



**SOUTH WAIRARAPA
DISTRICT COUNCIL**
Kia Reretahi Tātau

Greytown Trust Lands Trust
PO Box 16
Greytown 5742

Sub # 66

11 July 2019

To whom it may concern,

2019/20 ANNUAL PLAN SUBMISSION

Thank you for your submission to Council's 2019/20 Annual Plan. Council received 178 submissions as part of the Annual Plan (AP) submission process. The Mayor and councillors heard a total of 59 verbal submissions, of which 31 were in support of a financial assistance application.

You can find more information about council's Annual Plan decisions in the document attached.

We noted your request that the Council confirms commitment to partnering with the Greytown Trust Land Trust and other key partners to implement and to commit funding to securing occupancy and ownership of the proposed site, identified in the Community Gymnasium Feasibility Study Report. Council has held two workshops on this topic including a meeting with representatives from Kuranui College. Councillors have agreed to further explore the proposal for a Community Gymnasium before committing ratepayer funds or reserves to the project. It is likely we will need to carry out some community engagement regarding this level of expenditure. We have also encouraged Kuranui College to explore other options for funding e.g. fundraising in the community, old pupils etc to supplement the grant funding already proposed.

Thank you again for taking the time to prepare your submission and for your interest in Council's plan for the 2019/20 year.

Yours sincerely

Jennie Mitchell
Group Manager Corporate Support

2019/20 ANNUAL PLAN

SWDC published their Consultation document to the 2019/2020 Annual Plan in March 2019. Much of the feedback supported the proposed initiatives. Below is a summary of the outcomes of the consultation process.

Annual Plan submissions

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The AP indicates a total rates increase of 5.48% for the 2019/20 financial year which is slightly over the 4.76% projection in the Long Term Plan. The percentage rates increase will vary by individual property.

Reduction in library charges

Council adopted the preferred option supported by submitters. This option is to remove rental charges for adult fiction, remove charges for replacement library cards, and remove overdue fees for children and youth. Overdue fees for adult books would be retained.

Submitters wanted library users to act responsibly and wanted to ensure books were returned in a timely manner so other users are not disadvantaged.

Housing for seniors

Based on submissions from ratepayers, Council supported the proposal to recover the negative reserve from ratepayers via rates over the next four years to ensure our senior housing is properly maintained, upgraded and managed. A rental increase was proposed as part of the solution.

There were a number of submissions suggesting alternative ways for managing housing for seniors and Council will be looking closely at alternatives over the next year.

Swimming pool hours

Council adopted the proposal to extend swimming pool hours from 28.5hrs per week to 40hrs per week over the summer for one season in response to support of this initiative.

Although most people did support the proposed hours, there were a number of submissions offering alternative suggestions. Visitor numbers will be recorded during the 5:30-7:30pm time and a review of usage will be undertaken prior to rolling this over into future years.

Footpath maintenance

Council have listened to the majority of ratepayers who want our footpaths to be maintained, but also to those ratepayers that don't want this funded from rates.

Council have agreed that extra footpath maintenance should be undertaken and that this work is funded from the infrastructure reserves.

Other initiatives

As part of the Annual plan process, Council also approved:

- \$70,000 in grants for youth initiatives to support the LTP Youth Training and Development grant and \$180,000 in community grants.
- Financial support for our Māori Standing Committee similar to that provided to Community Boards to recognize their role as Council's link to the Māori community.
- An increased budget allocation to ensure a modern, compliant dog pound can be built. Council is working with Carterton District Council exploring options for building a joint facility.
- Increased budget allocation to ensure the provision of a safe and reliable water supply for Martinborough. This will be subject to community engagement and consultation.



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