



# ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

## Open Minutes Annual Plan

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Meeting Date: Monday 26 May 2025  
Tuesday, 27 May 2025  
Wednesday, 28 May 2025

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Time: 26 May - 10.15am – 6.35pm  
27 May - 9.00am – 4.23pm  
28 May - 9.00am – 10.23am (Public Excluded)

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Venue Large Exhibition Hall  
War Memorial Centre  
Marine Parade  
Napier

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*Livestreamed via Council's Facebook page*

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Present **Chair:** Mayor Wise  
**Members:** Deputy Mayor Brosnan, Councillors Boag, Browne,  
Chrystal, Crown, Greig, McGrath, Mawson, Price and Simpson

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In Attendance Chief Executive (Louise Miller)  
Chief Financial Officer / Acting Executive Director Corporate Services  
(Caroline Thomson)  
Executive Director City Strategy (Rachael Bailey)  
Executive Director Infrastructure Services (Russell Bond)  
Executive Director Community Services (Thunes Cloete)  
Manager Communications and Marketing (Julia Stevens)  
Communications Specialist (Kate Penny)  
Manager Strategy and Transformation (Stephanie Murphy)  
Senior Advisor Corporate Planning (Danica Rio)  
Community Advisor (Tiffany Knauf)

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Manager Arts, Culture and Heritage (Elizabeth Caldwell)  
Manager Business and Tourism (Steve Gregory)  
Acting Manager Environmental Solutions (Sarah Schaare)  
Manager Water Strategy (Philip Kelsen)  
Manager Water Reforms Transition (Andrew Lebioda)  
Commercial Director (Richard Munneke)  
Manager Infrastructure Developments (Simon Bradshaw)  
Strategic Planning Lead (Connie Whelan-Mills)  
Team Leader Governance (Anna Eady)  
Executive Assistant to the Mayor (Vanessa Smith)  
Corporate Finance Manager (Garry Hrustinsky) [online]  
Financial Reporting Accountant (Teresa Bushett) [online]  
Senior Management Accountant (Steve Walling) [online]  
Finance Accountant (Jason Kelleher) [online]  
Management Accountant (Sammie-Lee Bedford) [online]  
Management Accountant (Dileepa Sugathadasa) [online]

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Also in attendance Sign Language Interpreter (Cathie Siebert)  
Sign Language Interpreter (Sarah Billing)

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Also in attendance Tania Wright (Hawkes Bay Museums Trust), Marilyn Perko, Penelope McComb, Joseph Wilson, Chris Mclean, Max Patmoy, Lynne Anderson (Save the Dotterels), George Streeter, Jacqui Lloyd (New Zealand Cruise Association) [online], Alan Petersen, Stan Simmonds, Mary Anne Eyles, Paul Yeo (VIN Inc), Pauline Doyle, Pip Thompson and Vincent Michaelson (Napier City Business Inc), Peter Grant (Age Friendly Ahuriri Napier), Dr Rose Stiles (Te Awa suburb residents), Hilary Heath-Caldwell, Barbara Mawson, Paul Cornille, Vivian Couper, Mark Plested, Emma Merry, Margaret Gwynn, Kerry Ansell, Julie Ganivety, Dan Scott [online], Richard Wimsett, Glen Lucas (Hawkes Bay Regional Sports Park Trust), Johanna Rodgers, Richard Catley (Pirimai Residents Association), Emily Otto, Jorja Miles (Napier Youth Council), Craig Waterhouse (Rodney Green Arenas), Aviva Taylor, Eva, Jessica Taylor, Leonie Wallwork (Nga Toi Creative Hawkes Bay), Will van Asch (Ahuriri Business Association), Bruce Carnegie (Grey Power Napier), Forbes Neil.

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Administration Governance Advisors (Carolyn Hunt and Jemma McDade)

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## ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL – Open Minutes

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## ORDER OF BUSINESS

### Karakia

#### Apologies

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##### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

Councillors Price / Chrystal

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That the apologies from Councillors Mawson, Tareha and Taylor be accepted.

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Carried

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#### Conflicts of interest

Councillor Boag declared her association with Grey Power Napier.

#### Public forum

Nil

#### Announcements by the Mayor

The attachment under Separate Cover 1 includes submissions from the following submitters who had indicated they wished to speak, however, their concerns may now have been addressed, or they are now unable to attend:

- Roger Sceats
- Bob Hawley
- Kieran Rynhart
- James Gaudin
- Elizabeth Pishief
- Gavin Still
- Denise Gore

Questions from Elected members will be collated and provided to officers at the end of each day for comment.

Submitters are reminded that they must speak to the material in their written submission.

#### Announcements by the management

Nil

#### Confirmation of minutes

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##### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

Councillors Chrystal / Greig

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That the Draft Minutes of the Ordinary meeting (Local Alcohol Policy Hearing) held on 29 April 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

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Carried

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**COUNCIL  
RESOLUTION**

Councillors Chrystal / Greig

That the Draft Minutes of the Ordinary meeting (Local Water Done Well) held on 29 April 2025 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

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Carried

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### Submitters Speaking

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**Marilyn Perko #52**

The speaker outlined her opposition to the proposed early closure of Napier Library highlighting her view that a library is a community centre of learning and gathering for all ages. She commented that the new build should be put on hold whilst alternative solutions for the location of the library are explored such as the Waiapu Cathedral.

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**Tania Wright (Hawkes Bay Museum Trust) #42**

The speakers outlined that the library has been in a temporary space in the Museum Theatre Gallery (MTG) for at least five years longer than was originally proposed. This has an ongoing impact on the MTG, restricting their ability to display collections due to the reduction in available space. When the library relocates to the new build, the MTG could have been 11 years at reduced capacity.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The cost of restoring the space at the MTG is included in existing budgets.

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**Penelope McComb #53**

The speaker supported retaining the educational programmes currently available at the National Aquarium of New Zealand (NANZ). These programmes benefit a wide range of students from across the country and enable them to experience a unique learning environment. A school visit may provide the only opportunity for these students to access this facility.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The NANZ staff and volunteers should be included in decisions shaping the future of the NANZ.

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**Max Patmoy #42**

The speaker shared a presentation showing his proposal for Pandaland, a visitor experience focusing on education and conservation that would be a collaboration between Napier and China.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- China would retain ownership of the pandas, though they would be leased for 10-15 years.
  - Pandaland would be fully funded by benefactors.
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- Pandaland would require the use of Council land for the venue to be in the proposed position on Marine Parade.
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#### **Attachment**

1 2025-05-26 Annual Plan Max Patmoy submission 11 DOC ID 1857130

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#### **Joseph Wilson #57**

The speaker opposed the temporary closure of Napier Library outlining his view that libraries are a key community wellbeing hub for vulnerable members of the community. Removal of library services would have a greater impact on the digitally vulnerable who may not be able to travel to Taradale.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The community would be willing to pay the extra rates to retain the library.
  - The Napier Library would perform its community function if it were open four or five days a week.
- 

#### **Lynne Anderson (Save the Dotterels) #3**

The speaker outlined the recent successes of the project and plans for the possible future expansion and improvement of nesting areas.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- Funding for, and permission to, erect fences would be sought in future through Council grants.
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#### **Attachment**

2 2025-05-26 Annual Plan Lynne Anderson submission 3 DOC ID 1857132

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#### **George Streeter #51**

The speaker opposed the closure of the Napier Library emphasising the accessibility and importance of the current library to the senior community, many of whom may not be able to travel to Taradale. He offered to volunteer at the Library if this would affect the decision.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The Napier Library opening for five days would be acceptable.
- 

#### **Jacqui Lloyd (New Zealand Cruise Association) [online] #6**

The speaker described how Napier is the leading model for cruise destination management and that the personal i-site visitor experience plays a critical role. The current position on Marine Parade is ideal for parking, visitor flow and safety.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The New Zealand Cruise Association is aiming to increase the number of ships docking at Napier in upcoming years.
  - The i-site in its current location is key to the success of the visitor experience and should be located near to the bus drop off location.
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#### **Attachment**

3 2025-05-26 Annual Plan Jacqui Lloyd submission 6 DOC ID 1857140

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#### **Alan Petersen #80**

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The speaker outlined his view on all topics in the consultation encouraging the increase of individual efforts to reduce landfill.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The MTG will soon have a shake house.

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#### **Chris McLean #58**

The speaker explained his passion for the Par2 MiniGolf, detailing the history and popularity of the current course along with its value for Napier locals.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- Council may not be able to protect the course if it were to be sold, though the terms of a lease could set out parameters for the maintenance of the activity and course.

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*The meeting adjourned at 11:49am and reconvened at 1.00pm*

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#### **Stan Simmonds #46**

The speaker outlined his concerns for changes proposed to the i-site, NANZ and the Faraday Museum of Technology encouraging Council to retain all facilities.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The current position of the i-site is preferable for the bus traffic and customer experience.

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#### **Mary Anne Eyles #13**

The speaker outlined the specialist value of modern libraries, noting that Taradale Library may not be readily accessible. The educational benefits need to be balanced against the cost.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- Having the Napier Library open four days a week is preferable to closing and the extra rates costs is acceptable.

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#### **Pauline Doyle #15**

The speaker highlighted the benefits of the current Council facilities including the MTG, Faraday Museum of Technology and Napier Library outlining the value to her family. She focused particularly on the educational aspects of the Faraday Museum, noting its unique learning experiences and exhibits, and the educational value of having a public library service acknowledging that she would endorse rates increases being applied to retain the Napier Library.

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#### **Attachment**

4 2025-05-26 Annual Plan Pauline Doyle submission 15 DOC ID 1857148

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#### **Pip Thompson and Vincent Michaelson (Napier City Business Inc) #7**

The speakers promoted the value of retaining the Napier Library in the CBD, offering suggestions as to how the closure period could be minimised. If the i-site was to be moved, a strategy would be needed to ensure that visitor experience was maintained.

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- Relocating the i-site to Clive Square may cause traffic issues through the CBD at a time when efforts are being made to minimise inner city traffic. Few businesses are open at the time of day that the cruise ship visitors arrive.
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#### **Paul Yeo (VIN Inc) #1**

Vin Inc is the trading name for the i-site brand in New Zealand (NZ). The Napier i-site is the flagship in terms of service and location. Reimbursement for the recent investment to the interior may be sought if the venue is not under Council control.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- NZ is marketed as a 'people' destination. The replacement with a digital service is not a short term solution.
  - The only other privately run i-site was unsuccessful.
  - It is possible for the i-site to have other income streams, including merchandise, coffee shops and post office facilities.
- 

#### **Peter Grant (Age Friendly Napier – Positive Aging Strategy Group) #43**

The speaker advised that Napier is an age friendly city. The availability and accessibility of the Napier Library, along with the services it currently provides, supports senior citizens. Council assets should be protected within the Significance and Engagement Policy to ensure the age friendly status is maintained.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- Although the current site of the Faraday Museum has challenges, the Fullagar engine is unable to be moved.
- 

#### **Dr Rose Stiles (Te Awa suburb residents) #39**

The speaker requested that Council consider assisting the Te Awa residents with identifying land for a community facility within the suburb to increase social cohesion and provide a focus point for emergency management. Te Awa has no such facilities.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The neighbourhood support group is active in the community.
  - A partnership arrangement could be pursued. Locating an available site is the main issue.
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#### **Attachments**

5      2025-05-26 Annual Plan Rose Stiles submission 39 DOC ID 1857461

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#### **Hilary Heath-Caldwell #16**

The speaker disagreed with the proposed early closure of the Napier Library due to the universally accessible nature of the building and resources.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- Ideal opening times would include a weekend.
  - The speaker would be willing to pay the additional rates charge to keep the library open.
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*The meeting adjourned at 2:29pm and reconvened at 3pm*

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#### **Barbara Mawson #63**

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The speaker highlighted the value of a library as a multigenerational, universally accessible community knowledge facility. The social costs of closing the Napier Library should be considered alongside the financial benefits.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The speaker would be willing to pay the additional rates to keep the Napier Library open with a preference expressed for more than four days a week.

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#### **Vivian Couper #50**

The speaker supported retaining the Napier Library as a free of charge meeting place to further knowledge and learning.

- A minimum of six days a week would be ideal, inclusive of at least one day over the weekend.

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#### **Mark Plested #59**

The speaker focussed on the section of his submission regarding NANZ. He outlined the challenges he had navigating and locating information on the Council website. He was unable to reconcile the information he did locate with the Annual Plan documentation, and queried Council processes.

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#### **Attachment**

6 2025-05-26 Annual Plan Mark Plested submission 59 DOC ID 1857156

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#### **Paul Cornille #77**

The speaker expressed concern at the proposal to close the Napier Library noting the importance of libraries in connecting communities.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- Operating the Napier Library at reduced hours, four or five days a week is a good option. Including a weekend day would not be a priority.
- The speaker would be willing to pay the rates increase to maintain the Napier Library service.

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#### **Emma Merry #60**

The speaker outlined the losses to the community if the Napier Library were to close, and the challenges faced by those who would be unable to access the Taradale Library.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- Operating the Napier Library at reduced hours is better than no service at all. Six days a week would be preferable.

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#### **Margaret Gwynn #67**

The speaker understood the need to make rates savings, but felt that closing the Napier Library for up to two years is too great a loss to the community.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- Solar panels are on the plans for the new library as is the maximisation of natural light.

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#### **Kerry Ansell #64**

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The speaker summarised the concerns in their submission noting that ratepayers could be encouraged to use the Redclyffe facility by having an annual voucher provided.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The concern about increasing the costs of the landfill is that the instances of fly-tipping will increase.

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*The meeting adjourned at 3:53pm and reconvened at 4:10pm*

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#### **Richard Catley (Pirimai Residents Association) #5**

The speaker acknowledged the benefit of ongoing collaboration between Council and the Residents Association. He outlined plans to explore the use of Allen Berry Reserve and increased shade for the Pirimai shops.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The Residents Association has yet to engage with residents on the other side of Kennedy Road, but has built relationships with the BUPA community.

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*The meeting adjourned at 4:18pm and reconvened at 5:15pm*

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#### **Julie Ganivet #44**

The speaker advocated for the importance of libraries as a universally accessible resource for access to knowledge and as a community hub. A library is more than a collection of books, it is the quintessence of a democratic society.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- Having the Napier Library open four days a week was better than nothing.
- The speaker was willing to pay the additional rates to keep the Napier Library open.

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#### **Dan Scott [online] #55**

The speaker emphasised the importance of libraries as community spaces, particularly in tough economic times where the social opportunities available can positively impact individual wellbeing. The lack of public transport to the Taradale Library may serve as a barrier to access for the most vulnerable users. He disagreed with the reduction to the resilience rate noting the importance of having funds available for emergencies.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- Having the Napier Library open for four days a week was better than nothing, though including a weekend day is important for younger users.

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#### **Richard Wimsett #79**

The speaker praised the current i-site and improvements made to Marine Parade in recent years, noting that in tough financial times, assets need to be leveraged to ensure maximum efficiencies.

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#### **Glenn Lucas and Tania Kerr (Hawkes Bay Regional Sports Park Trust) #9**

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The speakers acknowledged the challenges faced by Council in balancing affordability for ratepayers and the provision of services. Although the facility is a regional one, he noted the participation percentage of specific sports by Napier residents.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- There is an annual funding agreement model in place to apply for funding within the three year partnership funding model.
- Local and regional assets need to work together to ensure services are complimentary.

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#### **Johanna Rodgers #71**

The speaker supported retaining the Napier Library and Council allocating the funds required in favour of other projects. The facility is more important than the building.

Questions are answered clarifying:

- The decision to close the Napier Library has not yet been made, Council is proposing closure as its preferred option.

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#### **Emily Otto #14**

The speaker supported Council's preferred option for the NANZ noting her preference is for the facility to continue operating as an aquarium. She suggested the possible addition of an escape room and children's playgrounds showcasing Te Ao Māori and renewable energy options.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- Feedback on all options consulted on was evenly split.
- The speaker would be interested in being involved in a future Think Tank process.

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#### **Jorja Miles (Napier Youth Council) #41**

The speaker understood the need for change, outlining their approach to each of the consultation topics. She emphasised that young people prefer to access information via digital means and noted the lack of engaging recreational activities in Napier for young people. If the Napier Library is to be closed, the mobile and Taradale libraries would need to be well resourced.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The i-site is not used by young people due to a preference for accessing information online.
- This presentation is from the point of view of young people who represent the future of the city.

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#### **Craig Waterhouse (Rodney Green Arenas) #4**

The speaker provided a background to and overview of, the facility. He requested that Council include the facility in its long term planning process as other Council owned venues are competing with the facility for business. The facility is able to generate much of its own income, but requests consideration from Council for funding.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The submitter claimed the facility is a Council asset, and requested that the facility is included in Council's long term planning.

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#### **Attachment**

7 2025-05-26 Annual Plan Craig Waterhouse submission 4 DOC ID 1857161

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*The meeting adjourned at 6:35pm, to reconvene on Tuesday 27 May at 9am.*

## Minutes of reconvened Council Meeting (Day Two) - 9am, Tuesday 27 May 2025

*Councillor Mawson joined the meeting at 9am.*

### Apologies

<b>COUNCIL RESOLUTION</b>	Councillors Price / Chrystal
	That the apologies from Councillors Tareha and Taylor be accepted.
	Carried

### Submitters Speaking continued

#### Aviva Taylor

The petition was received on 30 April 2025 and the Petitioner's prayer reads as follows:

"Napier Library Closing Project – we need to fight for what's right"

There are 37 signatories to the petition.

The petitioner noted the importance of the Napier Library and that their submission was prepared in the Napier Library.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The speaker primarily visited the Napier Library after school and at the weekend.
- The speaker supported the Napier Library being open for a reduced number of days than currently offered.

2025-05-26 Annual Plan Petition – Aviva Taylor DOC ID 1858724

#### James Gaudin

The petition was received on 8 April 2025 and the Petitioner's prayer reads as follows:

"We hereby petition Napier City Council and request that council continue to fund the Napier i-site at its current location"

There are 174 signatories to the petition.

The petitioner did not speak to his petition

2025-05-26 Annual Plan Petition – James Gaudin DOC ID 1858723

#### Leonie Wallwork (Nga Toi Creative Hawkes Bay ) #40

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The speaker explained the regional arts framework. She advised that Nga Toi has an available space which can offer some of the facilities currently provided by the Napier Library, even as interim solutions to support the community.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The Nga Toi space is accessible, multipurpose and could be used as a drop in centre for rangatahi.

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#### **Attachment**

8 2025-05-26 Annual Plan Leonie Wallwork submission 40 DOC ID 1857176

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#### **Will van Asch (Ahuriri Business Association) #2**

The speaker advocated for the i-site to be moved to Clive Square for safety and efficiency. He expressed concern over the multi-use space proposed for the new Council building focussing on the potential adverse impact on surrounding local businesses. He encouraged Council to engage with the market before developing commercial activities.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- Buses would cause no more inconvenience at a Clive Square site than currently exists at Marine Parade. Businesses would adapt with altered operating hours.
- Buses would use the west side of Clive Square for safety reasons
- Buses driving through town would be passing through controlled intersections reducing the safety impact.
- Council information could be physically displayed through town.

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#### **Attachment**

9 2025-05-26 Annual Plan Will van Asch submission 2 DOC ID 1857220

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#### **Bruce Carnegie (Grey Power Napier) #37**

The speaker outlined the concerns of Grey Power Napier to each of the areas of consultation noting that Napier is an age friendly city. Rates increases are harder for those on a low or fixed income including superannuants. Closing the Napier Library will have a greater impact on those on a lower or fixed income as they are less mobile and require the digital accessibility of the Library with staff assistance.

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#### **Forbes Neil #92**

The speaker supported most of Councils preferred options with the exception of the closure of the Napier Library, NANZ and i-site. He noted the loss of a valuable cultural resource if the Napier Library were to close. It would be difficult for residents to redirect to Taradale as resources would be stretched.

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#### **All attachments:**

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#### **Attachments**

- 1 2025-05-26 Annual Plan Max Patmoy submission 11 DOC ID 1857130
  - 2 2025-05-26 Annual Plan Lynne Anderson submission 3 DOC ID 1857132
  - 3 2025-05-26 Annual Plan Jacqui Lloyd submission 6 DOC ID 1857140
  - 4 2025-05-26 Annual Plan Pauline Doyle submission 15 DOC ID 1857148
  - 5 2025-05-26 Annual Plan Rose Stiles submission 39 DOC ID 1857461
  - 6 2025-05-26 Annual Plan Mark Plested submission 59 DOC ID 1857156
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7	2025-05-26 Annual Plan Craig Waterhouse submission 4 DOC ID 1857161
8	2025-05-26 Annual Plan Leonie Wallwork submission 40 DOC ID 1857176
9	2025-05-26 Annual Plan Will van Asch submission 2 DOC ID 1857220

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## AGENDA ITEMS

### 1. ANNUAL PLAN 2025/26 CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY THINK TANK SUMMARY

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<i>Type of Report:</i>	Information
<i>Legal Reference:</i>	N/A
<i>Document ID:</i>	1853534
<i>Reporting Officer/s &amp; Unit:</i>	Tiffany Knauf, Community Advisor

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#### 1.1 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to inform Elected Members about the Consultation Activities that were undertaken in relation to the Annual Plan, including a summary of the Community Think Tank.

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#### At the meeting

The officer presented the report providing an overview of the successful Open House evening and the Community Think Tank.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The Think Tank process is evolving and is adaptable to the needs of future consultations. Opportunities for future events include strategies for attracting more younger people and managing the size of the group to facilitate in-depth discussions. The Think Tank could be an earlier part of the consultation process.
- The Think Tank made a group submission to the Annual Plan.
- Summarised pre-reading was provided for the Think Tank participants.

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#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Councillors Crown / Chrystal

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That Council:

- Receive** the report Annual Plan 2025/26 Consultation Activities and Community Think Tank Summary dated 26 May 2025

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Carried

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*The meeting adjourned at 9:52am and reconvened at 10:30am*

## 2. SUBMISSIONS ON THE ANNUAL PLAN 2025/26 CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Type of Report:	Legal
Legal Reference:	Local Government Act 2002
Document ID:	1851511
Reporting Officer/s & Unit:	Danica Rio, Senior Advisor Corporate Planning

### 2.1 Purpose of Report

This report summarises submissions received on the Annual Plan 2025/26 consultation document and seeks final decisions for incorporation into Napier City Council's Annual Plan (AP), due to be adopted at the Council meeting on 26 June 2025. All submissions are provided in full as attachments to this report, along with comments from officers where relevant for consideration by Elected Members.

### At the meeting

The officer presented the report noting the analysis from SIL Research, which provided a summary of the key consultation topics, options and preferred options.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- There were 1007 submissions received. There are usually between 100 and 300 for the Annual plan. The increase could be due to the high level of interest in the consultation topics and the good engagement campaign that trialled new methodology.

### The future of the National Aquarium of New Zealand (NANZ)

Executive Director Community Services (Thunes Cloete) and Manager Business and Tourism (Steve Gregory) presented this section of the report.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- There will be a tender process for the business case. The process will be brought back to Council including the extent of community engagement. There will be another round of public consultation before a further Council decision.
- The business case scoping sits within the procurement process with the contractor. The plan would come back to Council.
- The approximate cost of a business case is \$200,000 - \$250,000 and it is included in the budget.
- The possibility of housing the Planetarium and the Faraday Museum of Technology in the NANZ building has been mooted previously, however, the issue is that the Fullagar engine is not able to be relocated.

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- There was no clear mandate from the public submissions. The aim is to build a commercially sustainable model. Future consultations will be designed to provide greater detail on options.
  - The facility has a loss of \$2million in the 2024/25 financial year.
  - Expressions of interest have been received from Pandaland. Contact will be made with another private provider and partners at Mana Ahuriri.
  - Similar facilities around the world that keep animals in captivity are focussing on conservation efforts, telling the local story through native flora and fauna and biodiversity.
  - Previous Council workshops established that a rebuild was a more cost effective option than a refurbishment. The building has problems that need to be remedied.
  - The business case will provide clearer directions for the new facility. It would be hard to move forward without doing this work. The existing facility needs to be reimaged to assure commercial sustainability.

### **The future of the Napier i-site**

Executive Director Community Services (Thunes Cloete) and Manager Business and Tourism (Steve Gregory) presented this section of the report outlining the options, noting that Option three was the preference from consultation feedback. It was noted that the current site is a prime location which delivers an exceptional customer experience for Napier as a tourist destination.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- An expression of interest process could be conducted.
- Previous reviews regarding the i-site have recommended retaining the current location. The i-site and the cruise ship 'drop off' would need to be located together.
- Legal advice would need to be sought regarding the investment from VIN. Maintaining a good relationship with VIN and the business association is important.
- Operational considerations aimed at alleviating the financial situation would form part of a business plan. All options can be explored.
- If the i-site is retained at its current location, the activity will be reviewed.
- There is a cost to accommodating the cruise ship buses along Marine Parade. This is a combination of roading, transport costs and lost parking revenue.
- Previous location assessments included in front of the MTG, though this would involve additional incidental costs.

### **The future of Par 2 MiniGolf**

Executive Director Community Services (Thunes Cloete) and Manager Business and Tourism (Steve Gregory) presented this section of the report noting that the direction provided was to explore commercial leasing of the facility.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The lease would determine the use of the facility. Council has received expression of interest.
- The heritage status of the facility will need to be reviewed
- As the facility is on reserve land, any expansion would need to go through the consent process.

### **The future of the Faraday Museum of Technology**



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Executive Director Community Services (Thunes Cloete) and Manager Arts Culture and Heritage (Elizabeth Caldwell) presented this section of the report noting the clear direction for option three.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- If would take approximately 12-18 months to put the Faraday Museum of Technology into a trust. The costs involved are budgeted.
- The next step is to identify trustees.
- A focussed trust is able to apply for additional funding to enable the full potential of the facility to be explored including the possible expansion, investment and improving the parking accessibility.
- The engineers who work on the Fullagar engine agree that it's operational capacity may be compromised if it were to be relocated. The engine would have to be entirely dismantled to be moved.
- The options are concepts at this stage.

### **Proposed Interim closure of the Napier Library**

Executive Director Community Services (Thunes Cloete) and Manager Arts Culture and Heritage (Elizabeth Caldwell) presented this section of the report noting that the consultation feedback strongly opposes closing the Napier Library.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The Napier Library is currently open six days a week, closing on Saturdays due to staffing numbers.
- Modelling has been undertaken with the roster to explore different opening options including three, four or seven days and weekend days.
- There are seven vacancies currently so options would need to take that into account, including the use of volunteers and the health and safety of all concerned.
- The length of the closure is to enable the stock to be moved, staff training and systems to be put in place.

*The meeting moved into public excluded at 12:19pm*

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## **Resolution to exclude the public**

Deputy Mayor Brosnan / Mayor Wise

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That the public be excluded from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting:

- Proposed Interim closure of the Napier Library

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Carried

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The reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter, and the specific grounds under s48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution were as follows:

- Section 7(2)(a) that the privacy of natural persons, should be protected; and

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- Section 7(2)(d) that measures protecting the health and safety of members of the public would be prejudiced
  - That the discussion may affect the privacy of employees and the safety of members of the public.

The meeting discussed various staffing and security options for the Napier and Taradale libraries, and the possible implications for existing staff.

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*The meeting reconvened into Open at 1:16pm*

### **Increase to Redclyffe Transfer Station fees**

Executive Director Infrastructure Services (Russell Bond) and Acting Manager Water Solutions (Sarah Schaare) presented this section of the report noting that the Transfer Station does receive some rates funding, though the gate rates have not been increased in-line with increasing costs to the facility.

Questions were answered clarifying:

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- The current contract has some flexibility, though the costs of disposal at the landfill site and transport costs have increased in recent years. Further increases in the government levies are due in the next couple of years.
- The rates at the Redclyffe Transfer Station are lower than Hastings and within the range of other facilities around the country.
- Enforcement for fly-tipping can be managed through the waste bylaw and Councils compliance team.

### **Updating our Significance and Engagement Policy**

Commercial Director (Richard Munneke) presented this section of the report noting that Ahuriri Investment Management assets should be treated as strategic assets with an extra layer of protection.

There were no questions from Council.

### **Coastal Hazards Joint Committee Funding**

Manager Infrastructure Developments (Simon Bradshaw) and Strategic Planning Lead (Connie Whelan-Mills) presented this section of the report asking whether Council preferred to continue to fund the Committee to the current budget to enable engagement to be undertaken for the strategy.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- Removing funding from the engagement process would put the Strategy at risk
- Although being best placed to undertake this work, Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC) did not have capacity. Napier City Council (NCC) has taken the initiative based on the understanding that HBRC would take over.
- Hastings District Council (HDC) have withdrawn funding. NCC and HBRC now face a shortfall in funding and HBRC may have to rescope the work.

- Staff time and resources are being allocated to the Committee, with a focus group meeting to determine how the engagement could be successfully completed.

### **Three Waters Capital Programme**

Executive Director Infrastructure Services (Russell Bond) and Acting Executive Director Corporate Services (Caroline Thomson) presented this section of the report.

There were no questions from Council.

### **Fees and Charges**

Manager Business and Tourism (Steve Gregory) presented this section of the report noting that Napier Conference and Events has a discounted rate for a community event of 30%, and this is a change from 40% previously.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- Criteria are used when an applicant, for example a 'not for profit agency' applies for a community rate. The decreased discounts are being proposed for sustainability and cost recovery of each space.

### **Hawkes Bay Tourism funding**

Chief Executive (Louise Miller) spoke to this section of the report, noting that work is being done with Hawkes Bay Tourism and this doesn't affect the Three Year Plan.

There were no questions from Council.

## **Deliberations**

### **The future of the National Aquarium of New Zealand**

The meeting discussed the even split of responses from the consultation process and the benefit of having community feedback at this first stage. The business case scope will be vital with equal weighting to be given to each option.

### **The future of the Napier i-site**

The meeting discussed the merits of option one and the need to seek advice.

### **The future of Par2 MiniGolf**

The meeting discussed the need to retain the MiniGolf course and that the lease should be approved by Council.

### **Proposed interim closure of Napier Library**

The meeting discussed options for opening hours of the Napier and Taradale Libraries, taking into consideration staffing, patronage, pensioners spending habits, responses from speakers during the hearing, and the possibility of diverting funds from other projects. Exploring the use of volunteers was raised.

### **Coastal Hazards Joint Committee**

The meeting discussed the possibility of retaining the funding towards a Napier based focus, the main stakeholders being Westshore and Bayview. The knowledge sits with the external project manager and key staff. A show of hands indicated a preference for the recommended option as offering the best chances of success.

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*The meeting adjourned at 2:59pm and reconvened at 3:20pm*

### **Water Services Levies**

Executive Director Infrastructure Services (Russell Bond) and Acting Executive Director Corporate Services (Caroline Thomson) presented this additional item noting that this levy was introduced last year with no changes made after the consultation period.

Questions were answered clarifying:

- The levy only applies to households connected to the relevant service.
- The levy has to be paid.

### **Save the Dotterels**

The meeting agreed that further conversations can be undertaken with the group.

### **Te Awa Community Hub**

The meeting committed to engage with the wider community to help identify a site for a community hub.

### **Nga Toi and Youth Council**

The meeting agreed to engage with Nga Toi to investigate providing spaces for rangatahi.

### **Regional Sports facilities**

The meeting suggested a review of the regional fees and charges.

### **Communications**

The meeting discussed the need for communications to be accessible.

### **Parking and bus stops**

The meeting discussed the options for parking at the Taradale Library and the Faraday Museum of Technology. The meeting agreed to explore the addition of bus stops on Church Road with HBRC.

### **Ahuriri Regional Park**

The meeting discussed moving the funding into this financial year.

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## **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

Mayor Wise / Councillor Crown

That Council:

- a) **Receive** and consider all submissions made on the Annual Plan 2025/26 consultation document, along with any relevant officer comments.
- b) **Receive** the petitions in relation to the Annual Plan 2025/26 consultation topics from James (Jim) Gaudin (The future of Napier i-site) and Aviva Taylor (proposed interim closure of Napier Library).
- c) **Adopt** the following recommendations based on feedback received during the consultation process for the Annual Plan 2025/26, and the analysis provided in the body of this report:

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- d) **The future of the National Aquarium of New Zealand: Direct** officers to start the business case process for the National Aquarium of New Zealand to further investigate options:
    - i. 3a – that Council exits the aquarium activity by transferring to a new party (option that received the most community support),
    - ii. 1- that Council demolish the current building and construct a new building in its place. Develop income-earning activity(s) (Council's preferred option), and
    - iii. 2- that Council refurbish the newer part of the building. Demolish the circular part and construct a new one in its place. Develop income earning activity(s) (received the same amount of support as preferred).
  - e) **The future of Par2 MiniGolf: Direct** officers to explore commercially leasing Par2 MiniGolf at its current location to a third-party operator.
    - i. **Direct** officers to bring the final lease arrangements to Council for approval
  - f) **The future of the Faraday Museum of Technology: Endorse** the commencement of work towards option 1 being: hand over the running of the Faraday Museum to a trust. Give the charity a one-off capital grant of \$1 million and a \$500,000 yearly operational grant.
  - g) **Proposed interim closure of Napier Library: Resolve** to retain operating the Napier temporary Library, for a minimum of Tuesday – Saturday, each week
    - i. **Direct** staff to actively pursue opportunities to build a volunteer base.
    - ii. **Note** the temporary Library will need to close for a number of months to allow for the transition to Te Aka, the transition plan will be circulated to councillors.
  - h) **Increase to Redclyffe Transfer Station fees: Direct** officers to increase Redclyffe Transfer Station fees beyond the CPI of 4.1%, as per Council's preferred option.
  - i) **Updating our Significance & Engagement Policy: Adopt** the attached proposed Significance and Engagement Policy (attachment 5.) that lists the inflation-adjusted value of Council's investment portfolio as a Strategic Group of Assets, as per Council's preferred option.
  - j) **Note** that the \$100,000 allocated to the Coastal Hazards Joint Committee remains in the ringfenced Resilience Rate as part of draft Annual Plan 2025/26 budgets subject to further information on the scope of the engagement process which may lead to additional funding from the Resilience Rate.
  - k) **Approve** the changes made to the Three Waters Capital Programme to better align with project and developer timelines,
    - i. **Note** that while changes have been made at an activity level, the rephrasing results in no change to the overall Three Waters Capital Programme budget (\$27.6m).
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- l) **Adopt** the attached schedule of proposed Fees & Charges 2025/26 (attachment 6.):
  - i. **Note** that the proposed Fees and Charges 2025/6 includes the increase to Redclyffe Transfer Station fees beyond CPI as per recommendation **h**), and
  - ii. **Note** that the amendments in the attached Fees and Charges schedule for the Building fees and charges online lodgement fee are approved, and
  - iii. **Note** that the amendments in the attached Fees and Charges schedule for the Napier War Memorial Centre: Napier Conferences and Events being a change to the community discount rate are not approved.
- m) **Approve** funding the additional \$150,000 for Hawke's Bay Tourism from operational savings noting:
  - i. Decisions made to date mean a total of \$450,000 has been included in Annual Plan 2025/26 budgets for Hawke's Bay Tourism and,
  - ii. That this \$150,000 funding has not been included in later years.
- n) **Direct** officers to include the budget for the newly introduced water services levies by way of a targeted rate.
- o) **Direct** officers to provide an update on the status of the Pirimai Community Plan.
- p) **Direct** officers to work with the Te Awa community as part of the city wide community hub work programme.
- q) **Direct** officers to undertake a cost comparison across the network of regional sports and recreation facilities for Council to consider in setting of fees and charges as part of the review of our Revenue and Financing Policy.
- r) **Direct officers to explore** options for online consultation documents to be provided in a form that can be readily printed.
- s) **Direct** officers to explore the introduction of time limited parking on the roadside near the Taradale Library.
  - i. **Direct** officers to explore the introduction of time limited parking on the roadside near the Faraday Museum of Technology.
  - ii. **Direct** officers to approach Hawkes Bay Regional Council about the appropriate placement of bus stops on Church Road close to the Taradale Library.
- t) **Direct** officers to pull forward the \$500,000 capex funding for the Lagoon Farm/Ahuriri Regional Park, for the entrance from Prebensen Drive, to the 2025/26 Financial year.
- u) **Direct** officers to prepare the final Annual Plan 2025/26 in anticipation of adoption at the 26 June 2025 Council meeting.
- v) **Note** that the final content for the Annual Plan 2025/26 is subject to minor corrections.

Carried

**COUNCIL  
RESOLUTION**

Mayor Wise / Councillor Simpson

That Council:

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- w) **The future of Napier i-site: Direct** officers to initiate an expressions of interest process to explore that a third-party manages the i-site in the current or a new location with no Council funding.
- i. **Explore** the current building being leased to a commercial entity for another purpose.
  - ii. **Direct** officers to bring back options to Council for decision.
  - iii. **Note** that in the interim the status quo continues..

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Carried – Deputy Mayor Brosnan voted AGAINST the motion

#### **Attachments**

- 1 2025-05-26 Annual Plan SIL Research presentation DOC ID 1857654
  - 2 2025-05-26 Annual Plan Elizabeth Pishief submission 82 DOC ID 1857656
  - 3 2025-05-26 Annual Plan Deliberations presentation DOC ID 1857657
  - 4 2025-05-26 Annual Plan 3 Waters Levy Memo DOC ID 1857850
  - 5 2025-05-26 Annual Plan Significance and Engagement Policy DOC ID 1854039
  - 6 2025-05-26 Annual Plan Fees and Charges 2025/26 DOC ID 1854038
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#### **Minor matters**

Nil

## **RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**

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Councillors Crown / Price

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

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Carried

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#### **Agenda Items**

- 1. Council Projects Fund - Napier/Ahuriri Temporary Homeless Shelter Society

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public was excluded, the reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under

section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution were as follows:

<b>General subject of each matter to be considered.</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter.</b>	<b>Ground(s) under section 48(1) to the passing of this resolution.</b>	<b>Plain English reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>
	That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information where the withholding of the information is necessary to:	48(1)(a) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist:	

### Agenda Items

1. Council Projects Fund - Napier/Ahuriri Temporary Homeless Shelter Society	7(2)(c)(i) Protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information or information from the same source and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied	48(1)(a) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist: (i) Where the local authority is named or specified in Schedule 1 of this Act, under section 6 or 7 (except 7(2)(f)(i)) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.	Financial documentation has been submitted to support the application
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### Public Excluded Text

Council has considered the public interest in the information above and balanced those interests with the reason(s) for withholding this information. This ensures Council has met the requirements for withholding information under section 7(2) of the Local Government and Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.



*The meeting adjourned at 4:23pm and reconvened in Public excluded on Wednesday 28 May at 9am*

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Approved and adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Chairperson .....

Date of approval .....