

**STATEMENT TO THE READERS OF
HUTT CITY COUNCIL'S
LONG-TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN, AS AMENDED ON 19 JUNE 2007,
FOR THE TEN YEARS COMMENCING 1 JULY 2006**

The Hutt City Council (the City Council) adopted its Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) for the ten years commencing 1 July 2006 on 29 June 2006. The Auditor-General appointed me, John O'Connell, using the staff and resources of Audit New Zealand, to report on his behalf on the Long Term Council Community Plan (the LTCCP) adopted on 29 June 2006.

We expressed an unqualified opinion on the City Council's LTCCP for the ten years commencing 1 July 2006 adopted on 29 June 2006 in our report dated 29 June 2006. We consider that the LTCCP adopted on 29 June 2006 provided a reasonable basis for long term integrated decision-making by the City Council and for participation in decision-making by the public and subsequent accountability to the community about the activities of the City Council. In forming our overall opinion, we reported on specific matters required by section 94(1) of the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act).

In a Statement of Proposal dated 29 March 2007 the City Council proposed an amendment to its LTCCP for the ten years commencing 1 July 2006 to:

- v update some of the strategies, tactics, key indicators and examples of work being undertaken to achieve the Community Outcomes;
- v make amendments to the Financial Strategy;
- v make amendments to the Statement of Commitments;
- v update the indicative rates requirement for 2007/08;
- v make changes to the summary of Council's key performance indicators;
- v make changes to performance measures;
- v update the information in the Asset Management Planning/Water and Sanitary Services Assessments;
- v make changes to fees and charges;
- v revise projections of future operating revenue and costs and capital expenditure in the forecast financial statements to reflect current estimates and recent Council decisions;
- v include an additional year of forecast information, year 2016/17, within the forecast financial statements; and
- v make changes to policies.

We expressed an unqualified opinion on this Statement of Proposal in our audit report dated 29 March 2007. We considered that the information within the Statement of Proposal, about the proposed amendment to the LTCCP and any consequential amendments to the LTCCP that would be required if it was amended in the manner proposed, was fairly presented, and that the City Council had complied with the applicable requirements of the Act in preparing the Statement of

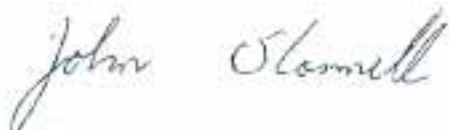
Proposal. In forming our overall opinion, we reported on specific matters required by section 84(4) of the Act.

On 19 June 2007 the City Council adopted an amendment to its LTCCP for the ten years commencing 1 July 2006 to:

- v Update some of the strategies, tactics, key indicators and examples of work being undertaken to achieve the Community Outcomes;
- v make amendments to the Financial Strategy;
- v make amendments to the Statement of Commitments;
- v update the indicative rates requirement for 2007/08;
- v make changes to the summary of Council's key performance indicators;
- v make changes to performance measures;
- v update the information in the Asset Management Planning/Water and Sanitary Services Assessments;
- v make changes to fees and charges;
- v revise projections of future operating revenue and costs and capital expenditure in the forecast financial statements to reflect current estimates and recent Council decisions;
- v include an additional year of forecast information, year 2016/17, within the forecast financial statements; and
- v make changes to policies.

The City Council prepared the LTCCP, as amended on 19 June 2007, to reflect its LTCCP after incorporating the amendments adopted by the City Council on 19 June 2007, and any consequential amendments.

There is no legislative requirement for us to report on the adopted amendment or the LTCCP, as amended by the City Council on 29 March 2007 and we have not performed an audit of either the adopted amendment or the LTCCP as amended.



John O'Connell
Audit New Zealand
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Wellington, New Zealand