

BRIEFING: ANNUAL PLAN 2023/24 MATTERS

8 FEBRUARY 2023 – 3.35PM

ATTENDEES

Elected Members: Mayor Barry, Cr Barratt, Cr Briggs, Cr Brown, Cr Dyer, Cr Edwards, Deputy Mayor Lewis, Cr Mitchell, Cr Morgan, Cr Parkin, Cr Shaw, Cr Stallinger, Cr Tupou, M Fisher (Chair, Petone Community Board and K Yung (Deputy Chair, Petone Community Board)

Staff: J Miller, Chief Executive, J Livschitz, Group Chief Financial Officer; A Blackshaw, Director Neighbourhoods & Communities; J Griffiths, Director Strategy & Engagement; K Puketapu-Dentice, Director Economy & Development; A Geddes, Director Environment & Sustainability, R Hardie, Head of Strategy & Policy, B Hodgins, Strategic Advisor, D Nunnian Manager Financial Strategy & Planning, R Houlbrooke (Policy Lead), A Gordon (Senior Policy Advisor), J Kingsbury (Head of Transport), K Glanville (Senior Democracy Advisor) and A Doornebosch (Democracy Advisor)

Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira

H Modlik – Chief Executive Officer

APOLOGIES

Emily Keddell, Eastbourne Community Board
Belinda Moss, Eastbourne Community Board
Sheree Freeman, Petone Community Board

1.1 PRESENTERS

Jenny Livschitz, Group Chief Financial Officer, Richard Hardie, Head of Strategy & Policy and Deepu Nunnian, Manager Financial Strategy & Planning

KEY OBJECTIVES OF THE BRIEFING

The purpose of the briefing is to provide an update on the Annual Plan for 2023 with a particular focus on the consultation processes.

INTRODUCTION

PRESENTATION BY THE HEAD OF STRATEGY AND POLICY AND SENIOR COUNCIL OFFICERS

Slide 1 - Header

Slide 2 – Overview

- Slide 3 – Consultation** – overview of communications and the engagement/survey approach, note that the draft Annual Plan incorporates input from all areas of Council.
- Slide 4 – Outcomes** – goals for engagement – making sure residents are informed about proposals for the Annual Plan for the next year. Officers want to reach a diverse range of community groups for feedback. The Long Term Plan (LTP) planning process will start shortly, the outcome from these current consultation processes will inform the LTP process for 2024.
- Slide 5 – Objectives** – goals will be set around the survey results. Officers want to know that members of the community have had the chance to read and engage and that engagement platforms are working. Elected members will be an important part of this process and officers will provide members an engagement toolkit to support them. Officers will report back the results to the public.
- Slide 6 – Principles** – underpins the strategic approach.
- Slide 7 – Consultation document and survey** – The draft consultation documents will be submitted to the LTP/AP Subcommittee meeting on 23 February 2023. The draft Annual Plan documents will be available online but will not form part of the consultation pack.
- Slide 8 – Consultation document** – this will include an outline of the Annual Plan and changes needed in the financial strategy due to rising costs, inflation and supply chain pressures. These changes are grouped by the type of change – proposed reprioritisation, proposed budget increase or changes in fees/charges.
- Slides 9–11 Concepts** – theme for this year is ‘Striking the right balance’ to embrace difficult times and difficult decisions needed to find the right balance to move forward, including requirements for water reform. This will include reference to the work that has been completed to reduce or defer items that will not meet the threshold for consultation.
- Slide 12 – Consultation Survey** – for each of the key changes the degree of support from participants will be requested, and a free text opportunity will be provided. Demographic data will be collected to support analysis.
- Slide 13 – Consultation Tactics** – consultation will be open from 31 March to 30 April 2023. Scope is mid-range. A Tactics Plan will be included for the consultation period.
- Slide 14 - Three Waters: further funding request** – summarises the budget decisions and advice that will be submitted to LTP/AP Subcommittee on 23 February 2023. Officers are considering options to fund the Three Waters Reforms budget requirements for the draft Annual Plan. There will be a range of options available if water reform does not eventuate.
- Slide 15 – Other Financial Changes since 20 December 2022**
- Slides 16-18 - Financial Limits** – debt limits and scenarios for growth.
- Slides 19-20 – Selected Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Review** – proposed amendments to be made to a limited set of KPI’s. These amendments do not change the work proposed in the draft Annual Plan. A full review of all non-financial KPI’s will be undertaken as part of the next LTP process.

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION POINTS

- The consultation tactics have been factored to be more inclusive and more active across digital and customer service channels, and links into the community. A focus will be on a coordinated approach across digital channels.
- Other face to face engagement will be used to ensure all sectors of the community have an opportunity to take part in the consultation process.
- The data received will provide information on how people engaged with the digital channels and test systems. This will also measure the level of engagement. This will inform the larger consultation process for the LTP in 2024.
- Feedback from members on the consultation process will also inform any improvements needed for community consultation. Feedback processes will be included to build confidence and trust in the engagement processes.
- Building resilient communities and preparing for the future has been built into the consultation story, along with consequences of not making the required changes.
- Content of surveys and questionnaires is constrained by requirements within the Local Government Act.
- Councils have opted to fully debt fund OPEX in the past where they have been facing significant challenges. This does not follow Council's Revenue and Finance policy but is an option to consider for funding the Three Waters Reform for one year.

NEXT STEPS

- Draft consultation documents and a survey will be submitted to the LTP/AP Subcommittee meeting to be held on 23 February 2023.
- Budget decisions and advice will be submitted to the LTP/AP Subcommittee meeting to be held on 23 February 2023.
- Officers will report back to members on the level of risk for debt funding of OPEX.

Briefing materials

Attachment 1 – Presentation: Annual Plan 2023-24 Briefing

The briefing closed at 4.35pm