



**Record of  
Council Workshop  
Thursday, 5 February 2026**

## Workshop record

**Workshop held at the Tauranga City Council Chambers, L1, 90 Devonport Road, Tauranga on Thursday, 5 February 2026 at 8:30 am**

<b>Members:</b>	Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Rick Curach, Cr Steve Morris, Cr Marten Rozeboom, Cr Kevin Schuler, Cr Rod Taylor
<b>TCC Staff Attendees:</b>	Marty Grenfell (Chief Executive), Christine Jones (General Manager: Strategy, Growth & Governance), Craig Rice (General Manager CoFo), Kathryn Sharplin (Head of Finance), Susan Braid (Reneke van Soest (General Manager Operations and Infrastructure), Jan Pederson (People & Capability Manager), Clare Sullivan (Senior Governance Advisor),
<b>Apologies:</b>	Cr Curach for lateness, The Mayor and Crs Baker, Rolleston & Schuler attended via online

Cr Morris opened the workshop with a karakia.

### 1 BUSINESS

#### 1.1 FY27 Annual Plan Context & Balancing Act

**Staff** Marty Grenfell, Craig Rice, Christine Jones, Reneke van Soest, Kathryn Sharplin, Susan Braid, Christine Jones, Jan Pederson

#### Format of workshop

- The purpose of the workshop was to consider options to achieve a targeted rates increase of 7.5% for 2026/27.
- The context included year 3 of the current long term plan assumption for the rates increase, the initial draft budget projected rates increase, elected members preference and consideration of the financial impacts of the Mauao landslide and consultation/engagement preferences.
- A report was scheduled to be considered by Council at its meeting on 10 February, based on the options presented at the workshop.
- Options presented included figures for Council as a whole, Council excluding three waters and rates excluding fixed and metered water.
- The workshop discussed the various options, prioritisation of the capital programme, levels of service review, an option to be progressed and matters to investigate further.

#### Further information requested

Elected members sought additional information including:

- Information on actual savings
- An estimated sum for purposes of recovery/ remediation
- Numbers on understanding of 7.5% increase, without 3 waters but reported separately, provide 2% debt repayment,
- A timeline of the annual plan
- People, Performance & Culture – staff numbers to show actuals and compare with 24/25 and 25/26
- A list of projects that could bring forward and review twice a year
- Information on committed projects
- A timeline for the annual plan.

### **Summary of next steps**

- Staff noted that if not doing a special consultative procedure then the draft budget is required by early May. An engagement plan can be prepared on the basis of a 7.5% rate increase plus 2% debt repayment, with 3 waters reported separately and an estimated figure for recovery/remediation of Mauao
- Elected members to complete their project priorities
- A spreadsheet on staff numbers to be provided quarterly
- Information on requirements for roles for the new library
- A report for the long term plan on how Council managed stormwater and flooding impacts of 2005 and 2010, noting the landscape has changed, include types of hazards and how that could be funded.

The workshop closed at 11.17 with a karakia from Councillor Hautapu Baker