



Unconfirmed MINUTES

Strategy Committee Meeting

24 March 2020

**MINUTES OF MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL
STRATEGY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE LOUNGE, FAIRLIE
ON TUESDAY, 24 MARCH 2020 AT 12.43PM**

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor James Leslie (Chairperson), Cr Stuart Barwood, Cr Anne Munro, Mayor Graham Smith, Cr Emily Bradbury, Cr Murray Cox, Cr Matt Murphy

IN ATTENDANCE: Suzette van Aswegen (Chief Executive), Stuart Grant (General Manager Operations), Paul Numan (General Manager Corporate Services), Katherine Hill (Senior Corporate Planner), Arlene Goss (Governance Advisor)

1 OPENING

The chairperson opened the meeting.

2 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4 VISITORS

There were no visitors.

5 REPORTS

5.1 ANNUAL PLAN 2020/21 PROGRAMME

The senior corporate planner spoke to her report. She asked Council how they would like the annual plan process to progress given the situation with Covid19.

The plan was on target to be completed on time, but if it was delayed Council would be able to strike rates at the same levels as this year until the annual plan was completed.

Discussion took place on whether a general rates reduction would be appropriate. This would apply across all ratepayers, whereas targeted assistance was available for people on low incomes.

The Mayor asked if a fund could be set up to help ratepayers on low incomes. The legislation already allows for this scenario.

The chairperson said the next rates payments were not due for three months. Council needed to do an analysis and work out what was going to happen, then how any shortfall would be funded.

Cr Munro said when setting the last LTP councillors “cut the cloth” as closely as they could. Council did have the ability to borrow.

The finance team would be working from home on this.

Council would be asked to adopt the variance analysis in May. A workshop was planned for April 7. This workshop could be conducted by Zoom.

5.2 LONG TERM PLAN 2021-31 PROGRAMME

Timeframes for the Long Term Plan were likely to move due to Covid19, but staff would still endeavour to meet the goal of having the plan place at the start of 2021-22.

Community wellbeing has been added to this LTP. Staff were planning to do public consultation later this year to see how the community viewed this. Recent survey results had been really useful in informing this process.

Staff may align the District Plan and LTP processes. Will need to stay flexible on consultation process.

The senior corporate planner was thanked for her attendance at the meeting.

The Meeting closed at 12.59pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Strategy Committee Meeting held on 5 May 2020.

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CHAIRPERSON