

## Central Hawke's Bay District Council – Report

**TO:** Council  
**FROM:** Chief Executive  
**DATE:** 5 November 2008  
**FILE REF:** FIN1-1200  
**SUBJECT:** PROPOSED REVISED RATING POLICY

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### 1.0 SUMMARY

The rating review working party brief was to review Council's rating system, essentially with regard to equity, and to report back to Council.

The rating review working party has now reported back to Council and Council has subsequently considered their views and other alternative rating policy options.

Council has committed to consulting with the community on any proposed changes to the current rating policy, to hearing submissions and incorporating an updated policy in the draft 2009-2019 LTCCP.

### 2.0 RECOMMENDATION

#### *THAT*

Council confirm the attached rating policy as a basis for consultation with the community in November 2008. Submissions on this revised rating policy will be heard by Council in early December in order that an updated rating policy can be included in the draft 2009-2019 LTCCP.

#### **REASON:**

**The objective of the decision will contribute to the following community outcomes:**

- *A lifetime of good health and wellbeing.*
- *An environment that is appreciated, protected and sustained for future generations.*
- *Safe and secure communities.*
- *Transport infrastructure and services that are safe, effective and integrated.*
- *A strong, prosperous and thriving economy.*
- *Strong regional leadership and a sense of belonging.*
- *Supportive, caring and inclusive communities*
- *Communities that value and promote their unique culture and heritage*
- *Safe and accessible recreational facilities.*

### **3.0 BACKGROUND**

Council established a rating review working Party made up of a cross section of residents from Central Hawke's Bay to assist Council in reviewing how rates will be levied across the district for the 2009 – 2019 LTCCP period. The working party to submit their recommendations to Council for consideration and Council then consult with the community on any proposed changes to the rating structure. These changes will then be incorporated in the 2009-2019 LTCCP for public consultation in April 2009.

This review was scheduled in the current LTCCP to occur last year, however timing of the Central Government Rating Inquiry and the local body election led to a delayed start. Although already scheduled, the need for the review also became evident during the Annual Plan consultation process two plans ago, when a group of ratepayers faced a significant rates increase. This brought to light inequities in the current system, and there was general agreement that these needed to be addressed.

### **4.0 OPTIONS**

Council confirm the attached rating policy as a basis for consultation with the community in November 2008. Submissions on this revised rating policy will be heard by Council in early December in order that an updated rating policy can be included in the draft 2009-2019 LTCCP.

### **5.0 STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

Local Government Act 2002  
Local Government (Rating) Act 2002

### **6.0 CONSULTATION**

#### **Internal**

Mayor  
Councillors

### **7.0 FINANCIAL**

### **8.0 STRATEGIC LINKS**

LTCCP  
Annual Plan

### **9.0 POLICY/DELEGATION REFERENCE**

Rating Policies

John Freeman  
**Chief Executive**