

Council Information Session/Workshop

NOTES

Date: Tuesday 19 March 2024
Time: 10.30 am - 12 pm
Venue: Council Chambers, Civic Offices,
53 Hereford Street, Christchurch
Zoom Link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6439418430?omn=86418455067>
Meeting ID: 643 941 8430

Present

Chairperson	Mayor Phil Mauger
Deputy Chairperson	Deputy Mayor Pauline Cotter
Members	Councillor Kelly Barber
	Councillor Melanie Coker
	Councillor Celeste Donovan
	Councillor Tyrone Fields
	Councillor James Gough
	Councillor Tyla Harrison-Hunt
	Councillor Victoria Henstock
	Councillor Yani Johanson
	Councillor Aaron Keown
	Councillor Sam MacDonald
	Councillor Jake McLellan
	Councillor Andrei Moore
	Councillor Mark Peters
	Councillor Tim Scandrett
	Councillor Sara Templeton

Principal Advisor
Mary Richardson
Interim Chief Executive
Tel: 941 8999

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Please Note:
This forum has no decision-making powers and is purely for information sharing.

The agenda was dealt with in the following order.

1. Apologies Ngā Whakapāha

There were no apologies received. Andrei Moore arrived at 10:57am

2. Council submission on Government Policy Statement land transport 2024

Presented by Lynette Ellis, Head of Transport and Jane Cameron, Team Leader Transport.

- Lynette explained that submission were open until 2 April 2024. Discussed the submission and content. Noted that it will have an impact on the transport programme which will require another discussion at a later date.
- Jane presented, discussed the implications and preliminary submission points. Note the change to focus, EV road user charge changes from April, move to align GPS with LTP 10 year investment horizon, changes to approach regarding emission reductions. Previous GPS focused on safety, better travel options, climate change and improving freight connections compared to economic growth and productivity, increasing maintenance and resilience, safety, and value for money.
- Note economic growth and productivity amalgamates better travel options and improving freight options. Public transport is focussed mainly on Auckland and Wellington. Larger focus on proactive rather than reactive maintenance, and narrower focus on safety with a greater focus on compliance and enforcement. \$5.2b more, a 36.4% increase which is the same as inflation. Mostly aimed at big projects. Large drop in walking/cycling and rail network space. Walking/cycling now ringfenced and not included in maintenance categories.
- Support the funding increase for maintenance and resilience, but proposed issues include; lack of representation for Christchurch and Canterbury, the implication of a narrower strategic focus on transport outcomes, recognition of distinct role local roads play supporting urban growth, and the activity classes in regard to balance, scope and flexibility.
- Lynette notes the tight deadline. The more input early the better.
- Councillor Scandrett raised slide 3 and slide 10
- Councillor Macdonald agrees. Asked if we would be referencing resident survey. Staff acknowledged that they would be.
- Councillor Macdonald queried the changes to congestion charges. Discussion of current legislation barring old roads from being open to tolls, confirmation that in draft it would allow older roads to become tolled based on usage. Councillor Macdonald expressed lack of support for this option.
- Discussion of crown appropriations and unlocking access to green land. Issue of one size fits all approach.
- Councillor Cotter opposes the reduction on walking and cycling. Notes that as the second biggest city in New Zealand, weight should be given to resident survey data supporting want in this kind of infrastructure development.
- Discussion regarding the balance of the submission. Councillors suggested preference not to waste half the submission on discussing the parts they like.

- Councillor Fields notes that Christchurch appears to be overlooked. Discussion of the importance of the port. Advocation for freight improvements. Staff agreed to engage with the Lyttleton Port Company.
- Councillor Johanson raised light rail. Staff stated that work is progressing, and noting it as a priority through this process.
- Discussion of impacts to bus services.
- Discussion regarding road renewals. Staff note that without more information around expensive projects that might already be in the pipeline, they can't comment on what this means for Christchurch.
- Councillor Keown requested that pages road be separated (last slide) to highlight its importance. Discussion of reducing impact around work zones. Supports toll roads as long as funds from the tolls go to investment and maintenance.
- Discussion of local roads vs national roads, MRT and Canterbury package, and what this means for current projects. Staff note impacts on LTP.
- Councillor Cotter requested for focus on local roads. Staff reiterate national level with no understanding given to application yet.
- Discussion of impacts on current works being done on railway lines, Brougham Street including bridges, and fast track changes.
- Councillor Cotter requested a focus on urban growth and local roads.
- Councillor Moore raised the ferry and options for restarting the conversation for Wellington to Lyttleton. Conversation regarding freight options and impacts of congestion without appropriate funding and resource in public transport.
- Councillor Fields raised impacts on rural roads. Staff note these are included in the draft as "unsealed roads".
- Councillor Donovan raised concerns with low focus on cycling and walking, requests emphasis on continued investment within submission. Requested impact on end of life. Staff confirm that this will not be funded within maintenance in current draft.
- Discussion of flow on effects of funding roads but not footpaths.
- Councillor Henstock requested update on impacts draft terms will have on resourcing and budgets. Staff note that it'll be involve another session after GPS finalised.

3. Upcoming Review of Gambling and TAB Venues Policy

Presented by Ellen Cavanaugh, Senior Policy Analyst.

- Ellen discussed the policy. Note that current policy has been in place since 2004. Policy must be reviewed every 3 years. It was last reviewed in 2001, but there has been no changes since 2006.
- Councillor Harrison-Hunt requested further information on what kind of restrictions could be applied. Ellen confirmed that there is no avenue for closing establishments, only refusing new applications and specifying relocation preferences.

- Discussion regarding impacts to established venues. Note limits are set by the DIA and relocation allows current licences to move all machines.
- Councillor Keown queried distribution of funds. Ron Lemm (Legal and Democratic Services) confirmed controlled by trusts, discussed conflict and allowances under the act. Discussion of Casinos. Staff confirmed responsibility of the DIA.
- Discussion of current lack of relocation policy.
- Councillor Barber requested a further workshop to discuss responsibility, distribution of funds, and ways to reduce number of facilities. Staff raised that policy only impacts new establishments. Note current sinking lid policy is the gold standard.
- Councillor Johanson queried if anything could be done regarding online gambling. Staff confirmed outside of the policy.
- Discussion of recent high court decision.
- Discussion of high deprivation areas. Staff note that relocation policy could focus on barring establishments from relocating to these areas. Note will require further investigation including location data, and will only impact new venues.
- Councillor Fields queried the statistics on slide 5 regarding more machines with less venues.
- Discussion of policy impact with rise of online gambling. Staff note that research shows higher likelihood of online gambling if close to venues. Also note that it is not the role of the policy to reduce online gambling. Discussion of responsibility and holistic approach to harm reduction.
- Councillor Scandrett queried with the move to online gambling, is reducing venues reducing the ability for problem gambling to be recognised and people to receive help.
- Councillor Harrison-Hunt requested that policy aligns with others related to deprivation areas.
- Councillor Henstock asked for clarity on sphere of control and influence which council has. Staff agreed that there may be option to hold further workshop on the topic.

Meeting concluded at Midday.