

Report 17.224  
Date 22 June 2017  
File CCAB-8-118

Committee Council  
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## Adoption of the Annual Plan 2017/18

### 1. Purpose

To adopt the Annual Plan 2017/18.

### 2. Background

The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) requires the Council to prepare and adopt an annual plan each financial year.

The annual plan, is defined by section 95(5) and (6) of the LGA and requires that Council present a full account of changes from the long term plan for the year in which the annual plan is being developed and include all relevant financial and funding impact statements for the year in which the Annual Plan is being prepared. The Act also states, that clear reference needs to be made to the relevant parts of the long term plan.

The Annual Plan for adoption (**Attachment 1**) is being circulated separately.

### 3. The Process

On 2 March 2017 Council approved the consultation document and supporting information for the Annual Plan 2017/18.

In line with the LGA requirement to consult on only those changes that were significant or material shifts from the 10 Year Plan 2015-25, Council applied the Significance and Engagement Policy and applied a set of criteria to each change in order to establish whether the change met the significance or material threshold. The consultation document was limited to those changes that met one or more of the significance or materiality criteria.

Those changes that met the criteria were then consulted on during the period 16 March 2017 to 12 April 2017. The consultation document was made available online through the GWRC website together with the supporting information. This was supported through the placement of public notices in regional newspapers, a social media campaign including a video clip, and Councillor

public meetings held in Wellington City. Submissions were received through the online submission form and in hard copy. Submitters were also given the option to present their submission at the hearing on the Annual Plan proposals.

In total, 1,819 written submissions were received and 19 submitters spoke to their submissions. The Hearing Committee considered all submissions on 23 May 2017 and presented its recommendations to Council on 14 June 2017 (Report 17.197). The Council resolved to approve that the changes consulted on be adopted for the Annual Plan 2017/18.

On 14 June 2017 Council also considered and approved the financial information to be included in the 2017/18 Annual Plan, which provides for a rates increase of 7.9% and the bulk water levy increase of 5.4% (Report 17.198).

#### **4. Communication**

A media release will be issued once the Plan is adopted. Upon adoption, the Annual Plan 2017/18 will be designed and printed, and then made publicly available.

All submitters who made submissions on the consultation will now receive a response outlining the decisions of the Council. An emailed response will also be sent to all those who provided feedback online.

#### **5. Consideration of climate change**

The matters addressed in this report are of a procedural nature, and there is no need to conduct a climate change assessment.

#### **6. The decision-making process and significance**

The matters requiring decision in this report have been considered by officers against the requirements of Part 6 of the LGA.

##### **6.1 Significance of the decision**

The subject matter of this report concludes a decision-making process on a matter that has been assessed to be of medium significance within the meaning of the LGA.

In accordance with section 95 of the LGA, as the proposed annual plan contained material differences from the content of the long-term plan for the year to which this annual plan relates, the Council was required to consult on the proposed annual plan in a manner that gave effect to the requirements of section 82 before adopting an annual plan.

##### **6.2 Engagement**

In accordance with the Significance and Engagement Policy, officers determined that the appropriate level of engagement is 'consulting'. Further detail on consultation and engagement processes and results undertaken is contained in Report 17.164.

## **7. Recommendations**

*That the Council:*

1. ***Receives the report.***
2. ***Notes the content of the report.***
3. ***Adopts the Annual Plan 2017/18.***
4. ***Delegates to the Chair the ability to make minor editorial changes prior to publication to correct errors and improve public understanding.***
5. ***Authorises the General Manager, Corporate Services/CFO to enter into any debt facilities, or raise any debt that is required to implement the Annual Plan for the 2017/18 year that are in accordance with the Council's Treasury Management Policy.***

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**Attachment 1** – Annual Plan 2017/18 (circulated separately)