
CONSULTATION FEEDBACK ON THE 2005/06 DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN

1. Purpose of Report

A summary and analysis of the feedback received during the Draft Annual Plan consultation is provided.

2. Executive Summary

The Council initiated the special consultative procedure on its Draft Annual Plan on 20 April 2005. Formal consultation on the Draft Annual Plan ran until 20 May 2005 and resulted in 817 written submissions and 19 late written submissions. 112 submitters made an oral presentation of their submission to elected members over a four day period. While the majority of submissions focused on the new initiatives a number made general comments on Council's activities and projects.

The consultation period involved a mix of media. The layout of the publication was reviewed to provide a greater focus on the new initiatives the organisation was planning for the year; a summary of the new initiatives was included in the Absolutely Positively Wellington newspaper, which was circulated to every household in the city; print and radio advertising was used; and a video was again used at public meetings. Ward meetings and other fora were again used this year.

This report provides for the formal receipt of the submissions and presents a summary of these by key achievement area.

3. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Note that a response will be provided to all submitters regarding the projects that they have submitted on.*
3. *Note that submission summaries have been provided to relevant officers, who will incorporate suggestions into work programmes where possible.*
4. *Receive the submissions that were lodged as part of the special consultative procedure.*

4. Background

4.1 Consultation tools

This table outlines the various steps that were taken to support consultation.

Draft Annual Plan Consultation Tools		
Raising Awareness	News releases	Releases were provided at regular intervals leading up to and during the consultation.
	Newspaper ads	A series of newspapers ads were run in the Dominion Post and local papers through-out the consultation period.
	Radio advertisements	A series of radio ads highlighting key issues and the availability of the draft were aired during consultation.
	Rates Newsletter	An outline of the proposed rates impact was included in the May issue.
	Webpage – summary and draft	The summary and full document was available from the Council's website (and other links). Online submissions could be made for the third year – with an increase in the percentage using this.
	Public displays	Libraries and services centre displayed the plans and the video was played on a loop in the city service centre.
	Residents' Survey	Questions on key issues were contained in the May version of the residents' satisfaction survey.
Informing	Public meetings	The draft was presented at 8 public meetings, including 5 Ward Meetings, Pacific Island Forum, Youth Forum, and Ethnic Forum. It was also presented to the Disability Reference Group.
	Accessible document	1600 copies of the draft were produced. It was publicly available in all libraries, the service centre, on request by calling the Call Centre and distributed to those on the annual plan mailing list.
	AC Nielsen Survey	The Resident Satisfaction Survey in May covered the major new initiatives of the 2005/06 Draft Annual Plan. These are summarised in section 5 of this report under each Key Achievement Area.
	APW summary	A summary of the major matters in the draft were contained in a large section of the APW newspaper. The paper is provided to every household in the area. Further copies were posted on request.
	Video	A video summarising new initiatives was produced. 25 copies were made, shown at public meetings and made available to community groups.
Engaging	Deaf video	A subtitled version of the video was produced and circulated to community groups and to the Disability Reference Group.
	Hearings	112 oral submissions were heard by the Strategy and Policy Committee over four days.
	Consider submissions	All submissions have been provided to elected members. They will deliberate on the results of these during this meeting.
	Respond to submitters	Response will be provided to every submitter covering the issues that they raised.

5. Discussion

The analysis below provides summarised results under each Key Achievement Area (KAA). It includes the submissions and the market research. The appendices provide more detailed information.

5.1 Built Environment

6% of comments were related to this KAA. The biggest issue was the development of the waterfront which attracted 25 submissions. Of those 44% were in favour of the development, 20% opposed the development and 36% provided comment. Bringing forward waterfront funding received 19 submissions of which 52% were opposed, 26% in favour and 21% providing comment.

5.2 Community, Health and Safety

12% of comments related to this KAA. The biggest single issue was the Spinks Café proposal, which attracted 114 submissions with 73% in support. The market research showed similar results, with 66% of respondents registering support for the project. 57% of this sample thought the funding level was appropriate, whereas 22% thought it should be reduced.

The proposal for additional funding for public conveniences received 23 submissions of which 60% were in support and 17% were opposed. Market research showed considerably more support at 90% and only 4% somewhat opposed. Of those surveyed 58% thought the additional level of funding was appropriate, 34% thought it too high and 6% not enough.

5.3 Culture and Arts

4% of comments related to this KAA. The Arts Centre Trust proposal attracted the greatest attention in this KAA, with 25 submissions received on this subject. A total of 72% were in favour of the project and 24% opposed. Market research showed 59% support with 13% opposed and 29% neither in favour or opposed.

Additional funding for the International Festival of the Arts received 20 submissions of which 50% supported the proposed increased funding and 35% opposed. The remainder provided comment. Market research showed 72% in favour of the additional funding and 11% opposed, with 56% saying the additional funding amount was about right, 17% stated that it was not enough and 25% said it was too much.

5.4 City Economy

This KAA attracted 8% of all comments. The biggest issue was the V8 Supercar series proposal with 60 submitters commenting on this project with 85% against the proposal.

The next biggest issue was the Positively Wellington Tourism (PWT) proposals (promotion of Australian Tourism, market research and increased operational funding) with 45 submissions, of which 42% supported the proposals and 48% opposed them. This differs significantly from the market research which showed 64% support for the

proposals, whilst only 17% were opposed. 42% thought the increased amount proposed for PWT was about right and 49% thought it was either a little too much or too much.

5.5 Natural Environment

35% of comments related to this KAA, the largest of any of the KAAs. The biggest issue was the proposed loan to the Karori Wildlife Sanctuary which received 317 submissions of which 86% were in favour and 10% were opposed. The market research sample showed similar results with 73% in favour and 9% opposed. 57% of those felt the proposed funding level was about right or not enough and 40% felt it was too high.

The next biggest issue was the proposed loan to the Marine Education Centre. This proposal received 229 submissions with 63% in support and 27% opposing the proposal. The market research showed 73% support for the proposal and 14% against. Of those surveyed 60% thought the loan amount was about right or not enough, and 37% felt it was a little too much or too much.

Additional funding for pest and weed control received 47 submissions. Of those 82% were in support of the additional funding and 6% were opposed. Market research showed similar results with 78% in favour of the additional funding and 5% opposed. Of those surveyed 54% agreed with the level of additional funding, 18% felt it was not enough and 25% thought it was too much.

Additional funding for hazardous trees removal received 23 submissions of which 73% were in support and 13% were opposed. Market research showed similar results with 73% in favour and 7% opposed. Of those surveyed 57% thought the additional money proposed was about right, 33% thought it was too much and 7% thought it was too little.

5.6 Resources and Waste

This KAA attracted 3% of all comments. Many of the submissions commented on the Water and Sanitary Services Statement and the Draft Liquid Waste Management Plan and were detailed in nature.

5.7 Recreation and Leisure

13% of comments related to this KAA. The biggest issue was the proposed establishment of an Indoor Stadium Trust which received 82 submissions. Of those 80% were in support and 17% were in opposition. Market research showed support for the proposal at 68% and 15% in opposition.

The proposed upgrade of Newtown Park facilities attracted 30 submissions of which 86% supported, and 10% opposed the proposal. Market research showed slightly less support at 68% and opposition to the proposal at 8%. Of those surveyed 55% thought the proposed level of funding was about right, 33% thought it too high and 8% too little.

A one off capital contribution to expand the car parking facilities at the Newtown National Hockey Stadium received 28 submissions of which 78% supported the proposal and 17% opposed the proposal. The submission from the Foundation for the National Hockey Stadium had 360 signatures attached in support. Market research showed only 35% support the proposal, 18% opposed the proposal and 46% were

neither in favour or opposed. Of those surveyed 61% thought the funding proposed about right, 32% thought it too much and 3% not quite enough.

28 submissions mentioned the Renouf Tennis Centre Funding of which 25% supported the funding, 21% opposed the funding and 53% provided comment. A considerable number of those who provided comment requested that the loan be provided as a grant. The market research showed 45% support for the proposed loan and 22% opposed the proposal. Of those surveyed 59% thought the proposed loan amount about right, 28% thought it too high and 10% too low.

Increased funding for community events received 17 submissions of which 52% were in support and 29% opposed. Market research showed that the level of service proposed for community events had 64% support, while 25% thought it was too much and 10% thought it was too little.

5.8 Transport

5% of all submissions related to this KAA. No single issue stood out but bus issues, transport planning, cycle network improvements and parking services received the highest number of submissions.

5.9 Governance and Citizen Information

3% of comments related to this KAA. Most comments were related to the Draft Annual Plan document with 35% showing support, 5% opposing it and 58% providing comment. Similarly 16 submissions were received on consultation with 18% in support of the consultation process and 82% providing comment.

5.10 Revenue and Financing Policy

8% of all comments related to the Revenue and Financing Policy with 54 submissions commenting on the rates differential. Of those 75% supported the shift in the rates differential, 9% opposed it and 14% provided comment. 43 submissions related to the rates increase of which 2% supported the increase and 83% opposed the increase and 13% provided comment.

6. Conclusion

The consultation process, including meetings, hearings and submissions, ensured that individuals and groups had the opportunity to participate effectively in the Draft Annual Plan process. This was supplemented by a random telephone survey, which gave an indication of how the average Wellingtonian views some of the proposals set out in the Draft Annual Plan. The combination of these two data sets will assist the committee to make informed decisions.

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