

# Mayor's monthly report

March 2023

## Introduction

Having seen the devastation up north in recent weeks, our hearts go out to the people affected. Our Council is sending people and support where needed, working through NEMA. We're also donating to help those affected. They have a long road ahead, and we need to get the support to where it is needed most.

Closer to home and March is a month of listening for our Council. We have some big pieces of public engagement underway or starting this month. We need people to tell us what they think and give us a steer of what they want us to do. We're rightly reminded to listen more and now is the time to share their views.

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## Coming up at Council

### Annual Plan

Our Draft Annual Plan heads out for consultation on Friday 10 March and the public have four weeks to tell us what they think. I was very happy with where we landed at a 5.68% increase, below inflation of over 7%, and a lot lower than the 14.6% we were looking at when we started this process. Thank you to the team who have pulled this together and helped us as a Council to work through it.

Now it is over to the community – we need them to tell us what they think.

### PC13 and PC14

In March we voted to notify plan changes 13 and 14. These give effect to the new intensification rules set by the government after several months working through our concerns. Personally, many of us are unhappy to have to do this but recognise that we have run out of road to keep reviewing the plan.

This will soon head out for public consultation. There will be more information on our website, including links to support to help people make submissions. Once consultation occurs, we move to the Independent Hearings Panel process before it comes back to Council (most likely in early 2024).

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## On my Radar

### Greater Christchurch Partnership – Huihui Mai

The Greater Christchurch Partnership is also engaging the community on the new Greater Christchurch Partnership and Mass Rapid Transit corridor. This is a long-term vision for how and where our city will grow into the future. It is a great opportunity to have a say on what type of city Christchurch will be for our children and grandchildren. Have your say at: [Huihui Mai - Greater Christchurch Survey](#)

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## Shout Outs

### Sail GP

I want to finish off by wishing the team pulling Sail GP together all the best for March 18 – 19. It is fantastic to see this event come to Christchurch and I am looking forward to watching. This is a great example of the events which continue to show that Christchurch is the events capital of the country.

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