

Report No.	18-35
<b>Decision Required</b>	

## CONSIDERATION OF THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT FOR THE 2018-28 LONG-TERM PLAN AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR ADOPTION

### 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to seek the adoption of the **Supporting Information to the Consultation Document (Supporting Information)** and **2018-28 Long-term Plan Consultation Document (Consultation Document)** for consultation with the public under Sections 93A (use of special consultative procedure in relation to the Long-term Plan) and 93B (purpose of consultation document for the Long-term Plan) of the **Local Government Act (LGA) 2002**.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 18-35.
- b. adopts the Supporting Information to the Consultation Document;
- c. adopts the Consultation Document for public consultation.

### 3. FINANCIAL IMPACT

- 3.1. The financial impact to Council is the cost of consultation which has been allowed for in the Long-term Plan 2015-25 budgets.
- 3.2. Rate increases will not be uniform over all ratepayers. The proposed average rate increase is 7.44%. Sample ratepayers are provided on pages 20 to 21 of the Consultation Document which will be tabled on the day.

### 4. SIGNIFICANT BUSINESS RISK IMPACT

- 4.1. There is a significant business risk to **Horizons Regional Council (Horizons)** if the Consultation Document is not approved to go to consultation. This process has a tight timeframe and any delays may impact our ability to complete a full democratic process.

### 5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- 5.1. Horizons has a communications plan for consultation which Council has already approved. Horizons will be undertaking a consultation process for the purpose of the Consultation Document for the Long-term Plan, with public notices and media releases. In addition Horizons will:
- make the Consultation Document available on our website on a dedicated page
  - make the Consultation Document available at our service centres and Regional House
  - send River Management fact sheets direct to key rate payers affected by the proposed scheme changes and also hand out at community meetings
  - highlight the Long-term Plan in the Chief Executive's column in the River City Press
  - run social media advertising
  - invite Councillors to attend public events
  - run full page newspaper advertising

- run radio advertising

## 6. BACKGROUND

- 6.1. The Long-term Plan has been in development for eight months. Councillors have worked through a programme of fifteen workshops which have reviewed all the outputs and associated costs of each activity. The Consultation Document and Supporting Documentation is a culmination of those activities to date.
- 6.2. The Consultation Document proposes a rate increase of 7.44% for the regions' rates for the 2018-19 financial year when compared with the current 2017-18 Annual Plan.
- 6.3. Additional Supporting Information has been created under a separate cover that details all the key activities, any proposed changes and associated costs across the years for the ten year period.
- 6.4. The Supporting Information also states Horizons key assumptions, all policies, including proposed changes to any of the revenue and funding policies, including new policies required as a result of the decisions made over the last eight months.
- 6.5. It should be noted that, for simplicity of reading and locating the Supporting Information, Horizons have kept it in four separate segments:
  - i) Setting the Scene
  - ii) Introducing the Activities
  - iii) 30-year Infrastructure Strategy
  - iv) Introducing the Finances

## 7. CONSULTATION

- 7.1. Consultation will be carried out as specified under Sections 93 and 93A of the LGA.

## 8. TIMELINE / NEXT STEPS

- 8.1. The Consultation Document will be printed and made available to the public online on Wednesday, 28 March 2018. The submission period ends 5.00pm Monday, 30 April 2018 and Council propose to hear submissions between 21 to 24 May 2018. The final Long-term Plan will be adopted 20 June 2018.

## 9. SIGNIFICANCE

- 9.1. Adoption of this Supporting Information and Consultation Document for consultation is not a significant decision as it remains a proposal document.

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**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

Chrissie Morrison  
**MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER**

## ANNEXES

There are no attachments to this report.