



THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

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Long-term Plan Consultation

- **Last week to have your say!**

With just one week remaining in the consultation period on the Regional Council's Long-term Plan Consultation Document the community is being encouraged to take the time to review the consultation material and provide their feedback.

"This is Council's plan for the next 10 years," said Regional Council Chair Peter Haddock. "The Long-term Plan sets out how Council plans on managing the region's natural resources for the next 10 years and delivering on our other legislative responsibilities."

Developing a long-term plan includes identifying the activities Council must deliver and proposing the rating contribution required to cover the estimated costs for each year.

"How we fund our activities to balance the budget is one of the key consultation topics, along with how the Predator Free Te Kinga work should be funded in the future when external funding runs out."

As part of the Long-term Plan process, a review of Council's user fees and charges has been undertaken.

"If you hold a resource consent, or use our other services, changes to our user fees and charges will affect you. The changes made ensure that those who benefit, or use our services, are the primary contributors to fund this work and not the general ratepayer."

The issues and proposals, as well as a summary of Council's work programmes and other information, are outlined in the Long-term Plan Consultation Document which is out for public consultation from 12 April 2024 until 10 May 2024.

"Asking questions when the first rates instalment of the 2024/25 year arrives is too late," said Chair Haddock. "If you want to influence Council decisions on the Long-term Plan, now is the time."

The Consultation Document and supporting information can be found on Council's website at www.wcrc.govt.nz. Alternatively, copies are also available at the public libraries in Westport, Greymouth and Hokitika, the Service Centre in Reefton and the Regional Council office in Paroa, Greymouth.

A hearing will be held on 20 May for those wishing to present their views in person.

ENDS

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