
REPORT 10
(1215/11/IM)

Report of the Strategy and Policy Committee
Meeting of Wednesday 7 March 2007

Members: Mayor Prendergast, Councillors Armstrong (Chair), Ahipene-Mercer, Cook, Foster, Gill, Goulden, McKinnon, Morrison, Pepperell, Ritchie, Ruben, Shaw, Wade-Brown and Wain.

STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE 2006/07 – 2015/16
LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN
(HOUSING, REVENUE AND FINANCING POLICY,
DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY AND TEN YEAR
FORECAST FINANCIAL INFORMATION)

1. Purpose of Report

This report provides for the agreement to the statement of proposal to amend the 2006/07 – 15/16 Long-term Council Community Plan and initiate the special consultative procedure.

2. Executive summary

The statement of proposal to amend the 2006/07 – 15/16 Long-term Council Community Plan consists of:

- proposed amendments to the Development Contributions Policy
- proposed amendments to the Revenue and Financing Policy
- Council's proposal to enter into a partnership with central government to upgrade Council housing
- a report from the Council's auditors.

3. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Council:

1. *Note that the statement of proposal is based on the deliberations and recommendations of the Council meeting of 21 February 2007 (housing) and the Strategy and Policy Committee's meeting of 7 March 2007 (Development Contributions Policy and Revenue and Financing Policy).*

2. *Note that Audit New Zealand has completed their review of the statement of proposal to amend the 2006/07 -2015/16 Long-term Council Community Plan and expect to issue an unqualified report at this meeting.*
3. *Agree to delegate hearing of submissions¹ on the statement of proposal to amend the 2006/07-15/16 Long-term Council Community Plan to the Draft Annual Plan Hearings Subcommittee and agree any consequential amendments to the terms of reference of that Subcommittee.*
4. *Subject to final audit clearance on 21 March 2007, agree the statement of proposal to amend the Long-term Council Community Plan 2006/07 – 2015/16 (comprising of four sections as attached in appendix one {see below}) and initiate the special consultative procedure*
 - (a) Crown investment in the housing portfolio (section 1)*
 - (b) Development Contribution Policy changes (section 2)*
 - (c) Revenue and Financing Policy changes (section 3)*
 - (d) Consequential changes to the nine year funding and financial statements (section 4).*
5. *Delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to make any editorial changes that may arise as part of the publication process.*
6. *Delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to prepare a summary covering the major matters within the Statement of Proposal to amend the 2006/07 – 2015/16 Long-term Council Community Plan.*
7. *Agree that the statement of proposal and summary will form the basis of the special consultative procedure to amend the Long Term Council Community Plan 2006/07 – 20015/16 and that consultation will be held concurrently with consultation on the 2007/08 draft annual plan (16 April to 18 May 2007).*

4. Discussion

Certain decisions can only be made if provided for in Council's Long-term Council Community Plan. Changes to the Development Contributions Policy, and to the Revenue and Financing Policy require an amendment. As does the Council's proposal to enter into a partnership with central government to upgrade Council's housing stock. Any amendment to the Long-term Council Community Plan must be audited by Audit New Zealand.

The development of these proposed amendments has been subject to a comprehensive process. The steps Council has undertaken to date include:

¹ Note that hearing of submissions on the Development Contributions Policy will be undertaken by the Development Contributions Subcommittee.

- Review of the Development Contributions Policy by the Development Contribution Subcommittee
- Review of the Revenue and Financing Policy by the Funding and Activity Review Working Party
- Council consideration of a partnership agreement with central government to upgrade Council housing (Council meeting 21 February 2007)
- The Review of the Development Contributions Policy and the Revenue and Financing Policy (Strategy and Policy Committee 7 March 2007)
- Review of the statement of proposal by Audit NZ.

The Council is required by legislation to consult on the statement of proposal to amend the 2006/07 – 15/16 Long-term Council Community Plan ahead of it being adopted using the special consultative procedure as prescribed within the Local Government Act 2002. The formal consultation period is scheduled to run for one month and will be run concurrently with consultation on the 2007/08 draft annual plan (Monday 16 April 2007 until Friday 18 May 2007). This will be followed by public hearings, which are scheduled for late May 2007.

5. Conclusion

Following a comprehensive process and Audit New Zealand review, the Council is asked to adopt the statement of proposal to amend the 2006/07 – 15/16 Long-term Council Community Plan and initiate the special consultative procedure.

Contact Officer: *Helen Rogers – Financial Controller*