



Draft Annual Plan 2011/12

Summary



About this document

The Draft Annual Plan gives you, the community, the opportunity to be involved in the development of the activities and projects which will be the focus of Council for the next 12 months. We are looking to you to tell us what you think and to work with us on providing the activities, projects and initiatives that make Kaipara a great place to live and work.

We encourage you to participate in the development of this Annual Plan. Through discussion and debate come great initiatives and directions. Whilst controversy may cast its light on some of the “new tracks” forged, Council welcomes the challenge in order to make sure that we are travelling the path this District wants.

You can comment on any activity that Council is involved in or any activity that you think that Council should be involved in. You can do this in lots of ways:

- by attending Council public meetings
- by emailing council@kaipara.govt.nz
- by writing to the Chief Executive, Kaipara District Council, Private Bag 1001, Dargaville.



Mayor Neil Tiller

Dear Residents,

Historically this Council has chosen a relatively conservative approach to general rate rises. The culture which effectively ‘played it safe’ focused energies around the well-being of its people, placing a huge emphasis on rate minimization. Consequently Kaipara ratepayers have enjoyed some of the lowest rates in the country while still receiving a slow but steady improvement of service levels. However, in hindsight this approach may have been detrimental to the future of our District.

Currently as much as 20% of Council rate income is used to service the \$80 million Council has borrowed to date. This coupled with the 50-60% of the budget allocated to roading, means there is little left for anything else.

Last year Council struck a 1% general rate increase as opposed to the 4% indicated in Council’s 2009/19 Long Term Plan to allow ratepayers breathing space to cope with the impacts of the recession and the drought. However this combined with a worldwide recession, ageing infrastructure and large numbers of rates arrears means very few options are available to allow Council to do the job they need to which is to move Kaipara ahead.

This year Council has proposed a general rate increase of 7.47% which will go towards achieving the new outcomes but we want to know what you think.

Should Council continue with minimal rate rises? In the short term this will keep more money in ratepayer pockets but will mean more borrowing for Council. If Council does continue to borrow when and how do you see these loans being paid off?

Should Council continue with a conservative approach, consolidate and try to retain the status quo for a while longer? If so how long can we do this and how do we catch up?

Council Aspirations

Councillors identified their aspirations for the District at the inaugural meeting of the new Council. Some common themes emerged. Economic Development – Councillors believe Council needs to attract more people in to the Kaipara, by promoting the District and fostering an ‘enabling’ environment.

Tourism – Tourism benefits economic development and Councillors want to work with urban communities identifying and promoting their uniqueness. Council also sees the benefit of increasing the promotion of our reserves as premier tourist destinations.

Technology – Councillors see Broadband for the District as a must.

Website – Council’s website was identified as being in urgent need of a complete upgrade.



CE Jack Mc Kerchar

The Council has five members who are new to local government who along with their more experienced colleagues, want to make a difference to the community. Council is demanding a high level of service and have taken on board the desire to be the 'best little Council in New Zealand'.

Council's philosophy has 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. This approach has influenced the way in which we have managed our activities, creating a culture unique to our District and fitting for the times. 2012 will see a new long term plan and with the past two years concentrated on minimization Council is now steering towards enabling growth, development and long term sustainability.

The Draft Annual Plan 2011/12 consultation rounds are here, come and talk to a Councillor about what you think the District needs to do.

Our organisation

Kaipara District Council has a Mayor and eight Councillors working to ensure that the voice of the Kaipara community is heard. Operating from offices in Dargaville and Kaiwaka, Council is responsible for managing district roads and community facilities, providing services and administering resource management.

Council's role is to provide local leadership and facilitate the delivery of services and activities that promote community well-being.

It is a big job but the team is up to it.

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 and this funding would then be applied to roads in Mangawhai and Otamatea areas.

Concern has been voiced 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

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?

Baylys Section

Council owns a section in Seaview Road, Baylys which is currently just "sitting". How do you think this land would be best used?

- Develop the section as an open space/ recreational area?
- Sell the section and use the proceeds for another community need?
- Or something else?



Website

A call from the community to improve its website has seen the new Council initiate a complete website upgrade. With internet being the most popular form of communication in the world, it is important that this Council provides an up to date, informative and user friendly service.

A cinema is coming to town

Council has been approached by the Dargaville Community Cinema Charitable Trust to guarantee a loan to convert part of the old library building in Hokianga Road to a purpose built cinema. Council has agreed to this but as an alternative would like your views on whether this refit could be paid out of the Reserve Contribution Fund.

The Reserves Contribution Fund is made up of contributions collected from developers to help meet the needs of a growing community. This would mean no repayments for the Trust.

Is this a good use for that money?



Cames Road, Mangawhai

There have been many complaints, petitions, meetings and presentations received by Council about Cames Road – should it be a through road as suggested by some locals or should it remain as two separate roads which end in cul-de-sacs? The approximate cost of making Cames Road a through road is \$2 million.

Do you want Council to spend this kind of money developing a through road?

If so how should it be funded a targeted rate? Rated across the District? Or by loan?

What do you think?

Service Lane, Dargaville

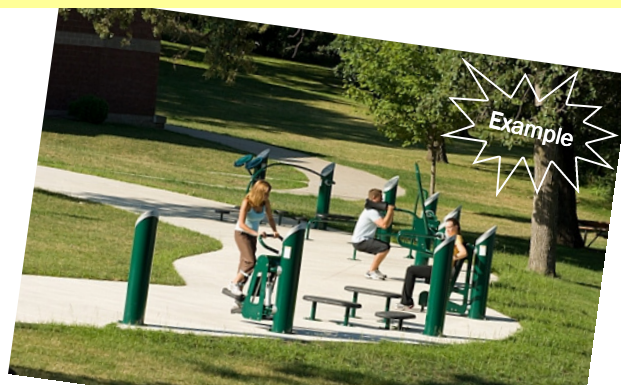
Local businesses have expressed concerns regarding the dust and stormwater issues from the service lane in Dargaville. Resurfacing this area would remedy this situation but with more than half of this lane being privately owned, we need to think about how this could be funded.

Who should pay:

- The Dargaville Development Rate which is contributed to by Dargaville ratepayers?
- All Kaipara ratepayers, via a district-wide general rate increase?
- The affected landowners by proportionately dividing up costs?

Picnic Tables

Here a picnic table, there a picnic table. Does your community believe it has need of a picnic table on public land? Where should Council consider putting a picnic table or two?



Outdoor Exercise Circuit

This is exercise equipment that is permanently located outdoors so that anyone can enjoy outdoor circuit training in the fresh air without ongoing gym costs. Is this something that your community wants and would use?

Where should Council consider placing this equipment?

Implementation of Organisational Change

Council approved \$50,000 for a review of the organisation in its 2010/11 budget. That review is being completed and \$250,000 will be required to implement the findings of this review.

The purpose of the process was to improve the level of service to both the community and Council. This is an issue the Council has been dealing with for some time.

Library

A Strategic Review of 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 all library subscribers if this is what community libraries want. Council has set aside \$10,000 for this purpose.

Council believes this idea is a good one – what do you think?

Hakaru

Leachate management is an on going and costly issue. Council has identified a potential solution. At a one off cost of \$550,000 Council is planning to dig out and remove the contents of the closed landfill site. This will have paid for itself in 2-4 years as the annual cost to remove leachate which is weather dependant is an ongoing expense of between \$150,000 - \$230,000 per annum.

Looking to the Future

We are now preparing for the 2012/22 Long Term Plan which will be released for consultation next year. This document is Council's key planning document which looks out over 10 years.

Council is considering some new projects which could be included in this plan. If you have any projects that you would like to see happen, now is the time to tell us.

Service Centre Mangawhai

Council believes it needs a stronger presence in Mangawhai. Council is therefore looking at constructing a purpose built facility in Mangawhai which would house a number of Council services.

Looking to the future this facility could also potentially provide a location for the community library.

This project could be funded using Mangawhai Endowment Fund capital. Council would then rent the facility from the Endowment Fund, giving certainty to the dollars available in this Fund for distribution to local community groups.

What are your thoughts?

Multi-use Sports Facility

There has been much interest in building a multi-use sports facility in Dargaville. The facility would mean that a number of sport venues would operate from one location, helping with the sharing of resources, costs and accessibility. With the completion of the Kauri Coast Community Pool, Selwyn Park has been highlighted as a possible location by a number of sports groups. However, Council is mindful of the need to retain 'green space areas'.

Is there a need for a multi-use sports facility in Dargaville?
Where should this be located?



Council is Listening

A huge success last year was the Art in Council Building project. This idea originated from a submission to last year's Annual Plan and has been instrumental in lifting the profile of Kaipara's artists.



With the continued support of a number of associations and artists across the District together with secured sponsorship the Kaipara Art Award will continue to grow.

Answer the questions and be in the draw to win a Family Kauri Pass to Kauri Coast Swimming Pool, or dinner at Santa Lucia, Kaiwaka.

1. Name the location of the scenic picture on the front page ?
2. How many new Councillors does Council have?
3. What successful idea originated from last year's Annual Plan submissions?

Submission period

16 March — 15 April 2011

Submissions close
5pm on Friday 15 April 2011

Making a submission:

- Send your submission to:
Chief Executive
Kaipara District Council
Private Bag 1001
Dargaville 0340
- Deliver to a Council office (Dargaville/Kaiwaka)
- Send us an email – council@kaipara.govt.nz
- Talk to your Councillor
- Fax your opinion to 09 439 6756
- Use our website www.kaipara.govt.nz

Copies of the full version of the Draft Annual Plan 2011/12 can be viewed on Council's website www.kaipara.govt.nz.

Copies can also be obtained from Council's offices in Dargaville and Kaiwaka and public libraries.

Submission Form

Draft
Annual Plan 2011/12

All submissions will be made available to Councillors and taken into account by Council when finalising the document.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (during office hours): _____

If you wish to speak to your submission in person please tick the box below.

- Yes, I/We would like to be heard.
 No, I/We do not wish to be heard.

If you answered 'Yes' choose the day and place which suits you and you will be contacted by phone and advised of the time you should attend.

- Mangawhai — 4 May Maungaturoto — 5 May
 Dargaville — 6 May

Signature: _____

Give us your thoughts and together we can make a difference

Submission

Issue: Draft Annual Plan 2011/12

My submission is: _____

Please use additional sheet of paper if needed