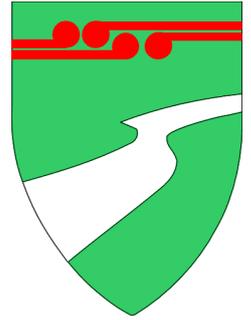


# WAIROA DISTRICT COUNCIL



*Connected Communities.  
Desirable Lifestyles.  
Treasured Environments.*

*Hapori Tūhono.  
Āhua Noho Tōrere.  
Taiao Piki Kōtuku.*



## 2016 PRE-ELECTION REPORT



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### The Values of the Wairoa District Council:

*Hold fast to the values of **Connectedness, Creativity, Leadership** and **Compassion**, for the **Inclusive Well-being** of our community.*

*Kia mau tonu ki ngā whai hua ō te **Whanaungatanga, Auahatanga, Rangatiratanga** me te **Aroha**, hei **Oranga** mō te **Iwi Whānui**.*



## Introduction to the Pre-Election Report

The preparation and issue of this report is a legislated requirement of the Local Government Act 2002, as part of the triennial election cycle. This report has been prepared by the Chief Executive and has not had any input from elected members.

The purpose of the report is to provide information about the local authority in the lead up to the local government election on 8 October 2016.

This is not a standalone document. It restates the forecasts contained within the 2015/25 Long Term Plan, as well as a summary of performance over the last three years. The financial information contained in this Pre-Election Report has been compiled from the following sources:

- The financial information for the years 2013/14 and 2014/15 has been extracted from the Annual Reports for these years.
- The financial information for the 2015/16 year and onwards has been extracted from the 2015/25 Long Term Plan.

These reports and plans can be accessed at:

[http://www.wairoadc.govt.nz/wairoa/council\\_documents/index.htm](http://www.wairoadc.govt.nz/wairoa/council_documents/index.htm).

The information in this document has not been separately audited, however, all components of the financial information presented in the following pages has been separately audited by the Auditor General, through its agent Ernst and Young, either as part of the Annual Report audits or the 2015/25 Long Term Plan audit. This includes the 2015/16 Annual Plan information, which was audited as year one of the 2015/25 Long Term Plan. Any changes to these audited documents have been disclosed directly underneath the changed report.

As the district has less than 20,000 residents, WDC is eligible for reporting concessions that have been applied in the preparation of this document. Primarily this concession is that WDC is able to utilise the information for the 2015/16 financial year annual plan (or budget) for this report and is not required to prepare a forecast of actual costs for the financial year. Unaudited monthly reporting is now prepared that details variance to budget and also includes limited forecasting. These reports are available as they are adopted by Council.



## From the Chief Executive Officer

### Purpose

The requirement to prepare a pre-election report was introduced by Section 99A of the Local Government Act 2002.

This politically independent report, prepared by the Chief Executive, provides information to promote discussion leading up to the 2016 local election about the issues facing the local authority. The content of the report, which focuses on key financial parameters from the past three years and projections for the next three years, is specified in the Act.

This report is prepared and published to meet the requirements of the Act.

### Basis of Preparation

This report is being released in the pre-election period. Special care has been taken to ensure that it is politically neutral. It is presented as an apolitical document, and is not a manifesto, either whole or in part, for any candidate or political grouping taking part in the election campaign.

While this report has not been audited, much of the information presented has been sourced from audited reports. For example, the first two years' retrospective financial data have been audited as they have been taken directly from the respective annual reports.

### Report

Every three years, citizens have the right to elect their district leaders – the Mayor and councillors. The process gives us the chance to think about how we want the district to be governed and changed.

I am pleased to present Council's Pre-Election Report ahead of the 2016 triennial elections.

This report is designed to draw the public's attention to the key issues over the coming years, and to the current Council's performance against the adopted Financial Strategy as well as the forecast financial position for the incoming Council.

This report assesses Council's present and future needs for our community and the recent progress and future planned programme of work to meet these challenges. Council's role as outlined within its Long Term Plan 2015/25 (LTP) is to deliver well-maintained infrastructure and high-performing core services, as well as ensuring that our communities can meet future challenges and plan effectively for the future.

We have striven in the LTP to keep expenditure to a minimum whilst focusing on maintaining our core levels of service. The LTP lays out a plan for maintaining a sound infrastructure and core services as well as looking for new and creative solutions to see Wairoa prosper.

Economic development will remain a key priority for the Wairoa District Council (WDC). Our goal will be to partner with others to further develop a Council environment which assists businesses and innovative individuals to bring about real change for the district of Wairoa.





This Pre-Election Report also outlines significant issues for the district including the Rating Review, the Rocket Lab development and the Māhia and Opoutama Wastewater Scheme.

Major projects outlined in this report include: the Tawhara Reservoir, the Wairoa Sewerage Treatment Plant (expiry of discharge consent), roading subsidies from the NZTA and the District Plan.

As a Council we are facing increasing amounts of central Government imposed legislative requirements that we must conform to – like the new health and safety law. Pressure from central Government continues with reforms to the local government sector announced by the Minister in March to enable councils to deliver better services for ratepayers. The reforms include more flexibility to collaborate and develop shared services; reorganisation processes that can be locally led and driven; and greater use of council-controlled organisations, with improved accountability tools to safeguard local democracy. According to the Minister, the costs of local services are rising faster than council revenues, so councils need new ways to manage finances, improve efficiencies and create value for ratepayers.

This is not a standalone document. Residents interested in reading more about the information contained in this report should look at the WDC Long Term Plan 2015/2025 and Annual Plans. Additional information on past performance is contained in the Annual Reports. All of these documents are readily available from our website, or can be accessed by calling into Council's office and requesting a copy.

I'm committed to leading an organisation that delivers, is accessible and open. This report is part of that commitment. An informed community is, after all, part of a healthy democracy. It aims to add to the public discussion in the lead up to elections that close on Saturday 8 October 2016.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fergus Power'.

**Fergus Power**  
Chief Executive Officer  
8 June 2016



## Significant Issues

### Rating Review

As part of the ongoing review of operations and finances, Council has been undertaking a review of the methodology around how the rates are assessed for the ratepayers of Te Wairoa. The total level of rates that will be recovered through the rating process will not change as this is a function of the Long Term Plan and annual planning processes, however, under this review we have been considering how the Council's costs are incurred throughout the different areas of the district and how we recover these costs through the rating system. The initial work has suggested changes to the 54 different types of rates that we charge, including the consolidation and/or removal of some of these, reviews of the differentials that are applied to different areas, and the basis for the charging of rates. The bulk of the work has been done, however, Council staff have some additional work to complete before the details are ready for review by the Council.

These changes will impact individual ratepayers. As such we will be consulting on the proposals in the next financial year and encourage all ratepayers to:

1. carefully consider the information that we will be putting forward
2. come to the public meetings that will be held
3. take the opportunity to have input through the consultation process that will be established.

Exact dates for the release of the consultation document have not been decided as at the time of writing, but will be advertised in the normal manner for a consultation document.

### Rocket Lab

Rocket Lab is a new major investor into the district. They have already utilised QRS, our Council-owned contractor, to build a significant part of the launch site at Māhia.



Longer term, the company has indicated that at least one or more launches per month from its Māhia orbital launch site is possible, once the site is fully operational.

Rocket Lab's investment in Te Wairoa presents real benefits for the district. We expect to see more visitors to the region, which offers the potential for greater use of:

1. accommodation
2. local and wider Hawke's Bay and Gisborne District tourist attractions
3. local support businesses.

Visitor numbers are expected to be 500+ people per launch. The Council has been working on methods by which we can enhance the experiences of the many thousands of people that are expected to come into the district to watch the rocket launches. Some of the options that we have been considering include:



1. Establishing viewing sites for the launches which will provide investment in building and maintenance staff, as well as staff required to manage people flows at peak times.
2. Building a cycle and walkway around the coast from Wairoa, or further south, to Mahanga, or further north, highlighting the unique environment that is Te Wairoa and the special flora and fauna living in the area.
3. Trademarking specific terms to retain the intellectual property and associated core value for the people of Te Wairoa.
4. Consideration as to how we can support the entrance and exit of people into and out of the district, as well as the movement of people around the district as part of these activities.

Council is working with a number of organisations in exploring funding of these initiatives. These include central Government through the office of MBIE who have a regional development funding scheme. We are working through a number of options at this time and will provide more information as our understanding develops.

### Māhia and Opoutama Wastewater Scheme

Work is drawing to a close on the development of the wastewater scheme and the connection of all residents. Council is preparing, as part of the closure of the project, the reconciliation of the targeted rating and/or capital contribution for the individuals that have been connected within the townships. This work is



being completed as part of the 2016/17 Annual Plan and will reflect the final calculation of income in the financial information as prepared below, but will not affect ratepayers in the district as a whole. This scheme has represented a major investment into the area and tangible improvement in services for the permanent and seasonal residents of the peninsula.



## Financial Policies

The Council has a number of financial policies that have established limitations on how the Council can financially operate. These are listed in the Long Term Plan and include:

1. Only a maximum of 60% of all income can be raised from rates.
2. The year-on-year increase in rates cannot exceed the Local Government Consumer Price Index (LGCI) + 3.5% (2013/14 and in 2014/15 this was LGCI + 2%).
3. At least \$1M of investments will mature in the upcoming 12 months.
4. Debt servicing must not exceed 10% of operating revenue.
5. Debt servicing must not exceed 7.5% of rates.
6. Net external debt<sup>1</sup> must not be greater than 100% of total revenue.

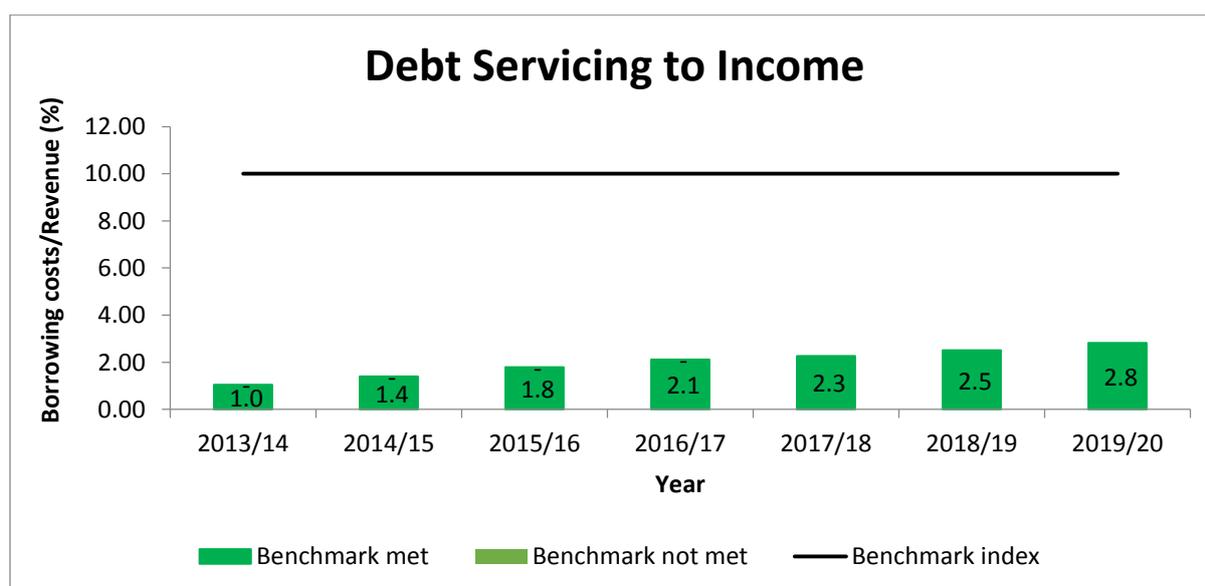
Our actual performance and projections on these policies are as follows:

**Rating Limitation** – This is shown in the Funding Impact Statement. Note that income includes the capital subsidy, shown in the sources of capital income section.

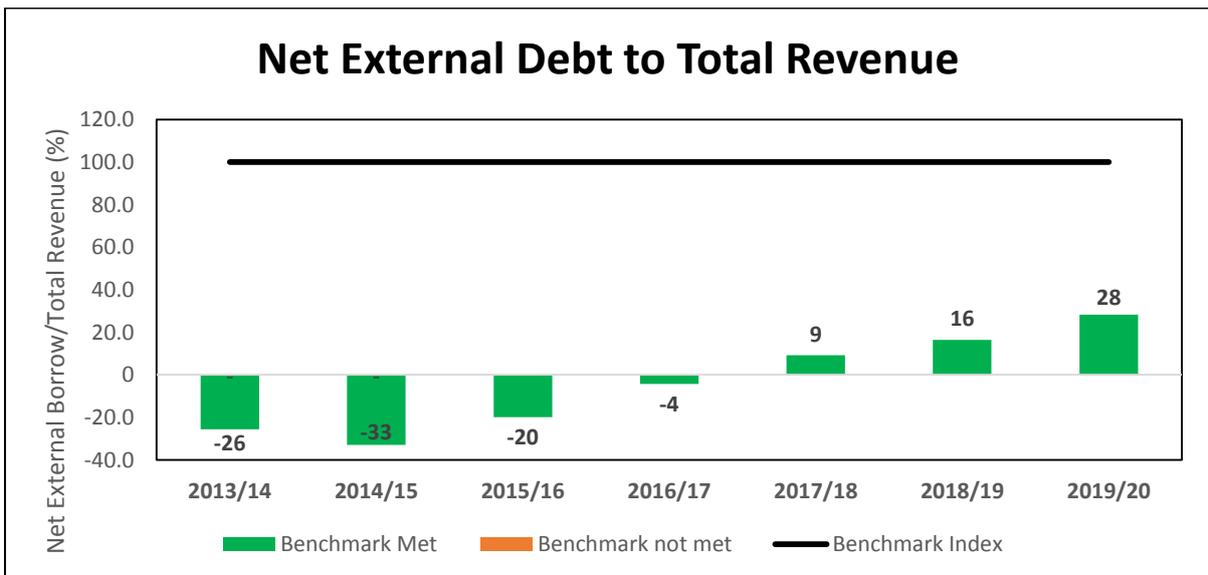
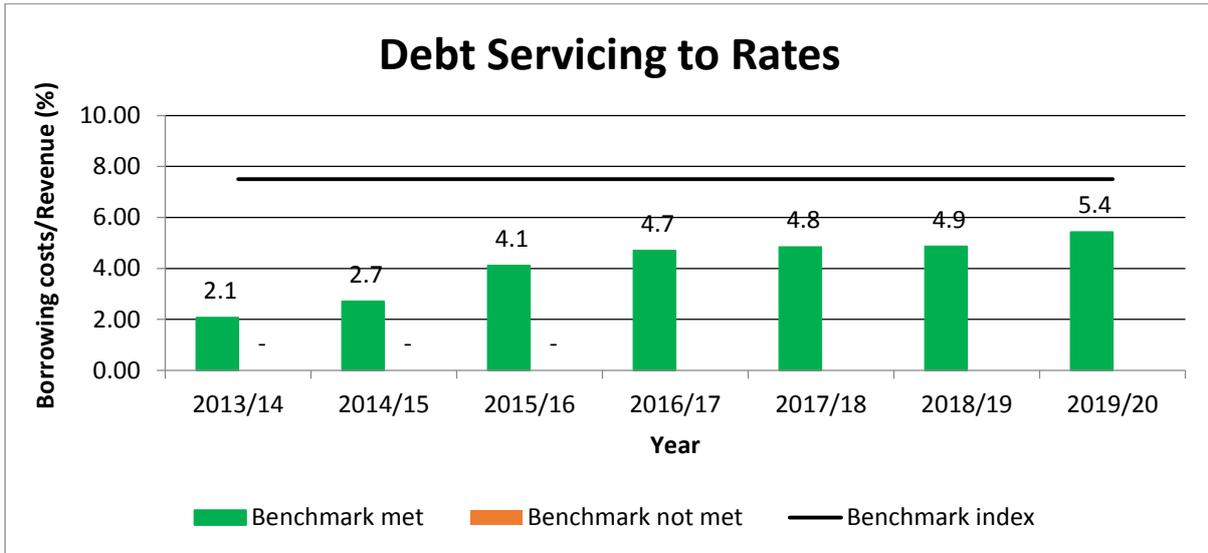
**Investment Maturity** – Council has \$7M in cash in term deposits with our banking partner, with no deposit having more than a maximum 120 day term. In addition there is \$0.73M of long term bonds due to mature within the next 12 months. Investment performance 2013/14 and 2014/15 is detailed below and projected returns for 2015/16 and ongoing years are as follows:

Interest and Dividends	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Actuals	978,863	1,080,094	-	-	-	-	-
Budget	1,067,649	1,123,924	885,736	949,251	738,532	741,070	702,440
Return on Average Investments	5.38%	5.34%	4.72%	6.56%	6.16%	7.81%	8.85%

**Debt Policies** – These are summarised in the charts below. The numbers shown here are an index calculation which converts the raw value year on year to a comparable benchmark percentage rate that can be compared with the policy limitation.



<sup>1</sup> Net external debt is a calculation adding together all debt owed to other parties, less the available cash to pay this debt.



Benchmark results in this graph that are less than zero indicate that WDC has more cash on hand than is owed to external parties. This projection assumes that the \$5M loan will not be repaid at the end of the loan period and additional borrowing will occur to be utilised for new asset construction, with current cash reserves being utilised to meet fluctuating operational requirements and replacement of existing assets as these are required.



## Funding Impact Statement

The Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 and the Local Government Act 2002, require Council to prepare a Funding Impact Statement. The format of this statement has been prescribed in the legislation. This format provides a picture of what Council is spending money on and how this spending is funded. While the report shows an operating surplus, expenditure does not include depreciation.

	Actual 2013/14	Actual 2014/15	Budget 2015/16	LTP 2016/17	LTP 2017/18	LTP 2018/19	LTP 2019/20
<b>Sources of Operating Funding</b>							
General rates, uniform annual charges, rates penalties	3,244,510	3,440,989	3,392,028	3,620,798	3,970,893	4,277,956	4,424,583
Targeted rates (other than a targeted rate for water supply)	6,889,661	7,720,482	8,115,462	8,457,601	8,803,209	9,260,662	9,872,332
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	4,724,934	3,423,724	5,156,159	4,984,496	5,057,319	4,573,819	4,802,126
Fees charges and targeted rates for water supply	2,453,484	4,294,882	3,221,535	3,362,301	3,422,875	3,524,108	3,612,215
Interest and Dividends from Investments	1,160,237	1,216,512	1,251,428	1,129,997	1,036,551	1,026,030	931,478
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	1,501,571	1,623,500	65,000	66,625	68,357	70,203	72,239
<b>Total Operating Funding</b>	<b>19,974,397</b>	<b>21,720,089</b>	<b>21,201,612</b>	<b>21,621,818</b>	<b>22,359,205</b>	<b>22,732,778</b>	<b>23,714,973</b>
<b>Applications of Operating Funding</b>							
Payments to staff and suppliers	17,197,612	22,376,385	19,343,937	19,417,453	20,373,173	19,789,563	20,341,319
Finance costs	973,575	529,685	473,078	566,926	618,250	657,970	774,556
Other operating funding applications	-	-	2	(3)	-	1	1
<b>Total applications of operating funding</b>	<b>18,171,187</b>	<b>22,906,070</b>	<b>19,817,017</b>	<b>19,984,376</b>	<b>20,991,423</b>	<b>20,447,534</b>	<b>21,115,876</b>
<b>Surplus (Deficit) of operating funding</b>	<b>1,803,210</b>	<b>(1,185,981)</b>	<b>1,384,595</b>	<b>1,637,442</b>	<b>1,367,782</b>	<b>2,285,244</b>	<b>2,599,097</b>
<b>Sources of capital funding</b>							
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	5,844,223	6,407,578	5,728,000	5,726,913	5,330,294	3,922,384	4,135,034
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	5,000,000	-	550,000	1,571,140	890,734	662,011	2,016,102
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	70,000	30,000	90,000	70,000	10,000
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total sources of capital funding</b>	<b>10,844,223</b>	<b>6,407,578</b>	<b>6,348,000</b>	<b>7,328,053</b>	<b>6,311,028</b>	<b>4,654,395</b>	<b>6,161,136</b>
<b>Application of capital funding</b>							
Capital expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- to improve the level of service	5,655,976	6,022,079	2,116,000	2,171,982	1,365,670	987,966	2,701,884
- to replace existing assets	4,385,149	1,830,488	8,520,515	9,586,595	9,404,225	7,943,028	7,594,401
Increase (Decrease) in reserves	2,606,308	(2,630,970)	(2,903,920)	(2,793,082)	(3,091,085)	(1,991,355)	(1,536,052)
Increase (Decrease) of investments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total application of capital funding</b>	<b>12,647,433</b>	<b>5,221,597</b>	<b>7,732,595</b>	<b>8,965,495</b>	<b>7,678,810</b>	<b>6,939,639</b>	<b>8,760,233</b>
<b>Surplus (Deficit) of capital funding</b>	<b>(1,803,210)</b>	<b>1,185,981</b>	<b>(1,384,595)</b>	<b>(1,637,442)</b>	<b>(1,367,782)</b>	<b>(2,285,244)</b>	<b>(2,599,097)</b>
<b>Funding Balance</b>	<b>-</b>						
Group depreciation and amortisation	5,347,283	4,444,467	4,844,184	4,903,410	4,903,758	4,904,134	5,151,567
Total Rates as a Proportion of Income	39.3%	39.7%	42.7%	44.2%	46.1%	50.8%	51.3%
Movement in Rates *	0.34%	10.14%	3.10%	4.96%	5.76%	5.98%	5.60%
Limitation on Movement in Rates	5.79%	5.46%	6.27%	6.13%	6.20%	6.35%	6.50%

The 2014/15 operating deficit is the impact of the Māhia and Opoutama Wastewater Scheme costs, transferred from capital to operational funding at the direction of the auditors.

\* The 2014/15 movement in rates exceeds the limitation as this included the first of the targeted rates for Māhia and Opoutama, and movement for the two years is an average 5.24% against an average movement limitation of 5.63% over the two years.



## Statement of Financial Position

This report shows what we own, what we owe to external parties and what the Council is worth as at the end of each financial period, or 30 June of each year.

	Actual 2013/14	Actual 2014/15	Budget 2015/16	LTP 2016/17	LTP 2017/18	LTP 2018/19	LTP 2019/20
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>							
Cash and Cash Equivalents	5,883,689	9,182,198	140,775	129,283	106,212	151,816	197,734
Inventories	29,329	40,083	38,291	38,291	38,291	38,291	38,291
Trade and other receivables from Non Exchange Activities	5,792,551	6,847,636	5,984,868	6,010,632	5,956,621	5,347,141	5,600,091
Financial assets at fair value*	6,329,018	2,311,009	13,320,660	10,770,660	8,120,660	6,770,660	5,370,660
	<b>18,034,587</b>	<b>18,380,926</b>	<b>19,484,594</b>	<b>16,948,866</b>	<b>14,221,784</b>	<b>12,307,907</b>	<b>11,206,776</b>
<b>LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>							
Trade and other payables	4,228,703	4,236,096	3,822,346	3,845,647	4,029,562	3,893,709	4,024,575
	<b>4,228,703</b>	<b>4,236,096</b>	<b>3,822,346</b>	<b>3,845,647</b>	<b>4,029,562</b>	<b>3,893,709</b>	<b>4,024,575</b>
Working Capital	13,805,884	14,144,830	15,662,248	13,103,219	10,192,222	8,414,199	7,182,201
<b>NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>							
Property Plant and Equipment	244,547,114	246,042,918	246,756,156	295,865,382	301,731,519	305,758,380	363,369,769
Loans and other receivables	247	90,247	-	-	-	-	-
Investments in Subsidiary	1,250,000	1,250,000	1,250,000	1,250,000	1,250,000	1,250,000	1,250,000
Investment in Property	277,000	-	277,000	277,000	277,000	277,000	277,000
Biological Asset - Forestry	150,380	150,380	69,946	69,946	69,946	69,946	69,946
Available for sale financial assets	22,992	22,992	22,992	22,992	22,992	22,992	22,992
Intangible Assets	106,131	156,733	143,277	143,277	143,277	143,277	143,277
Financial assets at fair value	5,242,112	6,378,510	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>251,595,976</b>	<b>254,091,780</b>	<b>248,519,371</b>	<b>297,628,597</b>	<b>303,494,734</b>	<b>307,521,595</b>	<b>365,132,984</b>
<b>NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>							
Term Debt	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,550,000	7,121,140	8,011,874	8,673,885	10,689,987
Employee Entitlements	131,549	121,063	147,883	147,883	147,883	147,883	147,883
Landfill Aftercare	859,226	478,126	859,562	859,562	859,562	859,562	859,562
	<b>5,990,775</b>	<b>5,599,189</b>	<b>6,557,445</b>	<b>8,128,585</b>	<b>9,019,319</b>	<b>9,681,330</b>	<b>11,697,432</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>259,411,085</b>	<b>262,637,421</b>	<b>257,624,174</b>	<b>302,603,231</b>	<b>304,667,637</b>	<b>306,254,463</b>	<b>360,617,753</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>							
Reserves	21,110,164	23,178,435	20,391,739	18,176,663	15,647,008	14,243,408	13,252,735
Retained Earnings	238,300,921	239,458,986	237,232,435	284,426,568	289,020,629	292,011,054	347,365,018
	<b>259,411,085</b>	<b>262,637,421</b>	<b>257,624,174</b>	<b>302,603,231</b>	<b>304,667,637</b>	<b>306,254,463</b>	<b>360,617,753</b>

The projected increases in the value of assets from 2015/16 to 2016/17 and again from 2018/19 to 2019/20 are due to the revaluation of water, roading and sewerage assets owned by the Council, rather than spending on new assets. This is a book value entry (i.e. not a cash payment), therefore, this change is not reflected in either the Funding Impact Statement or the Statement of Cash Flows.

For the 2013/14 and 2014/15 years financial assets in the Annual Accounts are allocated between current assets (those expected to mature within 12 months) and non-current assets for those investments that will mature after the next financial year. Also term deposits are treated and included in the cash and cash equivalents balance, whereas in 2015/16 and the ongoing years these have not been allocated and term deposits are included in the current financial assets balance.

This statement shows that the Council is in a strong financial position, with ready reserves of cash to meet requirements. There are no other potential, or contingent, liabilities that the Council is aware of at this time.

What is not reflected here is the support available to Council from insurance policies should an unforeseen event happen.



## Statement of Cash Flow

This statement shows where we have, or expect to receive, money from and how it will be spent.

	Actual 2013/14	Actual 2014/15	Budget 2015/16	LTP 2016/17	LTP 2017/18	LTP 2018/19	LTP 2019/20
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>							
Cash was/will be provided from:							
Rates	10,198,298	11,213,849	13,077,245	12,038,435	12,725,403	13,485,102	14,243,834
Other Revenue	13,306,220	13,189,122	11,194,161	13,822,189	13,785,805	12,554,232	12,231,579
Dividends Received	158,478	145,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000
Interest Received	820,385	935,094	735,736	799,251	588,532	591,070	552,440
	24,483,381	25,483,065	25,157,142	26,809,875	27,249,740	26,780,404	27,177,854
Cash was/will be applied to:							
Payments to Suppliers and Employees	15,348,141	16,904,182	20,555,817	18,734,589	19,533,097	19,247,158	19,580,159
Interest Paid	209,210	302,500	473,078	566,926	618,250	657,970	774,556
	15,557,351	17,206,682	21,028,895	19,301,515	20,151,347	19,905,128	20,354,715
<b>Net Cash Flow from Operations</b>	8,926,030	8,276,383	4,128,247	7,508,360	7,098,393	6,875,276	6,823,139
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>							
Cash was/will be provided from:							
Sale of Assets	-	-	70,000	30,000	90,000	70,000	10,000
Sale of Short term Investments	1,454,730	136,418	1,400,000	2,550,000	2,650,000	1,350,000	1,400,000
	1,454,730	136,418	1,470,000	2,580,000	2,740,000	1,420,000	1,410,000
Cash was/will be applied to:							
Asset purchases and formation	9,936,248	4,894,492	10,600,149	11,670,992	10,752,197	8,911,683	10,203,323
Purchases of Intangibles	39,098	129,800					
Purchases of Financial Assets	3,019,332	90,000					
	12,994,678	5,114,292	10,600,149	11,670,992	10,752,197	8,911,683	10,203,323
<b>Net Cash Flows from Investing</b>	(11,539,948)	(4,977,874)	(9,130,149)	(9,090,992)	(8,012,197)	(7,491,683)	(8,793,323)
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>							
Cash was/will be provided from:							
Loans raised	5,000,000	-	550,000	1,571,140	890,734	662,011	2,016,102
Cash was/will be applied to:							
Loans repaid	-	-	2,334,615	-	-	-	-
<b>Net Cash Flow from Financing</b>	5,000,000	-	(1,784,615)	1,571,140	890,734	662,011	2,016,102
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease)</b>	2,386,082	3,298,509	(6,786,516)	(11,493)	(23,070)	45,604	45,918
Plus Opening Bank Balance	3,497,607	5,883,689	6,927,292	140,775	129,282	106,212	151,816
<b>Bank Balance at end of year</b>	5,883,689	9,182,198	140,776	129,282	106,212	151,816	197,734

While the report shows positive net cash flow, the expenditure does not include depreciation, which is a non-cash entry that is used as a method to provide a reserve to fund the replacement of existing assets. The other component to the operational surplus is the subsidies that we receive to fund purchases of assets. Under accounting standards this cash is shown as part of the "operations activities" of a cash flow report.



## Major Projects

The following is a summary of some of the major projects that are currently underway within the WDC's operations, in addition to the significant issues listed above.

### **Tawhara Reservoir – \$2.3M Budget from 2015/16 - 2017/18**

The Tawhara Reservoir is a major investment in the available store of water for residents of the district. It is expected that once completed this will bring the Council's store of water up to a full 24 hours of normal usage. The project is expected to be completed in the 2016/17 financial year and has significant external subsidies offsetting part of the cost of building the reservoir. The Long Term Plan has this project running for the 2016/17 and into the 2017/18 financial years.

### **Wairoa Sewerage Treatment Plant – \$5.25M Budget from 2015/16 - 2021/22**

The current discharge consent for the Wairoa wastewater system expires in 2019. Discharge or secondary treated effluent into the lower reaches of the Wairoa River may not be acceptable beyond the life of the current consent. It is expected over the span of this document that WDC will engage a consultant to undertake a feasibility study into the options for the treatment and discharge of wastewater in Wairoa. Provision has been made for the expenditure to develop and begin implementation of a new system. Approximately \$3M of this provision is included within the scope of this document.

### **Roading – Subsidised by NZTA \$21.97M Budget from 2016/17 - 2019/20**

Roading work remains WDC's largest area of capital expenditure. This is partially subsidised by the NZTA, but is subject to their approval of the programme of works and emergency work classification, e.g. flooding events. Budgets include a range of maintenance treatments and renewal projects for the district's roads.

### **Engineering Review**

WDC is constantly reviewing how it delivers services to the ratepayers of the district and this process includes the composition of the staff and requirements of the units that provide these services. WDC is currently reviewing the provision of engineering services. It is expected that this review will be completed by the end of the 2015/16 financial year with implementation of any new structure to be in place for the start of the 2016/17 year.

### **District Plan**

Every ten years WDC is required to review the District Plan to ensure that it is prepared for the changing nature of the people, makeup and needs of the district. This process has begun and is targeted to be completed during the 2016/17 financial year.

### **Health and Safety**

Central Government recently introduced broad-ranging changes to health and safety in New Zealand. As part of this, the responsibilities of all businesses and the duty of care to staff and others interacting with businesses have expanded significantly. WDC has developed and put into place a new health and safety policy document and will be working on developing the processes that staff and others will be operating to ensure the safety and wellbeing of staff and others.



## Other Information

The district covers an area of 4,120 square kilometres with a population estimated by Statistics NZ for 2015 of 8,180.

Council is made up of the Mayor and six elected representatives. In addition to their duties as members of Council, the elected representatives serve on a number of sub-committees that oversee specific areas of Council's operations. The Council is also supported by nine elected members of the Māori Standing Committee, which come from the local iwi and has, in addition, two members of the elected representatives as part of the committee.

### Council Contact Information:

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### Key Dates for the Election

Nominations open	15 July 2016
Nominations close	12 August 2016
Voting papers delivered	16 -21 September 2016
Special voting period	16 September 2016 - 8 October 2016
Removal of election signs	7 October 2016
Voting closes	8 October 2016
Progress results available	As soon as practical after close of voting 8 October 2016
Official declaration	13 October 2016
Candidates' expenses deadline	9 December 2016



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## Links to Data Provided in the Report

[2012/13 Annual Report](#)

[2013/14 Annual Report](#)

[2015/25 Long Term Plan](#)

[Long Term Plan Asset Management Plans](#)

Finance policies are detailed in the 2015/25 Long Term Plan.

## Photo Credits

The Wairoa Township and River is a Council-owned image.

The Māhia orbital launch site was provided by Rocket Lab.

The Mokotahi Hill and Māhia township is a Council image.