Record of

Council Workshop
Tuesday, 27 October 2026

Workshop record

Meeting held at the Tauranga City Council Chambers, L1 90 Devonport Road, Tauranga on Tuesday, 27 October 2026 at 1:00 pm - Long-term Financial Framing

Presenters:	Kathryn Sharplin, Craig Rice
Members:	Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Rick Curach, Cr Marten Rozeboom, Cr Rod Taylor, Cr Hēmi Rolleston
TCC Staff Attendees:	Gareth Green (Acting Chief Executive), Christine Jones (General Manager: Strategy, Partnerships & Growth), Reneke van Soest (General Manager: Operations & Infrastructure), Sarah Omundsen (General Manager: Regulatory & Community Services), Craig Rice (Chief Operating & Financial Officer), Charlie Rahiri (Recovery Manager), Josh Logan (Team Leader: Policy & Corporate Planning), Susan Braid (Finance Lead Capital Performance and Community Investment), Tracey Hughes (Manager: Organisational Financial Performance and Corporate Planning), Jeremy Boase (Head of Strategy, Governance & Climate Resilience), Sarah Holmes (Team Leader: Governance & CCO Support Services), Vida McCord (Governance Advisor)
Apologies:	Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Kevin Schuler, Cr Steve Morris.

1 BUSINESS

1.1 Financial Framing: Early Period of LTP

Staff Kathryn Sharplin, Head of Finance
Craig Rice, Chief Operating & Financial Officer

Legislative changes and implications for the Long-term Plan

- Overview of recent amendments to the Local Government Act through the Local Government System Improvement Bill.
- Discussion on the updated purpose of local government and the introduction of "core services".
- Explanation of the requirement for councils to have "particular regard" to core services when making financial management decisions.
- Initial assessment of Council activities against core and non-core service definitions.
- Discussion regarding activities that may be considered non-core, including:
  - Economic development.
  - Community development.
  - Events and festivals.
- Advice that explicit consultation may be required where Council intends to continue funding activities that may be considered non-core.
- Review of previous community survey results relating to core services and service priorities.

Initial Long-term Plan financial position

- Update on development of the draft Long-term Plan financials.
- Confirmation that modelling is currently testing rates increases of 5.3% and 7% in year one.
- Explanation that current financials represent an initial position and further refinement is required.
- Discussion on:
    - Operational expenditure growth.
    - Employee cost movements.
    - Stranded overhead costs following local water reform.
    - Shared service assumptions between Council and the future water organisation.
    - Loan-funded versus operating-funded expenditure.
    - User fees and charges review.
    - Efficiency and savings targets already incorporated into modelling.
- Staff advised that further activity-level discussions would occur at the upcoming workshop sessions.

Capital programme review

- Update provided on progress since the Capital Prioritisation Workshop.
- Reminder that approximately $200 million of net savings across the first three years of the Long-term Plan are required to improve affordability.
- Summary of elected member feedback received on project prioritisation scenarios.
- Explanation of methodology used to assess elected member responses and identify common themes.
- Overview of proposed project deferrals, descoping opportunities and staff-identified savings.
- Advice that a report recommending changes to the capital programme would be presented to Council on 10 November 2026.
- Discussion included:
    - Transport projects.
    - Aquatic facilities.
    - Public toilet provision.
    - Sports and recreation infrastructure.
    - Asset renewal and resilience projects.
    - Impacts of delaying specific projects.
    - Risk appetite implications.

2 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

The workshop moved into public excluded at 2:26pm.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
Confidential Attachment 4 - 1.1 - Financial Framing: Early Period of LTP	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons	s48(1)(a) the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7

CLOSING KARAKIA

Cr Hēmi Rolleston closed the workshop with a karakia.

The workshop closed at 4:32pm.