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### **General Comments**

Rather than the apparent "rate and spend" approach implicit in the published plan, go back to the drawing board and look for other ways of funding only the urgent and absolutely essential projects through savings and a more modest and progressive (if necessary) increase. Why penalise the current ratepayers so harshly for remedying the situation that errors of the past have created? Spend other person's money the way you would spend your own

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo - It is not the time to support option 2 because HBRC has failed to demonstrate that, before just "increasing the rates by 13.8%", it thoroughly investigated what part of the cost could be covered by savings and elimination of waste within its present expenditure - any commercial and accountable organisation follows that process before just "putting up the price" It's even more important for a body that is empowered to "dip into other's pockets" to demonstrate prudence and responsibility. HBRC has to "make a case" that a rate increase is the ONLY way to proceed

**Partnerships** Option 1 - Status Quo - See above

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain - See above

### **Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain - HBRC seems keen to accept an extra cost to be met by its ratepayers without demonstrating that this is not merely "change for change's sake" without providing benefits economic or otherwise to ratepayers

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - See both forms of comment above

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - At least this expenditure is contributing to the economic well being and prosperity of the HB Region - the same can't be said for all the other HBRC expenditure e.g. the subsidy for the mostly empty unused buses subsidised out of the "subsidised passenger transport fund" which gobbles up the biggest individual item on urban ratepayers' accounts. Why is a subsidy going out of HB for an underused (truly unused) activity while support for a local performing organisation is to be cut?

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - This option gives maximum flexibility at minimum risk - a philosophy I would encourage HBRC to follow in all its activities.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

***Incentives*** Option 2 - Fully Fund

***Partnerships*** Option 2 - Fully Fund

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain

**Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - Our busy retail business relies on visitors as well as locals to Hawkes Bay. We support the local community .provide full time ,part time and holiday jobs for students .I believe over the last 5 years that HB as grown as a destination as a direct result of the Tourism dollar being used extremely effectively. We have a great asset in Annie Dundas who has the expertise and ability to keep HB in the forefront of 'places to be'.The Hospitality ,winery ,tourist operators ,accommodation providers have built their businesses in relation to the visitor numbers .Air NZ has also partnered with HB tourism to bring people for events ie FAWC and all of this has a huge flow on effect in all sectors of the community . I would like to see HB tourism retain the funding as it stands.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 1 - Status Quo

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**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

***Incentives*** Option 2 - Fully Fund - The status quo will not assist in achieving desired outcomes. It is time for change

***Partnerships*** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Again, time for change. Understand the need to work in partnership with regards to biodiversity and biosecurity.

**Sustainable Homes** Option 2 - Extend - I choose Option 2 with caution

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - One collection agency, one delivery agency, would surely achieve efficiencies of scale

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase - Collaborative working is the way forward

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - Tourism HB can secure additional income by on-charging costs to members/tourism operators who should be rights have benefited in terms of increased profit margins from the assistance provided by additional HBRC funding over the past period

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing - I don't really understand this but I have faith in the current Council and their suggestions and decisions to date.

### **General Comments**

I went to the Taradale presentation and was very impressed with the detail and the comments from councillors and especially James Palmer. To do all you want would increase my rates by \$21.4% after a "one off" approx 10% increase last year. As a pensioner these sorts of increases are not sustainable especially as I suspect the NCC will also be increasing its rates by a large amount. All these increases are due to letting the basics slide while going for big "vanity" projects (especially the NCC). I expect all future rate increases to be very modest.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - The time for talk is over, we must take action to improve the environment now.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Cannot allow matters to deteriorate further.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - Seems reasonable as long as there is no impact on rates.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain - Although option 1 is more efficient I do not trust the Napier city council to reduce their rates accordingly but believe they will absorb it in their next rate increase and not identify it as a saving. This will at least help in reducing my estimated incr

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase - Will help to get things done.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - Cannot afford to fix up the environment and support tourism. Regrettable but there has to be savings somewhere, we have limited finance.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - Limited borrowing to avoid getting carried away with more projects. I like the reduced risk.

### **General Comments**

Run the council as a business and make your expenses match your income. You are acting like a tax collector suggesting to increase our rates by 13.8 % it is not a goer as far as I am concerned. Your plans and ideas shall be fully funded by your income from the levied rates.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo - The actions that are now required are caused by all the lack of action by the regional council and tolerating the damage that has been done to the environment. On what basis are people required to pay for damage done by others to our rivers. Farmers make money on their farms and do not share this with the general population. So you are suggesting we need to fix and suggest a rate increase of 13.8 %. The council has no mandate for this. The regional council has been elected to take care of the region and were not elected to impose more charges on us especially when they exceed the CPI. Live within your means like the people in this area have to do. Stop spending money on the hairy fairy projects costing a lot and make the user pay for the damage done.

**Partnerships** Option 1 - Status Quo - As above make the user pay. On what basis do we need to carry the cost of farmers dairying on unsuitable land and polluting the ground water and the environment with the past consent of the regional council. We were not consulted then, but now we are to fix it.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - This is an area where we are running 50 years behind other developed countries. Well overdue. Double glazing was subsidized in the 60's by governments in Europe.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain - It has been working so far and the option 2 is no more than a power and money grab.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - We are all New Zealanders and be treated equally. We do not want ethnic groups, whoever they are be given advantages over others.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - We need tourism here as a source of jobs and income for the region.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 1 - Status Quo - Live within your means and do not saddle up our kids with unsustainable debt.

**General Comments**

Forestry should be left to the private sector. I see totara is on the list of natives that could be planted, but rimu is not. It should be. Other easily established exotic trees such as oaks should also be considered for erosion control. How about a ban on the use of nitrogenous fertiliser which eventually makes the ground hard and non- water absorbent ? Which leads to massive run off when we get heavy rain.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

***Incentives*** Option 1 - Status Quo - Because we pay enough rates already

***Partnerships*** Option 1 - Status Quo

**Sustainable Homes**

- Sustainable homes is up to the people who live in them

**Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain - Why should rural ratepayers pay for Hasrings, Napier etc

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - Why should the Maoris have any special favours. What about the Chinese and Indians. That aside they often don't bother turning up for meetings.

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - Because they should be able to stand on their own feet without subsidies.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - If the volcanoes of debt ridden Auckland blow up how much will we have to pay

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Working in partnerships spreads the load when change has to be made!!!  
Also incentives to change gives a feel good factor and people will feel encouraged to do more

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - It is all about the \$\$\$ go further ..partnerships will allow this to happen, I do think farmers and land owners get a raw deal with all the green gas emissions etc so support to implement schemes to help them achieve this is the way to go

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - Its good to give people options ...most of us don;t really consider these sorts of options unless involved in a new build.we might be encouraged to make changes if supported to do so

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - Makes sense ..keep it in the communities

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - No...the council \$\$\$\$ would be better spent elsewhere! am quite tired of throwing money to these sorts of ideas with very little gain for most of us

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - Don't leave it all up to the businesses!!!

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing - makes sense to be flexible

**General Comments**

Water and Waste management are crucial issues. Neither are very glamorous but it is essential to get them right.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

***Incentives*** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Urgent action is needed even though it will cost the ratepayers more. We have to look after our land and water better for the future generations.

***Partnerships*** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Partnerships are the way to go as long as the Council is not pussyfooting around and makes sure that their partners are not delaying endlessly what needs to be done.

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - We need to take climate change seriously and look for alternative forms of energy etc.

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - The bane of NZ is parochialism - do things together to be more efficient

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - I don't see why meeting your statutory obligations cannot be done within your existing budget.

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - Hawkes Bay is well established as a tourist destination already.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing - If it enables you to save on interest expenses, it seems like a good idea. However, accept the responsibility that comes with it and don't borrow to a degree that it becomes a burden on future rate payers.

Submitter #410  
Susan Ericksen  
**To be heard?** No

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing

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Submitter #412  
Louisa von Reumont  
**To be heard?** No

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 – Hold

Tourism is driving the economic growth of Hawke's Bay and you are proposing to dumb that down - \$1.7m is spent every day in Hawke's Bay by visitors – that is NEW money into our region. - Only about 40% of visitor spend goes back to tourism businesses directly - the rest goes back to other commercial interests. (Accommodation makes up 12.6% of all spend, Food & beverage 18%, Culture, recreation, gambling 3%, Other passenger transport 8.3%, Other tourism products 10%, Retail sales – alcohol food and beverage 13%, Retail – fuel 8.5%, Retail sales other 26.5%). - tourism is an enabler of economic and social prosperity - The tourism industry supports the environmental initiatives proposed by HBRC – we also want clean rivers, BUT we also want jobs for our families and community in years to come. There must a way to enable both - you shouldn't have to weigh one against the other.

### **General Comments**

Stick to Regional Council Responsibilities and do not widen its role. Look to funding over the long term 30 years plus. The proposed increases for fixed income people are too high and unreasonable

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo - What stronger regulations do you intend to put into place? Will there be any public consultation on this?

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - The funding should be over a longer period and not an immediate large increase on rates affecting people like ourselves on fixed income (superannuation). There needs to be more investigation and enforcement of possible resource consent breaches. Our boundary is with Muddy Creek and there is often pollutants coming down from upstream. We made one complaint recently which was investigated but no action taken in finding the source.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain - Or reduce to Nil. It is drawing a long bow from the act (Sustainable Regional Well being) that a regional council should be involved in specific sustainable home grants etc. The regional council should stick to its knitting, Land water, biodiversity, CD, Regional land transport planning and passenger services. Stay out of sustainable homes including alternative energy (solar etc), insulation

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - But Only if there was a similar reduction in rating from territorial Authorities, District/ City Council. No double -ups.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - All appointment made on most suitable candidates including qualifications. No appointment on race. senior management should by now have training in place to strengthen cultural understanding of all staff and not just the Tangata Whenua culture. No Councillor Tangata Whenua appointments; all must be by the democratic process, by citizens and rate payers. Do not degrade the value of democracy.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - But get involved in DC stuff only. i.e. Lookouts that have tree blocking the lookout view. providing adequate ablutions in regional parks for tourists. Tourism operators should pay their own way if providing accommodation for more than 4 people, or tourism transport operators

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing - Benefits look ok

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

***Incentives*** Option 2 - Fully Fund

***Partnerships*** Option 2 - Fully Fund

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - While I agree that the environment is important and needs to be supported and looked after, Tourism has also become a very large and important part of our Region and without the support for HB Tourism at the current level then this could result in a decline in jobs, businesses and income for the region. All areas of NZ are competing for the Tourism dollar and we need to ensure that we are on the top of the tourists list of places to visit and to ensure that happens we need to keep putting ourselves out there through marketing, famils, promotions etc and this all costs. We have made huge head way and we need to keep up to momentum.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Hawkes Bay is an agricultural and farming dependent region. The impact of penalising this sector through stronger regulation (Option 1) runs the risk of causing these two industries to deteriorate even further than they have since the debacle with the Ruataniwha Dam. The region runs the risk of significantly losing this economy without any credible replacement.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - The sector can not afford to stand alone. It is up to the people as a whole to work together to create sustainability

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain - Option 2 is not well thought out. There is no incentive to install solar heating, for example, while the Unison maintains its stance in charging extra for this. Most of the options involve considerable outlay and the benefits do not, so far, appear to be comparable. The effort involved, so far, with HeatSmart. For this household, anyway, far outweighed any benefit. The process is inefficient and onerous.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain - Civil Defence in this region appears to be working efficiently. An example can be seen of a bigger body being cumbersome with the Christchurch earthquake and the problems with Civil Defence experiences there.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - While I have no issue with Tangata Whenua, this is a small body with limited professional experience.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - This is one of the most important revenue achievers in Hawkes Bay. I believe that, without consistent funding, the region's appeal will be lost to the more accessible main cities.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 1 - Status Quo - A government funded body will have so many conditions attached to its lending policy, that, by limiting the HBRC, there is the risk of being bogged down in a quagmire of regulations

### **General Comments**

By taking over roles such as Tourism HBRC has assumed an economic development role, so it need to remain true to what that means in terms of benefit to the whole region. HB must always move forward, not be held back by inward thinking decisions.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - This is the preferred option, but environmental issues have to balance with economic issues so can't be be the only focus and at the expense of other equally important initiatives.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - This is the preferred option, but environmental issues have to balance with economic issues so can't be be the only focus and at the expense of other equally important initiatives.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain - Not a priority compared to other things

### **Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain - HBRC didn't do such a good job taking over Tourism - don;t ant to see the same thing happen to Civil Defence

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - A huge backward step to reduce funding and reduce HB's ability to compete for tourism share at a national and international level.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - We need to protect our land, we need to ensure that land use is sustainable

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - The land needs to be protected, in order to ensure its ability to support economic activity and the livelihoods of many people in the region.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain - Options to make individual properties more sustainable should be handled through the District Council and its building consent processes. Leave the current programmes in place until the end of their funding tenure, then encourage district/city councils to make buildings more sustainable through their consent processes. Eventually all homes will be brought up to the same standard.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - Provide overall responsibility to one organisations means better accountability and benchmark standards. The proviso being that district council rates drop accordingly. The land needs to be protected in order to support economic growth.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - All organisations and groups should be valued and partnered with equally.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - Tourism is an essential part of the HB economy, its working, its working well, don't fix what isn't broken.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - Using LGFA can be achieved through the second option, without the risk of allowing councils at any give time, and of one persuasion or another, to borrow and essentially ask future generations to pay for it.

Submitter #420

Philip Ward

**To be heard?** No

### **General Comments**

Since the start of paying separate rates bills for the Napier Council and the Regional Council they have just gone up for what I see is little benefit. The Regional Council needs to change its outlook - Facing the Future means "Reducing rate payers rates Bill", and do the basics.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo

**Partnerships** Option 1 - Status Quo

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - Yes, this is something to help those that pay for everything - the ordinary person with his or her basic income. No good for high flyers, with big ideas.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - Maybe look at reducing this.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - Hold, you should be looking at ways to reduce our rates. This could be a good thing to cut all together. Just do the basics, let bussiness or central government or do this type of stuff.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 1 - Status Quo - If borrowing become easier these councillors' with just find more non basic things to spend the rate payers money on.

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Submitter #422

Kevin Layton, VisitorPoint HB and Eastland

**To be heard?** No

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - We have seen and experienced the huge increase in Tourists and the Tourism Industry (increased job availability, etc) through the investment in Tourism over the last three years. Tourism is an Industry that benefits ALL in the WHOLE REGION. Why would you stem the annual increase in Tourism and make Hawkes Bay a backwater in the National Tourism Industry. We should be investing MORE to get a Larger slice of the National Tourism Industry increase. If this funding was to be reduced, Tourism in Hawkes Bay, Tourists and their resultant activities/spending in the Hawkes Bay District would diminish drastically, resulting in less employment opportunity throughout Hawkes Bay. Is this not what it is all about to bring increase in workforce opportunity for the Hawkes Bay people. Tourism is not just Activities, it encompasses, Food, Petrol, Accommodation, Entertainment, Clothing sales, Wine. To name just a few of the spinoff dollar spend. But most of all, we have personally experienced where people have toured here, and then approached us regarding the best areas to purchase for living permanently in Hawkes Bay. Investing in TOURISIM is Investing in Hawkes Bay's FUTURE.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing

### **General Comments**

The Regional council is to be applauded for its vision, I think it is brave and exciting to be apart of and I trust the stewardship as long as it is representative of the peoples' will and truly listens to its constituents. That there are no personal agendas or granduers of power in any one individual. That is has our best interests at heart and respects all views, similar or contrary to their own.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - I do believe that a seachange is needed as we can't afford to be reliant upon the status quo or stick our heads in the sand.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - I think that partnerships are the most valuable way forward, if everyone is on the same page and has like-minded goals.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - I think this makes good sense in this climate and future projections.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - This makes sense to have a holistic view from one agency with less dilution and confusion.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - I believe that Tangata Whenua engagement and involvement is well represented currently and does not warrant further complications. We all respect this involvement.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - I am totally in favour of holding and increasing such valuable funding for such a vital economic benefit to the entire Hawke's Bay region. This touches absolutely everyone, it is not solely for the benefit of tourism operators and to reduce would be suicide for the Hawke's Bay economy. This is a highly competitive industry and we need investment to make sure Hawke's Bay is seen and heard and grows in the eyes of national and international consumers.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - If this benefits and can be used appropriately.

### **General Comments**

Please look overseas for ideas and initiatives, as New Zealand is so far behind internationally dealing with important issues. Other countries, such as Germany dealt with the issues we are facing now 50 odd years ago. It shouldn't be hard to come up with modern, smart solutions, even if they come at a price.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - This is the only way to go, however instead of just cleaning up the environment, the behaviour of the polluters/offenders has to change. Ideally by forcing them to pay a fee and make significant improvements to their practices. It is not fair that the residents are asked to clean up their mess and the approach is not ideal. Just cleaning up the mess does not solve the problem, it just masks the symptoms.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - See above

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain - I don't see any benefit to extending the programme. Aren't you only eligible if you are elderly or suffer from an illness. The government should make laws so homes have to be at a certain standard to be able to be rented out in the first place. The individual has the responsibility to make their homes energy efficient, but should get support, if needed (all, not certain groups). Every home should be warm in winter and cold in summer.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - Even though tourism creates jobs and attracts visitors the market should fund itself, as they make huge profits out of this.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold

Firstly I want to say that we totally support the environmental initiatives that Hawkes Bay Regional Council (HBRC) are proposing and as a business we also strive to want to make Hawkes Bay a better place to live in for the future. We have achieved Qualmark Silver with our environmental initiatives within the Crown Hotel AND by working together we also need to see tourism continue to drive economic growth in the future!

In the last 3 years since Hawkes Bay Tourism have received the additional funding from HBRC, we have seen a direct result with the additional marketing efforts in driving awareness of Hawkes Bay as an amazing destination to visit, live and do business in both the domestic and International markets. Visitors are spending \$1.7m a day which is driving the economic growth of all of Hawkes Bay. The Tourism Industry does not just benefit from this funding and increase in visitor spend, speak to the restaurants/cafes, farmers markets, tour operators, milkman, laundry/drycleaning providers, tradespeople and local businesses/stores around Hawkes Bay that ourselves and our guests use on a daily basis.

We appreciate the current funding levels that HBRC are currently contributing, and understand that HB Tourism cannot rely on solely this funding and that is why the industry are also contributing, through our membership levies and also our own marketing funds. The Crown Hotel has an annual marketing fund, whereby we are attending Tradeshow (such as TRENZ and Meetings) that cost approx. \$8,000 per show. We conduct multiple sales trips both domestic and international, whereby many appointments are majority of the time speaking about Hawkes Bay in general rather than my specific product! They want to know about Hawkes Bay first and foremost if they are potential new clients, or 'what's new in Hawkes Bay'.

We provide complimentary room nights to both HB Tourism and to Inbound Operators for famils, for media and agents that equates to over \$6,500 a year for our hotel.

We have seen a direct result from Jet Star flying into region and have had several multiday conferences whereby the client had never considered coming to Hawkes Bay in the past, due to connectivity, airfare price etc when it was just Air NZ. I am very nervous if we see a reduction of tourism funding/investment from HBRC that this sends a message of a lack of support from the region. and therefore a potential reduction of services or, an entire withdraw of air service from a carrier, leading to higher travel costs for Hawkes Bay residents and visitors.

With tourism being the largest export earner in NZ, it seems illogical and not a smart or strategic business decision for HBRC to reduce the current funding. No other region are considering to withdraw or even reduce their level of regional tourism funding. To think that 'we are now seeing the good times and the visitors will still come regardless of funding' is absurd and complacent. With a reduction in investment we will lose market share...guaranteed. Other regions will continue to see economic growth and Hawkes Bay will start to decline back to previous years.

I would like to see clean waterways, a better environment AND for Hawkes Bay Regional Council to not reduce HB Tourism's current tourism funding.

Thanks you

Michele Cole and Shane Collins

The Crown Hotel

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Submitter #426

Yully Jin, Te Mata Estate Winery

**To be heard?** Yes

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - With more regular flights to/from Hawke's Bay and Cruise ships, visiting HB has become a lot easier for everyone and we have been seeing increase in number of visitors. HB is now the new 'hub' for food and wine lovers. With Agriculture and Wine businesses that are unique to the Bay, why should the funding be reduced and not promote the individuality?

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Submitter #427

Shane Gorst, Art Deco Trust Incorporated

**To be heard?** No

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold

Art Deco Trust is a multi-channel social enterprise that invests all of its resources and any profit that can be derived from its commercial activities into the promotion, celebration, preservation and restoration of our regions heritage. We rely heavily on income from tourism in order to sustain our organisation and also contribute significantly to the promotion of our region to national and international tourists. For this reason we are strongly opposed to the reduction in funding for Hawkes Bay Tourism, proposed as part of the Long Term Plan.

If funding to Hawkes Bay Tourism is reduced, their capability will reduce along with it. The industry has worked with Hawkes Bay Tourism to build incredible momentum that has delivered tangible, measurable results and we simply cannot afford to take our foot off the pedal now. Although we are a beautiful part of the world with a lot to offer our visitors, we are just one part of a very beautiful country full of regions who are all spending comparable or significantly more money on Tourism than we are (such as Queenstown). If we don't have Annie and the team making sure that we are top of mind all year round, we will be left behind and we will lose revenue while others will take a proportionately larger chunk of the pie.

As a heritage organisation charged with protecting our unique built environment in a sustainable way, we can also see the need for significant environmental investment in the region. We understand that the role of the Council is to find balance between all of these conflicting priorities for the betterment of the community, but feel a better balance can be reached in relation to this specific matter.

Ultimately it is the capability of Hawkes Bay Tourism that we are advocating should be maintained and funding is obviously the most critical part of this. Our preference is for their funding to be maintained at the current level and that this is included in the regional rates.

To address the key points that have come from recent discussions on this topic from our perspective. The point of view repeated a number of times in relation to Tourism being its own industry and therefore should now move towards standing on its own two feet like other industries in the region. Although we understand the argument, our view is that this argument is flawed in the sense that other industries are more readily able to get their product in front of their market no matter how far away that market may be. Contrary to this, Tourism relies on our ability to bring people into the region from those markets by marketing and competing against other regions across the country. The fact that we bring our market to the region, opens up opportunities for a far wider economic impact than is garnered from distributing other products from within other industries. In fact, when our visitors come here for tourism purposes, they will often spend money across various other industries.

The potential impact of a drop in funding for Hawkes Bay Tourism on our operation is significant. As a non-profit organisation we are outcome driven rather than profit driven. Practically speaking this means that we operate in a break even environment with a lower than ideal level of resources. Any drop in tourism revenue would directly impact on our ability to deliver the outputs that we currently do across all channels. These

channels currently deliver significant economic impact for the region that would inevitably reduce with our own capability to deliver. Depending on the severity of the drop in income, we may also have to consider reducing current resources which would mean people would lose their jobs or at least have to accept a reduction in their hours. We currently employ 13 people across the organisation.

In addition to the economic impact that would come from a drop in our capability, there would be a reduction in our social and community outputs. We maintain a network of 170 volunteers from across the region that host our visitors on guided tours, provide unique experiences in our Art Deco Shop and support the delivery of the annual Art Deco Festival and Winter Deco events. These volunteering opportunities create a community and deliver important opportunities for people to engage in their heritage, spend time with other like-minded individuals and foster civic pride.

Further to this, we work to educate and engage across generations and demographics so that everyone has an opportunity to celebrate and get involved with the heritage of the region in which they have chosen to live.

Most importantly a reduction in tourism revenue will directly and negatively impact our ability to conduct our vital heritage work. Heritage is not just about bricks and mortar and our streetscape, it is the people and their stories that bring the physical environment to life and must also be protected. Art Deco specifically forms a core part of our regions identity alongside our other major characterising attributes. It is not necessarily the demolition of this heritage that will result in its eventual loss, but rather the erosion over time due to lack of care and investment. As the organisation charged with stewarding this heritage, we are already falling short of what we would ultimately like to deliver and therefore, must strongly advocate against anything that we feel would further limit our capability in this area.

It is important we acknowledge that although we are the "Art Deco Trust" we are only one key part of a much wider family of stakeholders that contribute to creating our unique and internationally renowned heritage environment here in Hawkes Bay. It is the combination of experiences that we can offer our visitors that drives the significant economic impact of tourism as a whole. Although we would have to reduce our outputs proportionate to any drop in tourism revenue, we are of a sufficient scale and diversity as an organisation that we could continue to operate all be it at a reduced level. The reality for many other businesses that work in this space is that their infrastructure is far more limited and they would be far more severely affected by a drop in their primary and often only source of revenue.

In closing we would like to say that we appreciate the incredible support that HBRC have provided the tourism industry to date and we commend the Council on addressing the environmental needs of the region. We have avoided including too much data and statistics in relation to the industry itself and our own part in it as we know this information will be well covered across the full spectrum of submissions on this topic and backed up by Hawkes Bay Tourisms own contribution. Instead we have tried to provide a broader perspective on the impact of any reduction in funding from our unique position in the community.

Thank you for your time and attention in reading this submission. Kind Regards

Shane Gorst General Manager Art Deco Trust

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

***Incentives*** Option 2 - Fully Fund

***Partnerships*** Option 2 - Fully Fund

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - Reduce some of funding, but monitor effects. Arguments made by chair of Hastings business st public meeting seemed relevant - I.e where does tourism business begin and end. The boundaries around common/community benefit and big business benefit eg The Mission are confusing. Agree with Councillor's comment that matters need to be better clarified with Tourism sector. What are the HBRC TOR? Why does tourism come under it's mandate? Who else is responsible for supporting? Is it because it is a regional body and individual District Councils do not act cohesively?

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - No information about how long LGFA has been in existence, track record and whether any guarantor has faced financial liability. The idea of using the LGFA and the purpose of the scheme seems good in principle.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Providing support to those who need this is key to ensuring that we achieve a timeframe that will assist in getting people in to a compliance position sooner rather than later. There are always challenges for land owners to continually improve the way they manage natural resources for the betterment and use of everyone. We support strongly the offer of financial support for such initiatives.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Providing the resources to establish partnerships for change is critical to build strategic and key relationships with user groups. We support this approach by HBRC and as a treaty settlement entity we look forward to a being a part of such initiatives to ensure our aims and aspirations for Land, Water and biodiversity are aligned with other user groups with the same whakaaro as ours.

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - Sustainable homes for our people are one of our many aspirations for our people. To ensure that they have access to resources financial and otherwise will greatly increase their living standards. Sometimes a hand up is needed for them to align with regulations and compliance. This is an area that a majority of our people in rural sectors often do not get support when they need it. To allow such an extension of this much needed program is definitely a win win solution for everyone. This will allow them to participate in looking after our environment, while providing them with a home that is sustainable, affordable and warm.

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - Managing this service under one regime is a preferred choice for us because it makes not only sense to do so but allows the funds to be used where and when needed.

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase - As a treaty settlement entity within HBRC region it is a must to ensure that key strategic relationships with HBRC and ourselves are established and maintained on all issues not just on natural resources. Working collectively and collaboratively allows us to grow a region that is strong on partnerships, good will, opportunity and understanding. We support the increase in this to allow resourcing of our people when engaged to provide information to HBRC to have capacity and capability to do so.

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - While tourism provides spikes in the local economy we have other priorities that our region needs to focus and resource. Such as the water, land and biodiversity management, the need to provide assistance for sustainable housing and to ensure that our waterways are managed so that they are clean, swimmable and we can drink and eat from them.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing - If we are to play a part in protecting our environment and preserving our natural resources for future generations we need to ensure that our local authority has access to financial resourcing to do so. We are keen to ensure that our rivers, and estuary are protected and managed for future generations to enjoy and live by. We support the approach of option 3.

**General Comments**

One of the concerns we have is how consultation with Tangata Whenua is managed or approached. As a treaty settlement entity there are key assets that are captured within our settlement that require engagement and partnership with Local Authorities. We are keen to understand or know what your particular take on managing this process happens or is going to affect a working relationship that we as a treaty settlement entity have with HBRC. The Ahuriri Estuary catchment is a major concern for us as it is captured within our settlement under a statutory management committee. We will be providing our cultural report

and values for this to the Tangata Whenau Regional Planning working group on next Tuesday 24 April after the close off for submissions on the LTP. We would like to submit in support of this submission as part of the Outstanding Freshwater bodies the report once the presentation on 24 April 2018 to the TWR has been completed.

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Submitter #434

Norm Brown

***To be heard?*** Yes

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - Proposed reduction in funding – Please do not do it! I would ask that the proposed reduction in funding does not take place on the current plan period. I would agree that funding as a percentage of input from the sector will need to decrease over time. However in tourism terms 3 years is not a long time in generating results. Generally any initiatives that I have implemented take 3 years before even a first response is given and then at least 3 more before any significant result is achieved. Tourism is a long term investment. My company is only just feeling the affects from the initial investments HBT put in place 3 years ago and those with new initiatives are only just being bold enough to step forward. In my view it would be extremely unwise to reduce funding just as the fruits are starting to form. There needs to be time for the advances achieved to mature.

Our overseas awareness has grown, our visitor numbers have increased, and our community activities have increased. With great statistics to prove it. However that is the things that build confidence to grow they are not sustainable growth in terms of new activity providers, new accommodation providers, or new transport initiatives from bus companies or tour groups. HBT has grown what tourism was doing, and done it well. We have expanded awareness here and over seas and done it well. But we have only just started to lift awareness of banks to help startup initiatives. When this happens and new activities start appearing and growing we know we have nearly arrived at sustainability. With the reduced funding proposal new people with new initiatives will find it harder to borrow, harder to convince tour companies to come and harder to entice bus connectivity.

I would ask that the HBRC delay any reduction until the work done already matures and actual business numbers in tourism expand and present companies sustainability increases. If the reduction is not delayed all the momentum generated by HBT so far will wilt. Many groups involved will lose patience. Credibility with buyers, IBO's and fellow regions, will be lost and a collapse will set in that will be hard to reverse. Please keep the funding as it is for the next 5 years and start discussions with HBT for a planned reduction if required after that. Please do not reduce funding and collapse what we have gained. Please do not do to us what happened to the Waikato Region when funding was cut.

Reasoning The HBRC assisted in building a platform that brought all Activity providers and accommodation together Hawkes Bay is part of a North Island collective as well as other collaborative initiatives This has given us strength in the ability to connect to the outside world. It also allows me as an individual and a company to attend product shows and use the connectivity provided. This activity attendance or involvement is not paid for by Council it is 100% paid for by me on a personal basis or as my company depending on the project. The Council input is related to providing the "vehicle" which provides a single platform for all providers to make use of. For each single provider, activity, or accommodation, to develop their own platform to reach overseas or even New Zealand is expensive and doubling up and quite frankly beyond all our abilities to finance. This collective approach has given the Hawkes Bay region strength, confidence, and courage to build if you are a new business or expand if you are an existing business. The vehicle which allows us to do this is funded by the HBRC as well as our yearly fees and our attendance fees at events. Nothing is free. In fact the drive by HBT for us to match the HBRC input and create more value is immense. With the HBRC contributions coming to HBT we are well aware we need to put up as much marketing funds as we can to capitalise on the funding. Otherwise we waste an opportunity.

My company (and I am sure many others) have no more money to commit. HBT will have to curtail its programs. Tourism Staff One of my greatest concerns with the dropping of funding is the effect on Hawkes Bay Tourism staff. The team there have been tireless in their assistance to us as providers. Their stats show

this. Hawkes bay is blessed with a team that, appears from where I sit, is punching well above its weight. They are led by one of the hardest working and knowledgeable people that I have been involved with since I started in Tourism. These people do not need and can not work with a boom and bust funding mentality. They need to plan and have security otherwise they can not perform, their contacts and programs fail and they lose credibility. Hawkes Bay Tourism relied on a planned development since its inception, its growth to what it is now is exceptional. Advances achieved with the last plan put in place by the HBRC needs to mature. Any cutting in funding needs to be planned not a knee jerk reaction. Please do not cut the rug from under these staff. Remember they will need to recruit new staff as the present ones move to better places. Boom and bust culture and planning does not assist in attracting great staff. We rely on plans to make decisions on future development. A plan collapse, collapses us. Knee jerk reaction is not a good way of planning.

The long term plan that established funding for HBT was done with great planning and well thought through submissions. The work that went into it and consultations involved gave me as a provider and others, the confidence to stay involved and take part in the collective approach as mentioned above. Any retreat from the current funding level should receive the same planning. We could not have a collective approach without a strong vehicle which drew all tourism operators together. This vehicle was strengthened by the input of finance by the HBRC. We as operators still heavily finance part of this “vehicle” but we can only do so much until we get to the “critical mass” of operators that will allow Tourism in Hawkes Bay to expand or exist on a lower Regional input.

The funding plan given us a 3 years ago allowed this growth. However the work is not complete. The HBRC investment so far has not matured. It has not reached its potential. It has not put us on a level which will allow Tourism in Hawkes bay to expand and consolidate. Investment and inputs from the likes of Tourism New Zealand has only just had confidence to start “talking” of investing in Hawkes Bay as a destination as they search for replacement tourism destinations to spread the load from the major tourism destinations to the regions. Please do not destroy the confidence built up with Tourism New Zealand by collapsing the regional input. We need the HBRC to make it obvious to Tourism New Zealand that the region is serious about wanting Tourism New Zealand promotion.

So far we have built marvellous events around wine, art deco, and sport which has touched many in the district financially. However Hawkes Bay still has a gaping hole - we do not have or we are not on a recognised Tourism Route. It is a destination that needs pampering and constant maintenance from a collective body. There is so much more to develop. The region can go beyond our cities, art deco and wine and yet keep all these concurrent. We still have our great walks, great beaches, and new enterprises being initiated on the route to Wairoa and down through Central Hawkes Bay that can be utilized and usage developed. It is too early to cut the funding, and dampen the confidence, and the mentoring that the HBRC funding assistance has provided. Please do not cut the rug from under these enterprises. They needed to fill the gaping hole – we still need to establish a recognised Tourism Route.

I as one provider know the value of a recognised tourist route – we do not have one. This makes my advertising and ability to survive expensive and erratic. Put simple we need to continue to fund at a level that will continue to supply confidence, mentoring, and an atmosphere that allows new enterprises to evolve using Hawkes Bay features such as the Kaweka's, Beaches, farmland, caves, and canyons. We need more activities in Hawkes Bay to support the ones we have. It will bring about the connectivity of buses and tour groups we currently do not have. I do not ask or expect the HBRC to fund or build these enterprises. I just ask that you do not reduce funding and adversely affect confidence and passion required to generate the great initiatives being carried out by people being supported by HBT to build companies such as mine.

What has the HBRC assistance to HBT allowed me to do personally and as a Company? The HBRC assistance given to HBT gave me the confidence that great people were working wonders to build and keep Hawkes Bay to the fore in Tourism. I did not receive financing or subsidies, just a confidence that “critical mass” was at last building for HBT to stand on its own 2 feet. Sustainability could be achieved and my company could remain sustainable and that there was a stable platform or “vehicle” that supported me and allowed and encouraged a collaborative approach with other providers into advertising and marketing that I could never have reached. This become important last year for me. We were a company that had expanded our turnover at an average of 11% per year consistently for 8 years. Last year we dropped 20% on the year before, or 30% on our planned out come. Yes, we know the contributing factors.

1. A very public and social media covered event with Ospri trying to aerial spread 1080 over areas of the Kaweka's used by our school camps and tourists as well as trying to aerial spread 1080 over three river accesses and camp spots we consistently use. The result was a total loss of all expeditions for that year which usually turned over around \$60,000 a season. The loss to me was also a loss to Hawkes Bay as they did not stay the night before and night after, as is usual.
2. The social media coverage over New Zealand's dirty or polluted rivers. Ok, the Mohaka was clean but perception is hard to change. To make it worse Hawkes Bay had its own problems but there was no positive/constructive comment on the good condition of the Mohaka.
3. There was a down turn in the Australian economy that appeared to be reflected in our visitor numbers. We can not do much about that.
4. The change by Tourism New Zealand in taking over Qualmark is now biting and affecting us. Tourism New Zealand now promote Qualmark on their website before those without Qualmark. This means the big corporate Tourism Operators in the main centres who can afford Qualmark push us out of marketing contention. 2 years ago audit requirements changed and we went from 1 auditor to 2. We are, and have to be by law audited by Maritime NZ and by AdventureMark. This cost \$13,000 the first year and follow up last year was \$7000. Qualmark can only do customer satisfaction they are not registered for safety, and being Audited by them is expensive. We rely on Tripadvisor, Google and Facebook reviews for the customer experience "audit". But, it all means that our referrals from Tourism NZ have been dropping around 20% per year. The assistance of the HBRC to fund HBT has allowed HBT to develop their Website that is now starting to surpass the referrals of Tourism NZ and other website referrals. It was a great initiative but is only just got momentum. Please do not allow this initiative to flounder by reduced funding at this stage.
5. Tripadvisor have now bought the booking engine called Viator. Tripadvisor now place Viator members at the top of their listings which now means less referrals from a referral site that used to send many people to us. We can join Viator if we wish to pass over 20% of our income. This produces some conflicts.

All the above shows that you need some size and muscle to be noticed and to be active in the Tourism Sector. The funding by the HBRC to HBT allowed them to build infrastructure and initiatives that; help to collectively provide the muscle, and the ability for individuals to compete, and the HBT staff with the facility and knowledge required to compete. Rather than close last year we were able to look at the work being done by HBT creating the infant stages of promoting activity development for what I call a "Tourist route" from Central Hawkes Bay up through Wairoa. This had created a "buzz" and fresh passion to stay in the game. It gave us a avenue to a collective power. This could not have been so effective without the financial assistance of the HBRC. However this work is still in its infancy. Reduced funding at this stage will cause this initiate to dwindle into thin air. So many people will be affected. So many employment possibilities will fade to nothing. Please do not reduce funding and collapse this economic growth where its needed. Other work that the collective approach and confidence generated by Hawkes Bay Tourism encourages The assistance given to HBT by the HBRC not only bolsters the collective promotion but gives us as providers a confidence to be proactive in other areas. As a company we have been involved in some initiates that can only arise out of the confidence given by the current direction created by HBT with the assistance of the HBRC. However again these initiatives are young and will need to be nurtured to maturity from a greater entity than what I can provide.

1. I have been talking with a young lady trying to bring a collective approach to training of Outdoors Instructors from communities around Hawkes Bay. The aim is that the trainees can help or work with providers in the area. We train our own guides so it seems that we can share our knowledge and make something happen. One of the barriers to a start up is qualified staff. It takes time and experience. When the reduced funding collapses this need then it collapses economic development.
2. I have started an initiative to set up The Mohaka and Kaweka emergency radio. If we are successful it will provide a safety radio for schools, tramping and kayaking groups, clubs and providers as well as the public. This will also give aspiring outdoor businesses confidence that the health and safety aspects of setting up an activity can be satisfied. 3 years of planning is complete and testing has started. Funding has started with give-a-little page and then approaches to institutions. The radio will cover all of the Mohaka from the Willowflat bridge (Kotamoari) to well above the DoC boundary below Poronui. It will also give coverage to the northern areas of the Kaweka forest Park. It will also reach Napier and Hastings. The system will start with 3 linked repeaters at a cost of \$10,000 each. If a need arises we can

extend the system further. We are trying to service a need. The main driver at the early stages was communication when we are asked to rescue people. Now it has become a little more than that as the area usage is increasing and health and safety needs need to be met. It will also give connectivity in case of civil emergency.

3. We have successfully established a river gauge for the use of paddlers and providers as well as the public. Again this will service the needs of those activities requiring this information for health and safety requirements. Establishing the river level gauge came about when Niwa dropped the Glenfalls gauge from their monitoring. We managed to get them to reinstate it while they talk to the HBRC but we then received notice that their attempt to have the HBRC take it over was not working out. The water level gauge was essential for us so in collaboration with Shaggy Designs we put one in for us in time to co-relate it with the Glenfalls gauge. Luckily, the cost to us was labour and a trip down the river to install as well as a sponsored add on their website. It is now publicly available. Details about the gauge are at: <http://shaggydesigns.com/gauge/mohaka.htm>
4. Earlier in the year a substantial number of pine trees (around 40) were collapsed into the Mohaka from an area around early HBRC river protection works, from a few years before, that had degenerated. We mounted around 5 trips to cut up the trees shifted and then jammed on beaches and across flows after each flooding event. Work was done as flows allowed us to reach them safely. This allows the trees to break up and move down stream safely and not block bridges and create extremely bad hazards for ourselves and other river users such as schools kayaking trips. This is risky work with staff and a chainsaw on a raft. This work requires an "air" of confidence in continued ability to grow because the cost and risks are high. All the initiatives above are young and not matured. It would be a shame to allow this work, that helps the tourism community build, be wasted. Please keep the funding at its present level until initiatives mature.

We carry out the above as it helps ourselves. But it also helps a wider community. The development of HBT has built confidence, this contributes to generating an atmosphere that allows us to commit more fully, but it does cost us. Nothing is free and we only get out what we put in and that includes the Hawkes Bay Region. Please do not let the confidence and passion that has built up diminish because of lower funding.

The plan put in place in 2015 by HBT to gain funding was carried out to great affect and met all of the HBRC targets has had a great affect and has helped with publicity and promotion. We as a company pay 100% for everything we take part in from travel, shows, adverts, and participating in events. We even give away family trips to people visiting the Hawkes Bay at the invitation of HBT. I am able to commit some expertise elsewhere but funds are limited. We have only just clawed ourselves back to financial figures reached three years ago. 10% of my turnover is put into marketing. Most directly related to HBT initiatives. To fund any short fall created by reduced funding to HBT is beyond us at this stage. HBT provide a "vehicle" for my promotions to reach where I can not go, to areas I do not understand, to people far beyond my "pay scale", and to people all over the world.

HBT works within bigger collectives such as the Explore Central North Island tourism group and Tourism New Zealand to further maximize their dollars and promote Hawkes Bay as a destination. HBT also brings in wholesalers and retailers from world wide to attend promotional shows and familiarisation tours. Please do not let funding cuts minimise the affect Hawkes Bay has built up within these wider collective groups. The benefits have become clear. Please do not force a reduction in these. HBT promotes and helps co-ordinate the community activities and projects in Hawkes Bay that you all know about and which builds the regions economic growth. Please do not put this at risk by reducing funding at this stage. Please Keep funding at its present level for the next 5 years. If required during this time please consult with Hawkes Bay Tourism on how best to reduce HBRC financial input as a percentage of HBT operating costs so that any adverse effects to the region are mitigated.

**General Comments**

Work smarter folks to make our rates dollars go further...the rest of us mere mortals, mostly on low incomes in the Hawkes Bay must continually do so!

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo - Our Rates are already high and I'm strongly against any moves that try to "justify" any extraordinary increases, as once granted, they are never reduced back when the initial "reason" has been achieved. Larger (rural) land owners with environmental responsibilities to "clean up" their act should be paying their own way, not being subsidised by small land owners eg. urban dwellers who are going to be paying more already in Rates to their Local Councils to clean up water quality & waste management improvements in say Napier, for example!

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Working together with rural land owners on this proposal is a sound idea.

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - We all need to get behind making our nation's housing far more "user friendly" & healthy!

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - Only so long as we truly DO get FULL credit for this cost transfer against our Local Council rates burden.

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - Time to ALL grow up here is my opinion folks...we are all members of the same community here?

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - Tourism benefactors can pay more now, surely?

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - I am not happy for our Regional Council to take on any increased liability in the form of "guaranteeing" ANY loans.

### **General Comments**

It would be very nice if at least in a future year rates either stayed the same or rose only a fraction. It seems to me that councillors forget that they are supposed to be prudent with the Ratepayers Money. In the last few years both the Regional Councillors and City Councillors have been more intent in doing something they can have their name on, rather than looking after our infrastructure. In the next ten years people on a fixed income (Pensioners, Beneficiaries of all sorts) is to grow exponentially, not all of us have been in high powered, high paid jobs. Please remember this.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - We need to make changes in behaviours as soon as possible. Our water, land and Biodiversity are important to all New Zealanders now & in the future

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - 'Farming and Agriculture is important for New Zealanders. Assisting Farmers will improve not only our land but also our waterways. Rain onto land seeps through to our waterways.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain - Government should make it Mandatory for all new homes to have Solar Power. Water Storage and Septic Tank replacement are maintenance on the homeowner, just as other maintenance is. For People living off the Grid, these should be Mandatory Government requirements.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - The Region hopefully would be better able to address any major disasters. Separate councils don't always talk to one another or agree on how defences for disasters should be handled.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - Tangata Whenua should stand for the Board if they want a greater say in the way things are done.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - We need to make sure our environment is our priority. Tourism will need to look for other sponsorship and stand on its own two feet. I understand money is going to new offices and 30 staff, sounds like another case of somebody wanting to Empire Build. I think we have had enough of this in Napier.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - Because there is a limit to the amount of money that can be borrowed. A future Council may not consider how ratepayers are going to pay major rises, especially those on a fixed income.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - We have all stood back for far too long while detrimental changes have been occurring to our environment. Our habits of the past have finally caught up with us to a point where we can no longer sit back and think that someone, or something will fix the problem. There has been enough evidence in recent times that things are not right, and to do nothing is not an option. We must lead the way on these matters to achieve the improvements our natural resources deserve.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - It appears that a lot of farmers are already on board doing some very good work on improving environmental issues surrounding their properties. I see option 2 as further enhancing the initiatives already being undertaken, provided that the 'partnership' is just that - a 50/50 working combination without Council trying to enforce the 'rules'. By building positively on what has been done will encourage those not possibly supportive of the change required.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - We have come a long way in recent years with the future protecting of residential homes. Like a lot of people today, my wife and I are currently living in a fully insulated, double glazed home, enjoying the advantages that this technology brings. To take the next step as proposed to include further sustainable options to further enhance a warmer and healthier home, is a natural progression to what has already been a successful project.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - Not really sure on this one but will go with the transfer to the HBRC and will monitor performance.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - While having respect for the Tangata Whenua and the role they play within our society, I am concerned at the \$380,000 cost in year one that would be incurred with your preferred option. We all have a part to play to achieve the improvements that are necessary for which some will receive a remuneration and others will willingly and voluntarily do what needs to be done. I would like to know a bit more as to why the HBRC need to make additional internal appointments and strengthen the cultural competency of staff. What do these actions and costs do to improving our environmental future? I will watch with interest - may be time will prove me wrong!

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - Enough said on this point. They have had their share - a far worthier cause now ahead of us all.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

- Leave this to the experts

### **General Comments**

My final comment is in relation to the 'Facing Our Future' meeting I attended in Napier. This was an excellent presentation of the Plan, which gave you the feeling that finally we have something to get our teeth into to tackle the issues front on. Well done to the CEO and Chairman who did a great job with the presentation. Also to all other staff involved in the preparation of the Plan. I look forward to the results. In regards to the Plan and the increase in the rates, will there be any reporting back to the rate payers on how each element of the Plan is going and a summary of cost involved. Being quite a major rate increase an operational and financial report on an annual basis would keep rate payers informed.

**General Comments**

It is outrageous to propose an 18% rate increase! The council is already very proactive with it's many environmental programmes. The Council should look for more efficient ways of doing business.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

***Incentives*** Option 1 - Status Quo - Because our business cannot sustain a 18% rate increase. We already have large areas of land in QE 2 covenants and retired land, plant many poplar, willow and pine as erosion control and shelter, we actively target possum through the HBRC PCA programme.

***Partnerships*** Option 1 - Status Quo - See all the above reasons. All the above have been supported by the HBRC to date.

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain - It is a personal choice.

**Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain - Wairoa District Council already does this.

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - Wairoa District Council already does this.

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - The HBRC should not be involved in tourism activities.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing

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**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - It makes sense.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Improves outcomes in this area.

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - Next logical step.

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - Function sits with Regional Council may as well rate for it in this basis. Hope to see equal reduction in local rates (won't hold my breath lol).

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase - Support this approach especially in terms of requirements under RMA and LGA, you also get better and more richer decisions/outcomes through appropriate engagement with tangata whenua.

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - Tourism is on the up. Don't stop supporting this now or reducing your/our support. In fact it is time to hammer this home. Capitalise on the provincial growth fund, Rocketlab, etc. Support for the Matariki REDS. Few more rates dollar in this regard is worth the investment. Govt is moving to reintroduce the FOUR well-beings including "ECONOMIC" so there is your mandate.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing - Makes sense.

### **General Comments**

I hope that the Council will start listening to the CHB community as we are feeling very much shafted by your Council. Debbie does a great job but she seems to be always trying to support us against a nearly completely united front against us. The impression is one of arrogance up there.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo - Although I am for improvement to the environment I believe the Council is moving too fast at a huge cost to the ratepayers. We were told last consultation round that the increase for that year was a one off.. We in CHB didn't see any benefits and it is hard to believe that this year's plan will achieve all that it says. The vast majority of farmers in CHB are responsible and have done huge amounts of riparian fencing and planting. Encouraging forestry and then charging an enormous consent fee, doesn't look like an incentive to me!

**Partnerships** Option 1 - Status Quo - Although I have ticked the status quo, my feelings are somewhere in between and there is no option for stating a preferred lower rate. Most farmers have their own networks for improvement as is evidenced with the Farmer of the Year, and Balance Environment awards. There is no information on what you mean by "Future Farming" and at the CHB meeting, that question was unanswered. The role of the Regional Council cannot be to tell us what and how to farm - stopping the Ruataniwha Dam has taken away many options for change. We feel very let down in CHB by some of the decision of the Regional Council.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - Agree with this proposal.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - Agree but does the increase have to be done all in one year.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

- A very vague statement in the plan, but I do agree that there should be a good working partnership.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - Hb Tourism has done a great job here. Their main focus has been on creating events which brings a huge economic benefit to HB and I would be sad to see that lessen. Also it has been great for CHB to have the support of HB Tourism as being a smaller community it is difficult to raise the profile on our own.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing – Agree

### **General Comments**

I do not support in any way, the reckless increase of rates. How dare you think it is ok for people to pay \$1 to your coffers. How dare you put rates up like that! We do not give you the mandate to put rates up to an obscene level. There are many people who have to think how to buy food, heat their homes and survive and your council thinks it is ok to put rates up the huge amount you are planning. You say "It will be hard for some" in your stupid, patronising way. It is hard for those who do not have high incomes to find year upon year you plan huge increases. You the idiot from Age Concern might think they are talking for all pensioners but they are definitely not! We do NOT want to pay increase rates year upon year because your stupid council comes up with stupid ideas.

I think you should not feel you have a mandate to spend more and more of our money on stupid things. Ratepayers should not be made to pay a huge increase just because many environmental things have not been done. Many have limited budgets and are not a cash cow for you to milk dry. Why don't you ask the government for help planting trees and helping the environment?

I do not in any way support you putting rates up so high. This has to stop. You have to stop making people pay huge increases for something we didn't do and can't afford.

You are an uncaring council just prepared to make the elderly and beneficiaries pay a huge amount of money. Please stop increasing our rates so high and go back and trim your budget accordingly. We do not support your council in any way.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain - No change on our rates, use the resources you have or leave it with the District Council who don't put rates up as high. Getting control of this will be a reason to put rates up year upon year with on consequences.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - I see no need to spend money on this. This is fine no need to spend more on this option at all. I see no need to spend endless amounts of money on this. To do so is just a rort.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - No need to increase, need to reduce money put into this. I think it brings no more tourists in and we need to pay less. Reduce this as you promised as tourists just destroy the environment. It does not make money for the community and we end up spending more and more.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 1 - Status Quo - No extra rates and no opportunity for your council to just put rates up at will.

Submitter #444  
Clint Deckard  
**To be heard?** No

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - I support the increased urgency with facing the environmental challenges we have. I applaud the decision to more actively involved and supportive of the farming community to change existing practices.

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - I look forward to the benefits of these sustainable initiative reaching more ratepayers.

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - Just makes sense.

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase - A relatively small investment that has the potential to reap large rewards.

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - I would prefer HBRC to concentrate on its core business and work to improve the environment so that we a healthy region to promote to visitors. I believe those in tourism businesses should increasingly fund HB Tourism rather than ratepayers.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing

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Submitter #445  
Kathleen Huia Adsett  
**To be heard?** No

**General Comments**

I choose that all Kaumatua Superannuation members should be exempt from paying rates. Many Octogenarians and Nonogenarians live on a disability allowance, I for one. Surely we should be able to spend what's left of our "twilight" years enjoying peace and tranquillity. Thank you.

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Submitter #446  
Mr PG Gannon  
**To be heard? No**

### **General Comments**

Yes we do need funding increases but the current hype about water quality should not be the gold mine for increased rates and regional staff increases. Taxes taken from our region should be used in our region, not spent elsewhere, and not go through the government system. We put in \$1.00 and only a few cents over our end. We need councillor's with balls to make a stand for this, not roll over like timid dogs.

In my view:

- 1) the urban sprawl needs to be stopped, it is a burden on the infrastructure
- 2) Forestry needs to pay more rates, but money needs to be spent on roads. Restriction on steep hill plantings with pines.
- 3) High cattle numbers need to be monitored on steep country and intense (eg dairy) needs to be halted.
- 4) Water storage for irrigation is a must
- 5) All water used for people drinking and stock water should not be taxed. Water irrigation and bottled water going overseas be taxed. This taxed money to be used for water quality and restoration.
- 6) NZ population is maxed out for our infrastructure
- 7) The Port of Napier should pay, a taxation for all regional produce going through the port – funds used for roading as forestry would be main contributor

Finally can you please spend some of the rates collected back into rural roads – we cannot guarantee a truck will be able to truck stock or personal car transport in and out of our road.

Rate payers should not have rate increases. This is an old system that feeds to many fat cats and is out dated.

You may contact me if your wish.

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Submitter #447  
WE Shortt  
**To be heard? No**

### **General Comments**

Like many others I have difficulty understanding HBRC's latest rate gathering gimmick after receiving a letter and a glossy pamphlet with the headline title "Facing our Future".

Included in your statements are a number of benefits that you propose which one could only comment as being very questionable.

HBRC not so bright ideas, along with the planning and recent actions to implement, are cause for deep ratepayer concern.

HBRC Chairman, Rex Graham, I recall stating that last year's rise of near 10% was a one off and 12 months later we have him and his support cronies wanting us to dig into our wallets for a further proposed 19% grab which would make it two off!

HBRC have squandered so far some \$25m on a Dam that is very unlikely to hold a drop of water and no doubt even now more money is being thrown at it to finish off a controversial chapter of gross mismanagement.

HBRC would appear to have a love affair with Lake Tutira being the instigators of a cleanup that saw \$644k handed to the Trust associated with the Lake and recently along with Government funding a further \$3.5 million spread over 5 years, that's over \$4.1 million.

Have HBRC given thought to the green algae that washes up on both the Mahia and Opoutama Beaches as it has an amazing similarity to what lays on bottom of Lake Tutira?

HBRC push ahead for the opening of the Napier/Wairoa rail line with \$5.4m already set aside, but have you read between the lines as a number of the big players amongst the Forest giants don't seem to be raising their hands in support. A trucking operator owning a Kenworth or similar logging truck is likely to have

forked out some \$450 to \$600 on a new rig and has not a hope in hell of making positive money on short haul cartage, so is unlikely to support the venture.

HBRC seem to have a healthy money tree. It is noted that former CEO was paid \$103k for 3.5 months work as head of HBRC, that's around \$7.4k a week. The same gentleman in his last stint as CEO back at HBRC saw him receive \$237k for 5.5 month work and then a healthy \$306k handout when he resigned shortly after.

HBRC state in their explanation letter quoting: "To see a healthier marine environment and better biodiversity". An amazing erroneous statement, particularly when you state "millions more trees to be planted".

One only have to look at the mess our beaches are in right now, HBRC does not seem to have any management control for jurisdiction over consents when Forestry Companies clear fell their forests.

Too often the slash left behind on steep country is caught when heavy precipitation occurs, the slash thunders down waterways into streams, lagoons, rivers and estuaries and finally into the ocean and in time finally washed up onto our beaches giving them the image of a war zone!

Anything connected to biodiversity is wiped out. Proof of the pudding was the mess in the Kopuawhara Stream and Mangawhio Lagoon near Mahia a few years back.

The HBRC appear to have a weak spot when forestry maturity is reached and felling commences, this is where big problems start.

Perhaps HBRC need to examine more carefully the National Environmental Standards on Plantation Forestry as it relates to slash ((Ref 1-7-10) HBRC state that they are going to have at least five Regional Council staff permanently located in the Wairoa office. Wow that's around another \$300k odd more a year on salaries and of course let us not forget more vehicles to add to the growing fleet! How exactly are they going to fill the day in?

HBRC are reported to have \$80 odd million in the bank but it is noted you want to shift from short term investment to long term which points to the fact that you should not be acting as Merchant Bankers and should be releasing some of these funds into the more realistic facets of "Facing our Future Plan for 2018/28"

HBRC should realise that some of the statements and information supplied is hard for aging pensioners to take in. One had a far better understanding of the operation many years ago, you were called Hawkes Bay Pest Destruction Board and the order of the day seemed to be mainly chasing "Bunny Rabbits", the operation has certainly diversified in the past three decades!

The big question is what bang does the Wairoa ratepayer really get for their buck. Very little in my opinion, as some of the benefits HBRC propose appear to be no more than a charade of plucking more dollars from fast emptying ratepayer wallets to fund some very questionable projects.

Submitter #451  
Megan Poppelwell  
**To be heard?** No

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 1 - Status Quo

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Submitter #454  
Yasmin Dubrau  
**To be heard?** No

**General Comments**

I thought the public consultations were wonderful, keep up the dialogue. I feel that we need more ideas that promote the efforts and contributions we can all make towards helping our local environment as individuals so that we can make this really successful and get everyone excited about it, even those for whom this has not all come as good news... I wonder if this is also a great opportunity for coming together as urbane and rural communities as well as maori and pakeha. I hope so.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - I think it would be wonderful to get the community involved so that those interested can do more (such as tree planting) but also have an information and collection box (imagine an attractive, eye catching unit at the airport for instance!?) for those wis

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Top personal priority

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - this should extend to those wishing to use reflective paints on their roof, just to raise awareness of thing people can do that make a difference.

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC -

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase - Status Quo not good enough

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - Many reasons why I disagree with my rates going to private enterprises and really I think they should be mroe creative and come up with their own solutions, I don't see them on the poverty line...

**General Comments**

Apart from no indication to save water re future 'dry' periods and as a part of our regions safety plan plus concern re future cost increases I think the proposed plan has issues & proposals to suit all.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - I note a lack of water storage for our future needs - will this be part of the plan

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Concern regarding increased costs to those of us on fixed incomes but can accept the rational for change.

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - Help to increase good health levels and reduce illness. Increase individuals general wellbeing

**Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain - Broader base cover. Local council have more realistic knowledge of areas

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - No reason to change

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - An important asset for the regions growth. Too early to reduce current funding

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - Appears financially more sensible

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo - While I agree that we need to keep our water ways clear I think that we are all ready starting to do this and am unsure if it ALL needs to be done from the start, it is a 10 year plan.

**Partnerships** Option 1 - Status Quo - As above. Also of note I am happy that some of our rate payers monies help this but think the percentage increased is extreme. Especially at CHB DC are looking at rate increases as well.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - As owning a tourism business in CHB, I believe reducing this is extreme for what an amazing job that they have done. And I agree with Tourism HB as below The tourism industry supports the environmental initiatives proposed by HBRC – we also want clean rivers, BUT we also want jobs for our families and community in years to come Tourism is driving the economic growth of Hawke's Bay and you are proposing to dumb that down - \$1.7m is spent every day in Hawke's Bay by visitors – that is NEW money into our region. Only about 40% of visitor spend goes back to tourism businesses directly - the rest goes back to other commercial interests. (Accommodation makes up 12.6% of all spend, Food & beverage 18%, Culture, recreation, gambling 3%, Other passenger transport 8.3%, Other tourism products 10%, Retail sales – alcohol food and beverage 13%, Retail – fuel 8.5%, Retail sales other 26.5%). Funding tourism is hard and every destination the world over faces a similar situation, no one has found a perfect scenario. What is known is that tourism is an enabler of economic and social prosperity – look at Kaikoura – it was barely a stop on main road – tourism is at its heart – this could be Wairoa or Mahia's story in years to come. There are real examples of regions who have stopped investing in tourism. Waikato disestablished its regional promotion in 2005 they had been tracking at 5% growth, by 2008 they were -3%, By 2010 they were almost back to 0%.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 1 - Status Quo - Why do we need to borrow, we have \$80m sidelined that was supposed to be for the Ruataniwha Dam which now has not gone ahead?

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Evidence shows that the status quo isn't working. I don't believe stronger regulation is enough to initiate lasting change.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Our environment desperately needs change and I believe collaboration is the best way to achieve that.

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - If we want a clean and healthy environment, then embracing new sustainable technology is hugely important.

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - If we don't look after the environment, we won't have much tourism either.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing

### **General Comments**

On areas you have not invited consultation on (yet), I would like to make the following comments:

1. Regulatory Oversight (over Land, Water and Biodiversity) If an inordinately large number of "the 15% increase in staff in Year 1" referred to on P3 end up welding "sticks" then the Council is likely to face a backlash against what it is trying to achieve for the environment. Please be careful.
2. Coastal Hazards. I really feel for these people living along the coast whose properties are being affected by climate change but I am not sure whether it is feasible to spend any rate payer money trying to protect them. Nature is going to do what nature wants to do.
3. Napier Port. I am surprised (alarmed even) that the Capital Structure Review Panel is not even considering, as an option, foregoing some of the forecast dividend as a possible way to raise capital even though that would likely mean yet another increase in rates; some of us may prefer that to the (partial) Sale of the Port which presumably is "on the table".

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend

### **Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain - I think Civil Defence will be more effective if it stays 'local' and will likely cost less in the long run because there will not be any overpaid and out of touch people at the top of an empire (which is what I said to the CHB District Council in my submission on its LTP)

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing - I reluctantly accept Option 3 because my preferred lower Option 2 would be of no use because of its \$20m maximum borrowing amount

Submitter #460  
Mindy Windross  
**To be heard?** No

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - Our business depends on tourism. Without it we would lose our jobs and income and the future income of those staff we wish to employ in the Bay in the future.

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Submitter #461  
Ian Thompson  
**To be heard?** No

### **General Comments**

We have read your pamphlets, attended the road show and generally reacted to your plans for the future good of Hawkes Bay. However we have a few thoughts and opinions that fall outside the process of dutifully applauding your intentions.

Firstly the roadshow. The presentation by the CEO was immaculate, full of beautifully tailored phrases designed to assure us that everything was under control, going smoothly, with the whole team beavering diligently towards appointed targets, and then we hear that:

A. Peter Beavan is in his third year of preparing a report on coastal erosion

B. Fenton Wilson goes into print sniping at the HBRC intentions.

That's progress for you.

To other matters. How legal is the present regional council? Presumably it morphed out of the HBCC, who clearly concerned themselves with rural areas. Who gave the regional council permission to invade the urban areas demanding rates? We already pay exorbitant rates to our district council.

Why is being a councillor a paid position? Wouldn't it also be a huge saving for ratepayers if the councillors responsible for costly failed schemes were made personally responsible for the costs incurred?

Why does the HBRC have an investment arm and a demand for rate increases? Obviously rates collected in the past were in excess of requirements, so use those funds instead of demanding more.

If the regional council has any legal reason for being, it is surely to be concerned with 3 core issues, water, land and air.

Stick to your knitting.

Get rid of the ridiculous fleet of buses that swan around with no-one other than a driver on board, using road space and spewing diesel fumes. (But you don't need to hear that from me, the papers are full of adverse comments). And again think of the savings to rate payers.

Stop scaring gullible widows into changing perfectly good traditional fireplaces for so called modern high tech replacements. We have three friends, victims of your advertising tactics, who now have less heat and more problems after expensive replacements. Anyone who has ever had a fire knows the condition of the fuel is the only relevant factor for a smoke free fire.

Stop making difficulties for farmers and land owners to construct dams or provide on farm water storage. Australian rural areas rely on them.

And to finish, what is the big deal with Lake Tutira? Just drain it south, following the road back to Napier. Sure it will need a tunnel for the first bit, but that's not a big issue, and then the flow goes the length of the lake and gets rid of all the stagnant water problems.

**General Comments**

These proposals are very broad. Council needs to be mindful that the rural community does not have unlimited resources. This 'Facing the Future' package is presented as if it wants an open cheque book to do whatever it sees fit. We are already voluntarily spending a significant amount on new fencing and planting. How can you possibly think a 40.8% rate increase is acceptable?

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo - I agree with environmental improvement incentives however it is not acceptable to expect farmers to face such enormous rate increases as are proposed. My farm for example is facing a massive rate increase by HBRC of 40.8%. This is on top of a 13.3% increase last year. Council has to realise that we are not a bottomless pit of cash for their "nice to have" projects.

**Partnerships** Option 1 - Status Quo - I do not wish to see a decline in the environment but the council needs to find some middle ground. It is not acceptable to force a 40.8% rate increase on my business.

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain - This should be the individuals responsibility and targeted at those properties that directly benefit.

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - I only agree with this option if there are genuine cost efficiencies in doing so.

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - Everyone should have a right to be consulted with. Surely this is the councils responsibility now.

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - Only those properties benefiting from tourism should pay for it.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 1 - Status Quo - Council should not have unlimited borrowing options. Council needs to focus on core issues only.

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**General Comments**

I have included 2 articles from HB Today subjects which I had wanted to raise at the Orchard Road meeting:  
1. Farm Water Storage Traditionally sheep & cattle farms have always done this successfully. It seems a difficult exercise now. Although I see dams and happy stock still. 2. Re the unused bus service. SO AGREE. A small van would fill the gap. Did you know a local Dr provides free transport from their door to his for those patients with no transport? School buses fill a gap and I have even seen people walking for biking. Hastings council provides taxi chits for the infirm. SO hence the empty buses we pay for. Hope you read all this and take note. Mr Peter Beaven please let us know when you can SHOW us some results of your 3 years study & ? work.

### **General Comments**

Proposed increase on rates of about \$70pa. I can handle this ok and I approve of efforts to improve our environment. Please note that some people are less well off than myself and will not want such a large increase in rates. I attended the presentation at the Napier War Memorial Centre. I thought a good presentation with most of the local HBR councillors present. I hope that the HBRC will not be making financial contributions to the railway line connecting to Wairoa. this could prove to be much more costly than expected, especially with the huge maintenance required.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - More likely to work

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Goal is to improve the environment. Partnership seems best.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - Improving home insulation and heating should improve air quality

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - Overview by Regional council seems better than being run by each separate council

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase - the Tangata Whenua seem to be another group who want the environment to improve. Therefore best to have them actively involved.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - This is not the HBRC job to pick business 'winners'. One business group should be selected for a handout to promote them. Tourism is a fickle business. Tourist interest in Hawkes Bay could dry up easily, especially when the next economic downturn happens.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing - Hopefully this will mean lower borrowing costs via lower interest rates. Hopefully overall default risk will not be too high. Also the council should NOT have TOO MUCH borrowing to fund its activities.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - the environment and the community that live in it are interconnected on numerous levels. it is becoming more clear that for peoples general well being, for the flora and fauna and the economy will only continue with real care and guardianship.

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase -

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - hawkes bay tourism is integral to facilitating people and events to the region. its performance is enabling multiple economic levels to become established. it is a non profit organisation and it would appear that the funding for the region is easily caught using the HBRC catchment. i would advocate for a slight increase in funding. the argument that the environment should take precedence over tourism in this context may seem logical, however previous councils have been extremely slow in seriously engaging these issues facing land use etc. i also believe the HBRC is simply underestimating what hawkes bay tourism actually does in networking and connecting people, places and events.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing

Submitter #468  
Margaret Gwynn  
**To be heard?** No

### **General Comments**

The rate increase proposed is very substantial, particularly for people on low, fixed incomes. I am particularly concerned about the level of increase for people living in Napier South, which is not an affluent suburb. Could some proposals be deferred until later in the 10 year plan, so the cost is spread more evenly?

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Hawkes Bay waterways are in urgent need of riparian planting and control of farm runoff. We also need to be planting many more trees to offset our carbon emissions.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Sharing knowledge of dryland farming and environmental initiatives can lead to swifter progress.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - Many people need help with finances for solar water heating and domestic water storage.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - Civil Defence will be more efficient if delivered regionally.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase - There needs to be better engagement with Maori. I do have some concern about the size of the increase and would favour 1%.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - It is time Hawkes Bay Tourism worked towards independence and this gradual reduction of funding should give the organisation time to find other sources.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - I am concerned about the level of risk in becoming a unrated guaranteeing local authority.

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Submitter #469  
Charles Gear  
**To be heard?** No

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - Reducing funding of HB Tourism will have an economic impact on the region. Any reduction would be very short sighted.

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## **Background**

I am a retired farm forester, our family having farmed in Patoka from 1928 – 2005.

Our first dealing with the then HB Catchment Board was in 1961 with the purchase of subsidised Willow and Poplar poles, this was followed in 1962 by a whole farm “Erosion Control Plan”, (EP/3) signed off by John Porter, which as well as Poplar and Willows, included gorge edge plantings of alternative timber species such as Douglas Fir, Redwood, Larch, Cedrus Deodar, Eucalyptus spp., and Thuya Plicata. At least 90% of the Poplar plantings were wiped out by Poplar rust in the early 1970’s. We started again with new clones in 1983, and a new plan (B459) signed off by Ian Cairns. Many of these new clones, whilst vigorous and rust-resistant were extremely palatable to possums, so until the arrival of TB and the related spending on vector management, we were faced with more establishment problems and large ammunition bills!

I (and many like me) have worked with, and learned from, many outstanding Catchment Board and Regional Council land managers and pest/biosecurity people over several decades, and owe them a huge debt of gratitude.

At the same time we were planting erosion prone gullies under the long since dis-established Forestry Encouragement Grant Scheme. We registered a QEII covenant over 50 Ha of the Mangahouhou (upper Waiti) stream in 1990.

In 1992 our family was awarded the HB Farm Forester of the Year award, and in 2001 the HBRC Environmental Award for leadership in sustainable land management. I served on the national executive of the NZ Farm Forestry Assn. from 2002-13, (including two years as President) and have served and am still involved with other Boards and Trusts pertaining to farming, forestry, education and the environment since then.

## **Submission:**

I wish to comment/submit on the Land, Water, and Biodiversity section of the Plan.

## **Incentives to Change**

- I commend the Council on its commitment to increased investment in the Land Management area, this is long overdue. 15 – 20 years ago it was well known by those involved with sustainable land management that Hawke’s Bay and Taranaki led the other Regional Councils by some way in this area. Sadly due to various policies HBRC has slipped off the pace somewhat over the last decade or so. As I have submitted in the past, any investment in this area provides a return in the form of stable hill-sides and clean water.
- Farm Plans are an essential tool in determining “wise” land use, and correctly implemented will see the proper mixture of livestock, forestry and retirement, as opposed to the wholesale blanket planting of farms in Pinus Radiata seen in the 1990’s.
- I urge caution from the Council around the promised central Government funding for tree planting. Most of what I have seen written about this until now has been all about planting larger areas (200ha minimum) on easily harvested and accessed country. This is obviously not the at risk hill-side or gully at the back of the family farm that wise land management would be targeting, but a Government subsidised version of the “Investment El Dorado” of the 1990’s. Such “investment opportunities” are a Real Estate agent’s dream, but do little for soil stability or clean rivers!
- While there is some urgency to get things “back on track”, Councillors must understand there is no quick fix to the soil and water problems brought about by generations of Government policies focused on maximising production from our hill country farms. Even when problems are recognised early it can take two generations or more, depending on circumstances, to correct the damage when solely reliant on income from farming and resources available. Council getting on board with farm consultants and financiers may well be worth the effort.

- As you will be aware the Hawke’s Bay Region has a wide variety of soil and climate types, so a “one size fits all” approach is not appropriate. Given the size of the task ahead, and the fact that a proportion of the new land management staff will undoubtedly be graduates or new to the region, the opportunity exists to put together a panel of experienced farm foresters and land managers from throughout the region to provide the advice needed to prevent any form of “reinventing the wheel” at the ratepayers expense in the form of species selection and site sensitivity.

### **Partnerships for Change**

- Having managed three Sustainable Farming Fund projects, (two of which HBRC contributed to) and been involved in a fourth (also with HBRC contribution), I struggle with the proposed “Future Farming” initiative. There is little or no information about this proposal that is being budgeted for. There are already taxpayer and industry funded Crown Research Institutes, and levy-payer funded research and extension initiatives through Producer Boards; are we seriously going to see a ratepayer funded organisation competing with these existing organisations? The cynic may see this as catering for those who promote management practises outside the conventional science based approach. Far better to encourage staff to contribute to the existing industry related groups, such as Farm Forestry, Monitor Farms, Landcare initiatives, discussion groups etc. Once again, I suspect policy has seen HBRC staff relatively thin on the ground in this area recently compared to earlier times. The \$650,000 could be much better spent in other areas, (or not raised at all) as I suspect the initiative as it appears at face value will struggle to gain support across the wider industry.
- Partnerships between landowners, HBRC and other agencies such as QEII Trust have been extremely successful in the past
- I fully support the Council contribution to Biodiversity and Bio-Security.

I wish to speak to this submission.

M.M. Halliday

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Submitter #471

Kevin O'Sullivan, New Zealand Cruise Association

**To be heard?** Yes

### **Hawke’s Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Hawkes Bay Regional Council Long Term Plan consultation document.

New Zealand Cruise Association has over 90 members – ports, Regional Tourism Organisations, airports, airlines, shipping agents and suppliers, major cruise lines and tourist operators. We have several members, from a variety of sectors, in the Hawkes Bay region, including Napier Port and Hawkes Bay Tourism.

On page 13 of the consultation document the Council states “*In the last planning cycle, the Regional Council committed to increased funding of \$1.8M over 3 years to Hawke's Bay Tourism*”. On the same page the Council notes that this amount will now reduce by \$1.8m over 3 years. The most significant hit is proposed to happen in 3 years when the Council plans a reduction to \$900,000 for its contribution to Hawkes Bay Tourism.

Tourism is New Zealand’s most important export industry and an industry that is extremely important to the Hawkes Bay region. So, it is critical that the Hawkes Bay Regional Council continues to maintain investment in tourism.

Napier has become one of the principal regions for cruise passengers too:

- In the 2017-18 cruise season over 100,000 cruise ship passengers and 44,000 crew (with an estimated value to the regional economy of \$19m) arrived at Napier.
- In the 2018-19 cruise season this is increasing to 130,000 passengers and 54,000 crew with an estimated value of \$21m.

Successful cruise tourism in a region does not occur in isolation – it requires a lot of hard work from dedicated people. This is certainly true of Napier and the wider Hawkes Bay region, and many of these dedicated people work for Hawkes Bay Tourism.

Napier is renowned as a cruise friendly destination and a large part of that is down to Hawkes Bay Tourism. Any reduction in funding for this body will impact on passenger experience and on the deployment of cruise ships to Napier, as well as jeopardising the viability of businesses that rely on tourism.

New Zealand Cruise Association urges the Hawkes Bay Regional Council to re-think the proposal to reduce funding for Hawkes Bay Tourism – the Council should be looking at ways to increase funding for an industry that means so much to the region.

New Zealand Cruise Association wishes to be heard in support of this submission.

Yours sincerely

Kevin O’Sullivan  
New Zealand Cruise Association  
Chief Executive Officer

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**General Comments**

The proposed rates increase for HBRC we find to be excessive for our property at 106 Mutiny Rd, Pakipaki, Hastings. The attached file shows that an increase of \$57.73 for us is a 37.8% increase. Maybe we are an anomaly, but at an increase of \$1 a week as stated in the mailed information sheet, for someone like us on low rates – and also low services delivered by HBRC – the delta percentage is stunningly high. Combining with the increase from HDC, our total property rates are increasing by 41.8% for the 2018/2019 year. Thanks for asking for submissions. If you could give some thought to how to make the rates more fairly increased in proportion to the level of services received, that would be appreciated.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

***Incentives*** Option 2 - Fully Fund

***Partnerships*** Option 2 - Fully Fund

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain

**Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain - I live in a low risk area, I do not wish to pay for someone who chooses to live in a high risk area.

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 1 - Status Quo

106 Mutiny Rd, Pakipaki, Hastings						
HBRC						
				delta \$	delta %	combined HBRC + HDC delta %
2018/2019	\$345,000	\$835,000	\$210.40	\$57.73	37.8%	41.8%
2017/2018	\$345,000	\$835,000	\$152.67	\$17.45	12.9%	6.0%
2016/2017	\$330,000	\$810,000	\$135.22	\$6.89	5.4%	11.4%
2015/2016	\$330,000	\$810,000	\$128.33	\$9.53	8.0%	13.3%
2014/2015	\$330,000	\$810,000	\$118.80	\$14.37	13.8%	26.7%
2013/2014	\$330,000	\$810,000	\$104.43	-\$1.40	-1.3%	1.1%
2012/2013	\$310,000	\$725,000	\$105.83	\$1.33	1.3%	5.4%
2011/2012	\$310,000	\$725,000	\$104.50	-\$0.73	-0.7%	-5.8%
2010/2011	\$325,000	\$740,000	\$105.23	-\$4.20	-3.8%	0.2%
2009/2010	\$380,000	\$775,000	\$109.43	\$15.63	16.7%	18.1%
2008/2009	\$380,000	\$775,000	\$93.80	\$93.80		
HDC						
				delta \$	delta %	
2018/2019	\$345,000	\$835,000	\$2,104.44	\$80.42	4.0%	
2017/2018	\$345,000	\$835,000	\$2,024.02	-\$149.68	-6.9%	
2016/2017	\$330,000	\$810,000	\$2,173.70	\$123.71	6.0%	
2015/2016	\$330,000	\$810,000	\$2,049.99	\$103.48	5.3%	
2014/2015	\$330,000	\$810,000	\$1,946.51	\$223.22	13.0%	
2013/2014	\$310,000	\$725,000	\$1,723.29	\$40.90	2.4%	
2012/2013	\$310,000	\$725,000	\$1,682.39	\$66.91	4.1%	
2011/2012	\$325,000	\$740,000	\$1,615.48	-\$87.50	-5.1%	
2010/2011	\$380,000	\$775,000	\$1,702.98	\$65.60	4.0%	
2009/2010	\$380,000	\$775,000	\$1,637.38	\$23.84	1.5%	
2008/2009	\$380,000	\$775,000	\$1,613.54			

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - We conditionally support this, but have concerns about how the HBRC might balance funding with any additional requirements that flow from the next iteration of Regional Resource Management Plan, in particular those changes that are likely to be shaped by the TANK process. It appears these will potentially have significant impacts on existing water use by farmers and growers in Hawke's Bay - key business sectors that support families such as ourselves, as well as the broader regional economy. It's not clear to me at this stage, what initiatives the HBRC might be reasonably required to fund in order to enact these changes in an equitable manner.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - Support on the condition that it is fully cost recovered.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - We strongly disagree with any reduction in funding for Hawke's Bay Tourism. Tourism is a strong growth industry bringing significant economic benefits to Hawke's Bay. While some of the benefits of this flow directly to businesses that can be easily identified as being in the tourism sector, there is a significant downstream benefit to businesses in other sectors right across the Hawke's Bay economy. Collectively these businesses employ significant numbers of staff, bringing the benefit of this inbound economic activity to the entire region. Without a strong region-wide impetus, we run an increased risk of initiatives and messaging becoming fragmented. In a noisy world, strong cut-through propositions and events with good backing are essential. We've only arrived in Hawke's Bay recently, but even when we didn't live here, I remember seeing tourism initiatives being run by district/city councils that were narrow and conflicting (and that's without looking at a bunch of industry verticals or businesses each each running their own agenda). I think it is vital that tourism strategy and messaging be run regionally, and sustained HBRC funding aligns best with that. I also believe that Hawke's Bay Tourism is well served by the organisation currently in place, which has a track record of delivering and has momentum into the future. The region should not take this for granted - we have not had this level of effectiveness in the past, and if lost, it will be difficult (and costly!) to regain in the future. Looking at the rates increase proposed for our property, it is far in excess of the numbers being discussed. Even with that background, we support continuation of funding for Hawke's Bay Tourism at its current levels (understanding that would add to that increase). I would also like to note that we do not work in the tourism industry - our support is due to the strong flow-on effects that we see for the rest of the region.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - I believe change will happen faster with this option.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Community involvement ensures higher community buy-in.

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - Many people want to live sustainably but can't afford to without outside assistance.

**Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain - Respective councils are on the ground within their regions and so have a better understanding of their community's needs.

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - It is unclear what these obligations are and what the benefits would be.

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - I agree that tourism has a strong foundation and that the focus should be the environment.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - This limits the negative financial impact of poor council decisions which may occur.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - We need to be funding these initiatives to work together to improve the situation long term

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - Let's put in place as many options as we can to live in healthy homes.

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - Makes sense to centralise resources and funding so more efficient and less wastage

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase - Our people our land let's all work together to make Hawke's bay a better place to live and work and acknowledge our heritage and culture

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - Seems silly to reduce funding at current position of lifecycle. The funding investment is just starting to show results. The funding and results need to be maintained longer for them to become more sustainable long term. If the current investment in tourism is continued we will get even better results with economic development in the region. Don't be shortsighted by reducing income when we have reached good results from the current level of funding. All the hard work done by Annie and her team will be lost. Tourism is a long term investment and needs to be maintained given the funding it deserves long term. It's working so don't cut funding at the moment. Look at Queenstown they waited till the sector was robust it took many years but now they are able to maintaining the tourism \$\$ and awareness. Funding the commercial sector is important too but this is separate issue. Why will additional funding to this sector help our environment? Thinking seems flawed.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing - If that is what you need go for it

**General Comments**

I would like to see more emphasis on saving our coastline. More groynes and jetties put in. This would help reduce erosion as well as become beneficial for beachgoers and families enjoying the outdoors. Surfers and fishermen would benefit especially, which creates more tourism and revenue. There is too much money spent on parks and playgrounds for kids...what about surfers? There are hardly any breaks in the Bay itself, and this could be remedied by installing another groyne system. The Haumoana groyne needs more work too as it has nearly eroded. Thanks for listening.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

***Incentives*** Option 2 - Fully Fund

***Partnerships*** Option 2 - Fully Fund

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - Sustainability is the only way forward.

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - Not quite sure. Will the overall rates increase per household? if, so I'm against transferring.

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - Too vague as to what will actually happen.

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - The environment seems more of a priority than tourists.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing - More info needed, but this seems the best option so far.

### **General Comments**

It is encouraging to see the wide approach being taken with a focus on the environment and working for the future sustainability of the region. We would like to see consideration to a phasing in of some of the changes, with the increased funding in later years being specifically conditional of evidence of the effective impact of the early years investments. We request that annual rate increases be limited to 10% per annum with a restructuring of the introduction of some of these initiatives. This should exclude the effect of the consolidation of the Civil Defence costs, provided that these are reflected in a decrease in Napier City Council and Hastings District Council rates.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - We agree that action is needed, and that incentives have a place in this. However, we note that the level of investment increases over the three year period, with no explanation of how the impact will be monitored, and how later year's increases will be made conditional on evidence of the effectiveness of the measures.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - The future farming initiative has the potential to improve understanding and commitment among farmers, who are the front line in many of the changes needed. Again, we would like to see a clear statement on the approach to be taken to monitoring the effect of the measures in the first years, with later investment being subject to variation based on the results. We would also like to see council drawing on the experience of other regions.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - Improving housing stock will have a multi dimensional positive effect on those who live there. To ensure the maximum social benefit it is important that rented houses are well represented in the properties that are upgraded, as those who live in such properties are on average less advantaged than owner occupiers.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - This seems sensible, and should lead to some improvements in efficiency.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase - The current arrangements are not equitable.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - This is not the prime role of the HBRC.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing - This is largely a technical issue, and we are satisfied that the HBRC has fully investigated the issues, and sees benefit.

### **General Comments**

Don't reduce the funding of Hawke's Bay Tourism, and don't split their funding to other bodies and interests. Hawkes Bay Tourism are highly skilled, experienced, and networked, and hold the key to the growth of Tourism in the Bay, including Maori Tourism. Hawke's Bay Tourism are brilliant at opening doors both domestically and internationally and they need as much resource as possible if they're going to continue to be able to showcase and share our Maori way of being. The growth of Maori Tourism is down to motivated and hard working whanau, but the sale and promotion of us to the world is what needs supporting. Therefore fully fund Hawkes Bay Tourism to continue to do their mahi.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Our rivers, estuaries, whenua and life drastically needs investment to rectify the consistent decline in environmental health. We fully support this proposal.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Land owners and economies need be integral to the sustainable management of our natural resources. We support engaging and close working relationships across our communities.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - These are all positive steps, and are required if we are to sustainably use and maintain our natural resources. Efficient usage of energy is a key priority, and it is principally linked to both human and environmental health.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain - Maintaining civil defence function in small centres such as Wairoa is important as these are the people who are connected and critical to their communities in Civil Defence Emergencies. By centralising this function you may potentially weaken the on the ground response in these smaller centres.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold

My name is Hinewai, and with my partner Cam Ormsby, we are new business owners operating Napier Māori Tours, Napier's only Eco-Cultural Tours. We aim to fuse Māori culture with our love for the natural environment. Our tour sites include Hawke's Bays significant landmarks; Ōtātara Pā Historic Reserve and the Ahuriri Estuary. Our manuhiri/tour guests share in our beautiful natural environment where we bring our local Māori history, culture, and the environment to life in our kōrero.

We're fresh starters to tourism by starting in late 2017. We have benefited immensely and relied heavily on the support of Hawke's Bay Tourism in our start-up. Annie Dundas, Hamish Evans and the rest of their team have opened multiple doors for us, creating opportunities for networking, promotion, and business growth, while supporting us with advice and direction as a new business. We consider the team at Hawke's Bay Tourism as key to the future growth of our fledgling business. Without the teams help, our pathway to success is rocky.

Sustainability, and principally environmental sustainability is what underpins the Tourism industry. New Zealand Tourism's Qualmark audit process is in its early days but its purpose is to drive quality, and sustainable business practises across the industry.

As a Gold rated Qualmark registered tourist operator our small business is audited against Qualmark's quality and environmental sustainability criteria. We were forced to look hard at the sustainability of our business practises, and we chose early on to embrace the whakataukī/traditional Māori saying:

Whatungarongaro te tangata, toitū te whenua.

As man comes and goes, the land remains.

To us this means we leave more than we take, and we enhance more than we diminish.

To achieve the Qualmark gold rating, a rating achieved by less than 10 percent of tourism businesses, and as our auditor told us, “never before by a new business”, our tourism business has put in place a number of key sustainability actions. This includes undertaking annual carbon audits, employing from within our hapū, and our biggest contribution whereby we are currently growing 2,000 native trees that we plan to plant around our Ahuriri waterways, for the express purpose of enhancing biodiversity and improving the mauri/ecosystem health. We are diverting a proportion of our profits and time into growing, planting, and project managing our environmental restoration initiatives.

The HBRC’s proposed cut in funding of Hawke’s Bay Tourism is a significant blow, that will threaten the growth and sustainability of tourism in the Bay. We fully understand and support the HBRC’s proposal to direct our special rates towards environmental protection and rehabilitation. Our kōrero to the HBRC is that the funding of Hawke’s Bay Tourism isn’t an “either/or” kōrero, whereby to fund the initiatives to protect environment is at the expense of Hawke’s Bay Tourism.

The kōrero is “and/and” where the support for Hawke’s Bay Tourism is a show of support for sustainable businesses like Napier Māori Tours. By supporting the sustainable Hawke’s Bay Tourism industry, HBRC support the emergence and sustainability of new paradigm’s that can spearhead the protection and care for the environment that we so desperately need.

Naku te rourou, nau te rourou, ka ora ai te iwi.

With your basket and my basket, we will thrive together.

#### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - Keeping debt low is critical as small regions like ours can find ourselves in a fiscal hole ala Kaipara District Council if we borrow beyond our means. Our preference would be to either levy resource users (i.e. water bottlers, irrigators, gravel extractors, urban residents etc.) and partially fund and offset the costs to rectify the environment. The industries and economies that creation the pollution that now needs to be rectified and borrowed for, should contribute financially to these efforts (i.e. levies).

### **General Comments**

More and more land is sealed with concrete and tar sealed and concreted parking areas. HBRC should encourage our cities and districts to reduce this development to avoid storm water problems and improve our micro climate.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Land, Water and Biodiversity can only be achieved in partnership

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - It is a great idea that our homes should become more sustainable. I suggest to create an sustainability package with more features and include incentives.

Energy efficient building design – I suggest to create a list with cost effective energy saving options regarding building design and construction for new home builders e.g. to increase the standard ceiling insulation from 100 mm to 180 mm cost only about \$ 300 to \$400, it can save energy between 5 to 7% for heating and cooling and improve the indoor climate.

Passive Solar heating – Information package to improve town planning and building designs. Best conditions can be achieved if the buildings have the right orientation. This can be managed in the planning stage for masterplans (e.g. right orientation and size of windows can save 10 to 25% heating costs). Such features are not only cost neutral, they even can save building costs.

Solar water heating – Information for new and existing buildings to install solar water heating as drain back system (lower installing costs, less maintenance, no toxic antifreeze). Create a finance scheme for the installation of a solar water heater, e.g with loan to be paid back through cost savings for electricity Incentives could be offered if building design is improved, and or solar water heater is installed. PV systems to produce electricity Encourage and support local PV installers to create a joint venture to offer PV systems with leasing contracts, similar to the offer from Solar City. Include the Hawke's Bay Power Consumer Trust in this programme to reduce the Unison solar tax for new PV installations.

Reduce drinking water consumption – It should be compulsory for new homes to have a rain water storage tank installed (e.g. like new subdivisions in many German and Australian cities). For existing houses different sizes of storage tanks should be offered. Flushing the toilet is the biggest water user inside the house. The package should include suggestions for house owners to replace the old huge toilet cisterns with smaller dual flush containers. Most of our drinking water is used in summer for the garden. 25 mls of water per week is sufficient for lawn in summer as suggested by the Napier CC. The sustainability package should include a timer for sprinklers and a measuring cup. (the cheapest mechanical timer cost \$ 10). If the HBRC will reduce the domestic drinking water consumption from the current annual average of 400+ L /person and day to a sustainable level (EU level 140 – 180 L), water meters have to be installed for each property. This could happen step by step like the old wood burners which are currently replaced under the HeatSmart programme. Houses should only be sold with installed water meters. It should be compulsory for new houses to install water meters for later use.

Waste Reduction The sustainable home programme should be coordinated with the Waste Minimisation Programme of the Napier /Hastings Council and include an initiative to process green- and bio waste.

Private Cars – If the programme is to cover all areas in which we have to reduce our carbon footprint then our cars (as biggest polluter) needs to be included. In collaboration with EECA a more user-friendly programme can be developed for the region.

The sustainable home programme may be designed in the conventional manner as an extension of the HeatSmart programme or as an interactive smartphone based programme.

I was working as energy consultant for German communities, designed the first solar master plan and developed environmental guideline for the German Institute of Architecture. I offer to help with developing the sustainable home programme. Walter Breustedt Eco Management Group Ltd.

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - may be cost saving for all rate payers

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - other industries are (e.g. agriculture) are less supported

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Submitter #483

G Pritchard

***To be heard?*** Yes

**General Comments**

the hbrc is not considering folk on a low income.the proposed rate increase should not go ahead at all. maybe the way the hbrc finances are used should be more frugal

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

***Incentives*** Option 1 - Status Quo - I am concerned at the way you are manipulating so called planning ahead for our future as a means to increase rates.

***Partnerships*** Option 1 - Status Quo - I question the decline of regions enviroment

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain - there is no need to change

**Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain - it is not hbrc s job!!!

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - not needed at all. its already happening !!!

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - hbrc should not be involved with tourism at all.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 1 - Status Quo - to risky

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Submitter #484

Sue Macdonald

**To be heard?** No

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - We all need to work together to make improvements to our environment and the HBRC can lead the way in showing (Farmers) better practices instead of punishment. Many farmers employ good practices but are been let down by those that don't. We need to educate those farmers and show why the environment cannot sustain damage any more. Urban communities also must be educated on how to protect the environment and also educate them on how to be good environmental citizens.

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - Tourism is an important part of HB, BUT as the document has stated they have had a leg up that no other business organisation has enjoyed. It is not a total cut. Some parts of the environment that many tourist operators have enjoyed and built their businesses around are struggling (ie the Ahuriri Estuary) The time has come for the HBRC to concentrate on its core responsibilities of protecting the environment. With a clean environment, good water, up to date infrastructure will only enhance tourist operator's businesses and encourage visitors.

### **General Comments**

Please refer to the attached Cover Letter. The Waiohiki Marae Trustees would like the opportunity to present to the councilors. Please make direct contact with me regarding a presentation time.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Hawke's Bay's natural environment has be degraded towards a state of unsustainability for future generations. Water quality and quantity, depletion in biodiversity, economic priority above environmental protection have been the reasons why a change is needed immediately. The unblanced equilibrium is now a reality as the consequence from previously uninformed, unknowledgable and/or ignorant councils.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Hawke's Bay's natural environment has be degraded towards a state of unsustainability for future generations. Water quality and quantity, depletion in biodiversity, economic priority above environmental protection have been the reasons why a change is needed immediately. The unblanced equilibrium is now a reality as the consequence from previously uninformed, unknowledgable and/or ignorant councils.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain

### **Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase - Mana whenua are crucial in relationship building relating to any land, air and water issue within each rohe/area. Mana whenua connect deeply and have ancestral affinity with special taonga ie; awa, maunga, papakainga and Marae, that mana whenua consider and practice kaitiakitanga over. Legal partnership (Treaty of Waitangi, RMA obligations) and the special partnership the councils have with mana whenua are crucial to the development of our communities and the region. Marae are intergral to the gathering and meeting places for manawhenua and thier guests; local, domestic and international. The HBRC ha the opportunity to be apart of a future Waiohiki Marae facility for mana whenua as well as for the community of Waiohiki, Taradale, Napier, Hastings and Hawke's Bay.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 1 - Status Quo

### **Cover Letter**

22 April 2018

Hawke's Bay Regional Council  
Chairperson Rex Graham Private  
Bag 6006  
Napier 4142

**SUBMISSION *Facing our future 2018 – 2028***

## REBUILD of the WAIŌHIKI MARAE WHARENUI – A facility for our futu

Tēnā koe, tēnā koutou



### **Introduction/Background**

The Waiohiki Marae Board of Trustees would like to request funding support of \$150,000 from our Regional Council towards the rebuild of our whareniui (meeting house) and ablution facilities within the Long Term Plan. Mr Graham has been involved in discussions with the Hastings District Mayor, Napier City Mayor and Chairperson of Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated, about solutions to have the re-build completed. Included in this submission is the presentation given to the mentioned voted representatives of our community.

The rebuild is necessary after an electrical fault destroyed our whare, Te Huinga in 2002. Our hapū, Ngāti Pārau, has struggled since to maintain a sense of identity and place. Without Marae facilities we are unable to host manuhiri (visitors), hold Tangihanga (funerals), celebrate life events, practise tikanga (cultural practises) and generally come together to hui (meet) at Waiōhiki. Of greatest regret is the impact on the next generation who are growing up without a Marae.

The rebuild has been a long and drawn out process. Internationally recognised Hawke's Bay architect the late Paris Magdalinos designed and initially project managed the Marae rebuild. His son, Nic Magdalinos took over the family architecture business upon his father's passing and continued to project manage the rebuild. Sadly, Nic passed away in September 2017, leaving the rebuild three quarters finished and up in the air to its conclusion. With no driving force, the project is at risk of stagnating.

This project has received strong regional support from Hawke's Bay's leaders including Napier Mayor Bill Dalton, Hastings Mayor Sandra Hazelhurst, Hawke's Bay Regional Council Chairperson Rex Graham, Napier MP Stuart Nash and Tuki Tuki MP Lawrence Yule. The project also has received support from Eastern and Central Community Trust, and the Department of Internal Affairs.

### **History of Waiohiki**

Waiōhiki has traditionally been the site of the Marae where it has tremendous cultural, spiritual and social significance to the Ngāti Pārau hapū. It also has regional significance in Hawke's Bay as a central meeting place between Māori tribes, and between Māori and Pākehā at the time of early colonial settlement.

The Marae is adjacent to the Tūtaekurī River and sits at the foot of Ōtātara Pā, one of the largest and oldest Pā complexes of its kind in New Zealand. Strategically located and providing expansive views and access to a range of natural resources meant this Pā was regarded by many iwi as the greatest Pā in the district. Historically its ownership was strongly contested at times.

The proposed Marae complex will fulfil traditional uses for Ngāti Pārau and be available for community use. Its location next to Eastern Institute of Technology (EIT), Napier Golf Club and Pettigrew Green Arena (regional sports facility), provides a raft of opportunities for complementary activities to be based at the Marae (such as accommodation for tournaments).

This will ensure it is regularly used, securing its on-going sustainability and creating a vibrant community hub. Our goal is to run community-based social services and programmes (health, education and employment) and, in time, a variety of Māori business ventures, such as guided tours of the wharenuī and Ōtātara Pā, to create jobs and improve socio-economic outcomes for the Ngāti Pārau hapū.

The Marae Trustees' long-term vision is for the Marae complex to be the beating heart of a flourishing Ngāti Pārau hapū. It will be a highly-used community asset with a strong focus on education through the Kōhanga Reo on site, and a strategic partnership with the neighbouring EIT. The true value of the project is not the built structure but the intergenerational imparting of customs, knowledge and skills.

Having a whare tipuna (ancestral house) is of utmost importance to our hapū. As a hapū we are united and determined to see a wharenuī built. It will enable both Ngāti Pārau members living in Waiōhiki and living elsewhere to reconnect with our whakapapa (genealogy).

### **Project details**

The proposed Marae complex, provides a building solution for the hapū's needs both now and into the future. The traditional wharenuī (meeting house) is 70% constructed. We are seeking part funding for the remaining 30%.

The total project cost is \$2,067,612.10. So far \$1,345,768 has been raised and committed to the project and a further \$725,000 is required to get to completion. A breakdown of costs and funds secured is attached.

The project has required four consents, all of which have been approved. The project has been tendered for construction and GEMCO Group has been selected as the preferred tenderer. You will observe various building and site plans associated with the Wharenuī build included in this application.

Positive discussions are underway with both Hastings District Council and Napier City Council to see if they will commit a further \$150,000 each to see the project through. The Hapū will commit another \$145,000. We are seeking \$140,000 from private philanthropy and a further \$140,000 from gaming trusts. Please refer to the last page for a breakdown of the Waiohiki Marae Project costs. Also attached is the Gemco Construction Ltd contract agreement with development schedules.

### **Supporting Partners**

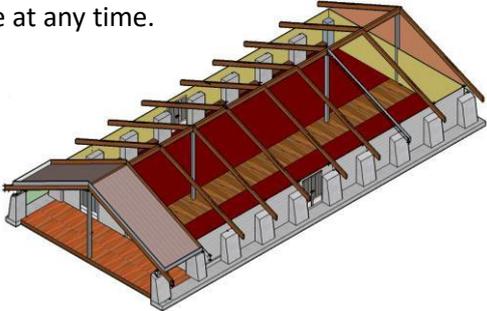
The project has wide community support from our neighbours, local schools and community leaders. A number of people and stakeholders, including local mayors, Members of Parliament, iwi, neighbouring institutions, schools and community organisations have been consulted on the project and supporting letters are enclosed with this application.

Waiōhiki Marae Trustees and Ngāti Pārau hapū have waited a long time for this project to be realised and are very excited about the possibilities it will offer our people and the local and wider community. We hope that The Hawke’s Bay Regional Council will share our vision and join us in providing funding for the project.

For any further information please make contact with me at any time.

Ngā mihi nui.

Hinewai Hawaikirangi  
Waiōhiki Marae Trustee



### **General Comments**

I take from comments in the media from various sources that the draft long term policies have not been unanimously received by all councillors, and I would have to question the objectives in endeavouring to put many of the proposals in place with almost undue haste, thereby incurring a level of rate increase not previously seen by the Regional Council.

The current environmental issues the region face have occurred over many years and the development of practices, which may have been allowed initially, but are now deemed to be counter-productive to the environment.

Climate change has been around for centuries and it would seem we are now subject to greater extremes of weather which will inevitably cause greater disruption to our environment, and planting more trees on hill country to control erosion will only go so far in mitigating the effects of rising river levels in times of significant rainfall.

The comment on restoring wetlands in the region I find interesting in that much of the Heretaunga Plains were originally wet, swampy areas and considerable time and expense has been outlaid by many landowners and Councils over the years in installing drainage to reduce flooding and make a lot of increasingly valuable land more productive with less risk of water damage.

I gather there has already been considerable effort made in and around many of our existing wetlands and while I have no doubt this should continue to be encouraged and nurtured I don't see great value in creating more wetland.

I was extremely disappointed at the outcome of the failed Ruataniwha Dam Scheme with the objective of storing water for irrigation over much of the Ruataniwha Plains and the part the Regional Council played in the development and promotion of this scheme which, unfortunately does not overwhelm me with confidence that the proposals in the current Long Term Plan 2018–2028 should all be adopted without amendment or alteration where deemed necessary after consultation with the community.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo - Having read "Facing our future" it seems to me initiatives are already in place from Council staff in collaboration with many landowners, in addressing the issues you outline with regard to fencing waterways, riparian plantings and farm plans and planting of trees. I tend to believe extensive use of nitrogen based fertilisers on many properties, whether they be dairy, cropping or sheep and beef and which are known to leach, have contributed majorly to the decline and contamination of many of our waterways and I understand the current requirement by landowners to produce farm plans will go a long way to addressing this. But change will not occur overnight and I have yet to read of any initiative from the HBRC to address this issue in developing awareness of the effects on the environment of the different types of fertilisers currently available, in fact one of the local fertiliser companies continues to promote the use of nitrogen in growing grass faster (but not, in many cases, necessarily better). Where we are today is largely the result of much of our land area, particularly the hill country, being cleared of its natural cover to develop grazing pastures and it is much of this land which continues to support our primary industries ie sheep, beef, dairy agriculture & horticulture, and with the current levels of rating, by both the district and regional councils already being significant for many, the proposed larger increase in the regional Council rate will only add further financial burden. At the time of the amalgamation of the Hawke's Bay County Council & the Hastings City Council in the late eighties, at a public meeting at the Sherenden Hall, David Hildreth Senior produced figures from Council records which showed the rates increases over a number of years had been far greater than the levels of income from the same properties, and a subsequent increase of around 40% for many was mooted, and was subsequently implemented with the amalgamation.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - With the number of proposed new homes likely to be built extending The Heat Smart programme can only be beneficial to many in creating efficiencies

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - I guess collecting a regional rate may well help to provide a better co-ordinated Civil Defence regionally, but I would need to see greater detail of this from the Regional Council

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - The Regional Council already engages with Tangata Whenua on a number of issues which I believe gives them a disproportionate say on many issues concerning all in this region. The fact that Maori are not the indigenous people in this country seems to be becoming increasingly overlooked by many, and while input on many organisations by Tangata Whenua is now deemed to be desirable, or sanctioned by law, they continue to only make up a small proportion of the total population, and I don't believe their influence should be increased. Cultural awareness is all well and fine and I'm sure current Council procedures can accommodate this.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - Having provided significant levels of funding to tourism operators in Hawke's Bay in recent years, which has seen a considerable boost in numbers of visitors to the region thereby creating a great deal of employment, and investment by operators, why would you even consider reducing funding to this increasingly important component of the region's economy. A survey last year showed significant numbers of people visiting Napier on cruise ships returned on their own to see more of the region and that should definitely continue to be promoted and encouraged.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing - I don't know enough of the detail regarding this proposal to have an informed view on whether this may be beneficial to ratepayers long term or not.

### **General Comments**

1. I am concerned that you have already made up your mind on the whole document. I get that opinion from page 4 of the "Facing The Future" document where it mentions that 76% of the survey voted for no increase in rates or an increase of \$10 to \$25 per year. 2. With inflation running at about 1% I find it abhorrent that local bodies around the country can keep increasing the rates at very high percentages and think that is OK. For those on fixed incomes or on the pension it is certainly not OK. 3. It is very easy for local bodies to pass on the increases. They just do it! It is not so easy for the ratepayers to pay it. The ratepayer has no choices. 4. The Regional Council was in no hurry to improve water quality when you wasted \$20M and sold off an income source to fund a dam. 5. Last year (17/18 year) we were sold a ONE-OFF 10% increase to deal with some hot-spots which I agreed with. I therefore thought that my 2018/9 rates would reduce by about 7 to 8%. SILLY ME. That 2017/8 years rates became the new base! 6. Using your figures the percentage rate increase, year 16/17 as the base, through to year 27/28 is 81.9%. I do wonder if my pension will increase by that percentage. Example, rates 16/17 = \$100. 27/28 = \$181.90. IT IS VERY EASY TO SPEND OTHER PEOPLES MONEY.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo - Firstly, why the urgency? There certainly was no urgency 2 to 5 years ago when the focus was on the dam. Secondly, information released in the past few days stated that there were improvements in the quality of water in our rivers. Farmers are certainly more aware and concerned about waterways and there farm flow-offs. In this question you give only two options. I am not against some moderate increase in spending but not to the level you are proposing.

**Partnerships** Option 1 - Status Quo - I think your wording in Option 1 about the continued decline is mischievous in view of the water quality media recently released. Region Councils around the country have been working together with landowners for the past few years and there certainly has been improvements.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - If the borrowing INCLUDING INTEREST is fully funded by the property owner I am not against extending the scheme. I am, however, concerned that the scheme is going too far. A borrowing of \$13 million seems a lot. Who is guaranteeing this loan? The HBRC directors, the ratepayers or the Port?

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - It probably makes sense to have the civil defence controlled by the one organisation. Unfortunately I do not know how well the Regional Council and the City/District Councils work together and of their opinion to the proposal.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - Again, there is only two options. If there was no "urgency" and in that I mean no head-long rush there would be no need for an increase in funding.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - Again there is no middle ground. In my opinion there needs to be some caution in reducing tourism funding. Hawkes Bay does not have much in the way of natural scenic attractions that would draw in tourists. We rely upon "man-made" attractions such as Art Deco, Wineries, Horse and beautiful cities/towns. Yes, maybe those that benefit directly could pay a little more to HB Tourism, just be very careful how much you cut off the funding.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - We, the rate payers have not seen the small print of the consequences of joining the Local Government Funding Agency. I had heard there are some serious consequences in joining option 3. More detailed information should have been provided. I HOPE THAT THE ABILITY OF BEING ABLE TO BORROW \$70M WAS NOT THE REASON FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION.

**General Comments**

I have endeavoured to read all your supporting information on Facing our future, which I feel is VERY GENERALIZED. I would Like more specifics how some of the problems are going to be tackled. How is the Enormous amount of contaminated URBAN waste water entering our streams & rivers going to be addressed? What about chemical contaminated spray fill, animal dipping, timber treatment & industrial sites effect ? Improvements on treatment & disposal of sewage in our region. Thanks for the opportunity to make a submission

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - This is the quickest way to improve water & land, I am assuming similar actions as Plan Change 6 on the Tuituki catchment

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Agree, but feel this option should be gradually introduced so benefits are seen before wholesale introduction implemented.

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain - HeatSmart has benefited many, Sustainable homes will benefit an elite few

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - Hopefully benefit the whole region

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - My observations have seen good outcomes with many projects

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - In my opinion tourism funding is not as important as improving the environment

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - I consider this option caps borrowing and avoids escalating rate increases

Submitter #489  
Simone Jones  
**To be heard?** No

### **General Comments**

Make waterways and coastal erosion your top priority. I'm horrified at the state of these and how blind or ignorant the HDC is in relation to these issues.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Because NZ has a she'll be right attitude. If you rely on land owners to take charge nothing will change

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - As above

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - With our ever increasing population, we need to be using sustainable resources, and for people to be able to independently manage these in case of emergencies etc

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - I trust the Regional council more than the HDC!

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - Don't know enough about this to make a choice

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - Environmental issues are more important

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - Not sure of the difference in legalities between option 2 & 3

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Submitter #491  
John Rowell  
**To be heard?** No

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - Tourism is far too important to the region to ignore and the current RTO is doing a brilliant job

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Submitter #492  
Diane Ross, Cottages On St Andrews  
**To be heard?** No

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - As a business we invest very heavily in promoting the Hawke's Bay to the domestic market but we don't have the resources or financial ability to promote the Hawke's Bay internationally or to the niche markets like Conferences, seminars, FAWC, The Big Easy, etc etc. The Bay is a vibrant region to live, work and play. Please don't reduce the funding. The current funding level doesn't just help the tourism operators but the wider community. Our guests spend money at the supermarkets, petrol stations, cafes, restaurants, hairdressers, beauty salons, farmers market, taxi's, rental cars and the list goes on. Your own business spends thousands of dollars every year at Explore Central North Island (at Eden Park, Auckland) and Wedding shows around NZ to promote the Bay, because unless we can convince the brides to get married in the Bay, there is no point promoting our own business. We congratulate Annie and her team for such an amazing job to date, please don't pull the rug out from under her and diminish the results and KPIs they have achieved.

Submitter #493  
Daniel Snee  
**To be heard?** No

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - I moved to live in Hawke's Bay three years ago with my wife after living and working overseas for many years. I was not born in the Bay nor did I attend school here. We have invested \$1.5m to create a business in the Visitor Industry and we couldn't have done this without the expert help (not financial) and guidance of Hawke's Bay Tourism. We don't have the networks, knowledge and reach that this amazing team have to promote Hawke's Bay to the rest of NZ and the World. Please don't destroy the amazing results that this team has achieved over the last few years.

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Submitter #494  
Kate Snee, Lodge On St Georges  
**To be heard?** No

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - My husband and I moved to the beautiful Hawke's Bay 3 years ago and started a Visitor Accommodation business from scratch and have invested heavily in the promotion of Hawke's Bay. The team at Hawke's Bay Tourism have been so supportive and their knowledge and expertise has been invaluable. We have gained so much from their workshops, networking, conferences etc etc. We chose to move to Hawke's Bay and have a family and business here because of it's vibrancy. Please don't cut the funding to Hawke's Bay Tourism.

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Submitter #495  
Gavin Riley  
**To be heard?** No

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Greater commitment and faster progress is needed in this important area

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Safeguarding/improving the region's natural resources is everyone's responsibility.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - There are too many sub-standard (i.e. not fit for purpose) properties in all regions of New Zealand.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - Your preferred option makes sense.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - While working with tangata whenua must continue, there are so many urgent demands on rating income that I do not believe spending more money on this contact can be justified.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - Increased focus on the environment should not be carried out at the expense of tourism funding. We may not live by bread alone – but we cannot live without it. HBRC should reconsider its preferred option.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing - British statesman Lloyd George once said that if you come to a chasm in life you cannot cross it in two steps: you have to take it in a single leap. Option 3 will give HBRC that flexibility and strength if needed.

Submitter #496  
June Ross  
**To be heard?** No

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - Hawke's Bay has to be one of the most vibrant regions in NZ to visit. If it's not broken, then don't fix it. Let Hawke's Bay Tourism continue their amazing job!!!

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Submitter #498  
Denis Bell  
**To be heard?** Yes

### **General Comments**

As a rural ratepayer with a rate increase of 23%, if the proposed plan goes ahead I feel that the council has a majority but not the unanimous support of all councillors to justify such a huge rate increase, particularly as farming incomes fluctuate year to year. In particular I oppose: - The creation of the future farming fund, we already pay significant amounts of levies to beef & lamb nz to look at ways to farm more sustainably. These organisations are experts in their area of business, I feel this is outside of the HBRC scope of business. - The councils tactics to scaremonger people by saying we have to do things now before it's too late is misleading and untrue. Farmers have already done significant amounts of work on farm and will continue to do so. The results of this work cannot be measured overnight, but will take years to be seen, however progress is being made. -In the long term plan budgeting should be done on a minimum rate rise, the council need to prioritise their issues/ projects & work within the money available, like a commercial business. They should not get their wishlist all at once at a significant burden to the ratepayers. - The port is an important strategic asset to HB & is very important to the future of the region. It should not be sold to fund projects such as forestry. Forestry should be encouraged through the private sector not with our ratepayer money.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo

**Partnerships** Option 1 - Status Quo

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - As a business that has invested heavily in promoting this region, alongside our product, over the past 9 years we have finally seen significant growth in visitor numbers in the past 3 years. I have no doubt that this is due to the joint effort of Hawke's Bay Tourism, achievable because they had a useful level of funding, and small local operators who have been tenacious in their efforts to drive local tourism forward on the back of some very difficult years post G.F.C. It would seem ludicrous to me to pull back now and risk stalling growth in what is still a very fragile local tourism industry. We are not on the main tourist route and it would not take much for other, small regions to leap-frog us if we pull back now. With so much having been invested in upgrading Marine Parade attractions, building world class cycle trails, our new museum, the planned expansion of the Aquarium etc etc we now need to make absolutely sure we can attract enough visitors to ensure sustained success. We at Takaro Trails will certainly be continuing with our significant spend on marketing and advertising activities and we would hope the regional council would do the same.

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**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo - cost

**Partnerships** Option 1 - Status Quo - cost

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain - cost

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - restrict Hastings and Napier having different plans

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - COST Maori tribes get an excessive amount of funds from the Treaty settlements. Its time that this minority contributed for what they see as their special entitlements.

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - cost

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - a stated limit of \$20m

### **General Comments**

I agree with the opinion of Alan Dick that the council should start its Long Term plan with a business as usual budget & a minimum rate rise, then strategically deal one by one with major challenges. It's time both the Regional Council & Hastings District council pulled in its belts as much as possible, as so many households are having to - no wage increases for most people - & concentrated on the basic services needed & less on think big ideas - as the HBRIC has been formed to do? Looking at the comparison for the proposed rate increase, it shows our rates will increase by 27.5% - not 19% as you state?

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

***Incentives*** Option 1 - Status Quo

***Partnerships*** Option 2 - Fully Fund

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - I feel the 2% increase in funding is too high

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing

### **General Comments**

Continue to grasp the nettle of your core function - environmental quality. It has received short shrift for too long and decisive, committed, long term action is needed now....the public is with you on this approach ... go for it!

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Land, Water and Biodiversity are the Council's core responsibilities for protecting and enhancing our regional environment. These key areas have been too long ignored or obscured. I am in strong support of the proposed LTP approach and funding levels. Specifically, I endorse the Future Farming initiative. HB farming practice is where the rubber meets the road to better soil stability, water quality, marine environment, biodiversity and human health. If we want a good environment, we have to have farmer awareness and implementation of practices that regenerate our core asset - our soils.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - Past tourism funding investments, along with HB's attractions, have resulted in marked increases in tourism in the region. We've proved we're a great place to visit and live. Let's apply more of the dollars that went to tourism to preserving and enhancing the HB environment for our residents wellbeing....if we do that well tourist will come.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing

### **General Comments**

An overarching aim of the HBRC should be to contain itself and realise the limits to which it can be effective. As intoxicating as it may be to attempt to save Hawkes Bay from itself and to insert itself into the day to day life of its citizens at any opportunity with consequent to growth in staff numbers, expenditure and rate collection, the temptation must be avoided. HBRC's track record with issues such as water management (quality and allocation issues) and the controversy associated with the building of its new headquarters (to name but two disasters) plus its generally poor reputation amongst ratepayers should serve to limit any desire for mission creep.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo - Improving the quality of rivers is important. The state of the Ngaruroro below Maraekakaho is very poor but less familiar to the public than the issues with the Tuki Tuki. Incentives and enforcement both appropriate here. However there's not enough detail to know whether the HBRC policies will be effective and therefore I'd prefer the status quo. HBRC management of water allocation has been a disaster which gives little reassurance their intervention in these issues would be productive. Quite possibly it would just set up another tire of bureaucracy and associated personnel cost.

**Partnerships** Option 1 - Status Quo - see comments re previous question.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - Conditional on no new expenditure funded by the ratepayer. ie extend the programme within current staffing and administrative costings.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - Yes as long as the overall rate is not increased. In theory it should reduce as a single funder should reduce administrative costs.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - It is an affront to democratic principles to allocate funds contributed by all ratepayers to the issues of one ethnic group. Not only is such a policy unjust it has so far proven to be ineffective. By most measures of social equality maori have fallen further behind during the past 3 decades - the period during which tangata whenua have been given special consideration. Well intentioned it may have been but this approach has been patently unsuccessful. 'Cultural Competency' is a highly subjective term and attempts to instil it paradoxically often increase resentment in the workplace . Spending ratepayers funds on an ill defined, poorly received and ultimately ineffective policy makes no sense.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - Promoting tourism should be beyond the scope of the HBRC. It is best left to the industry itself.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - It makes sense to harness the collective purchasing power of like-minded entities. Option 2 enables that to happen with less downside risk than does Option 3.

**General Comments**

I thank you for the opportunity to answer your questions about "Funding for the future" I dont think any more money should be spent on cycle paths after the amount already allotted has been spent. I voted in the past questionnaire for money to be spent on specific projects and am pleased to say am very happy to see the childrens playground area on Anderson Park is being done.What a lucky lot we are to have such a lovely park and playarea. Cheers Maggie McClellan.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - I just think SOME landowners need a bit of a push.The sooner we start cleaning up the better.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - I just agree with your decision

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - Once again I agree with your option.

**Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain - I am not sure that council would run the Civil Defence better if it was transfered from city/district council.I really am uncertain about this option so probably should stay the same for the time being.

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - I think at this time more funding is unnecesary,perhaps in the future.

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - As the ART DECO Capital of the World, I think our reputation is well known.I dont think a reduction in funding will make any difference to the interest people have in coming here.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - I personally do not like the unlimited borrowing option.Rate payers should have some control over borrowing of councils who sometimes are inclined to spend more than they should in my view.

### **General Comments**

I would like to see the money that was earmarked for the Ruataniwha WSS and put into an investment, be used to help fund environmental, biodiversity, and compliance work. Some of it could also put into Future Farming research.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Planting erosion-prone land and riparian areas will contribute to improved water quality, flood control, and increased biodiversity.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - I support research and innovation that will lessen the impact of farming on our environment, and protect native biodiversity. Farmers, Councils and community groups need to work together to achieve change and the improvement/protection of the environment

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - I support initiatives that reduce our impact on the environment and climate change.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - Seems sensible to consolidate a regional service to one Council rather than have it split between several.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase - We need to partner with Maori to protect our environment just as we need to partner with farmers and other landowners.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - Tourism operators are profit making businesses who rely on infrastructure provided by ratepayers via the various Councils. They should be contributing to the cost of their impact on the environment. Tourism operators also need a healthy HB environment to entice visitors here in order to maintain their profits. HBRC has a responsibility under the Local Government Act 2002 and the RMA to care for and protect the environment. I take this to mean that HBRC should have their main focus on environmental protection rather than on promoting development/tourism. Tourist operators have had the benefit of support from HBRC. They should now be able to stand on their own two feet. It's time to support landowners to protect our environment.

### **General Comments**

I was shocked and pretty angry at the size of your proposed rate increase -13.8% of your own. I accept the 5.2% transferred from the HBDC. I doubt that any business operating in an open market could get away with an increase of 13.8% in what it charges. Its customers would abandon it in droves. The only reason you can countenance such an increase is because you are a monopoly with statutory powers to force your hapless customers to pay. At what point are you abusing your privileged position? I think the starting point for any future plan should be acceptance of your proper financial limitations. Before you even start debating whatever utopia you would like to create you should reason: " The maximum we will raise our rate is inflation plus 1 or 2 percent, we must cut our cloth accordingly". I do not want you to be some sort of proxy for central government or social agency, or to be always trying to make us feel good about ourselves. I want you to confine your activities to your strict legal obligations and what is genuinely essential. Thanks.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo - Incentives is weasel for subsidies.

**Partnerships** Option 1 - Status Quo - "Partnerships" is too much involvement by Council. Council's job is to force compliance by landowners etc, not to bribe them.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain - Central government does social welfare please!

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - Just makes sense. No extra cost to rps.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - Let T W engage just like everyone else. No one should get special treatment in the democratic process.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - How very leftie, to be planning to spend more while damping down business. We've enough of that from the current government.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - I don't like debt or potential liability. Middle option is prudent.

Submitter #508

Yvonne Forrest

**To be heard?** No

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

***Incentives*** Option 2 - Fully Fund - More needs to be done to protect what we have for the future

***Partnerships*** Option 2 - Fully Fund

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain

**Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing

### **General Comments**

As a rural ratepayer facing an increase in rates of at least 19% - if the proposed plan goes ahead I feel that the council has a majority but not the unanimous support of all councillors to justify such a significant rate increase. This increase is particularly hard to justify when our farming incomes fluctuate from year to year as we face more and more regulation and costs from central government. I feel that the ratepayers are being unfairly targeted and in particular I oppose:

- The council's scaremongering tactics with regards to the environment, the message conveyed that we have to things now before it is too late is misleading and untrue. Farmers particularly dairy farmers have undertaken significant riparian planting, fencing of waterways and looking at all aspects of their business, they will continue to do so. This work will not see results overnight, but will see results in the years to come.

- The creation of the future farming fund is condescending in its nature to the regions farmers, we all pay significant levies to Beef & Lamb NZ, Dairy NZ and other organisations. These organisations have experts in their field who are looking at sustainability as a whole & providing on the ground support to farmers. To create this fund is outside of the scope of the HBRC and just not necessary, I find it hard to believe that this fund will have access to the same level of experts as those employed by Beef & Lamb and Dairy NZ.

- The council's long term plan has not taken into account any sort of business prudence, what the council wants it will get through significant rate rises. The council needs to prioritise the issues like any other commercial business and learn to live within its means. The council is not entitled to get everything on its wish list, particularly not when it involves significant financial burden to its ratepayers.

- The Port of Napier is a significant regional asset and one that should remain in the ownership of the HBRC. Many of the ratepayers use this port, they need access to this Port and its services without the risk of prohibitive price increases to access this asset. The Port should not be sold to fund the current councils wish list of more Forestry, this is a matter for private business

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

***Incentives*** Option 1 - Status Quo

***Partnerships*** Option 1 - Status Quo

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing

### **General Comments**

According to your calculator, your plans will result in an increase over 28% of our regional rates. This is not what is being presented in your brochure. I am surprised and disappointed by the council misleading approach. I shall oppose as much as possible such an increase. Develop rail transport, limit large trucks to main roads, limit the size of trucks entering towns and residential zones. This will result in large savings on local roads maintenance and less pollution, both air and sound pollution and make our towns and region a nicer place to live in. Set rules for pollution of rivers, and apply them. Do not try to get even more bureaucratic and expand to infinity in what you think you should be involved in.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo - HBRC spends and has already vast sums monitoring our rivers for years. Why then do we have more pollution ? HBRC should sets rules and take legal actions systématiquement for all infringements. Polluters should pay. Providing them with funds to do better is like giving money to criminals so that they steal less. Do you actually believe this would change their behaviours.

**Partnerships** Option 1 - Status Quo - Again Government and councils to set rules and ensure they are followed. Use the money to ensure compliance. Your option 2 proposal will only result in delayed action and hence more damage.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain - Do not make a nation of irresponsible people by having waiting for someone else to do tomorrow what they should do today

### **Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain - A regional Civil Defence will only bring more bureaucracy and less effectiveness. Civil Defence should be at the local level , as local as possible to be successful

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - There is no need to engage with any specific minority. Work for all the people with all the people. Any other attitude will lead to more division, more tension hence more difficulties in the future.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - HBRC should not be even considering promoting tourism until we have actually studied seriously the advantages and inconvenients of more tourism in the country and regions. Use the money to adapt our touristic spots to the already increased number of tourists.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 1 - Status Quo - HBRC and other councils should not borrow money and should not be allowed to borrow.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

***Incentives*** Option 1 - Status Quo

***Partnerships*** Option 1 - Status Quo

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain

**Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 1 - Status Quo

### **General Comments**

I support the general thrust of the LTP especially regarding water quality and land management. Suggest under Land 10 that "farms in a critical source area" should have to implement plans to control phosphorous within 5 years. Climate Change: I realise this is an unknown but suspect effects may be underestimated. eg The risk of a major flood now estimated at 1%. What would be the effect on rates if it were estimated at 2% or more? And under Asset Management: "Sea level rise will affect assets in the vicinity of the coast" seems a major understatement and is very vague. Can a more precise statement be made? Support moves to be carbon neutral by 2040 and national target of being predator-free by 2050 although I think they are unrealistic time frames. Thank you for the opportunity of submitting on the LTP. I am happy to pay more rates so long as we get somewhere with these goals.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - There needs to be more rapid improvement in the water quality of our rivers and lakes. Soil erosion needs to be halted more urgently than we have managed to do so far.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - This is clearly the most effective way to manage natural resources most of which are in private ownership.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - This would be beneficial both for the environment and for the people concerned. Not clear to me whether domestic water storage could be assisted within reticulated areas. Every household could benefit from a water tank in the dry seasons, but I understand NCC is against this. It has not taken up any submissions made in the past on solar water heating or solar panels in new residences.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - Should be more efficient although it is important for personnel to be very familiar with all parts of the region, not just the more populated areas, and to have a clear command structure.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase - Tangata Whenua often have useful historic knowledge of land, sea and waterways, and have ties to these resources which inspire them to protect their mauri. Again, it is important to talk to the best authorities in the region.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - It is debatable whether ANY funding should go to HB Tourism. There is a question of equity: other industries do not get direct funding. While tourism may create jobs, they are low-paid - often extremely poorly paid- and it is essentially a very fickle industry, vulnerable to any number of events which could prove disastrous to it. Secondly, tourism can have negative environmental effects and it seems to me that HB already has enough tourists. Thirdly, promotion on the Internet by individual stake-holders in the business is probably the most effective method of attracting visitors.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing - Appears to give you options and be a safe choice.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity****Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo**Partnerships** Option 1 - Status Quo**Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain

**Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - In a nutshell, funding tourism is NOT a cost - it's an investment in the region's future. Ideally rather than leaving funding at the status quo even more funding should be provided. To even consider reducing it is short sighted to say the least. The Regional Council should of course be focused on the environment too, which I completely support, but to reduce tourism funding to support this when there are so many other areas that funding could be redirected from is simply naive. To say that the commercial sector gains the most from tourism funding is simply not correct. Tourism has been driving the economic growth of Hawke's Bay and your proposed funding cuts with negatively impact this. Apparently \$1.7m is spent every day in Hawke's Bay by visitors – that is NEW money into our region. This money doesn't just end up in the pockets of the commercial sector, the whole community benefits, it creates jobs and facilitates the development of facilities and services that everyone enjoys. The tourism industry currently invests significantly in promoting Hawke's Bay, no other industry would be investing in promoting the region as much as this, alongside their product. The results from the investment are also pretty transparent and accountable, what other sectors can demonstrate this? There are real examples of regions who have stopped investing in tourism. Waikato disestablished its regional promotion in 2005 they had been tracking at 5% growth, by 2008 they were -3%, By 2010 they were almost back to 0%. When Hawke's Bay Wine Country branding stopped, visitor numbers stopped because we stopped marketing Hawke's Bay. We really started to hit our stride again in 2015 when HBRC increased funding levels. This wasn't a top up it was to put Hawke's Bay on a competitive playing field alongside other regions. No other region is set to halt or reduce funding of their RTO, which means over time we will simply lose market share – other regions will be more visible, Hawke's Bay won't be. Have you considered the cost of not investing – over time what will Air NZ not invest in Hawke's Bay... this could result in reduced service, higher fares. Will Jetstar stay on the route if they don't actively see support from the region to market itself? That's a big gamble. Jetstar has enabled visitors to get here more cheaply, businesses to operate from afar more cheaply and its allowed residents to travel as well. Who will market Hawke's Bay to the level required if Hawke's Bay Tourism doesn't? No other entity is set up to do this. So come on HBRC don't waste the investment and foresight you had, the Hawke's Bay economy & community needs this investment and the benefits it generates for everyone. A Long Term Plan should mean exactly that!

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing

**General Comments**

I have not cut down trees, polluted streams or rivers or caused silting from tree harvesting. Neither have I received any income from the farming or logging practices that have caused the problem. Neither can I claim back the GST charge or reduce my taxes by claiming rates as a business expense. What therefore is the justification in increasing my rates where my money will ultimately end up financially benefiting private individuals? HBRC Councillors have recently spent \$14m on a failed dam scheme and now have the temerity to ask ratepayers to 'dig further into your pockets' a request I personally find insulting. Elected Councillors and CEO's need to accept that simply increasing rates to pay for grandiose schemes is no longer acceptable nor financially affordable for huge numbers of ratepayers. Last year we had to pay for the Targeted hotspot programme (on-going). With inflation running at less than 1.5% pa it is astonishing that the HBRC Councillors are asking for a 13.8% (possibly 19%) increase in rates. I accept the need for targeted flooding prevention schemes rates and base level services etc and am happy to contribute to the subsidised bus service that I do not use (nor am I likely to ever use). However, forcing ratepayers, especially those on low fixed incomes (e.g pensioners, sickness, disabled and invalid, unemployed and solo parent beneficiaries) to continually support schemes that result in private individuals benefiting financially is I feel unfair and unreasonable.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo - The proposed increase is going to significantly increase the percentage of rates ratepayers are paying for farm plans, riparian fencing, planting trees on steep- erodible land etc on land they have no financial interest in and for which the landowners / private individuals will benefit financially (.i.e. receiving higher land /property values, benefiting from more economic and profitable farming / forestry etc). I do not consider this fair, equitable or reasonable.

**Partnerships** Option 1 - Status Quo - The principle that rating should be weighted more to the sector that receives most benefit should be applicable here. If those who will financially benefit from the HBRC proposed actions pay for the required remedial work etc there is no reason why there needs to be a decline of the regions environment.

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain - The proposed increase is going to significantly increase the percentage of rates ratepayers are paying for the sustainable homes scheme. I do not consider it fair, equitable or reasonable that ratepayers should have to pay higher rates to provide for home improvements (e.g. solar-heating/ water storage and septic tank replacement) etc for residences they have no financial interest in and for which the landowners / private individuals will benefit financially (.i.e. receiving higher land /property values.) If HBRC Councillors see a real need for this then the ratepayers concerned could be offered loans at commercial rates.

**Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain - I believe there is a high likelihood that there will ultimately not be a corresponding dollar reduction in our (Napier City Council) rates.

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - The Councils statutory obligations should be able to be undertaken by existing HBRC staff at little or no extra cost to ratepayers.

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - The principle that rating should be weighted more to the commercial sector who receives most benefit from tourism promotion is fair, equitable and reasonable.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - Makes sense to maximise any and all benefits available for little or no cost to ratepayers.

**General Comments**

I don't understand why environmental protection and the funding of tourism and regional promotion is being presented as an either/or situation. Totally feasible to fund both. Tourism presents opportunities, not just in terms of employment and spending in the region (in tourism and non-tourism businesses) but also highlights this amazing region, encouraging individuals and businesses to move here and invest. HBRC has ignored the environment for too long, but please don't now destroy an important part of the economy. In 10 years time we'll have to invest so much more to build it back up. Do you think Air New Zealand will put on flights and sponsor the marathon if no visitors know to come here? It would be pretty easy for Jetstar to fly into another city if no visitors want to come here. Then pretty soon businesses who are either already here, or considering moving here, would conclude that poor transport links make it unviable. We'd also be left with a revamped airport that would be a great big white elephant. Pull the funding and you may aswell cancel the contract to build it. Finally, to all the councilors who think promoting the region is unnecessary, I challenge you to get re-elected next time with no billboards!

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

***Incentives*** Option 2 - Fully Fund

***Partnerships*** Option 2 - Fully Fund

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing

**General Comments**

The regional council should 'stick to its knitting' and not take on all these ancillary other functions.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

***Incentives*** Option 1 - Status Quo - Fund these incentives - there is an element of open cheque book about that statement. Too loosley worded to consider.

***Partnerships*** Option 1 - Status Quo - Fund these incentives - there is an element of open cheque book about that statement. Too loosley worded to consider.

**Sustainable Homes**

- can not understand why this has become a regional council issue - what is driving this idea?

**Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - i do not want any representation from appointees - too little control of spending, the treaty does not give TANGATA WHENUA the power of veto!.

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

- Once again not a matter for regional council to handle.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 1 - Status Quo - Too risky to join the LGFA - we need control and input.

### **General Comments**

I fully support the Council's sense of urgency around "going hard" to address all the environmental issues that have been ignored for far too long. I feel strongly about this as a grandparent who cares about the wellbeing of the coming generations of life on this precious Earth. Thank you for being bold and brave in developing this Plan.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Water is essential for Life. The issues need addressing now and as quickly as possible to reverse the degradation that has already happened/will only get worse with status quo.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Progress depends upon everyone who has a relationship with land, water and biodiversity changing the way they do things. In order for these changes to be made people need support, both incentives and "lines in the sand" to send a clear message.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - This option will enable the large number of people who cannot afford the up front cost of making their homes more sustainable to do so - good for individual wellbeing and for the environment. It also sends a clear message about the importance of sustainability in everyday life.

### **Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC - This option will enable a more co-ordinated approach which is vitally important to both prepare people for a civil defense emergency and support them to recover afterwards.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase - This recognises the importance of the Treaty of Waitangi and honours the partnership that the Treaty put in place between Crown and Tangata Whenua. It also allows the wisdom, knowledge and commitment of Tangata Whenua to be brought to bear on the huge environmental challenges that we are facing, and will continue to face into the future.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - I believe that the priority for HBRC needs to be the environment - this is it's core business.

### **Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

- I don't have the necessary understanding of this issue at this point to make an informed choice.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo

**Partnerships** Option 1 - Status Quo - Refer to written submission

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - Tourism in Hawkes Bay is huge. Why would you want to cut funding to a growth industry?

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 3 - Join as unrated guaranteeing

**General Comments**

There are some very serious questions regarding this latest long term plan, which to some Central Hawkes Bay residents equates to a 22% increase in rates. Remembering that last year we had a 'one off' 10% increase in rates. Remember, a one off. How are you allowing this to happen?

Our other concern is how this budget is to be spent. While we all agree that the environment is of great importance, you are putting way too much importance on it.

Our greatest concern is the 'Future Farming Initiative'. This is a huge kick in the guts for a great percentage of farmers, and your own staff, collectively who do a great job. Do you think for one minute that a well educated and passionate farmer is going to take notice of some possibly failed farmer who tells him/her how to manage their land and animals? I think not. What a waste of \$650k. A vast majority of farmers are passionate about their land and animals. We are very much in favour of fencing off and planting our waterways. Most of us have been doing this for many years. You treat us like idiots, when in fact we are not. You simply cannot re invent the wheel. There will always be some farmers that let the rest down, but surely your very educated staff can deal with these farmers.

It is surely robbing Peter to pay Paul putting a bore into the Ruataniwha aquifer to enable flushing flows into the Tukituki river during the drier summer months. This is absurd. Especially when we have been categorically told that the RWSS and Plan Change 6 are in no way connected to each other. This is totally hypocritical.

We do not need grandstanding councillors trying to make a name for themselves. Some of the environmental issues go back many years and clearly cannot be fixed overnight.

Despite you also thinking we have endless cash resources, this also shows how out of tune you are with farming. Completely out of tune. Farming, like many rural businesses is not a walk in the park. We work long, hard hours in some of the most vile extreme weathers. Please just remember that what ever you put in your mouth has been grown on the land or in the sea. Without farmers, you simply could not exist.

Give us a break for God's sake.

Submitter #521

Meg Rose

**To be heard?** Yes

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo

**Partnerships** Option 1 - Status Quo

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend

**Civil Defence**

Option 2 - Transfer to HBRC

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 1 - Status Quo

**General Comments**

And other matters.

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Submitter #522

Stuart Burden

**To be heard?** No

**General Comments**

It is important to keep rate increases to a minimum to keep rate levels reasonable. Recent rate increases have been excessive. I don't have faith in the council's management or integrity. A culture change needs to occur within the council staffing to better serve its ratepayers. Currently, about half my and my neighbours rates go into the Muddy Creek drainage scheme but the money is not being spent on this scheme. This is effectively fraud against ratepayers.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo - Farms are rapidly changing attitudes and practises. Doesn't need council funding. The costs are tax deductible anyway.

**Partnerships** Option 1 - Status Quo - As above.

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain - Council shouldn't be funding private householders. Not its core business.

**Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain - Have no faith in Regional Council management.

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo - Not the core business of the council. Money best spent directly.

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - Time for business to pay its way.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 1 - Status Quo

Submitter #523  
Michael Cashmore  
**To be heard?** No

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - Decreasing quality in this area is well documented . I agree that incentives are the best way to support lasting behavioural change

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - The previous 5 year report (2009 - 2013 pp 100 - 109) detailed evidence of decreased soil structure and soil carbon , increased cadmium levels and 500,000 tonnes p.a of sediment loss in the Tukituki catchment . I think providing all groups involved with the information and tools to improve in these areas is essential.

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - Continued improvements to warmth and efficiency of homes ,esp as new technologies arise , will be beneficial

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 – Increase

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Submitter #524  
Colin Lindsay, Gannet Beach Adventures Ltd  
**To be heard?** No

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 1 - Status Quo

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold

As a tourism-based business, and having been involved in tourism for 20 years, we get to see/observe the positive and far reaching effects the tourist dollar has within our region. Tourism itself is recognised worldwide as a huge earner and within NZ all regions have now cottoned onto this and are working hard to attract/increase visitor numbers and capture their hard-earned dollars. If Hawke's Bay doesn't get out there and fight hard to promote our region, potential visitors will almost certainly go elsewhere, as HB is still not seen as a "must-visit" region despite what you might think. We will lose the momentum that Hawke's Bay Tourism has built up.

While it's easy to talk up our region, it's hard to do it on an uneven playing field – all other regions support tourism with funding, yet no other region is looking to decrease their support. The facts and figures that HB Tourism supply show that they have reached targets set with the last increase in funding – why decrease this? Do the ratepayers of HB know how little each household currently contributes compared to other regions? Individual operators cannot possibly promote the region with the effectiveness that HB Tourism does.

We are attending TRENZ in early May, which will cost us approximately \$10k – a huge investment, but one that we feel is worthwhile as it gives us the chance to get in front of people who will bring visitors to Hawke's Bay, not just our own business. These visitors will spend their money in a wide variety of ways while they are here.

We employ locals, and offer a world-class experience to both domestic and international visitors – many of whom get off the tour saying it's the best thing they have done in NZ. For us it is simple – many of those visitors would not have come to HB without the promotion of HB Tourism.

While we obviously support the need for money to be spent on the environment, now is not the time for Hawke's Bay Tourism to be forced to take their foot off the gas and face losing hard earned gains to other regions. We believe HBRC, with careful management, need to retain the status quo and support both tourism funding and the environment.

**General Comments**

I would like the Regional council to work with Napier City Council to get the water quality issues in the Ahuriri estuary addressed.

**Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - The general trend of soil quality, water quality and biodiversity seems to be getting worse over time. Although I think this should be funded at a government level out of taxes than through regional council rates

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - I agree with partnerships with farmers. Although I think this should be funded at a government level out of taxes than through regional council rates

**Sustainable Homes**

Option 1 - Maintain - Individual properties are the responsibility of the home owner, not the council. Sustainable homes should be funded as a government level initiative. People could be given the option of having a loan paid off through their regional council rates if they want domestic water storage or solar heating, not funded through general rates.

**Civil Defence**

Option 1 - Retain

**Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 1 - Status Quo

**Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 1 - Hold - If it's working and generating tourists and income for the region, then keep doing it.

**Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)**

Option 2 - Join as non-guaranteeing - If the council needs to borrow money to spread it's capital spending over time, then I agree with this principle. But I don't agree it should be unlimited borrowing. If a normal person goes to the bank for a house loan, they can't, and don't get an unlimited borrowing facility.

Submitter #526

Rose Hay

**To be heard?** No

### **General Comments**

I would like to see HBRC leading the way in plastic recycling or refusal and ensuring that businesses do the same. I would also like to see an increase in funding to education programmes like Enviroschools or career programmes in order to empower our youth.

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Incentives** Option 2 - Fully Fund - I believe in the need to make big changes to stop a decline in our environment- land, water and air. I support the HBRC to look at future "dry" farming. I support funding and expertise being put into water initiatives-cleaning our rivers, allocation and sustainable use of water. I support the focus on biodiversity by maintaining established forested areas and wetlands, increasing riparian and other native plantings and raising the level of predator and weed control.

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund

### **Sustainable Homes**

Option 2 - Extend - I support HBRC to provide incentives so new and existing home and commercial buildings become more sustainable through a range of measures-solarpower, water tanks and grey water, insulation. Also to look at land use so housing does not take up land valuable for future food production.

### **Civil Defence**

- Because I agreed with amalgamation of Councils. I would support whatever option is best for the area cost and service wise. I would not like this to be an add on for HBRC if it means money and expertise is cut in environmental areas.

### **Working with Tāngata Whenua**

Option 2 - Increase - Non negotiable.

### **Hawke's Bay Tourism**

Option 2 - Reduce - Most tourists travel to areas to see "the view". If HBRC initiatives and spending is on making our region's environment the "jewel" it was/should be then tourism will flourish.

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Submitter #527

John Kamp

**To be heard?** No

### **Land, Water & Biodiversity**

**Partnerships** Option 2 - Fully Fund - The current farming model has failed the environment, Farmers and the Community. Alternative regenerative farming practices have a huge potential to reverse damage and restore soils with environmental and economic benefits to farmers and residents of HB.