P19</b>
<b>Eleanor Harper</b>	<b>11:30 am</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
Seeks no fluoridation of Carterton urban water supply; and asks that local councils decide if they want to declare themselves a GE Free zone.	

### **Background/Context**

Currently, there is no fluoride added to the urban water supply for Carterton.

Any decision to do so will shortly be the responsibility of District Health Boards. The Health (Fluoridation of Drinking Water) Amendment Bill is currently before Select Committee. This Bill amends Part 2A of the Health Act 1956 by inserting a power for DHBs to make decisions and give directions about the fluoridation of local government drinking water supplies in their areas.

### **Officers' Comments**

Fluoride addition to the urban water supply is a public health issue. Action to do so will arise if such a public issue arose for Carterton District. Currently Government is resolved in these matters being determined by Health Authorities, hence the direction taken in legislative change.

Some councils have declared themselves GE Free or GMO Free under the auspices of the Resource Management Act. This has been challenged unsuccessfully in Court by the Federated Farmers. Proposed legislation by the Government to limit this stance does not have support of Government partners. At this time there appears to be no significant support within the community for a GE or GMO Free declaration.

### **Recommendations**

Note any decision on adding fluoride to the urban water supply will soon be the responsibility of the Wairarapa District Health Board.

Decline the request to declare Carterton District GE or GMO Free.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P21</b>
<b>Wairarapa Federated Farmers</b>	<b>11:40 am</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
<p>Federated Farmers highlights examples of farmers paying rates that they consider inappropriate and express a concern about the effectiveness of the 180° pivot used for sewerage treatment. They recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• rural rate payers should not pay a general rate contribution to urban sewerage</li> <li>• Council should explore options to install 360° rather than 270° pivot on Daleton Farm to maximise absorption.</li> </ul>	

### **Officers' Comments**

Federated Farmers continue to express concern that farmers are unduly rated for urban related services, particularly where those farmers also have to meet the cost of their own responsibilities for similar services.

The current rating impact on rural ratepayers reflects the rating policies set in 2011. Opportunities will be provided for ratepayer submissions during the consultation period for the next rating policy review. There is currently no date set for such a review. If there is an amalgamation of the Wairarapa councils (currently being considered by the Local Government Commission) then a review will happen as part of the new Council's Long Term Plan work. If amalgamation does not happen then it would be appropriate for this Council to programme a rating policy review to happen during the period of the next Long Term Plan – with a start date of the review in 2018/19. A review process is likely to take about eighteen months to complete.

As regards the centre pivot irrigators used at Daleton Farm, they have been optimised to use the most suitable land for irrigation. Installation of a 360° pivot is unworkable on the site due to the terrain.

### **Recommendations**

Programme a review of the Council's rating policy to start in 2018/19.

Decline the recommendation to review the pivot irrigator system on Daleton Farm.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P26</b>
<b>Helen Dew</b>	<b>11:50 am</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Positive about the Council contribution to the efforts of <i>Resilient Carterton</i>.</li> <li>2. What actions has the Council taken in respect of Climate Change since 2015?</li> <li>3. Is personally opposed to the amalgamation of the Wairarapa district councils.</li> <li>4. What is the status of natural burials in Carterton?</li> <li>5. Requested an update on the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. kitchen waste disposal systems</li> <li>b. managing water demands</li> <li>c. food bearing trees and woodlots in parks and reserves.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	

### Officers' Comments

In respect of climate change, Council:

- recently adopted a Cycling and Walking Strategy, in part aimed at making it easier to walk and cycle in Carterton as an alternative to cars. A group has been established to help us implement the plan.
- is working on a footpaths policy, again to identify and address areas where improvements to our footpaths are required to enable people to easily move around the town. Officers expect the plan to be adopted this calendar year.
- is investigating solar energy options (no timeframe at this stage) and are pursuing an electric car recharge station, which could be installed shortly.
- supports the Greater Wellington Regional Council home insulation programme.

In respect of natural burials, a site will be ready for use from 1 July 2017. A natural burial can be accommodated before this date if needed.

In regards the issues from 2015 submission, the Council is currently seeking renewal of water supply resource consents. As part of the new consent, Council will be preparing a Water Conservation Strategy aimed at minimising the use of reticulated water in town.

The measures suggested by Mrs Dew will all be considered as part of the development of that strategy. This process will begin before the end of 2017.

Council remains open to suggestions to sites for plantings of food-bearing trees and woodlots.

### Recommendation

Note the submission.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P29</b>
<b>Sport Wellington (Nicky Sherriff and Phil Gibbons)</b>	<b>1:50 pm</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
Highlights the activities being undertaken over the last two years and achievements made during the period.	
Applauds the Council for continuing investment into areas benefitting sport activities.	
Seeks assurance for continued annual funding of \$7,000.	

### **Officers' Comments**

Any funding request by Sport Wellington is to be considered alongside other requests. In 2016/17, Sport Wellington received a grant of \$5,000 for operating activity and another \$1,750 grant towards implementing the regional strategy. Council had some input into the strategy. Sport Wellington had also asked in 2016/17 for a financial contribution towards the regional sports awards, and was declined.

In their submission Sport Wellington has sought \$7,000, which is higher than previous years. They also look for some commitment to future years. This will be considered by the Grants Committee.

### **Recommendation**

Note the request for funding will be considered by the Grants Committee.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P33</b>
<b>NEER Enterprises Limited (Sandie Shivas)</b>	<b>2:00 pm</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
<p>Advise that Reid family interests are making significant investment to meet effluent and environmental impacts from their land use while making a significant contribution to urban sewerage through rates.</p> <p>Advise that they support the water race systems but would prefer the races were piped to reduce the ongoing maintenance costs they incur to ensure the water goes to other users, and that these users pay a fair price reflecting its access. The Reid family has several kilometres of races but draw little of the water passing through.</p>	

### **Officers' Comments**

The submission by NEER Enterprises Limited reflects the interests and concerns of the Reid family and their enterprises. These are a mix of rural and commercial enterprises, some of which own land being traversed by both the Taratahi or Carrington water race systems.

They express concern that farmers are unduly rated for urban related services, particularly where those farmers also have to meet the cost of their own responsibilities for similar services.

These concerns are taken into consideration in any rates review, the last occurring in 2011 and opportunities will be provided for ratepayer submissions during the consultation period for the next rating policy review. There is currently no date set for such a review. If there is an amalgamation of the Wairarapa councils (currently being considered by the Local Government Commission) then a review will happen as part of the new Council's Long Term Plan work. If amalgamation does not happen then it would be appropriate for this Council to programme a rating policy review to happen during the period of the next Long Term Plan – with a start date of the review in 2018/19. A review process is likely to take about eighteen months to complete.

As regards the water race systems, given the complexity of the issues raised in the submission, it would be helpful for the Reid Family to raise their concerns and views directly with the Water Race Committee, which looks to optimize and price the costs of water supply appropriately.

### **Recommendations**

Programme a review of the Council's rating policy to start in 2018/19.

Invite the Reid Family to engage directly with the Water Race Committee on the matters they have raised.



<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P35</b>
<b>Enviroschools (Dana Carter and Esther Dijkstra)</b>	<b>2:10 pm</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
Highlights the activities and achievements made over the past year.	
Seeks Council to:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• note the progress made by the Enviroschools programme</li> <li>• commit to fund Enviroschools at \$8,500 per year and provide a CPI increase each year</li> <li>• commit any amalgamated Council to long-term funding support for Enviroschools.</li> </ul>	

### **Background/Context**

Council has an MOU partnership agreement with Enviroschools and currently fund them \$8,500 per annum. Last year, an agreement was made with the Council for three-year commitment, although there is no documentation for this.

Carterton schools signed up to Enviroschools are Dalefield, Carterton, South End and St Mary's. Kuranui College has just signed on as an Enviroschool.

The current MOU provides for funding increases through CPI movement and achieving ECE goals.

### **Officers' Comments**

There is already a significant investment from Council to Enviroschools and this was increased last year from \$5,000 per annum to \$8,500. While it would be beneficial to financially support growth into early childhood, getting all six Carterton primary schools into the programme would be needed before an increase of funding should be considered.

Recent progress means three of the four Carterton schools are now Silver, and with Kuranui signing up support will continue for Carterton students to plan, design, and implement sustainability actions that are important to our community.

An annual CPI adjustment is not generally agreed and this should also be the case for Enviroschools. Any cost pressures can be raised during MOU monitoring.

Likewise any funding increases should be linked to attainment of ECE goals. Enviroschools should submit a three-year business plan to Council on how they will provide for Early Childhood and Secondary school growth.

Enviroschools seeks Council agreement to commit any amalgamated Council to long-term funding support for Enviroschools. Carterton District Council cannot commit an amalgamated council.

## **Recommendations**

Agree to a three-year funding commitment of \$8,500 per year, beginning in 2017/18, completing a four-year commitment.

Request EnviroSchools to submit a three-year business plan to Council on how they will provide for Early Childhood and Secondary school growth.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P48</b>
<b>Simon Bognuda</b>	<b>2:20 pm</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
Disagrees with deferring the construction of the three chamber storage reservoir	
Disagrees with the intention to change the financial strategy in relation to the funding of depreciation	
Is undecided on the merits or otherwise of the change to Water Race rating	
Expresses concern that some capital, operational, and roading expenditure has been inappropriately assessed and advocates use of zero budgeting and more appropriate evaluation methods such as cost-benefit analysis and role assessment/job sizing.	

### **Background/Context**

While the significant cost of the three-chamber storage reservoir was deferred, opportunity was taken to bring forward work that supports installation of the second centre pivot irrigator, including the relocation of the ephemeral waterway originally programmed for 2018/19.

These changes meant that costs were spread and the potential rating increases lowered for 2017/18.

### **Officers' Comments**

The rescheduling of activity for the sewage treatment project does not mean that progress on the project ceases; rather it maintains the pace necessary to have it completed by 2021/22.

As regards changes to financial policy, Mr Bognuda is confusing accounting policy with funding policy.

Depreciation as discussed by Mr Bognuda reflects what must be done in terms of accounting policies. These are set under legislation by the External Reporting Board, a central Government organisation. No change is proposed to accounting policy.

Council's proposal is to continue to properly record depreciation expense (as supported by Mr Bognuda) but to reduce what depreciation is funded.

Mr Bognuda's concerns about budgeting methods and tools can be noted. Officers already use these approaches where appropriate in their normal course of work.

### **Recommendations**

Decline the request to not defer the construction of the reservoir.

Decline the request to not change the financial policy relating to the funding of depreciation.

Note the concerns about budgeting methods.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P50</b>
<b>Mike Osborne</b>	<b>2:40 pm</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
<p>Agrees with deferring construction of the storage reservoir</p> <p>Agrees with the change to the financial policy.</p> <p>Agrees with combining the Taratahi and Carrington Water Race rating</p> <p>Raises other matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concern that there has been insufficient assessment of the impacts on Council infrastructure that could arise through adverse weather events as a result of climate change</li> <li>• Requests information on actions being taken or proposed to meet commitments made under the Mayoral Declaration on Climate Change</li> <li>• Advises his opposition to the amalgamation of the Wairarapa district councils</li> <li>• Thanks the Council for continued support to Project Wairarapa/Resilient Carterton</li> <li>• Wants Council support for a community sports park at Howard Booth Park</li> <li>• Expresses concern about Councillor conduct during submission hearings last year.</li> </ul>	

### **Officers' Comments**

The ability of the Council's infrastructure to handle adverse weather events is considered under the Council's asset management plans. A review of these plans is underway for completion this year, ahead of the review of the Infrastructure Strategy in the Long Term Plan.

In respect of climate change, Council:

- recently adopted a Cycling and Walking Strategy, in part aimed at making it easier to walk and cycle in Carterton as an alternative to cars. A group has been established to help implement the plan.
- is working on a footpaths policy, again to identify and address areas where improvements to our footpaths are required to enable people to easily move around the town. Officers expect the plan to be adopted this calendar year.
- is investigating solar energy options (no timeframe at this stage) and are pursuing an electric car recharge station, which could be installed shortly.
- supports the Greater Wellington Regional Council home insulation programme
- is supporting Greater Wellington's development of floodplain management plans, which will make provision for climate change
- starting its review of the Combined District Plan, which will consider climate change impacts as they apply to land use planning.

Parts of the stormwater and sewerage asset management plans identify further work on climate change risks to be done. This may result in a recommendation to construct a secondary flow path

strategy for the town to mitigate surface flood damage in extreme rainfall events. However, the cost of this construction will need to be considered before any plans are adopted.

Any necessary change to those plans to build resilience would not have changed the outcome of the recent flood events.

Community consultation on Local Government Commission proposals are led by the Commission.

### **Recommendations**

Adopt the revised wastewater treatment plant upgrade programme, as proposed in the Annual Plan Consultation Document.

Adopt the amalgamation of the water races for the purpose of rating, as proposed in the Annual Plan Consultation Document.

Adopt the change in financial policy relating to the funding of depreciation, as proposed in the Annual Plan Consultation Document.

Note the significant work being undertaken in the community through Project Wairarapa and Resilient Carterton and congratulate the leaders and participants on the results already achieved.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P52</b>
<b>Connecting Communities (Maggie Pryce)</b>	<b>2:50 pm</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
Requests the Council to provide \$3,000 in 2017/18 to support Connecting Communities deliver youth related events.	

### **Background/Context**

Connecting Communities is a Masterton District Council-controlled organisation delivering programmes funded jointly by the three district councils.

Carterton District Council has an MOU partnership agreement with Connecting Communities and currently fund them \$3,000 per annum. The draft Annual Plan 2017/18 provides for \$3,000.

### **Officers' Comments**

The MOU is for providing youth related activities, including management of the Youth Council and Youth Awards (which are being reviewed at the moment). This also includes the Youth Council working alongside R2R to run two youth events in Carterton. The Colour Run in February 2017 was one of these events.

### **Recommendation**

Agree to fund \$3,000 per annum to Connecting Communities for the term of this Council, ie through to 2018/19.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P53</b>
<b>Crawford Family Trust</b>	<b>Not Speaking</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
<p>Agrees with all proposed changes being consulted upon.</p> <p>Supports Council endeavours to establish Carterton as a 'sought-after place' by ensuring infrastructure is maintained/enhanced and at the same time being conscious of impacts on ratepayers.</p>	

### **Officers' Comments**

The submitter is supporting current commitments and proposals and therefore no comment is required.

### **Recommendations**

Adopt the revised wastewater treatment plant upgrade programme, as proposed in the Annual Plan Consultation Document.

Adopt the amalgamation of the water races for the purpose of rating, as proposed in the Annual Plan Consultation Document.

Adopt the change in financial policy relating to the funding of depreciation, as proposed in the Annual Plan Consultation Document.



<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P55</b>
<b>D R Buttle</b>	<b>Not Speaking</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
No response on the proposed changes being consulted upon.	
Expresses concern about the motives for consultation when “in all probability the outcome and final option has been finalised behind closed doors!”	

#### **Officers' Comments**

It is disappointing to receive feedback from members of the community who feel the Council's consultation is not genuine. This further supports the view held by Councillors that we need to be more effective in our engagement.

#### **Recommendation**

Note the views expressed by the submitter and continue to make improvements to the way Council engages with the Carterton community.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P57</b>
<b>William A Carter</b>	<b>Not Speaking</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
Fully supports the combining of the Taratahi and Carrington Water Race rating and expresses his thanks to the Council for considering the matter.	
No response on the other proposed changes being consulted upon.	

**Officers' Comments**

The submitter is supporting proposal and therefore no comment is required.

**Recommendation**

Adopt the amalgamation of the water races for the purpose of rating, as proposed in the Annual Plan Consultation Document.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P59</b>
<b>Bridget Evans</b>	<b>Not Speaking</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
<p>No response on the proposed changes being consulted upon.</p> <p>Expresses her thanks to Council and staff for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• having the workshop on the Annual Plan</li> <li>• establishing Bird's Park.</li> </ul> <p>Wants Council to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• require all new-built homes to have water storage</li> <li>• disallow wood burning fires in new homes and only allow gas heating or heat pumps</li> <li>• more dumpster facilities for dog owners, and an associated education programme.</li> </ul>	

### Officers' Comments

There was good level of engagement from the community in the development of Bird's Park and we anticipate similar interactive experiences for future projects.

In respect of the desired initiatives:

*Compulsory water storage for new homes:* Council will be investigating the cost effectiveness of water storage for new homes as well as examining numerous ways to encourage water conservation within the following year. A requirement for water storage in new homes may be included in the District Plan as part of the plan review.

*No wood burning fires for heating:* The modern wood burner is highly efficient and it may be beneficial to look at encouraging replacement of older less efficient burners. However, Council has limited resources with which to undertake this programme of work in the upcoming year.

*Education for dog walkers on doggy doo clean-up:* Council will be developing a policy on the provision and positioning of doggy-doo bins. An increased number of bins are expected to encourage responsible dog owners. There will also be ongoing communications about owners' obligations when they walk their dogs.

### Recommendations

Note that water storage requirements for new homes will be considered as part of the Council's water conservation plan to be prepared later this year, and the possibility of this requirement being included in the District Plan.

Note that the Council does not have the resources to investigate options to encourage the replacement of older less efficient burners at this time.

Note that Council will be developing a policy on doggy-doo bins and there will be ongoing communications about owners' obligations when they walk their dogs.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P61</b>
<b>Peter and Monique Leerschool</b>	<b>Not Speaking</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
<p>Agrees with all the proposed changes being consulted upon.</p> <p>Expresses concern about the lack of information on the commercial development of the Kaipaitangata forest block and its many uses, and the lack of communication about the recreational potential.</p> <p>Asks why the Kaipaitangata forestry block and bike track have been omitted from the Residents Guide.</p>	

### Officers' Comments

Development of the Kaipaitangata Forest Block has been delayed in recent years due to:

- harvesting of the low-return forestry blocks
- planting and establishment of mānuka within those same areas
- recent weather events preventing access
- need to re-engage with parties interested on using the forestry block for recreational purposes.

The Annual Plan for 2016/17 provided \$40,000 for a Multi-purpose All-terrain Park at the Kaipaitangata site. Stage one has been completed for mountain bikers and hikers. This has been in use for the last two years. Extension to achieve stage two across the river requires suitable bridging. This is currently under investigation.

There is community awareness of the Kaipaitangata forest area as a recreation facility. Increased promotion of it will happen once management controls are in place.

The Carterton Residents Guide omission of Kaipaitangata Forest Block and bike track was an error. We will look to include it in the next guide. We are also now going to do a feature on our website about these hidden recreational gems within our district.

### Recommendations

Adopt the revised wastewater treatment plant upgrade programme, as proposed in the Annual Plan Consultation Document.

Adopt the amalgamation of the water races for the purpose of rating, as proposed in the Annual Plan Consultation Document.

Adopt the change in financial policy relating to the funding of depreciation, as proposed in the Annual Plan Consultation Document.

Note that further work is being undertaken on the development and promotion of the Kaipaitangata forest area for recreation purposes.

Note that the Carterton Residents Guide omission of Kaipaitangata Forest Block and bike track was an error and will be included in the next guide.

Note that a feature about these hidden recreational gems within our district will be prepared for the Council website.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P62</b>
<b>Audrey Sebire</b>	<b>Not Speaking</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
Agrees with all the proposed changes being consulted upon.	

**Officers' Comments**

The submitter is supporting proposals and therefore no comment is required.

**Recommendations**

Adopt the revised wastewater treatment plant upgrade programme, as proposed in the Annual Plan Consultation Document.

Adopt the amalgamation of the water races for the purpose of rating, as proposed in the Annual Plan Consultation Document.

Adopt the change in financial policy relating to the funding of depreciation, as proposed in the Annual Plan Consultation Document.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P63</b>
<b>Mavis Saxton</b>	<b>Not Speaking</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
<p>Does not support the deferral until a full investigation into cost savings has been completed where that investigation covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• affordability</li> <li>• rating caps</li> <li>• other projects eg Bird's Park (which many don't want)</li> <li>• services undertaken on public holidays eg refuse collection</li> <li>• emailing rates invoices.</li> </ul> <p>No response on the other proposed changes being consulted upon.</p> <p>Council should lobby Government for financial assistance.</p>	

### **Officers' Comments**

The question of ratepayer affordability is taken into consideration when the Council makes decisions to progress projects and programmes, through both the Long Term Plan and Annual Plans. It would not be appropriate to defer the current projects ahead of the Long Term Plan. The wastewater plant upgrade in particular has been investigated and designed over a number of years. Deferring this is not a realistic option. Deferral of other capital projects was considered by Council during the course of preparing the Annual Plan for 2017/18. Bird's Park is being completed under the 2016/17 Annual Plan. Bird's Park has also been funded through development contributions rather than rates, so a deferral would not have any rates impacts.

The question of caps on rating increases is considered through the Council's review of its funding policies and other financial policies as part of the Long Term Planning process. Opportunities will be provided for ratepayer submissions during the next Long Term Plan, which will be prepared in the 2017/18 year.

The Council promotes the use of emails to send rates invoices. Rates invoices are currently sent out by email where ratepayers have agreed to this method, and there is a growing uptake of the option. This has already significantly reduced postage expense.

Refuse collection on Public Holidays is a contractual requirement of the waste collection contract.

On this issue of Government assistance, we are currently bidding for contestable Government grant funding for the wastewater plant upgrade.

### **Recommendations**

Note that rates policies and ratepayer affordability will be a matter reviewed through the Long Term Plan process, undertaken in 2017/18.



Notes that many current ratepayers receive rates invoices by email and Council will continue to encourage other ratepayers to also take up this option.

Notes that refuse collection on Public Holidays is a contractual requirement of the waste collection contract.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P65</b>
<b>Youth Education Training and Employment (YETE)</b>	<b>Not Speaking</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
Highlights the activities and achievements over the past year.	
Seeks Council to:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide representation on the YETE Action Group</li> <li>• provide funding of \$10,000 per year for the next three years.</li> </ul>	

### **Background/Context**

Council has provided \$10,000 for Youth Education Training and Employment (YETE) in the draft Annual Plan 2017/18, continuing a commitment made in the current year at \$10,000 per year.

### **Officers' Comments**

YETE contributes to economic development and community development on behalf of the Council. The Council is represented by the Community Services Manager.

### **Recommendation**

Agree to fund YETE with \$10,000 per annum for a further two years, ie to 2018/19.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P76</b>
<b>Greater Wellington Regional Council</b>	<b>Not Speaking</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
<p>Supports the preferred option of deferring construction of the storage reservoir and bringing forward the re-shaping of land for the second centre pivot irrigator.</p> <p>No response on the other proposed changes being consulted upon.</p> <p>Supports development of Council applications for resource consents for the treatment and disposal of sewage over the next 35 years.</p>	

#### **Officers' Comments**

The GWRC response makes specific mention that minimising the impacts of discharge on the Mangatāre Stream is a particular priority for them as the Mangatāre is identified in Schedule F1 of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan as containing significant indigenous ecosystems. This reinforces the importance of the wastewater plant upgrade project.

#### **Recommendation**

Thank the Regional Council for its support of the wastewater upgrade project and adopt the revised wastewater treatment plant upgrade programme, as proposed in the Annual Plan Consultation Document.

<b>Annual Plan submission</b>	<b>Page P77</b>
<b>Christopher Engel</b>	<b>Not Speaking</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
<p>No response on the proposed changes being consulted upon.</p> <p>Expresses concern about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• urban stormwater discharge entering the sewerage system as a major contributor to storage and disposal issues</li> <li>• Council having insufficient land for treated sewage disposal and identifies tree plantings as an alternative basis for discharge to land</li> <li>• use of the General Rate to fund urban sewerage</li> <li>• current rating for Class C under Water Races subsidises other water race users</li> <li>• asks when and how appointments to the Water Race Committee are made.</li> </ul>	

### **Officers' Comments**

The ability of the Council's infrastructure to handle adverse weather events is considered under the Council's asset management plans. A review of these plans is underway for completion this year, ahead of the review of the Infrastructure Strategy in the Long Term Plan.

Parts of the stormwater and wastewater Asset Management Plans identify further work on climate change risks to be done. This may result in a recommendation to construct a secondary flow path strategy for the town to mitigate surface flood damage in extreme rainfall events. However, the cost of this construction will need to be considered before any plans are adopted.

Any necessary change to those plans to build resilience would not have changed the outcome of the recent flood events.

Absorption approaches within the Sewage Treatment and Disposal Project have been optimised for land disposal and include a range of approaches. The wetland approach includes suitable tree plantings. Further work will be undertaken on grass and other plant species in the irrigation area to maximise the effectiveness of the irrigation.

Mr Engel's concerns that rural residents are unfairly rated for urban-related services, particularly where also have to meet the cost of their own responsibilities for similar services, are considered as part of any rates review, the last occurring in 2011. The current rating impact on rural ratepayers reflects the rating policies set.

Opportunity exists for ratepayer submission during the consultation period for the next rating review. There is currently no date set for such a review. If there is an amalgamation of the Wairarapa councils (currently being considered by the Local Government Commission) then a review will happen as part of the new Council's Long Term Plan work. If amalgamation does not happen then it would be appropriate for this Council to programme a rating policy review to happen during the

period of the next Long Term Plan – with a start date of the review in 2018/19. A review process is likely to take about eighteen months to complete.

Rates for class C water race rates were agreed as part of a special consultation in 2008 that included Mr Engels and the dozen other ratepayers concerned. Class C relate to landowners that have resource consents with Greater Wellington to take water for irrigation, where Carterton District Council conveys that water for Greater Wellington to the irrigators by way of the water race. These rates are independent of the other water race rates and involve considerably more water than other water race users are allowed to extract.

The Water Race Committee comprises seven members, three of which are Councillors. The other four are elected for three year terms by the community; one representing Carrington and three for Taratahi. Elections are due to be held this calendar year.

### **Recommendations**

Note that asset management planning processes will identify issues in the capacity of the current networks to handle weather events, and will make provision for climate change.

Programme a review of the Council's rating policy to start in 2018/19.

Note the Water Race Committee membership and the upcoming election of the external members in 2017.

