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There are a number of big events happening this year across the district, and this letter is a great format to get information to you. Our key event this year is the Long Term Plan 2018/2028. We will be looking for your feedback on a variety of key concepts to help manage growth and keep the Kaipara district on track for the future.

Long Term Plan

The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) requires each council to produce a Long Term Plan (LTP) every three years. The LTP outlines our activities and priorities for the next 10 years, providing a long term focus for decision-making. It also explains how work will be scheduled and funded.

Community involvement will be starting early for the district's LTP 2018/2028.

In addition to formal consultation which will take place in March 2018 and issuing a Consultation Document to get community input on key issues and decisions, Council will be adding an extra step: early community engagement. Council is taking this approach because we want to get a better picture of what the community wants before we develop the plan. It is about gathering ideas, knowledge and information from our community and feeding that into the process early on. Earlier engagement will give us time to consider projects, costs and options and review existing asset management plans and work programmes, to better inform the LTP process.

You can see a list of presentations and upcoming public briefings via the home page of the website.

QV Valuations

The Kaipara District Rating Revaluation took place at the end of 2017. The new rating valuations have been prepared for 14,819 properties by Quotable Value (QV) on behalf of Kaipara District Council.

Rating valuations are carried out on all properties in New Zealand, usually once every three years to specifically help local councils set rates for the following three-year period. Rating values are just one of a number of factors councils use to allocate rates. These new valuations will be used to assess rates for the year commencing **01 July 2018**.



The rating revaluation figures compiled by QV show that the total capital value of the 14,819 properties within the Kaipara district is now \$8.6 billion with the land value of those properties now valued at \$5.0 billion. This is a 33.3% increase from the previous 2014 value.

If you do not agree with the rating value, you have the right to object. The objection cut-off date is 31 January 2018. All objections should be lodged directly with QV on 0800 787 284.

By-election

Voting for the Mayoral By-election will occur between Friday 26 January 2018 and 17 February 2018. If you are a ratepayer but live outside of the district, please call 0800 36 76 56 to check if you are on the ratepayer roll to ensure you can vote.

Water

As the summer months continue to get drier, we encourage those on treated water networks to ensure they use water wisely, and keep up to date with changes to restrictions that could occur over the summer months. Residents who are not on the treated water network are advised to ensure they have contact details of registered private water suppliers should they need to have water delivered. During some peak demand periods, local suppliers may take longer than normal to deliver orders and residents may have to contact suppliers outside of the district.

May I take this opportunity to say I'm enjoying my time here in the Kaipara, and wish you all the best for 2018.

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Peter Tynan

Acting Chief Executive