

 Report
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Committee Annual Plan 2016/17 Hearing Committee Author Helen Guissane, Corporate Planner

# Report on feedback received from the Shape Your Region Annual Plan 2016/17 consultation

## 1. Purpose

This report provides an overview on the feedback received on the consultation document for the Annual Plan 2016/17, together with officers' comments on submission points and issues, to assist the Hearing Committee in making recommendations to Council on the final Plan.

Report 16.217 sets out the process for handling submissions, both at this meeting and following the consideration of submissions.

# 2. Consultation process

Shape Your Region, the consultation document for the Annual Plan 2016/17 was approved by Council for consultation on 24 February 2016 (Report 16.35). The consultation period was from 16 March to 18 April 2016.

The Shape Your Region consultation document was available at various locations across the region, and the supporting information to Shape Your Region was also made available at Council offices, major libraries and online.

A Have Your Say website was developed where the consultation document, supporting information and an online submission tool was available. The website was supported by a communications programme including advertising in national and regional newspapers and on social media, including Facebook and Twitter.

Consultation was limited to material and significant changes from the content of the 10 Year Plan 2015-25. It was provided on the basis that all other activities would be delivered as consulted on, and agreed, in the 10 Year Plan 2015-25.

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#### 3. Feedback Received

#### 3.1 Submission forms

The submission forms specifically asked submitters if they would like to comment on:

- The proposed rates increase for 2016/17
- The proposed cost changes
- The proposed additional activities
- The proposed delays

#### 3.2 Submissions

In total 179 submissions were received. The number of submissions grouped by type of organisation is as follows:

Organisations (including community groups)	17
Local government	6
Individuals	<u>156</u>
Total	179

Included in this total are 117 pro-forma submissions on fluoride received from individuals. The remaining submissions cover a diverse range of topics. Key themes were: public transport issues, in particular the bus network and the Ngauranga to Airport corridor; regional leadership; transport planning; biodiversity; the Whaitua project; and flood protection. A number of submitters (four of them territorial authorities) questioned the rates increase, with the low CPI being referred to as a comparison a number of times.

A summary of the key points raised by submitters and officer comments for the Council to consider in their deliberations is contained in **Attachment 1**. A full set of submissions has been provided separately to Councillors.

#### 4. Communication

All submitters who made submissions on the adoption of the Annual Plan 2016/17 will, subsequent to Council adopting the final plan, receive a response outlining the decisions of the Council and any key changes.

The Annual Plan 2016/17 will be considered for approval by Council on 29 June 2016, and this will be notified by public notice and media release.

# 5. The decision-making process and significance

The matter requiring decision in this report has been considered by officers against the requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

### 5.1 Significance of the decision

The subject matter of this report is part of a decision-making process that will lead to the Council making a decision of medium significance within the meaning of the Local Government Act 2002. In accordance with section 95 of the Act, as the proposed annual plan contains material differences from the content of the long-term plan for the year to which this annual plan relates, the Council is required to consult on the proposed annual plan in a manner that gives effect to the requirements of section 82 before adopting an annual plan.

Section 82 sets out the principles of consultation. Section 82A sets out what must be included when consultation is required under section 82.

#### 5.2 Engagement

In accordance with the Significance and Engagement Policy, officers determined that the appropriate level of engagement was 'consulting'. Engagement was carried out as set out in Section 2 above.

Consultation was carried out on the adoption of the Annual Plan 2016/17 consistent with the principles of section 95. A description of the consultation methods is provided in section 2 of this report.

#### 6. Recommendations

*That the Committee*:

- 1. Receives the report.
- 2. *Notes* the content of the report.
- 3. Considers the information in this report and attachments in determining its findings and recommendations to Council.
- 4. **Recommends** to the Council that its Annual Plan incorporate the differences to its 10 Year Plan as identified in the consultation document for the Annual Plan 2016/17.
- 5. **Recommends** to the Council any further items to incorporate into its Annual Plan 2016/17 which have not triggered the consultation requirements set out in the Local Government Act 2002.

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**Attachment 1**: Summary of key submission points and officer comments