



**Record of
Council Workshop
Thursday, 7 May 2026**

Workshop record

Workshop held at the Level 1, 90 Devonport Road, Tauranga on Thursday, 7 May 2026 at 10:00 am LTP

Presenters:	Christine Jones, General Manager: Strategy, Growth & Governance Craig Rice, Chief Operating & Financial Officer Josh Logan, Team Leader: Policy & Corporate Planning
Members:	Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Rick Curach, Cr Marten Rozeboom, Cr Kevin Schuler, Cr Rod Taylor, Cr Hēmi Rolleston.
TCC Staff Attendees:	Marty Grenfell (Chief Executive), Christine Jones (General Manager: Strategy, Growth & Governance), Craig Rice (Chief Operating & Financial Officer), Gareth Green (Head of Office - Manager of the Mayoral Office), Jeremy Boase (Head of Strategy, Governance & Climate Resilience), Kathryn Sharplin (Head of Finance), Susan Davidson (Head of Communications & Engagement), Reneke van Soest (General Manager: Operations & Infrastructure), Jane Small (Major Projects Director), Caroline Irvin (Governance Advisor)
Apologies:	Cr Steve Morris

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1.1 2027-2037 Long-term Plan - Workshop 1 - Environmental Scan

Staff Josh Logan, Team Leader: Policy & Corporate Planning

Topics covered

- Environmental scan – Section one – the world we operate in:
 - Global economy
 - Artificial intelligence and automation
 - Global conflict and geopolitical tension
 - Rise of misinformation and disinformation
 - Information hacking and data ownership
- Environmental Scan – Section two – the national context:
 - Inflation & interest rates
 - Simplifying local government
 - Cost of living crisis
 - Resource Management Act reform
 - Proposed rated capping
 - National adaptation framework
 - Systems improvement 'back to basics'
 - Māori Ward referendum

- Environmental scan – section three – the region we are part of:
 - Smart Growth
 - Joint Water organisation
 - Western Bay of Plenty Regional Deal
- Environmental scan – section four – the city we serve:
 - Our population
 - Growth pressures & housing
 - Our community
 - Our economy
 - Climate change
 - Partnering with Māori
- Council's performance and planning cycle:
 - Strategic framework
 - Feedback loop
- 2027-37 Long Term Plan Framing
- Long Term Plan road map

At 10.56am the workshop adjourned.

At 11.03am the workshop resumed in open.

Actions Requested/Feedback:

- Provide the finance timeline before August, including the calendar, roadmap, and schedule.
- Give a general steer for the LTP based on an acceptable rates range of 5% to 7.5%.
- Aim for a stable capital programme, with a clear spending envelope and parameters around expenditure, while recognising there may still be some movement.
- Maintain the general priority of delivering infrastructure.
- Revisit the capital prioritisation model.
- Start a Council conversation to define core services, so this can inform what the “must haves” are and what Council could potentially stop doing.
- Be open to considering user fees.
- Look at bands for different activities and where those activities need to sit.

Direction from Mayor

1. Frame the LTP around rate affordability (5–7.5%), a stable and prioritised capital programme, a clearer definition of core services and must-haves, and early supporting work on the finance timeline, capital prioritisation, and activity/user-fee settings.

The workshop closed at 11.59am