

Facing OUR future

2018-28

HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE FUTURE OF OUR REGION



Let's fix this now

Many of our rivers, streams, lakes and estuaries are a mess. It's clear to us that fixing the issues in our environment needs a step-change approach. Our community is impatient for change. And so are we.

Our legacy can't be unsustainable practices on land, silt from forest harvesting, inefficient water use, underperforming storm and wastewater systems, polluted streams, rivers and estuaries, and problems amplified by climate change. To be successful, our whole community has to pull together.

In 200 years we have transformed our landscape faster than any other country. We have cleared our land of trees from the water's edge to nearly the top of every mountain.

We need to restore our wetlands, plant trees on the most erosion-prone hill country and the banks of our rivers and streams – the arteries that feed our lakes and estuaries.

To make our land and water better for future generations, we need to invest in our environment.

We need to ask you to dig further into your pockets to support this work. Our efforts will cost the average householder a little more per week. But the cost of not doing this work is even more. Protecting and enhancing our natural resources – our land, water, air, coast and biodiversity is in everyone's interest.

Last year we asked you to support our "hotspot" programme, starting with a targeted rate rise and this has been put to work with some very encouraging early results.

Together we can make Hawke's Bay the best place in the world to live and work, and we are asking for your help to make this a reality.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rex Graham".

Rex Graham
CHAIR



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Palmer".

James Palmer
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Consultation topics

We're asking for your feedback on significant changes. Read each of our proposals and their options. Then have your say at hbrc.govt.nz, search #FOF1828, which has all the Supporting Information.

- Land Water and Biodiversity
- Sustainable Homes
- Civil Defence
- Working with Tāngata Whenua
- Hawke's Bay Tourism
- Local Government Funding Agency

Our plan is to increase the average rate by around \$1 a week more per property in year 1 (13.8% environmental priorities + 5.2% regional Civil Defence). We recognise this is significant, so we have already offset our proposals with \$500,000 operational savings, \$400,000 increased funding from consents and compliance recovery, moving short-term deposits to long-term, higher-returning investments, leveraging third-party funding where available and increased borrowing to spread the costs of projects.

For a full breakdown of options, the associated spend, impact on rates and debt, please go to Facing our Future 2018-28, available online at hbrc.govt.nz (search: #FOF1828) or at local libraries and Regional Council offices in Napier and Wairoa.

Find your own personal rate increase at hbrc.govt.nz, search: #ratecomparison.

Have your say

Facing Our Future 2018-28 is here to inform you on the key issues and related proposals that seek your support and funding over the next ten years.

See the back page for how to Have Your Say. For the full document, go to hbrc.govt.nz, your local library or Regional Council office.

Rates Breakdown

This is an overview of the total proposed rate increase for the 2018-19 year, the main areas where your rates will help us to achieve more.

20.0%

18.0%

16.0%

14.0%

12.0%

10.0%

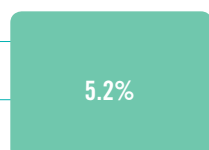
8.0%

6.0%

4.0%

2.0%

0.0%



5.2%

2.0%

4.7%

1.9%

2.9%

2.3%



Civil Defence* (5.2%)

* This replaces what you have previously been charged in your city/ district council rates.



Working with Tāngata Whenua (2.0%)



Land, Water & Biodiversity



Partnerships for Change (Future Farming, Biodiversity and Biosecurity) (4.7%)



Incentives to Change (Farm Plans, Riparian and Reforestation) (1.9%)



Regulation (Planning, Consents, Compliance and Science) (2.9%)



Base level Service increase - includes coastal hazard rate for Napier/ Hastings and inflation, is partly offset by cost-savings and Hawke's Bay Tourism reduction (2.3%)

Rate Comparison

To see how our plan affects you, go to our online Rate Comparison tool at hbrc.govt.nz, search: #ratecomparison



Have your say

Have your say on each the following proposals. Go to hbrc.govt.nz, search #F0F1828 to find out more and give us your feedback.

Our Proposals

Land, Water & Biodiversity He whenua, he wai, he taiao

If our region continues with a business-as-usual approach, we can only expect further decline, and this is not acceptable.

Given the scale of the challenges, limited progress and the rate of climate change, we need to face our future now. Some landowners are leading the way, but we need to act with more urgency and effort to help the region to be more sustainable and resilient. These two proposals include a range of land and water initiatives to make change at a scale and speed that meets all of our expectations. So we can get things done.

Incentives to Change

We want to support communities to solve their local challenges, with the benefit of Council's environmental and science knowledge. Our staff will work – catchment by catchment – as a partner with communities to achieve practical change. This relates to farm plans, riparian fencing, planting and maintenance of planted areas, and planting trees on steep-erodible land.

Partnerships for Change

We can only achieve change at scale and pace in partnership with others. Working with our community is at the heart of everything we do. A new Future Farming initiative, along with our focus on biodiversity and biosecurity are either new or a significant increase in our existing level of activity. These are designed to take full advantage of local and national knowledge and funding opportunities to make the Council's funds go substantially further.

Have your say:

Do you agree with our proposed incentives to improve land, water and biodiversity?

Have your say:

Do you agree with our approach to these partnership areas to improve land, water and biodiversity?

Sustainable homes He Kāinga Toitū

HeatSmart started in 2009 and has delivered 12,771 financial assistance packages so far. That's 3,270 loans, 6,758 grants to help fund replacing open fires or non-compliant wood burners, and 2,743 insulation grants for warmer, healthy homes.

The current HeatSmart programme will have met its air quality objectives and cease in 2023. So we propose to extend HeatSmart's focus on clean heat and insulation (currently just in the Napier and Hastings airsheds) to help homes across the region to become more sustainable, such as solar heating, PhotoVoltaic cells, domestic water storage and septic tank replacement.

Have your say:

Do you agree with HeatSmart extending into a Sustainable Homes programme?

Civil Defence Te Rākau Whakamarumarū ki Te Matau-a-Māui

The Regional Council proposes to take full responsibility for collecting a regional rate for Civil Defence. We believe this is a sensible way to collect rates for what is now a regionally delivered activity and to deliver a better service. The Hawke's Bay Civil Defence Emergency Management Group is collectively accountable to our communities for natural disaster preparation, response and recovery, and consists of the five councils in Hawke's Bay.

Have your say:
Do you agree with the proposed single regional Civil Defence rate, collected by the Regional Council?

Working with Tāngata Whenua

We propose to increase our capability to partner with Tāngata Whenua to do more to protect and enhance our environment and to better meet our statutory obligations, including internal appointments and strengthening the cultural competency of staff.

Have your say:
Do you agree with our proposal to increase funding to work more effectively with Tāngata Whenua?

Hawke's Bay Tourism Ahumahi Tāpoi o Te Matau-a-Māui

In the last planning cycle, the Regional Council committed to increased funding of \$1.8M over 3 years to Hawke's Bay Tourism. We believe this has paid off. The sector now has the momentum to sustain strong visitor numbers. Therefore, this plan proposes to step back the funding of Hawke's Bay Tourism to an annual spend of \$900,000 by year 4 as we return our focus to environmental priorities.

Have your say:
Do you agree with our proposed changes to the economic development rate?

Local Government Funding Agency - LGFA

The LGFA is a Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) and we are therefore required to consult on joining this scheme. The Regional Council intends to join as an Unrated Guaranteeing Borrower but is not bound to use the LGFA for its borrowing. However if we join the scheme, Council has the flexibility to benefit from savings on interest expenses.

Have your say:
Do you agree with the Regional Council joining the LGFA scheme as an unrated guaranteeing borrower?

Reforestation



Trees are an essential part of our plan with more than \$30 million proposed to be invested in replanting, associated fencing and pest control over the next ten years. We also plan to use our balance sheet to invest up to \$100 million in commercial reforestation over the next ten years, but that's not included in the financial package for our plan.

Regional updates

Go online to read more about our plans for Napier Port growth, the Napier-Wairoa rail line and water storage. The future capital structure of Napier Port is not part of this consultation, but we anticipate bringing this to you in year 1 of our plan.

Have your say

ON THE FUTURE OF OUR REGION

Share your views. Tell us about the kind of future you want to see and what you value most from our proposals. **Turn up at one of our community meetings in April.**

There are a number of ways to give feedback:

Online

Give us written feedback online at hbrc.govt.nz, search: #FOF1828

In person

Come and talk to us at one of our community events. This is an opportunity for you to give feedback in person and be heard by our Councillors.

There are SEVEN meetings across the region – details to the right.

Social media

Comments made through the following channels will be considered written feedback: on

- our Facebook page: [hbregionalcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/hbregionalcouncil)
- send a text to 027 445 8290, start your text with "FOF1828"

In writing

Written submissions can be emailed to ourplan@hbrc.govt.nz or posted to:
Facing our Future 2018-28
c/- Hawke's Bay Regional Council
Private Bag 6006, Napier 4142.

Look for our displays at local libraries and Regional Council offices in Napier and Wairoa.

How long have I got?

We need all your feedback by 4pm on Monday 23 April 2018. This includes online, email, hand-delivered and posted submissions.

Meeting Dates

Havelock North

4 APRIL

Wednesday | 6-8pm

Porters Hotel,
Triple Peaks Room,
Te Aute Road

Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga

5 APRIL

Thursday | 6-8pm

821 Orchard Road,
Hastings

Napier Conference Centre

9 APRIL

Monday | 6-8pm

Marine Parade,
Napier

Taradale Town Hall

10 APRIL

Tuesday | 6-8pm

Cnr Lee & Meeanee
Roads, Taradale

Waipawa Town Hall

11 APRIL

Wednesday | 6-8pm

18 Kenilworth Street,
Waipawa

Karamu High School

12 APRIL

Thursday | 6-8pm

Windsor Avenue,
Hastings

Wairoa War Memorial Hall

19 APRIL

Thursday | 6-8pm

97-103 Queen Street,
Wairoa

**Have we focused our efforts in the right areas?
Tell us what you think
and if we've missed
anything important.**



Rex Graham - HASTINGS
Chair



Rick Barker - HASTINGS
Councillor



Paul Bailey - NAPIER
Councillor



Peter Beaven - NGARURORO
Councillor



Tom Belford - HASTINGS
Councillor



Alan Dick - NAPIER
Councillor



Debbie Hewitt - CENTRAL HB
Councillor



Neil Kirton - NAPIER
Councillor



Fenton Wilson - WAIROA
Councillor

Audit Disclaimer

These pages are a non-audited summary of the Regional Council's Long Term Plan Consultation Document 'Facing Our Future 2018-28', which was audited to meet Section 93C of the Local Government Act 2002. Facing Our Future 2018-28 is available at Regional Council offices, public libraries and online at hbrc.govt.nz, search: #FOF1828.