

Report of a meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee, held in the Council Chambers, 29 Bowler Avenue, Gore, on Tuesday 4 June 2019 at 5.50pm.

Present His Worship the Mayor (Mr Tracy Hicks, JP), Cr Bolger (Chairman), Crs Beale, Davis, Dickson, Gardyne, D Grant Highsted, Phillips, Reid and Sharp.

In Attendance The Chief Executive (Mr Stephen Parry), Chief Financial Officer (Mr Luke Blackbeard), General Manager Infrastructure (Mr Ramesh Sharma), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), Transport Manager (Mr Peter Standing), 3 Waters Asset Manager (Mr Matt Bayliss), Communications/Promotions Manager (Sonia Gerken), Economic Development Coordinator (Ceri MacLeod) and Corporate Support Officer (Suzanne Lucas) and one member of public in the gallery.

Apology Cr P Grant apologised for absence.

1. MAYORAL OFFICE – UPDATE REPORT

A report from the Economic Development and Social Capacity and Health Coordinators had been received.

In response to the Chairman, the Economic Development Coordinator explained funding for Ready for Living required separate funding from Hokonui Huanui. The Mataura Licensing Trust and Community Trust South were the main funders.

Cr Gardyne asked what the budgeted life for funding was for the Hokonui Huanui. His Worship explained it was a three year project; government departments were interested in the progress made and could translate into a sustainable project with funding from other areas.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Reid, seconded by Cr Dickson, THAT the report be received.

2. CUSTOMER STATISTICS REPORT

A report from the Chief Financial Officer had been received.

His Worship the Mayor noted the report provided statistics of calls to the main counter, but did not capture calls to staff cell phones.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr D Grant, seconded by Cr Gardyne, THAT the report be received.

3. CIVIC FINANCIAL SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF INTENT (SC2179)

A report from the Chief Financial Officer had been received together with Civic Financial Services annual statement of intent had been circulated.

His Worship declared a conflict of interest and removed himself from all discussion.

The Chairman noted the position of Civic Financial Services was strong and it was performing well.

In response to Cr Beale's query as to whether funds from the sale of the building owned by Civic had been earmarked by the Council for a specific project, the Chief Executive said Councillors would be consulted once the funds had been received.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr Highsted, THAT the report be received.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT FOR APRIL 2019

A financial report from the Accountant had been received.

The Chief Executive referred to capital works projects and expenditure. A total of 58% budget had been spent but timing of various large projects had an impact on that. The wastewater treatment plant (WTP) was programmed to commence this year but had been stalled while options were correctly identified. This and other large projects had distorted the overall outcome of the Council's capital expenditure.

The Chairman reminded the Committee that Ajax pump station expenditure had not resulted in a budget blowout; it was a project that had been in progress for several years and would not be inconsistent with present day cost. The General Manager Infrastructure concurred and said the project was within the projected budget.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Highsted, seconded by Cr Grant, THAT the report be received.

The meeting concluded at 6.08pm.