



THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MEDIA RELEASE – 26 June 2025

West Coast Regional Council Long-term Plan 2024-2034 Adopted

The West Coast Regional Council has voted 6-1 to adopt the Long-term Plan 2024-2034. The Plan sets out the services Council will deliver to the community over the next 10 years.

The decision came after councillors discussed and deliberated on the issues, for many hours, over the course of nine workshops. Council agreed, subject to some amendments to the document, that the Plan provides the direction needed to support the West Coast move forward over the next 10 years.

Council received 25 submissions on the Long-term Plan. During the consultation and submission process Council heard from six submitters on a range of subjects, including Balancing the Budget and the Predator Free Te Kinga programme at Lake Brunner.

Council Chair Cr Peter Haddock thanked all those in the community who took time to engage in the process. “As a result of the submissions received, Council will smooth rate increases through borrowing, and use rates to support continued delivery of the Predator Free Te Kinga project when Predator Free 2050 funding for the programme ends.”

Council has directed staff to investigate alternative funding for Te Kinga.

A significant change to the Plan, from that consulted, was the inclusion of climate change as a matter to be considered under the significance and engagement policy.

“This change came about as a result of submissions. It will allow us to start addressing some of the concerns the Office of the Auditor General raised about how we engage on climate change matters,”

After adopting the Long-term Plan Council agreed to the process of setting rates for the 2024/25 year.

Chair Haddock says this means Council has set rates in principle but has directed staff to return a new paper in August.

“We want to ensure the rates are set using up-to-date valuations. The paper will include Westland District Council valuations which will be available next month. It will also incorporate the Grey District Flood Scheme joint committee rating and enable decisions to be made about catchment management overhead allocations.”

ENDS

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