

Council

Open Agenda



Notice is hereby given that a Hearing of Matamata-Piako District Council will be held on:

Date: Wednesday 18 October 2017
Time: 8:45am
Venue: Council Chambers
35 Kenrick Street
TE AROHA

Membership

Mayor

Jan Barnes, JP

Councillors

Donna Arnold
Teena Cornes
Paul Cronin
Neil Goodger
Brian Hunter
Peter Jager

James Sainsbury
Ash Tanner
Kevin Tappin
James Thomas, JP
Adrienne Wilcock

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1 Meeting Opening

2 Apologies

At the close of the agenda an apology had been received from Cr J Sainsbury

3 Urgent Additional Business

Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (as amended) states:

“An item that is not on the agenda for a meeting may be dealt with at that meeting if-

- (a) The local authority by resolution so decides; and
- (b) The presiding member explains at the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public,-
 - (i) The reason why the item is not on the agenda; and
 - (ii) The reason why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.”

Section 46A(7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (as amended) states:

“Where an item is not on the agenda for a meeting,-

- (a) That item may be discussed at that meeting if-
 - (i) That item is a minor matter relating to the general business of the local authority; and
 - (ii) the presiding member explains at the beginning of the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public, that the item will be discussed at the meeting; but
- (b) no resolution, decision or recommendation may be made in respect of that item except to refer that item to a subsequent meeting of the local authority for further discussion.”

4 Declaration of interest

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of the items on this Agenda.

Right Debate - Long Term Plan Grants

Trim No.: 1940057

Item 5.1

Executive Summary

Council is required to prepare a Long Term Plan (LTP) every three years. As part of the development of the 2018-28 LTP Council is reviewing its activities including Grants and Funding.

As part of this review a Right Debate process was used to ask for applications to the LTP Grants Proposal. Applications were called from 14 August to 2 October 2017. 46 applications were received, requesting a total of \$537,906 in Year 1 (2018/19), \$461,377 in Year 2 (2019/20) and \$471,402 in Year 3 (2020/21).

Council now needs to hear the applicants who wish to present their funding applications and decide what funding is to be included in the draft LTP budgets.

The separate Economic Development activity review has included presentations by Matamata Public Relations and Morrinsville Chamber of Commerce. Council also needs to confirm the level of funding it wishes to provide to these organisations.

Once Council has made decisions on the applications, these will be incorporated into the Draft LTP budget due to be presented to Council for approval in December 2017.

Recommendation

That:

1. **The information be received;**
2. **Council accept or decline any late applications;**
3. **Council hear those applicants that wish to be heard and consider all grant applications received;**
4. **Decisions be made and recorded in relation to each application;**
5. **Council staff inform each applicant of the decision as per the resolutions;**
6. **Council decisions made during the hearings process be incorporated into the draft budget for the Long Term Plan 2018-28;**
7. **Council is asked to make a decision on level of funding to be included in the Draft Long term Plan budgets for the following organisations;**
 - **Matamata Public Relations Association**
 - **Morrinsville Chamber of Commerce**

Content

Background

Council has recently approved a new vision and outcomes for the council. As part of the review of its LTP, Council is reviewing the Grants and Funding activity. Council considered that was appropriate to develop a consistent and transparent approach to the way Council allocates its Long Term Plan grants and ensure grant funding meets the priorities of the new vision and outcomes of council.

The LTP Grants Proposal Policy, which sets out the Council's process for receiving and assessing proposals, was adopted on 9 August. A copy of the policy is attached to this report. A Right Debate process with the community called for grant applications between 14 August and 2 October.

Grant applications

A copy of the grant applications in their original form has been circulated separately to this report. Council staff have summarised the applications into a table showing the funding requests along with advice from Council officers and this is circulated separately.

Late applications

One application was received after the deadline (one day after closing) from Matamata, Morrsville and Te Aroha Fire Brigades (joint application). It is recommended that Council formally considers accepting or declining the late application. If any further grant applications are received they will be tabled at the hearing for consideration.

Hearing schedule

A hearing schedule has been circulated separately to this report. At the time of writing, 29 organisations had indicated they wish to be heard. If there any changes to the schedule a revised copy will be tabled at the hearing.

Duration of meeting

The LTP grants hearing of applicants is scheduled from 8.45am (with the first applicant presenting at 9.00am) to approximately 3.00pm with deliberations to follow. Standing Orders, which Council has adopted, says:

3.3.7 Unless pursuant to a resolution to continue, no meeting may continue for more than six hours or beyond 10.30pm, and any business on the agenda not dealt with must be adjourned to the next meeting or extraordinary meeting.

It is therefore recommended that Council pass the following resolution before 3pm:

That pursuant to Standing Order 3.3.7, Council agrees to continue the meeting past the six-hour limit.

Issues

A total of 46 applications were received from community groups and organisations.

Budget

The current grant allocation for 2017/18 is \$321,900. The total amount requested each year shown below:

Cost centre	Budget 2017/18	Requested 2018/19	Requested 2019/20	Requested 2020/21
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LTP Grants*	\$239,900	\$443,881	\$364,352	\$364,352
Sport Waikato	\$72,000	\$83,025	\$85,025	\$94,050
Enviroschool	\$10,000	\$11,000	\$12,000	\$13,000
Total	\$321,900	\$537,906	\$461,377	\$471,402

*The 2017/18 budget includes funding for Matamata Public Relations Association (PRA) and Morrinsville Chamber of Commerce (CoC). The ongoing funding requested for these organisations is discussed below. For the purpose of the above table, we have assumed existing funding levels will be maintained; \$50,000 per year to Matamata PRA and \$70,000 per year for Morrinsville CoC.

A summary of the applications received, including information about previous funding received from Council, is attached to this report. All applications have been collated and circulated separately for Council's information.

All existing recipients made an application to the LTP Grant for 2018-21. In addition to existing recipients, there were 16 new applications/new proposals from organisations previously not funded on an annual basis.

Economic Development

As part of the development of the Long Term Plan, Council has also reviewed its involvement in Economic Development. At its meeting on 25 September, Council confirmed its economic development priorities including an increase to \$200,000 funding for 2018/19 onwards (current funding allocation is \$150,000).

In addition to the economic development funding, Council currently provides financial support to Matamata Public Relations (MM MPA) and Morrinsville Chamber of Commerce (MCoC). As part of this work-stream, Council invited MM PRA and MV CoC to make separate presentations to Council on 13 September and 11 October. MM PRA and MCoC have not submitted grant funding applications as Council has considered this funding as part of a wider review of its economic development portfolio.

At the time of writing this report the funding requests for MM PRA and MCoC were not available as these are to be subject to Council presentations on 11 October.

Cost centre	Budget 2017/18	Requested 2018/19	Requested 2019/20	Requested 2020/21
Matamata PRA	\$50,000	To be discussed at 11 October Council meeting		
Morrinsville Chamber of Commerce	\$70,000			
TOTAL	\$120,000			

Conflict of Interest

The Office of the Auditor-General (OAG) 'Guidance for members of local authorities about the law on conflicts of interest' (2007) provides a guide for dealing with actual or perceived conflicts of interest. Further guidance was issued in 2010. In the OAG *Reflections from our audits: Governance and accountability* (2016) they make the following point regarding conflicts of interest:

It is inevitable that those in governance roles will have interests that could come into conflict (whether real or perceived) and create risks to the impartiality of decision-making. For example, in small communities, elected members of local authorities will have many connections through family and friends with many of the matters coming to the Council for a decision.

Conflicts of interest can be relevant in the context of considering and making decisions on the LTP grant applications as Councillors may have had, or currently have involvement with some of the applicant groups. The OAG guidance says if a Councillor has a financial interest, they must consider the requirements of the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968 in recognising, disclosing, and managing their conflict. Councillors should ensure they declare conflicts of interest where appropriate as part of this hearing/deliberation process.

Analysis

Options considered

Council should give consideration to all practicable options. Council staff have provided comment on applications, the strategic alignment against the new community outcomes and options where possible.

Analysis of preferred option

There is no preferred option. Council needs to consider the applications made and consider what funding it wishes to include in the draft LTP budgets.

Legal and statutory requirements

As the Right Debate is not required under the Local Government Act 2002, there are no specific legal requirements regarding this process but decisions made on the grants applications should be considered for the development the LTP.

Impact on policy and bylaws

The LTP Grant Proposal Policy was adopted 9 August 2017.

Council also has a range of other funding policies such as the Community Ward Grants, Resource Consent funding, Significant Natural Features, Heritage Buildings and Protected Trees which some of the LTP grant applicants have received funding from in the past.

Staff have identified where LTP grant applicants have previously received financial support from Council. Council may also consider referring some of the LTP grant requests to other funding sources/policies such as those listed above.

Consistency with the Long Term Plan / Annual Plan

The Grants and Funding Right Debate consultation forms part of the development of the draft Long Term Plan 2018-28. The right debate is not a required statutory process. However, it is recommended by the Office of the Auditor General and the importance of engaging the community in the right debate is signalled in Section 93(6) (f) of the LGA 2002

(6) The purpose of a long-term plan is to ...

(d) provide a long-term focus for the decisions and activities of the local authority; and

(f) provide an opportunity for participation by the public in decision-making processes on activities to be undertaken by the local authority.

The LGA 2002 requires Council to use the special consultative procedure to provide that opportunity for public participation. The special consultative procedure has its own requirements and will require consultation using the consultation document in 2018.

Calling for grant applications prior to the formal LTP consultation round allows the community to have early input into Council's direction, and enables Council to set its draft grant budget and

create better alignment with the new vision and outcomes. Council will then be able to communicate the issues, options, and implications of these funding decisions in the LTP Consultation document – i.e. helping foster “the right debate” with the community. Once Council has made decisions on the grant applications, these will be incorporated into the Draft LTP budget due to be presented to Council for approval in December 2017.

Funding allocations to the various groups will not be able to be confirmed until the LTP is adopted in June 2018. Any funding allocations will apply from 1 July 2018.

Impact on Significance and Engagement Policy

The significance of Grants and Funding allocation in terms of the Significance and Engagement Policy will need to be considered as part of Councils deliberations. If there are major changes proposed to the existing funding framework Council may need to seek community feedback on this.

Funding allocated through this hearing process will be incorporated into the Long-Term Plan 2018-28 which will be publicly consulted on. The funding approach and/or the total funding allocation decided by Council could be disclosed in the LTP Consultation Document.

It is also acknowledged that there may be a significant impact on individual groups or organisation, depending on the outcome of their funding application. For example, reduction or withdrawal of funding provided to community organisations may have a significant impact on the social fabric of the community and the ability of some groups to continue operating. Consideration would also need to be given to whether Council would need to assume responsibility for the service or asset being provided.

Communication, consultation and decision making processes

A Right Debate style process was undertaken between 14 August and 2 October. Letters of invitation was sent to all existing grant recipients. The application process was also advertised in Council in Focus on 16 August and 30 August, promoted on the Council website and facebook page, and e-newsletters were sent to the Grants and Funding mailing list.

Staff also facilitated funding information sessions in Matamata, Morrinsville and Te Aroha, to provide guidance on the new application process and the Policy. A total of 17 groups and organisations attended these sessions.

Consent issues

There are no consent issues.

Timeframes

A decision on the total budget for LTP Grants is required at the time of the meeting to ensure this is included in the Draft budget which will be presented to Council in December 2017, for approval to send to Council’s auditors.

Contribution to Community Outcomes

At its meeting on 12 April 2017 Council confirmed a new vision that will shape the LTP: *Matamata-Piako – The Place of Choice Lifestyle. Opportunities. Home.* This is supported by 15 community outcomes and strategic priorities as shown in the table below:

Matamata-Piako – The Place of Choice Lifestyle. Opportunities. Home.				
Enabling...				
Connected Infrastructure	Economic Opportunities	Healthy Communities	Environmental Sustainability	Vibrant Cultural Values
Infrastructure and services are fit for purpose and affordable, now and in the future.	We are a business friendly Council.	Our community is safe, healthy and connected.	We support environmentally friendly practices and technologies.	We promote and protect our arts, culture, historic, and natural resources.
Quality infrastructure is provided to support community wellbeing.	Our future planning enables sustainable growth in our district	We encourage the use and development of our facilities.	Development occurs in a sustainable and respectful manner considering kawa/protocol and tikanga/customs.	We value and encourage strong relationships with iwi and other cultures, recognising waahi tapu and taonga/significant and treasured sites and whakapapa/ancestral heritage.
We have positive partnerships with external providers of infrastructure to our communities.	We provide leadership and advocacy is provided to enable our communities to grow.	We encourage community engagement and provide sound and visionary decision making.	We engage with our regional and national partners to ensure positive environmental outcomes for our community.	Tangata Whenua with Manawhenua status (those with authority over the land under Maaori lore) have meaningful involvement in decision making.
Strategic Priorities – What’s most important?				
<p>We have identified some strategic priorities for Council to focus on first; these will be reviewed each year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning for and providing affordable infrastructure that is not a limiting factor in our district’s growth. • Developing and implementing an economic strategy that encourages and supports economic growth in our district. • Reviewing the provision and suitability of sporting and recreational facilities in the district. 				

- **Supporting environmentally friendly practices and technologies.**
- **Building relationships with Iwi and other groups within our community that represent our cultural diversity.**
- **Advocating for services on behalf of our communities.**

As part of the application form for the LTP Grants, applicants were asked to identify how their organisation/project contributes to the new outcomes.

Financial Impact

i. Cost

The current grants budget and funding requests received are outlined earlier in this report.

As a guide an increase of \$100,000 in grant funding would increase the general rate by approximately \$2.40 (made-up of a .44% increase to the general rate plus \$1.97 added to the UAGC).

ii. Funding Source

Council should identify the appropriate funding sources where funding is provided for the LTP grant applications.

The majority of the LTP grants funding are funded from the General Rates. An increase to the LTP grants budgets will result in an increase to the General Rates.

The Enviroschool grant is funded from the Waste Minimisation Levy, and any change to the Enviroschool grant will not have any impact on rates.

Attachments

A. FINAL -Long Term Plan Grants Policy adopted 9 August 2017

Signatories

Author(s)	Ann-Jorun Hunter Policy Planner	
	Niall Baker Acting Senior Policy Planner	

Approved by	Michelle Staines-Hawthorne Corporate Strategy Manager	
	Manaia Te Wiata Group Manager Business Support	

Right Debate - Long Term Plan Grants

Trim No.: 1937712

Executive Summary

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Consent issues

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Timeframes

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Contribution to Community Outcomes

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We have positive partnerships with external providers of infrastructure to our communities.	We provide leadership and advocacy to enable our communities to grow.	We encourage community engagement and provide sound and visionary decision making.	We engage with our regional and national partners to ensure positive environmental outcomes for our community.	Tangata Whenua with Manawhenua status (those with authority over the land under Maaori lore) have meaningful involvement in decision making.
Strategic Priorities – What’s most important?				
<p>We have identified some strategic priorities for Council to focus on first; these will be reviewed each year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning for and providing affordable infrastructure that is not a limiting factor in our district’s growth. • Developing and implementing an economic strategy that encourages and supports economic growth in our district. • Reviewing the provision and suitability of sporting and recreational facilities in the district. • Supporting environmentally friendly practices and technologies. • Building relationships with Iwi and other groups within our community that 				

- represent our cultural diversity.
- **Advocating for services on behalf of our communities.**

As part of the application form for the LTP Grants, applicants were asked to identify how their organisation/project contributes to the new outcomes.

Financial Impact

i. Cost

The current grants budget and funding requests received are outlined earlier in this report.

As a guide an increase of \$100,000 in grant funding would increase the general rate by approximately \$2.40 (made-up of a .44% increase to the general rate plus \$1.97 added to the UAGC).

ii. Funding Source

Council should identify the appropriate funding sources where funding is provided for the LTP grant applications.

The majority of the LTP grants funding are funded from the General Rates. An increase to the LTP grants budgets will result in an increase to the General Rates.

The EnviroSchool grant is funded from the Waste Minimisation Levy, and any change to the EnviroSchool grant will not have any impact on rates.

Attachments

- A. FINAL - Long Term Plan Grants Policy - adopted 9 August 2017

Signatories

Author(s)	Ann-Jorun Hunter Policy Planner	
	Niall Baker Acting Senior Policy Planner	

Approved by	Michelle Staines-Hawthorne Corporate Strategy Manager	
	Don McLeod Chief Executive Officer	