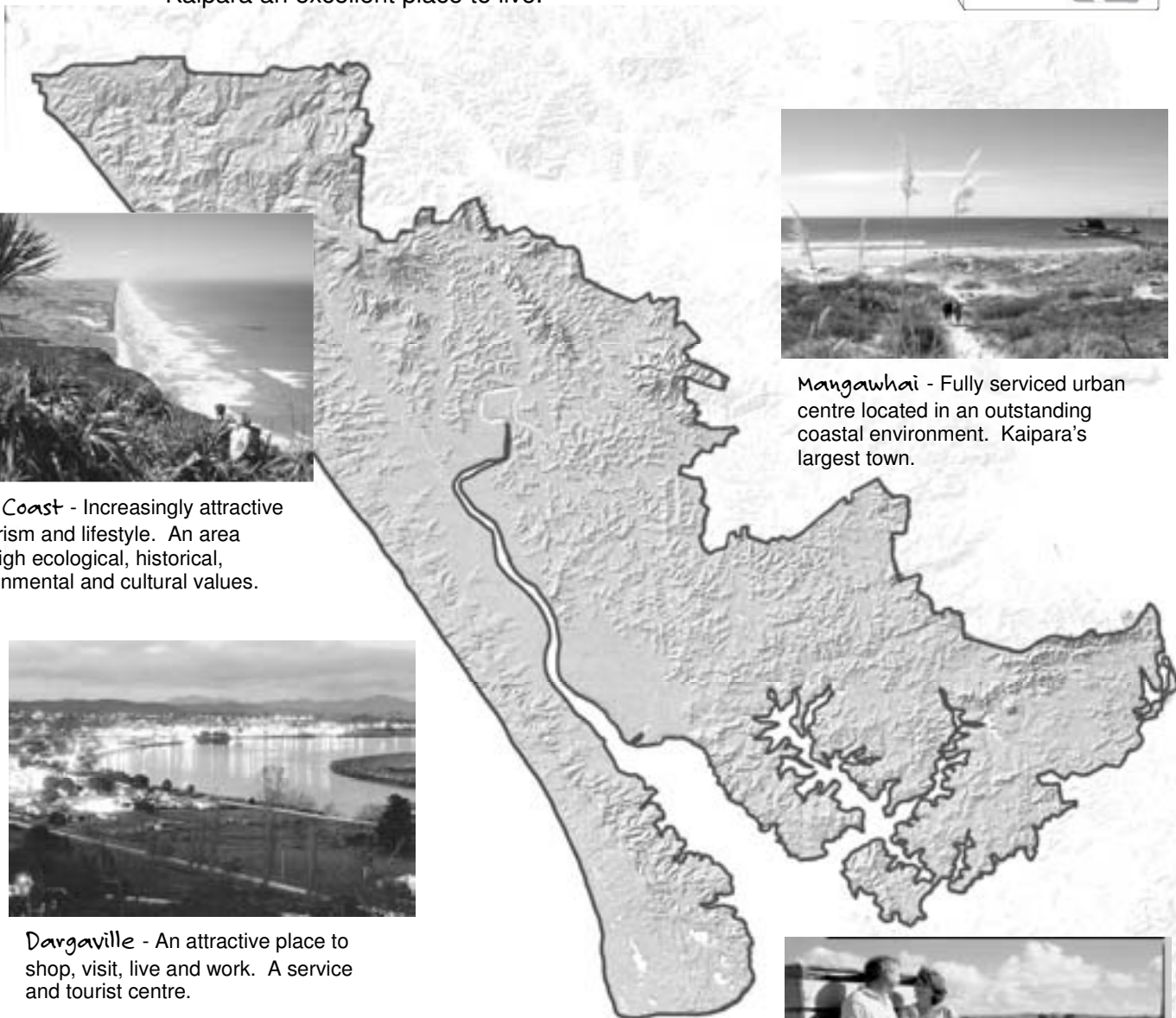
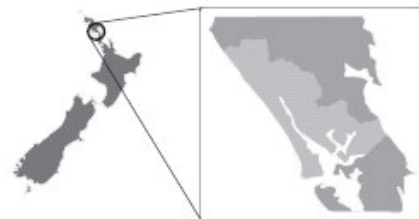


## Mission Statement

We will work with the community to preserve our heritage, enhance our environment, and provide the best possible services and facilities to make Kaipara an excellent place to live.



**West Coast** - Increasingly attractive to tourism and lifestyle. An area with high ecological, historical, environmental and cultural values.



**Mangawhai** - Fully serviced urban centre located in an outstanding coastal environment. Kaipara's largest town.



**Dargaville** - An attractive place to shop, visit, live and work. A service and tourist centre.



**Kaipara Harbour** - A taonga preserved for all to enjoy. Retaining a rural atmosphere. Balancing competing demands of commercial and recreational activities.



**Rural Heartland** - Farming and forestry support the District's economy with an increase in rural lifestyle uses.

## What is the Draft Annual Plan process?

The document you are reading is the Draft Annual Plan 2011/12. There is an opportunity for submissions and hearings before Council. Public Meetings to discuss the Draft Annual Plan will be held:

### Friday 18 March 2011

Kaihu Hall	2.00pm -4.00pm	Kaihu Wood Road, Kaihu
Tangiteroria Sports Complex	6.00pm-8.00pm	Pukehuia Road, Tangiteroria

### Saturday 19 March 2011

Mangawhai Domain Hall	10.00am-2.00pm	Moir Street, Mangawhai
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### Tuesday 22 March 2011

Baylys Beach Church Hall	1.00pm-3.00pm	Seaview Road, Baylys
Te Kopuru Coronation Hall	6.00pm-8.00pm	Norton Street, Te Kopuru

### Thursday 24 March 2011

Ruawai War Memorial Hall	6.00pm-8.00pm	Ruawai Wharf Road, Ruawai
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### Friday 25 March 2011

Maungaturoto Centennial Hall	10.00am-12.00noon	View Street, Maungaturoto
Kaiwaka War Memorial Hall	1.00pm-3.00pm	Kaiwaka-Mangawhai Road, Kaiwaka

### Tuesday 29 March 2011

Pahi Hall	10.00am-12.00noon	Pahi Road, Pahi
Dargaville Town Hall	4.00pm-6.00pm	Hokianga Road, Dargaville

### Friday 1 April 2011

Marohemo Hall	10.0pm-12.00noon	Whakapirau Road, Marohemo
Tinopai Community Hall	1.00pm-3.00pm	Komiti Road, Tinopai

Council will also be consulting with Te Roroa and Te Uri o Hau.

Submissions close: **5.00pm Friday 15 April 2011**

Submission hearings will be held in early May at Dargaville, Mangawhai and Maungaturoto for people who wish to speak to their submission before Council. Submitters will be advised of the date, time and venue.

The final Annual Plan will be available from Council service centres, community libraries, and on-line at [www.kaipara.govt.nz](http://www.kaipara.govt.nz)

## Make a Submission

Do you agree with our proposed work programme? Is there anything else you think we should be doing?

### How do I make a submission on the Draft Annual Plan?

We want your input and a submission is a way of telling Council what you would like to see happening in your District. Making a submission is also an opportunity to tell Council your thoughts on any particular matter proposed by the Council in the Draft Annual Plan.

The Gambling Policy is also up for review and we encourage you to make a submission telling us of any changes you would like to see included.

You can make a submission by letter, fax, email, on-line at Council's website, or on the form provided in this document. Let us know if you would like to speak to your submission before Council.

**Either:**

<b>Post</b>	<b>Fax</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Deliver to</b>	<b>Online</b>
Chief Executive Kaipara District Council Private Bag 1001 Dargaville 0340	09 439 6756	<a href="mailto:council@kaipara.govt.nz">council@kaipara.govt.nz</a>	Dargaville or Kaiwaka offices	<a href="http://www.kaipara.govt.nz">www.kaipara.govt.nz</a>

***Council must receive submissions no later than 5.00pm Friday 15 April 2011***

Written submissions received on the Draft Annual Plan will be made available to the public

(Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987)

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# Kaipara District



Stretching from coast to coast, Kaipara District is located at the entrance to Northland at the top of the North Island. Travelling from east to west, the Kaipara is a district of contrasts and spectacular scenery. Residents and visitors enjoy the magic of the east coast settlement of Mangawhai, the peacefulness of New Zealand's largest harbour – the Kaipara – and the wild beauty of the west coast beaches.

Kaipara's economy has historically been based around pastoral farming and to a lesser extent horticulture and forestry. However, developments in tourism are growing in importance and there is a trend toward small mixed-use farm holdings. The District's rural nature, especially in the heartland, is one of the charms residents are keen to preserve.

Kaipara District Council is the seat of local government for the District. Council's role is to provide local leadership and facilitate the delivery of services and activities that promote community well-being. Under the Local Government Act 2002, Council has a lead role in ensuring that the community's economic, social, cultural and environmental priorities are reflected in government agencies' and other organisations' planning and decision-making and that a co-operative approach is taken to achieving the community's vision for the future. The Mayor and eight Councillors also work to ensure that the voice of the Kaipara community is heard at the national level.

# Reader's Guide

## **What is the Draft Annual Plan?**

This Draft Annual Plan outlines Council's activities for the 2011/12 financial year. Council's role is to provide local leadership and facilitate the delivery of services and activities that promote community well-being. The Plan supports Council's ten year plan, *Kaipara's Future-Working Together* Long Term Plan released in 2009, and identifies any changes or additions to it. It outlines the community's expectations (community outcomes) and describes how Council, in partnership with government agencies and other organisations, will work to achieve these. This Draft Annual Plan provides details of Council's budget and offers the community the opportunity to help determine where and how the budget is spent.

## **What does the Draft Annual Plan include?**

### **Working with the Community**

In 2003 Council facilitated *Kaipara – Our Future – Together*. This provided the people of Kaipara with an opportunity to have their say about the future which gave Council valuable insight into the priorities of the Kaipara people.

This Council is about safeguarding, protecting and enhancing the well-being of its communities so it is essential Council understand the needs and desires of its people. To do this Council must move amongst the people and work with the communities, which allows this Council to truly comprehend the real culture of our District. For all projects "buy in" is essential, communities that stand up and help themselves, taking responsibility for their future, will inevitably witness the best results. Council endeavours to help where it can, offering assistance in a variety of ways, whether it be funding, facilitation, advice, a site or just a helping hand the true and sustainable success comes when the communities "own" the project and we work together to make it happen.

The priorities voiced by the people, have been represented by the outcomes described later in this section along with possible indicators to help measure progress towards success. These indicators and measures also provide a basis for accountability of the Council and Government agencies to the community.

### **Activities**

Council's work programme is divided into 13 significant activities. In order to provide continuity with *Kaipara's Future - Working Together* Plan, a similar document format has been used.

In addition to details of Council activities, this Plan contains the following:

- Financial Statements
- Fees and Charges

## **Where does the Draft Annual Plan fit in the planning cycle?**

This Draft Annual Plan is year three of Council's third Long Term Plan, *Kaipara's Future - Working Together 2009/19*.

# Elected Members



**Neil Tiller Mayor**



**Andrew Wade**



**Brian McEwing**

**Dargaville Ward**



**Hal Harding**



**Julie Geange Deputy Mayor**



**John Blackwell**

**West Coast Central  
Ward**



**Wayne Linton**



**Julia Sutherland**



**Jonathan Larsen**

**Otamatea Ward**

# Mayor's Introduction



Kaipara: A place of differences from the wild seas of the west to the gentle waves of the east. Rolling hills, untamed forests, picturesque towns and real people make up the essence of our District.

Kaipara beautiful in its contradictions, is a haven to all those who choose to live, work and play. A lifestyle uncluttered with the problems of large city centres builds strong communities, communities that work together to make a difference and it's these strong communities which form the backbone of this District.

While we gladly celebrate the scores of advantages to our unique Kaipara living, there is a cost. Kaipara's location and small population means we struggle to obtain the financial freedom of the larger areas and progress in the district is slow and hard earned.

Historically this Council has chosen a relatively conservative approach. The culture which effectively 'played it safe' focused energies around the well-being of its people, placing a huge emphasis on rate minimisation. Consequently for many years Kaipara ratepayers have enjoyed some of the lowest rates in the country while still receiving a slow but steady gradual improvement of service levels. However, in hindsight this approach, while intending to benefit the pockets of ratepayers, has become detrimental to the future of our District. No funds have been readily available for larger projects so have been paid for by loans.

Infrastructure, Council's biggest asset, is also one of Council's biggest costs and requires urgent upgrades and replacements across the District. The much needed public toilet upgrade is a prime example with the cost estimated at \$2.4 million. So where does this money come from? Upgrading and replacement of infrastructure is essential for the District to function effectively and Council will inevitably have to raise a loan to pay for it. Currently as much as 20 per cent of Council rate income is used for servicing the \$80 million Council has borrowed. A further 50 to 60 per cent of the budget is allocated to roading, therefore little is left for anything else.

In 2009 Council went out to the community with its third Long Term Plan; *Kaipara's Future – Working Together 2009/19*. This document projected a general rate increase of 4 per cent for the next three years. However burdened by a worldwide recession and the District experiencing the worst drought in 30 years, Council was faced with a dilemma. The 2010 draft Annual Plan consultation rounds received a resounding call from communities to keep the rates low. The financial impacts of the last two years were still very much in evidence with many people continuing to feel the pinch.

In 2010 Council made a bold step and struck a minimal 1 per cent general rate increase. It was hoped this would give Kaipara ratepayers the breathing space needed to allow them the ability to afford rate payments. Unfortunately despite having some of the lowest rates in the country, Council is now also faced with the largest number of rate arrears in its history.

So what does this mean in dollars? A 10 per cent general rate increase equates to approximately \$1.2 million, so 1 per cent approximates only \$120,000 and that is provided payment is received.

# Mayor's Introduction

Council's conservative approach has brought Kaipara a constant rating structure for more than a decade. This combined with general rate increases below inflation levels, a worldwide recession, droughts, ageing infrastructure and large numbers of rates arrears means very few options are available to allow this District to move ahead.

Kaipara is a unique and fantastic place but can the District flourish and develop as it deserves if we continue down this track?

Can Council do the job they want to do?

The short answer is NO.

How do you see Kaipara in the future? A place of pride, a flourishing vibrant slice of paradise or a tired rural district struggling to survive from one year to the next?

So where to next?

Elections have given Council a fresh new face with clear aspirations. Councillors are enthusiastic and excited about their District and keen to introduce changes that will lead Kaipara into a positive future.

## **Council Aspirations**

At its inaugural meeting held in October 2010, the Councillors took the time to identify their aspirations for the District, things they believed they could achieve during their term on Council that would really make a difference to the District. Not surprisingly there were a number of common themes.

The need for economic development was a big one. Councillors believe that the Council needs to get more people into the Kaipara by promoting the District as a great place to set up a new business. They believe that this Council needs to foster an "enabling" environment for businesses wanting to establish here so as to encourage their development in our communities.

The promotion of tourism was another aspiration which Councillors believe essential to the District and directly linked to the growth of Kaipara's economic development. Councillors felt that enhancing both economic development and tourism requires an element of self promotion. Examples such as going out and working with the communities, identifying their unique characteristics then working with these to capture their potential, alongside promoting some of our reserves as premier tourist destinations will contribute to attracting more tourists and new residents to our District.

Overall there was a belief that this Council needs to encourage growth with simple rules and regulations which are easily understood and protect the environment in a sustainable way.

Also Councillors saw a need for the improved use of technology, making the website more user-friendly. Information is power and the website is now the first place many people go when seeking information. To this end Council has committed itself to a complete upgrade of its current website in this financial year.

The Councils of Northland have recognised that if Northland is to move ahead as a whole it is important that all areas have access to high speed Broadband. This Council will continue to work with its neighbours to achieve this.

# Mayor's Introduction

How do these aspirations impact on your rates?

This year Council has proposed a general rate increase of 7.47 per cent. This will go towards achieving some new outcomes and includes the following additional projects:

- \$60,000 towards a Council website upgrade. This has become essential with internet becoming one of the most popular and effective forms of communication.
- \$10,000 to enable free access to community libraries
- \$250,000 for an organisational review
- \$50,000 to help fight the battle of the increasing fires in the area

## Looking to the Future

Next year we see the release of Council's Long Term Plan 2012/22. This document is Council's primary strategic planning document that looks out over the next ten years. Therefore, Council is considering some new concepts and would like your thoughts on the following ideas.

### Service Centre - Mangawhai

Council has been mindful for some time that we need to have a better presence in Mangawhai. Therefore we are considering constructing a purpose-built facility in Mangawhai that could house Council services under one roof.

With a library strategy just being completed, it may be that the Mangawhai Library will have to re-evaluate its situation to meet the growing needs of Mangawhai. A new Council facility could also provide a location for the community library if the library members and the community desired this.

The new Service Centre would provide:

- Improved access to Council and its services
- Certainty to the dollars available in the Mangawhai Endowment Fund for distribution to local community groups
- Stability of rent as it would not be subject to the fluctuations that the current interest rates are enjoying
- An asset that would appreciate over time

### Multi-Use Sports Facility - Dargaville

Council has received a number of submissions over the years from sports clubs keen to set up a multi-use sports facility in or around Dargaville. An area that is receiving particular attention from the sporting fraternity as a place for further sports development, particularly since the completion of the Kauri Coast Swimming Pool in Selwyn Park. However, Council is also mindful for the need to maintain green space areas.

Is there a need for a multi-use sports facility in Dargaville along similar lines to the sports facility in Kaiwaka?

## Mayor's Introduction

It makes sense to group a number of sports venues in one place to take advantage of the costs savings that such a venue would achieve. It would provide the sports people of the District with an opportunity to train and play in high quality surroundings, all supporting one another. The Kauri Coast Swimming Pool was credited as the reason that Northland was able to send its biggest and best prepared contingent to the New Zealand Swimming Competition in 2011. This was because the pool provided swimmers with the only opportunity in Northland to train in a competitive 50 metre sized pool. Can we achieve similar excellence in other sports codes?

### ***Baylys Section***

Council owns a section in Seaview Road at Baylys which is currently just 'sitting' and we want to know how you think this piece of land would be best used? Some of the options include:

- Sell the section and use the proceeds of the sale for other community needs
- Develop this section as an open space, recreation area
- Use this section for some other community need

What are your thoughts?

### ***Mangawhai Pensioner Housing***

With the new units in Mangawhai now completed it is time to look at the old units which are in need of substantial upgrades. These units are on prime real estate in Fagan Place at Mangawhai Heads and we would like to know what you think is the best option for this land.

- Retain this area as pensioner housing and upgrade the units
- Demolish the units and use this space for some other community purpose

What are your thoughts?

### ***Rugby World Cup***

The Rugby World Cup is just around the corner and we need to start thinking about its impacts. To date, freedom camping has not been a significant issue in Kaipara but with an increased number of tourists expected from the Rugby World Cup, this will inevitably bring an increase in freedom camping.

Is this an issue?

Should we be directing these campers to our campgrounds by putting a freedom camping bylaw in place?

### **Small Wins**

Not every project has to cost big dollars and often it is the little things that give us the most pleasure.

Picnic Tables - \$1,800 each

- Encourages family outings
- Encourages tourists to stop
- Enhances the looks of the space

# Mayor's Introduction

- Contributes and encourages community well-being

Picnic Tables, which are relatively inexpensive, can make for an enjoyable outing in the park.

Outdoor Exercise Circuit - \$8,000

Gym equipment permanently erected outdoors, so anyone can enjoy an outdoor circuit training with fresh air and no cost. Kaipara has a range of lovely open spaces where something like this could be of benefit.

Is there anywhere you would like to see a picnic table or outdoor exercise circuit placed?

## Conclusion

What would you like Council to do?

Should Council continue with minimal rate rises, which for the short term will keep more money in your pockets but mean more borrowing for Council? If so when and how do you see these loans being paid off?

OR

Should Council retain the status quo for a while longer? If so how long can we do this and how do we catch up?

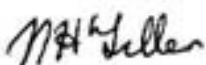
Council is proposing a 7.47 per cent general rate increase. Is this the time for everyone to step up and start paying our way with a substantial increase in the rate revenue, allowing Kaipara to progress with confidence?

### Comparison of Northland Rates (General and Targeted)

Council	Rateable Properties	Rate Income	Average Total Rate pa
Kaipara	12,620	\$18.889 million	\$1,496.75
Whangarei	38,379	\$62.006 million	\$1,615.62
Far North	35,626	\$69.819 million	\$1,959.77

Kaipara is abundant with hardworking resourceful communities but it is not only good intentions and hard work that drives a district forward. It also takes money.

This is your home, this is your Council and its time to take stock of where we are, where we want to go and the best way to do it.



Neil Tiller JP

**Mayor**

# Chief Executive's Summary



Council philosophy has kept rates low.

This is the first Annual Plan prepared by the Council elected in October 2010. This Council has five members who are new to local government and along with their more experienced colleagues want to make a difference to the community. The Council is demanding a high level of service and has taken on board the desire to be the “best little Council in New Zealand”.

The Kaipara District Council's philosophy has traditionally been embedded in the desire to know and understand its people, to encourage feedback and involvement and to provide a constant and affordable rating structure.

The last two years have thrown some hefty obstacles in our path; a recession combined with drought has meant Kaipara has suffered hardships. Everyone from farmers, businesses to our elderly pensioners have been affected, and many have looked to Council urging them to “do something”.

In response Council has shaved costs and kept rates increases so low that service improvements have been sacrificed; a quick fix necessary to alleviate the pressure, but not a long term solution: if continued this approach will inevitably inhibit essential progress.

Service improvements sacrificed.

This year's Draft Annual Plan is the third and final Plan under the 2009/19 *Kaipara's Future-Working Together* (Long Term Plan); 2012 will see a new long term plan developed. With the past two years concentrated on minimisation Council believes it is time to progress the District. It needs your help to do this and needs your thoughts to inform its decision-making.

## **New Look Council**

A new Council brings a new dynamic.

The 2010 Local Body Elections saw a marked increase in the number of votes received in Kaipara and you have elected five new faces to help lead the District. These were your choices, indicative of the direction you want Council to go, so it will come as no surprise that with our five new faces comes an abundance of enthusiasm, passion, fresh ideas, additional expertise and youth. This, combined with the knowledge and experience of our re-elected Councillors, makes for a new dynamic and some exciting changes ahead.

The long standing philosophy of this Council is changing, veering away from “rates minimisation” and steering towards enabling growth, development and long term sustainability. We are all passionate about Kaipara and this Council intends to make a difference by working with you to deliver better services, expand tourism opportunities, encourage economic development and enhance Kaipara's overall image.

## **What Can You Do?**

You can tell us what you think by making a submission. The more submissions we receive the better informed Council is and the more likely it is to get it right. Submissions

# Chief Executive's Summary

Make a submission. Council is listening.

2012/22 Long Term Plan released next year. Get in now and tell us what you want included.

Rate increase of 7.47%.

Thanks to Central Government Council can only be reactive.

tell us what you want and need and are an integral part of setting the direction for the next 12 months and beyond. This year the formal consultation period runs from Wednesday 16 March through to Friday 15 April. A number of public meetings will be spread across the District, dates and venues will be advertised in your local paper, available on our website and on page 2 of this document. We urge you to attend a meeting near you and hear what the Mayor and Councillors say about what Council is planning. Also remember that we have already started the preparation for the 2012/22 Long Term Plan which will be released next year. So now is the time to talk to us about any projects you would like to see happen. We have a new Council who have made it clear they want to make a difference and get things done and the consultation period is the time when Council ears are focused solely on **you**.

## Spending Your Rates

The Mayor's Introduction tells you all about the aspirations, hopes, desires and goals of our new Council. It has highlighted potential projects, some small, and others that are considered essential for the well-being of the District and for the effective functioning of Council. Most importantly the Mayor has asked for your feedback.

A 7.47 per cent general rate increase is proposed and this will contribute to providing some of the essentials we need to start getting to where Kaipara needs to be. I fully support the decisions our Mayor and the Council have made and look forward to the next 12 months with anticipation.

## Activities

### Roading

Roading is Kaipara's lifeline and major activity. A vital key to the economic and social well-being of the District. It is our highest priority and so the recipient of most of your ratepayer dollars. Over the last 15 years Council has been committed to improving the roading network and through dogged persistence, careful planning and Government funding has made significant advances. Last year we told you the Government had cut crucial funding thus reducing our roading programme by \$5,000,000, meaning our unsealed network would remain just that, unsealed. Unfortunately this has not changed, so it is business as usual with us continuing our normal grading and pothole patching, but things like preventative maintenance, seal extension, drainage works and minor safety works will not happen.

### Dust

With a large number of unsealed roads in Kaipara, summer is the season of dust. The dust nuisance around the District continues to be a common theme during Annual Plan consultations.

# Chief Executive's Summary

Council has been looking at alternative remedies for dust nuisance and have been trialling the use of a dust suppressant. The trials are in their infancy and to date have lasted between three and four months. The cost of this exercise is \$3,000 per kilometre and while this is proving relatively successful Council is still looking as to whether better options are available.

In the past Council has rated for seal extensions. Now that the seal extensions funding has been removed, Council is keen to hear if you would like it to rate additional money for dust suppressants.

Council would like your feedback.

Should Council collect an additional rate for dust suppressants?

## **Cames Road**

There have been numerous complaints, concerns and petitions received on changing the paper road status of Cames Road. Changing the paper road status requires adherence to rules and regulations. Unsealed and sealed road construction is subject to appropriate design standards and guidelines.

Target rate for  
Cames Road?

Various options have been considered, all requiring funding to progress. Currently, the NZ Transport Agency funding criteria does not support a project of this nature and there is no funding in the current budget allocated to Cames Road.

Cames Road is approximately 1,714 metres long with an unformed section of 300 metres.

Roading work is currently funded by a district-wide general rate. This means that the cost, approximately \$2 million for any change to the paper road portion of Cames Road, would come out of the general rate. Another option to cover this expense would be to target rate those in the vicinity of Cames Road.

Council wants to hear your views.

Should Cames Road be a through road? If so, how should the cost of these works be funded?

## **Service Lane - Dargaville**

Do we need to  
resurface the  
service lane in  
Dargaville?

This service lane runs in an L-Shape from Hokianga Road to Normanby Street. The public unsealed service lane is bordered by unsealed private property. There has been a complaint and petition received to seal the service lane to minimise dust and stormwater runoff. Forty two per cent of the unsealed section is on public land and fifty eight per cent of the unsealed section on private land. This indicates that to make a difference the entire unsealed section needs to be resurfaced.

# Chief Executive's Summary

This project could be funded from the district-wide general rate which would result in every ratepayer across the District contributing to this project. Another option is to fund the project from the Dargaville Development Rate or with equally apportioned landowner contributions. We are seeking feedback from the community on how to proceed.

## **Works Programme**

### ***Bridge Replacements***

Council has a programme of bridge replacements to ensure that weight restricted bridges are replaced as dictated by condition and age. It is proposed to replace the following bridges at a cost of \$760,000 in 2011/12:

- Omana Road Bridge 158
- Tara Road Culvert RP7345
- Pukehuia Road Bridge 229

### ***Reseals***

This programme provides for 30 kilometres of reseal each year. This is a resurfacing, much like repainting your house, which protects the road and increases its life. The indicative programme is detailed in the Roding Section (Page 46) which will be confirmed just before it is undertaken to ensure those roads needing reseal are resealed.

### ***Slip Programme (Emergency Works)***

This is a major issue for Kaipara because of our terrain and lightly engineered roads. We have over 300 slips identified in our records. Our indicative programme using the contingency as well as our usual funding, giving a total budget of \$360,000 is:

- Kirikopuni Valley Road RP7780
- Paparoa-Oakleigh Road RP950, RP1050 and RP1200
- Omana Road RP10900
- Taipuha Station Road RP2173

### ***Seal Extension***

There is no money from Government for seal extension this year or for the foreseeable future. Consequently no seal extension work is programmed. However, if you and your neighbours wish to see your road sealed and you are prepared to make a financial contribution we are happy to talk to you and see if we can achieve a sealed road.

### **Development Contributions**

The Otamatea Roding Development Contribution Policy was developed to address the impacts of growth on the roading network. It was envisaged that any Development Contributions received would attract NZ Transport Agency funding assistance. This

\$360,000 budgeted for Emergency Works.

No money for seal extensions.

# Chief Executive's Summary

Full review of the Otamatea Development Contributions.

funding would then be applied to arterial and collector roads in Mangawhai and Otamatea. The type of work that can be done includes seal extension, intersection sealing, sight improvements, corner easing, sight benching, safety footpaths et cetera.

There has been some discussion that development contributions are a disincentive to development. There are arguments for and against this theory and we would like you to consider some of the options:

- retain the status quo
- lowering the amount of the contributions
- putting the contributions on hold
- removing the contributions altogether.

Initially, it was envisaged that given the cost of roading projects Council would never collect enough to be able to do anything substantial. It is unlikely that funding will be available in the near future. If funding can be obtained the development contribution has the potential to become a substantial pool to be invested in roading infrastructure.

Council is proposing a full review of the Otamatea Roding Development Contributions in the 2012/22 Long Term Plan.

What do you think Council should do about Development Contributions?

## **Wastewater**

Community wastewater schemes on hold for Baylys, Tinopai and Pahi.

Community wastewater systems are instrumental in keeping our waterways, harbours and beaches pollution free. Kaipara has systems in place at Te Kopuru, Dargaville, Kaiwaka, Maungaturoto, a portion of Glinks Gully and now Mangawhai.

Council has been investigating schemes for other communities. A new scheme has been looked at for Baylys, Tinopai and Pahi but these come with a large price tag and some of our communities are concerned that at this point in time they are unnecessary. A mixed response from the Baylys community has meant the proposed scheme has been put on hold while Council investigates more viable options.

Tinopai and Pahi have also been put on hold. While receiving preliminary approval for the Ministry of Health subsidy, Council has since been advised that only one of these communities can receive part of the \$6 million in the subsidy pot and Council would need to make a hard and fast financial commitment for the "go ahead" to be given.

Consequently Council has decided to investigate other options. We are interested in your opinion on the need for and affordability of a new wastewater scheme for your community.

The Government has indicated it is investigating tougher Environment Standards for onsite wastewater. What this means is that all septic tanks/onsite treatment will need to

# Chief Executive's Summary

meet high discharge standards and have rigorous annual inspections, certification and maintenance programme. Indicative costs show that this could be a similar cost to being connected to a community scheme.

## Doing Nothing Is Not An Option

The health of our Harbour is an ongoing battle and community wastewater schemes are the ultimate solution to keeping our coastal regions healthy. With this not looking like an affordable option for our small coastal towns in the near future we cannot just sit back and do nothing. We must ensure our environment is protected and not subject to polluting discharges.

Better septic tank management needed.

## So What Do We Do?

If we are to continue with septic tanks then better septic tank management is a must. Therefore, Council is investigating the option of developing a Septic Tank Management Bylaw.

Do you think a Septic Tank Management Bylaw will address the issues?

## Mangawhai Community Wastewater Scheme

Council sought legal advice because of concerns expressed by a ratepayer over the way in which Council struck a one-off targeted rate for the Mangawhai Community Wastewater Scheme. This rate was struck to contribute towards the initial cost of the infrastructure. On receipt of that legal advice Council has accepted that the "one-off" rate had been incorrectly struck. This was because part of the criteria for striking this rate used a date instead of a location. Only seven properties have been identified as being affected and they will pay a lower rate. Council will use the provisions of Section 120 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 to remedy this.

## Water

The ongoing development of Government policy, primarily through the Ministry of Health, will continue to influence Council's responsibilities with respect to water supply infrastructure. To meet New Zealand Drinking Water Standards requires upgrades to existing water supplies and management systems. The cost of these upgrades is substantial and cannot be achieved without Government support. We will continue to work with Government to review the costs versus benefits of complying with any new standards on rural communities.

During the 2011/12 year we will be talking to communities about the levels of service and the desirability or not of meeting New Zealand Drinking Water Standards.

Please tell us what you think?

# Chief Executive's Summary

## Refuse

### Hakaru

Capping landfills a costly exercise.

The biggest issue for Council is the management of closed landfills. Each of these has to be consented and monitored at a cost to the ratepayers. Our two biggest issues are the closed landfills at Hakaru where leachate management and future capping continues to require ongoing ratepayer input and at Dargaville where the Regional Council requires the old landfill to be fully capped at a cost of \$800,000.

Digging out the leachate could mean big savings.

Council is planning to dig out and remove the contents of the closed landfill site at Hakaru. While the initial cost of \$550,000 is high it would be a one-off cost and would pay for itself in 4 to 5 years. This is because the current annual cost to remove leachate is weather dependant and between \$150,000 - \$230,000 per annum and would be an ongoing cost into the foreseeable future.

### Awakino Road Transfer Station

Awakino Road Transfer Station to be managed externally.

Much discussion has passed regarding the fate of the Awakino Road Transfer Station. We are planning to have a new operation contract in place by 1 July 2011. This is proposed so that the transfer station will no longer be subsidised by the general rate and will be managed in a similar way to Hakaru at no cost to the ratepayer. All costs will be met by the user.

## Land Drainage

Council currently co-ordinates 29 drainage districts of various sizes. Each drainage scheme is self funding. Levels of service are determined by each district at the start of a financial year.

For smaller districts, this can mean a project may take several years to complete. One such project that was completed in the 2010/11 year was the installation of a new concrete box culvert in the Makaka Creek which forms part of the Kopuru Swamp District. Other "big ticket" projects completed include a new floodgate in the Kaihu Valley and replacement of older model wooden floodgates for concrete in Owairangi and Hoanga Drainage Districts.

## Community Spaces

Open spaces contribute to the communities' well-being.

Kaipara is an area of rural landscapes, interwoven with a rich social and cultural history. The place we call home. In this landscape we have a number of areas of public spaces which some have called the "lungs of the community".

Kaipara's public open spaces are many and varied. These natural and formed open space areas are the merging points where social, recreational, environmental, economic

# Chief Executive's Summary

and cultural activities happen. It is the point where individuals, groups, families and communities gather. A key element in promoting community well-being. The development of further opportunities to fully utilise open space areas well into the future as the needs of the communities change with time is a challenge the Council wishes to accept.

This activity covers Council owned land and reserves. Council has reviewed its land holdings and, where identified, has started disposing of those not deemed core business. This cannot include reserves.

## Key Projects

The key projects for this year are:

- ***Reserves Management Plans***

The Council started a process of development of reserves management plans for three key reserves; Mangawhai foreshores and reserves, Harding Park and Mangawhai Park. The Mangawhai Reserves and Foreshore Management Plan has been completed while the Harding Park and Mangawhai Park have been started and will be completed this year. A key challenge for us all is to have management plans which the community can afford to implement.

- ***Taharoa Domain***

The Council is now managing and funding the Domain on the basis that the camping ground activity is self-funding (and should deliver surpluses) while the reserve activities are funded on the same basis as the rest of the District's reserves, from the general rate. Any surplus from the camping ground will also be used in the Domain.

- ***Public Toilets***

Last year Council completed an audit of the District's public toilet facilities. A number of areas were highlighted as needing upgrading or replacing and Council has now embarked on a programme to complete the works. Maunganui Bluff and Omamari Beach are being completed in 2011/12. Council is working with the community to progress a Welcome Centre and new toilets in Kaiwaka in time for the Rugby World Cup. Public toilets and possibly a facility for the Baylys Surf Lifesavers are being planned for Chases Gorge, Baylys and we would welcome your feedback on this proposal. This will replace the long serving facility which is now well past its use by date. Future requirements are also being looked at for the construction of new toilet facilities in the Mangawhai Heads area.

Reserve Management Plans for Harding Park and Mangawhai Reserve to be completed this year.

Taharoa Domain camp ground activity self-funding.

Upgrades and replacement of public toilets have started.

# Chief Executive's Summary

Iconic cycleway through the Waipoua Forest.

- **Kauri Cycleway**

Council continues to support this exciting opportunity. An iconic cycleway running through the Waipoua Forest and linking up with the Far North District along the old Waoku Coach Road. Using disused rail lines and historic roads, its not only keen cyclists who will grab the opportunity to take to the track. This is a unique initiative and has good potential to significantly increase visitor numbers to the area, to increase business opportunities and up Kaipara's profile.

Community Development Facilitator assists community groups.

## Supporting Community Initiatives

- Council continues to actively support the Mangawhai Activity Zone, the Dargaville Skate Park and the Kauri Coast Swimming Pool Trust's regional 50 metre swimming pool in Dargaville. The Community Development Facilitator continues to assist these and other community groups to achieve their outcomes by providing guidance and support in dealing with funders, Government agencies and the like.

Pool an asset to Northland.

## Kauri Coast Community Pool

With the completion of and opening of the Kauri Coast Community Pool in 2009/10 the Kaipara has benefited from this 50 metre regional swimming facility. A number of regional as well as district events have been held since its opening and they along with users of the facility have commented on what a wonderful asset this is to Northland. Council continues to support this facility though an annual grant and will continue to work with the Kauri Coast Community Pool Trust to maximise its operation.

## Economic Development

As the economic recovery gains momentum we aim to be in a good position to capitalise on expansion from Auckland with our case management service for businesses wishing to move to the District.

We will continue to be involved in the Business Excellence Awards while advising and referring promising business prospects in the area. In addition we have been actively engaging with key businesses and community players to increase skills and abilities.

2011 Rugby World Cup - working together to refine service delivery.

We plan to work collaboratively with other districts and the Northland Regional Council to support and successfully host the 2011 Rugby World Cup and to refine service delivery across the region. We aim to support efforts for Northland to effectively engage with Central Government to increase Northland's Gross Domestic Product.

We intend to work to our action orientated business plan based on the agreed Strategic Approach. We propose to continually review performance and try new ideas to continually learn and improve our Economic Development Initiative.

# Chief Executive's Summary

We will also be looking at Council's Economic Development Strategy during 2011/12 and would appreciate any initiatives you have that would contribute to this Strategy.

## Community Development

### Dargaville Community Cinema Charitable Trust

Cinema planned for Dargaville.

The Dargaville Community Cinema Charitable Trust is committed to providing a Community Cinema in Dargaville. The Trust has very wide support, is headed by an energetic committee and has demonstrated real success to date.

A cinema has been a community priority for Dargaville and surrounding districts for many years. It would also provide a multipurpose auditorium available for a variety of other community uses.

Council sees that a cinema offers both affordable entertainment and an opportunity to promote visual and creative arts in this District. To this end Council has made a significant commitment to assist within this project.

Council has been approached by the Trust to guarantee a loan to convert the old library building in Hokianga Road to a purpose built cinema. Council has agreed to this and in doing so has also resolved to ask the community's views on whether it should, as an alternative, pay for the refit out of the Reserve Contribution Fund.

It believes this will make it affordable for the Trust to provide a high quality facility and programmes to meet the varying needs of the community without being constantly constrained by the need to meet interest payments on a loan.

What do you think?

Is this a good use of the money which developers have paid to meet the needs of a growing community?

### Community Halls

Community Halls done and dusted.

Council is in the final stages of implementing its Halls Policy which sees each hall's ownership transferred to its Committee (now an Incorporated Society) with the Committee fully responsible for the ongoing sustainability of the hall. These halls will no longer receive Council funding as of right but will have to compete with all other similar organisations for the annual grants funding budget. This budget will at least match the amount of money Council was spending on halls.

The biggest benefit of this approach is that each community will be able to decide what is important for it and how the hall should function. It will ensure communities develop in a way their people want, not in a way that is driven by Council's need to ensure its assets are protected and maintained to a least cost standard.

# Chief Executive's Summary

## Libraries

### *Dargaville Library*

The relocated library has been working well with a noted increase in patronage.

### *Community Libraries*

No membership fees a possibility for community libraries.

A Strategic Review of the library services is underway. While we do not know yet what the recommendations will be, previous Annual Plan submissions have indicated a desire for free membership for community libraries district-wide. Subscribers to the Dargaville Library enjoy a free service and Council would like to be able to offer this to subscribers of community libraries should they want it.

Council has set aside \$10,000 in the 2011/12 budget which can be used to activate this service if this is what the communities tell us they want in this year's consultation round.

## Elderly Persons Housing

Fagan Place units need upgrading. What should we do?

Council's housing units continue to be well tenanted and operating at no cost to the ratepayers. The high maintenance standards and management of tenants is proposed to continue. Council is also looking at the future of the units in Fagan Place Mangawhai. These units currently require substantial upgrading and are located on prime Mangawhai real estate. The question is whether the upgrade/ refurbishment goes ahead or whether you think this land could have a better use for the community.

## Working with Government Agencies

While not able to provide the social infrastructure larger councils provide for their communities, we have been able to work with government agencies to maximise services into our community proving that we are a highly effective deliverer of Government funded services. These include:

Council continuing to work with Government Agencies.

- ***Council Cadetships***

This programme has been highly successful in helping up to six at risk young people to gain employment skills and then permanent work each year. Some of Council's great customer service staff found their way into the organisation from this programme. We have also involved other employers in the community in the programme. Our 2011 intake has just joined Council and will be with us for the next 12 months. Most of the funding for this is from the Government.

- ***Bright Futures Co-ordinator***

This programme works to ensure that young people are not disengaged from education. The target group being young parents. This is fully funded by the Government and is seen by the sponsoring agencies as a great success.

# Chief Executive's Summary

- **Community PRIDE**

This is a Police initiative to Protect, Respect, Include, Develop and Educate all in our community. The key focus of this initiative which has the support of the Northland Intersectoral Forum is to engender community pride in Northland. It started with an Expo in Kaitaia and this has now expanded to include Whangarei, Kaikohe and Dargaville. We hope we can also have these Expos in other Kaipara communities and will be urging the agencies to support us in this. The Expo gives communities the opportunity to come together, find out about the opportunities, services and assistance available and to celebrate being a Northlander.

- **Northland Intersectoral Forum**

Council also continues to contribute to the Northland Intersectoral Forum which has as its major goals the improvements of the social well-being of Northland. It also recognises that this cannot be achieved without improving the financial well-being of Northland. The Chief Executive co-chairs the forum.

## **Governance, Policy and Planning**

### **Organisation Review**

Council continues to face increasing pressure from additional responsibilities being devolved to it from Central Government from increased customer expectation and from a very active set of Councillors. This combination of factors resulted in Council undertaking an internal review of the organisation during the 2010/11 financial year in order to better understand how it could improve delivery of its services to residents and ratepayers.

Organisation review being undertaken.

### **District Plan Review**

The Review of the District Plan is nearing its completion. Having finished the hearing of submissions the hearing panel have now completed their deliberations on all submissions and a Decision Version of the District Plan will be ready to be released in July 2011.

District Plan Review in final stages.

### **Landscapes Variation No 1**

Under the Resource Management Act, Council is required to 'recognise and provide for the protection of outstanding landscapes' from 'inappropriate subdivision use and development'. The Variation identifies these landscapes in the District and seeks to manage activities which may affect them. This will enable Council to meet its statutory obligations.

Council's decision not to include a landscapes chapter in its notified reviewed District Plan was not supported by the Environmental Defence Society who decided on legal action against this decision. In November 2010 the Environment Court requested that the variation, based on work Council had already done, be notified immediately. The Council

# Chief Executive's Summary

notified Variation 1, Landscapes with a submission period between 2 December 2010 and 28 February 2011. The notification date was effectively set by the Environment Court. The submission and hearings process will follow the usual Resource Management Act process.

## Structure Planning

Structure planning for Kaiwaka making progress.

The Council has agreed to complete a Structure Plan for Kaiwaka and a Rooding Network Study for Mangawhai and environs. However, there has been a need to work with the NZ Transport Agency and that organisation's timeframe and priorities have compromised the goals the Council set. It initially wanted to meet with the Kaiwaka Community in March 2010 but that was not possible. The NZ Transport Agency has been through a number of structural and management changes which have seen the project (and the Mangawhai Rooding Study) delayed. However, recent discussions with the NZ Transport Agency have indicated a new willingness to progress both these matters and it is planned to have significant progress made during 2011/12.

## Biodiversity Fund - \$15,000

Biodiversity and Heritage Funds retains their popularity.

Our Biodiversity Fund has been one of our outstanding successes. It has high buy-in from the community. It funds significant projects that are protecting and enhancing Kaipara's biodiversity, and as a consequence Council is continuing to fund this initiative. Community groups or individuals with projects that enhance or protect Kaipara's natural biodiversity can receive up to 50 per cent of the cost of the project. Typical projects could include the fencing of bush or wetlands, riparian planting or weed management to protect native biodiversity. Applications for this fund close mid March each year.

## Heritage Fund - \$15,000

\$5,000 more in the pot for the Heritage Fund.

The Kaipara Heritage Assistance Fund provides a valuable resource to assist communities in protecting and preserving Kaipara's historic, building and archaeological sites. Community groups or individuals with projects of this nature can receive up to 50 per cent of the cost of their project. This fund is targeted mainly at built heritage in the district and we are lucky to have the assistance of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust in assessing applications each year. Historic churches, houses, halls and other buildings have all received funding to assist with restoration or maintenance. Due to the popularity of this fund, Council has allocated an additional \$5,000 increasing the fund to \$15,000.

Applications for this fund close at the end of October each year.

## Development Management

Managing building consents and resource consents is a highly prescribed process and the Council has recently increased its level of performance with almost all consents being

# Chief Executive's Summary

Council increases its level of performance processing consents.

issued within the statutory timeframes. This is going to be subject to further pressure with there being financial penalties on Council for failure to meet the statutory timeframes.

The current recession has meant that applications for consents are fewer than in the past although there is a steady flow of applications which are predicted to continue for 2011/12.

## Rating Levels

The Council is proposing a 7.47 per cent general rate increase for 2011/12. You will also note that the targeted rate increases are generally higher than the rate of inflation. Targeted rates apply to such Council assets as water, stormwater and wastewater. Council depreciates these assets and then uses these funds to carry out all necessary upgrading. However, when Council started this depreciation regime about nine years ago most of the assets were very old and consequently the depreciation values are lower than current new cost. This means there is a shortfall in funding which needs to be picked up each year. Council could overcome this by adopting higher depreciation values but this is likely to result in a significant cost increase. Council is comfortable that the current regime is the most effective and cost efficient for the users of these services.

## Rating Levels

The rating levels adopted in *Kaipara's Future - Working Together* 2009/19 were:

	<b>General Rate</b>	<b>Targeted Rates*</b>
2009/10	4.0%	9.7%
2010/11	4.0%	8.1%
2011/12	4.0%	8.1%
2012/13	4.0%	7.5%
2013/14	3.0%	7.3%
2014/15	3.0%	6.1%
2015/16	3.0%	8.1%
2016/17	3.0%	6.3%
2017/18	3.0%	6.5%
2018/19	3.0%	5.7%

\*Excludes Mangawhai Community Wastewater Scheme 'one-off' rates

Rates are based on property values:

- General rates are used for general purposes and are levied over the whole rating area.
- Targeted rates are used to provide specific services. They may be levied over any part of the District that is deemed to have received a benefit from the service.

# Chief Executive's Summary

## Rates

### General Rate

General rates have two elements:

- (a) Uniform Annual General Charge of \$353.00 (including GST) and
- (b) the balance assessed on land value.

Effective General Rate Increase for 2011/12 is **7.47%**.

Stormwater Area	Cents per \$ of land value	Present Charge	Percentage Increase	Average Annual Estimates* Increase	New Annual Rate
Baylys	0.0532	\$104.00	3.2%	\$3.00	\$107.00
Dargaville	0.2589	\$254.00	4.9%	\$12.00	\$266.00
Kaiwaka	0.0789	\$87.00	5.3%	\$5.00	\$92.00
Mangawhai	0.0264	\$95.00	5.0%	\$5.00	\$100.00
Te Kopuru	0.1098	\$74.00	5.3%	\$4.00	\$78.00

Wastewater	Present Charge	Percentage Increase	Increase	New Charge
Dargaville	\$328.00	4.1%	\$13.00	\$341.00
Glinks Gully	\$674.00	10.5%	\$71.00	\$745.00
Kaiwaka	\$648.00	2.8%	\$18.00	\$666.00
Mangawhai	\$750.00	3.0%	\$23.00	\$773.00
Maungaturoto	\$758.00	14.7%	\$111.00	\$869.00
Te Kopuru	\$442.00	2.8%	\$12.00	\$454.00
<b>Uniform Targeted Rate</b>				
Mangawhai	\$8,152.00	3.0%	\$245.00	\$8,397.00
Mangawhai Development Contributions	\$13,213.00	3.0%	\$396.00	\$13,609.00

Water	Present price per cubic metre	Percentage Increase	Increase	Price
Dargaville	\$1.81	6.8%	\$0.12	\$1.93
Glinks Gully:				
▪ Metered	\$3.63	8.1%	\$0.29	\$3.92
▪ Flat Rate	\$323.00	8.1%	\$26.06	\$349.00
Ruawai	\$4.77	6.0%	\$0.28	\$5.05
Maungaturoto:				
▪ Railway Station Village	\$2.06	14.4%	\$0.30	\$2.36
Maungaturoto other:				
▪ Metered	\$1.36	14.4%	\$0.20	\$1.56
▪ Flat Rate	\$194.00	14.4%	\$27.94	\$222.00

\* Stormwater new annual rates are calculated on an average basis

# Chief Executive's Summary

## Have Your Say

Local Government, that's us your District Council, is the form of government that has the greatest effect on your day to day life. It is also the form of government you can most influence. You can make a difference so I encourage you to come and talk with the Mayor or Councillors at one of the twelve public meetings across the District.

Every time you talk to a Councillor or share your views with them you are having an impact. You can make an even greater impact by sending Council a written submission and then speaking to that submission at the special hearings held for that purpose.

Submissions close at 5.00pm on **Friday 15 April 2011** and you can mail, (Private Bag 1001, Dargaville 0340) email ([council@kaipara.govt.nz](mailto:council@kaipara.govt.nz)) or fax 09 439 6756 submissions to us. You can also use our website [www.kaipara.govt.nz](http://www.kaipara.govt.nz) to make your submission.

If you talk to us at one of the meetings a note will be made of the conversation and it too will be provided to Council as a point of view to be considered during the deliberations. The Kaipara District Council has a reputation for listening and taking on board the communities views. Its desire to assist is only limited by the rating levels you approve of through this process.

Make a submission and tell us your thoughts, each and every submission is listened to and taken into consideration.

Public meetings will be held as follows: -

### Friday 18 March 2011

Kaihu Hall	2.00pm-4.00pm	Kaihu Wood Road, Kaihu
Tangiteroria Sports Complex	6.00pm-8.00pm	Pukehuia Road, Tangiteroria

### Saturday 19 March 2011

Mangawhai Domain Hall	10.00am-2.00pm	Moir Street, Mangawhai
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### Tuesday 22 March 2011

Baylys Beach Church Hall	1.00pm-3.00pm	Seaview Road, Baylys
Te Kopuru Coronation Hall	6.00pm-8.00pm	Norton Street, Te Kopuru

### Thursday 24 March 2011

Ruawai War Memorial Hall	6.00pm-8.00pm	Ruawai Wharf Road, Ruawai
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### Friday 25 March 2011

Maungaturoto Centennial Hall	10.00am-12.00noon	View Street, Maungaturoto
Kaiwaka War Memorial Hall	1.00pm-3.00pm	Kaiwaka-Mangawhai Road, Kaiwaka

### Tuesday 29 March 2011

Pahi Hall	10.00am-12.00noon	Pahi Road, Pahi
Dargaville Town Hall	4.00pm-6.00pm	Hokianga Road, Dargaville

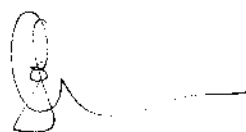
# Chief Executive's Summary

## Friday 1 April 2011

Marohemo Hall	10.0pm-12.00noon	Whakapirau Road, Marohemo
Tinopai Community Hall	1.00pm-3.00pm	Komiti Road, Tinopai

Council will also be consulting with Te Roroa and Te Uri o Hau.

I look forward to and welcome your involvement in the development of Council's budgets and work programme for 2011/12.



Jack McKerchar  
**Chief Executive**



# **Community Well-being**



# Community Well-being

The Local Government Act 2002 places a particular emphasis on four Community Well-beings and the outcomes the community has identified will deliver the four well-beings. Well-being is seen as being made up of four inter-related dimensions – social, environmental, economic and cultural.



Source: [www.culturalwell-being.govt.nz](http://www.culturalwell-being.govt.nz)

## Community Outcomes

What are these and where did they come from? Community outcomes are about improving the well-being of communities over time and in a way that is sustainable and lasts.

In 2003 Council asked the community what its priorities were and from this process four community outcomes were identified.

## Kaipara Community Outcomes

### Sustainable Economy

Kaipara District has a diversified and sustainable economy that supports the well-being of its communities and residents

### Strong Communities

Kaipara District is built on strong communities where people have a sense of belonging and work together to shape their collective future

### Safety and a good quality of life

Kaipara District is a safe place to live and raise a family, where people enjoy a good quality of life

### Special character and healthy environment

Kaipara District is proud of and renowned for its beautiful environment and sound management of natural resources, where residents enjoy a clean, healthy environment

During the September-October 2008 round of *Kaipara's Future -Working Together* public meetings the community was asked if the outcomes identified in 2003 were still valid and the response was “yes”

# Community Well-being

## Council's Contribution to the Community Outcomes by Activity

Outcome Sustainable Economy	Outcome Strong Communities	Outcome Safety and a Good Quality of Life	Outcome Special Character and Healthy Environment
Kaipara District has a diversified and sustainable economy that supports the well-being of its communities and residents	Kaipara District is built on strong communities where people have a sense of belonging and work together to shape their collective future	Kaipara District is a safe place to live and raise a family, where people enjoy a good quality of life	Kaipara District is proud of and renowned for its beautiful environment and sound management of natural resources, where residents enjoy a clean, healthy environment
Roading Wastewater Water Supply Stormwater Land Drainage Refuse Community Spaces Economic Development Development Management Policy and Planning	Roading  Water Supply  Refuse Community Spaces Economic Development Development Management Community Development Democracy Policy and Planning	Roading Wastewater Water Supply Stormwater Land Drainage Refuse Community Spaces Economic Development Development Management Community Development Policy and Planning	Roading Wastewater  Stormwater  Refuse Community Spaces  Development Management  Policy and Planning

### Working with the Community

In addition to its core functions the Council has built a strong reputation for working with community groups to help them achieve their aspirations. The types of groups include the Mangawhai Activity Zone, Northland Field Days, Real Town Maungaturoto, the Dargaville Skate Park, Ruawai Promotion and Development Group and Progressive Paparoa Incorporated amongst others. We support these groups and facilitate their success. This gets real results. We work with groups that have an idea and want to make it happen and are looking for a hand up rather than a hand out. These projects, with their community "buy in" achieve real, sustainable results.

### Projects

Major projects that are being worked on with their promoters for 2011/12 include:

#### Community Focused Economic Development

Kaipara District Council believes that successful community economic development initiatives are derived from a locality's inherent strengths which largely revolve around our people and our natural resources.

The District Growth Facilitator has developed a 'case management' service which involves working with companies that may want to move into the District and businesses that have the ability to grow and service

# Community Well-being

new markets through to new start up organisations. Priority is companies that add value to primary produce and create local participation and employment.

Additionally Council will support community groups to develop the food industry in the area. Ongoing support for “Kai in the Kaipara” sees the development of food markets and cookbooks to help towns, producers and consumers alike.

Education and support for business associations is also a priority because successful and responsive towns are dependent on consistent leadership. Also support for business networking and awards through the Kaipara Business Forum and the business excellence awards is an important part of the mix.

## **Produce Market Dargaville**

Council has been actively involved in the planning and establishment of the Produce Market in Dargaville. After five months of research, planning and consultation with stakeholders, working in conjunction with community groups and a private sector company, the working group launched the Market on Thursday 21 October 2010.

Council has been involved in this project because previous attempts to get this type of initiative off the ground have been unsuccessful and we believe the whole community will benefit from the establishment of a vibrant local market in Dargaville. Already some of the retailers who were initially resistant to the market have reported good sales on market day and local growers who were reluctant to take a stand are now being represented at the market.

How does this relate to economic development? One reason is that it reinforces Dargaville as a market town servicing a larger outlying area, it also gives local families an outlet to develop self sustainability out of their own gardens contributing to the community's overall well-being.

Council will continue to support and facilitate the development and continuation of this market. Helping with the likes of health licencing issues such as offering the use of the Town Hall Kitchen to new stall holders as a cost effective option enabling them to comply with current health licencing restrictions.

## **Dargaville Community Cinema Charitable Trust**

The Dargaville Community Cinema Charitable Trust is committed to providing a Community Cinema in Dargaville. Council has agreed to allow the Cinema Trust to convert the old library building in Hokianga Road to a purpose built cinema. Details are still being discussed, but a cinema in Dargaville is looking very positive.

## **Kaipara Harbour Management**

How do we help manage the largest harbour in the Southern Hemisphere with its high ecological and cultural values? The Kaipara Harbour is a major ecological treasure for Kaipara, New Zealand and the world. It is the home of over 90 per cent of the North Island's schnapper; it is a flounder fishery, a scallop fishery and a shark breeding ground. It also has the potential to provide major economic growth for our community. This is all being jeopardised because it has not been adequately managed, or managed on an

## Community Well-being

integrated basis in the past. The **Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group** was established by Te Uri O Hau to deal with the increasing pressure placed on the Kaipara Harbour and its catchments from various land and water uses and continues to advocate for the health of the harbour and its catchments. Council is continuing to actively support this Te Uri O Hau led initiative because it is the first time there has been integrated consideration of the needs of the Kaipara Harbour and its community. The Kaipara District Council believes the Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group is a sound basis on which to establish formal management structures for the Harbour. The Council is actively pursuing the establishment of a Kaipara Harbour based local authority with responsibility for the governance and management of the harbour.

### **A Safe West Coast Beach?**

Yes it can be safe! Be smart and swim safe! To help keep people safe on Ripiro Beach during summer Council continues to work with the **New Zealand Police** and **Surf Life Saving New Zealand**. Council is partnering with other agencies and organisations in an effort to make one of New Zealand's most popular playgrounds safe for everyone by raising awareness and increasing education. When you see the red and yellow flags on Ripiro Beach, you will know that this is the safest place to swim. Exercise caution when driving on the beach and be mindful of the other users. You can join us in helping to save lives and making the beach a safer place for all to play.

### **Kauri Cycle Trail**

Experiencing the Kaipara at a slower pace, other than through the window of a vehicle is one step closer to reality, with work progressing well towards Kaipara's own cycleway. A fascinating, enjoyable and healthy way for our community to experience another side of their own district is to hop on a bicycle and ride. New Zealand is awakening to what the rest of the world has been experiencing and enjoying for some time, a growing trend towards cycling and walking activities. It is for these reasons that cycling has become a major draw card for international visitors who appreciate the outdoors, the environment and in fact everything New Zealand has to offer. New Zealand is known as the outdoor capital of the world. The Government's idea has been to establish a number of cycleways throughout New Zealand and this has been the catalyst for this Council to look at a cycleway in the Kaipara District. The result has been a proposed cycleway in the north western part of the district based around the Kauri forests of Waima, Waipoua and Trounson, incorporating a disused rail corridor and the historic Waoku Coach Road. Council committed \$10,000 through the 2010/11 Annual Plan for further development of the proposed cycleway. Partnering in this project with the Far North District Council, local communities, businesses and iwi is essential to develop the cycleway from its concept through the feasibility and business phase towards a successful outcome. The objective is to create jobs and business opportunities all the while creating a long term district and national asset that enhances our reputation as a premium tourist destination.

### **Delivering Government Funded Services**

Council continues to be involved in the **cadet scheme** which aims to encourage young people throughout Northland with little or no work experience to gain employment skills and local government experience.

# Community Well-being

This scheme continues to be a real success story for this Council and all those involved in it. Council also sponsors a programme for young mothers and pregnant teenagers which is aimed at keeping them involved in education and employment. We also participate in the Northland wide Community PRIDE week led by Northland Police.

## Outdoor Activity Spaces

Council continues to support community led projects around the District, with funding allocated for the development of a skate park in Dargaville and the Outdoor Activity Zone in Mangawhai. Both with a strong youth focus these projects while at different stages of development continue to unify and focus their respective communities in support of the projects. They are both seen as major assets and attractions for the youth in their communities and another attraction for visitors to the Kaipara. Both community groups continue to fundraise. The Mangawhai Outdoor Activity Zone is now at the construction zone and the Dargaville Skate Park is at the final site design and feasibility stage.

## Community Well-being and the Library

In May 2010 the Library moved to the former information centre on Normanby Street. The Library is a place where you can read, use a computer, do research or just have a quiet time.

Some of the initiatives the Library has underway are:

**Strategic Review** of district-wide services. Recommendations from this will be included in the Long Term Plan for consultation.

**Aotearoa Peoples' Network** which provides free wireless computer access to Library members. This has been an outstanding success with the five computers fully utilised with waiting lists.

**New Zealand Public Library Shared Library System Service** which makes an extensive range of information easily accessible. Within the digital environment of the 21st century the 'National Library' will modernise the delivery of its services to ensure relevant and responsive service to the changing needs of our community and future generations.

The service will be developed over three years with all libraries having moved to the shared system in 2010. In 2011, the bibliographic records, i.e. catalogues, will be merged so customers can see what is available from all the libraries. By 2012, customer records will be merged so that a single library membership card will give access to collections in the libraries across the country.

**The Dargaville Mobile Library Service** is designed to cater for those aged 55+ who are unable to access the Library themselves, and will deliver reading and audio material direct to their doorstep. This project is in conjunction with Bev Hart – Services Co-ordinator of Older Persons.

**The Affordable Art Show** - For the last three years Dargaville Library staff have worked with local Kaipara artists and have provided the venue and the opportunity for them to showcase their talents and exhibit their art in a central location. It happens in November and is planned to be an annual event. Plans for 2011/12 are already underway, so make the beauty of your talent apparent to your community and the

# Community Well-being

world at large. You can contribute by showing your art and/or purchasing that piece that you have fallen in love with and cannot live without.

## **Bringing Art to the Community**

This year Council, in association with artists and art groups throughout the District, trialled having a number of exhibitions at Council's Dargaville and Kaiwaka Offices. Providing wall and floor space to artists to display their work and opening the space up for the public to see the works daily during normal office hours. The trial proved to be a total success with both artists and the public appreciating the opportunity, at no cost, to showcase and view artists from many different backgrounds in one space. The exhibitions unearthed and highlighted the incredible talent that so often does not have the opportunity to exhibit in the Kaipara. Building on the success of 2010/11 Council staff will look at other opportunities in 2011/12 to further uplift the profile of Kaipara's artists and making it available for the public to view and appreciate.

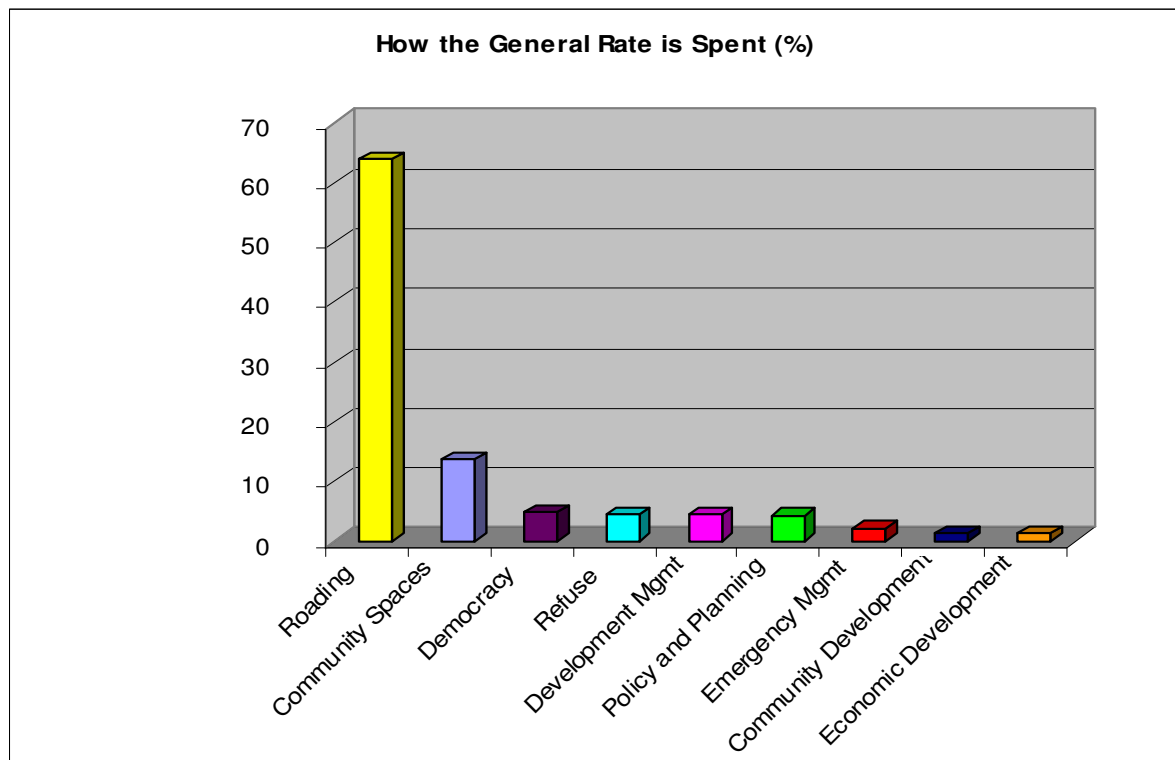
## **Kaipara Arts Awards**

The inaugural Kaipara District Arts Awards was the highlight of a very successful year which saw the Council involved in and at the forefront of raising the profile of arts in the Kaipara. The Council, the driver of the awards, provide space to showcase entries, made the exhibition available to the public, secured sponsorship for the prizes and held the first ever Arts Award Evening in its Council Chambers in Dargaville during November. The idea eventuated from a submission to Council's Annual Plan in which it was suggested that like many other Districts, Kaipara deserved to have its own arts award. "Celebrating Kaipara Abundance" emerged as the theme for our very first arts event and showcased a vast array of artistic talent from across the District brought together in one place for the public to enjoy.

With its success in 2010/11 the Kaipara District Council will again be the main driver of the Kaipara Arts Award for 2011/12 with sponsorship already secured for another year it is hoped to build on the first event's success and secure the Arts Award as an annual fixture of a wider Kaipara District Arts calendar.

# How the General Rate is Spent

Many people in the District are concerned to know how the rates which they pay are spent by Council. The following chart is indicative only, but illustrates how the General Rate is spent.



The above analysis excludes targeted rate activities i.e. water, wastewater, stormwater and land drainage.

