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PART 4: APPENDICES



AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE READER:

Independent auditor's report on Ashburton District Council's 2021-2031 long-term plan

I am the Auditor-General's appointed auditor for Ashburton District Council (the Council). The Local Government Act 2002 (the Act) requires the Council's long-term plan (plan) to include the information in Part 1 of Schedule 10 of the Act. Section 94 of the Act requires an audit report on the Council's plan. Section 259C of the Act requires a report on disclosures made under certain regulations. I have carried out this work using the staff and resources of Audit New Zealand. We completed our report on 30 June 2021.

QUALIFIED OPINION

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis for qualified opinion section of our report:

- the plan provides a reasonable basis for:
 - long-term, integrated decision-making and co-ordination of the Council's resources; and
 - accountability of the Council to the community; and
- the information and assumptions underlying the forecast information in the plan are reasonable; and
- the disclosures on pages 86 to 90 (Volume 2) represent a complete list of the disclosures required by Part 2 of the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 (the Regulations) and accurately reflect the information drawn from the plan.

This opinion does not provide assurance that the forecasts in the plan will be achieved, because events do not always occur as expected and variations may be material. Nor does it guarantee the accuracy of the information in the plan.

AUDIT NEW ZEALAND

Mana Arotake Aotearoa

BASIS FOR QUALIFIED OPINION - ASSUMPTION RELATED TO THE FUNDING OF A SECOND URBAN BRIDGE BETWEEN ASHBURTON AND TINWALD

As outlined on page 204 (Volume 2), the Council plans to spend \$37 million to build a second urban bridge to connect Ashburton and Tinwald. In its plan, the Council is proposing to fund \$7.5 million of the bridge through debt and rates. The Council assumes that the remaining cost of the bridge will be funded by \$18.8 million from Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency and \$10.7 million from Central Government. We consider the assumption that \$10.7 million will be funded by Central Government unreasonable, because Central Government has not made any funding available.

Due to the uncertainty over the assumed Central Government funding we have not determined the impact that this may have on the plan.

We carried out our work in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (New Zealand) 3000 (Revised) Assurance Engagements Other Than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information. In meeting the requirements of this standard, we took into account particular elements of the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards and the International Standard on Assurance Engagements 3400 The Examination of Prospective Financial Information that were consistent with those requirements.

We assessed the evidence the Council has to support the information and disclosures in the plan and the application of its policies and strategies to the forecast information in the plan. To select appropriate procedures, we assessed the risk of material misstatement and the Council's systems and processes applying to the preparation of the plan.

Our procedures included assessing whether:

- the Council's financial strategy, and the associated financial policies, support prudent financial management by the Council;
- the Council's infrastructure strategy identifies the significant infrastructure issues that the Council is likely to face during the next 30 years;
- the Council's forecasts to replace existing assets are consistent with its approach to

replace its assets, and reasonably take into account the Council's knowledge of the assets' condition and performance;

- the information in the plan is based on materially complete and reliable information;
- the Council's key plans and policies are reflected consistently and appropriately in the development of the forecast information;
- the assumptions set out in the plan are based on the best information currently available to the Council and provide a reasonable and supportable basis for the preparation of the forecast information;
- the forecast financial information has been properly prepared on the basis of the underlying information and the assumptions adopted, and complies with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand;
- the rationale for the Council's activities is clearly presented and agreed levels of service are reflected throughout the plan;
- the levels of service and performance measures are reasonable estimates and reflect the main aspects of the Council's intended service delivery and performance; and
- the relationship between the levels of service, performance measures, and forecast financial information has been adequately explained in the plan.

EMPHASIS OF MATTERS

Without further modifying our opinion, we draw attention to the following disclosures.

Uncertainty over three waters reforms

Page 9 (Volume 2) outlines the Government's intention to make three waters reform decisions during 2021. The effect that the reforms may have on three waters services provided is currently uncertain because no decisions have been made. The plan was prepared as if these services will continue to be provided by the Council, but future decisions may result in significant changes, which would affect the information on which the plan has been based.

Extent of damage from the significant flooding event during May 2021 is unknown

Page 22 (Volume 1) outlines the significant flooding event that occurred during May 2021 in the Canterbury region. The Council has not made amendments to the forecasts contained in the plan. This is because the extent of the damage to the Council's essential assets and the estimated cost and timing of the repairs that will be required are currently unknown, and have yet to be assessed by the Council. Once this information is known, the Council will determine whether to amend its plan or include the

information in the 2022/23 annual plan.

Responsibilities of the Council and auditor

The Council is responsible for:

- meeting all legal requirements affecting its procedures, decisions, consultation, disclosures, and other actions relating to the preparation of the plan;
- presenting forecast financial information in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand; and
- having systems and processes in place to enable the preparation of a plan that is free from material misstatement.

We are responsible for expressing an independent opinion on the plan and the disclosures required by the Regulations, as required by sections 94 and 259C of the Act. We do not express an opinion on the merits of the plan's policy content.

Independence and quality control

We have complied with the Auditor-General's:

- independence and other ethical requirements, which incorporate the independence and ethical requirements of Professional and Ethical Standard 1 issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board; and
- quality control requirements, which incorporate the quality control requirements of Professional and Ethical Standard 3 (Amended) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Other than our work in carrying out all legally required external audits, we have no relationship with or interests in the Council or any of its subsidiaries.



Dereck Ollsson

Audit New Zealand
On behalf of the Auditor-General,
Christchurch, New Zealand

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

COUNCIL

MAYOR



NEIL BROWN
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DEPUTY MAYOR / WESTERN WARD



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RON SMITH

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COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mayor	Neil Brown
Deputy Mayor	Liz McMillan
Councillors	Leen Braam
	Angus McKay
	Stuart Wilson

SUBCOMMITTEES

Ashburton Airport Authority	
Crs Leen Braam (Chair), Rodger Letham and Lynette Lovett.	
Ashburton District Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee	
Crs Lynette Lovett (Chair), Liz McMillan and Diane Rawlinson.	
Ashburton Library and Civic Centre Project Control Group	<i>Reports to Council</i>
Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Crs Leen Braam and Diane Rawlinson. Membership of this Group includes the Chief Executive (Chair), Group Manager Business Support and Commercial Property Manager.	
Creative Communities Assessment Committee	
Crs Leen Braam and John Falloon.	
Road Reference Groups (Urban and Rural)	
Crs Stuart Wilson (Chair) and Lynette Lovett – Rural Road Reference Group.	
Crs Diane Rawlinson (Chair) and Carolyn Cameron – Urban Road Reference Group.	
Total Mobility	
Cr Diane Rawlinson.	
Town Centre Subcommittee	<i>Reports to Council</i>
Crs Carolyn Cameron (Chair), Leen Braam, John Falloon, Angus McKay and Diane Rawlinson.	
Youth Council	<i>Reports to Council</i>
Crs Lynette Lovett and Diane Rawlinson	

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Ashburton Performing Arts Theatre Trust	Mayoral appointee <i>[David Welsh]</i>
Electricity Ashburton Shareholders Committee	External appointees (x3) <i>[David Ward, Ann Marett, Chris Robertson]</i>
Hekeao-Hinds Water Enhancement Trust	Mayor
Plains Museum Trust	External appointees (x2) <i>[Darryl Nelson, Stefan van Vliet]</i>
Rural Support Trust	Council appointee <i>(Cr Lovett)</i>
Safer Mid Canterbury	Council appointee <i>(Cr McMillan)</i>
Waitaha PHO Board	External appointee (x1) <i>[Georgina McLeod]</i>

MEMORIAL HALL BOARDS AND RESERVE BOARDS

Alford Forest Reserve	Cr Letham
Chertsey Reserve	Cr Rawlinson
Dorie Reserve	Cr McKay
Ealing Reserve	Cr Wilson
Greenstreet Reserve	Cr Cameron
Highbank Reserve	Cr Letham
Hinds Reserve	Crs Lovett & Wilson
Lagmhor Westerfield Hall	Cr Braam
Lynnford Reserve	Cr Lovett
Mayfield Reserve	Cr McMillan
Methven Reserve	Cr McMillan
Mt Somers Reserve	Cr Braam
Pendarves Reserve	Cr Rawlinson
Rakaia Reserve	Cr Lovett
Ruapuna Reserve	Cr Letham
Seafield Reserve	Cr McKay
Tinwald Reserve	Cr Rawlinson
Mayfield Hall	Cr Letham
Mt Hutt Memorial Hall Methven	Cr McMillan
Rakaia Hall	Cr Lovett
Tinwald Hall	Cr Cameron

ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY RIVER RATING DISTRICTS

Ashburton Hinds Drainage	Cr Lovett
Ashburton Rivers	Cr Letham
Ashburton Town Stopbanks	Cr Braam
Cleardale (Rakaia Gorge)	Cr McMillan
Dry Creek	Cr McMillan
Lower Hinds River	Cr Wilson
Lower Rakaia River	Mayor
Mt Harding Creek	Cr Letham
Rakaia Double Hill	Cr McMillan
Staveley Stormwater Channel	Cr Letham
Upper Hinds River	Cr Wilson

COUNCIL CONTROLLED ORGANISATIONS (CCOS) AND SHAREHOLDING

Ashburton Community Water Trust	Mayor
Ashburton Contracting Limited	Directors <i>[A Lilley (C), D Prendergast, B Warren, R Pickworth & A Barlass]</i>
Eastfield Investments Liaison	Mayor, Deputy Mayor & GM Business Support
Rangitata Diversion Race Management Limited (RDRML)	Mayor (CE alternate)
RDRML Remuneration Subcommittee	Cr McMillan

ADVISORY GROUPS

Biodiversity Advisory Group
Crs Lynette Lovett (Chair) and Diane Rawlinson
Water Race Network Advisory Group
Cr Stuart Wilson

JOINT COMMITTEES (WITH OTHER AUTHORITIES)

Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy Group	Cr Lovett
Canterbury Regional Civil Defence Emergency Management Group	Mayor (<i>Cr Lovett alternate</i>)
Canterbury Regional Landfill Joint Committee	Deputy Mayor (<i>Mayor alternate</i>)
Canterbury Regional Land Transport Cmte	Mayor (<i>Cr Wilson alternate</i>)
Canterbury Regional Water Management Committee	Cr McKay
Canterbury Waste Joint Committee	Deputy Mayor (<i>Mayor alternate</i>)
Road Safety Coordinating Committee	Council appointees (<i>Crs Lovett, McMillan & Rawlinson</i>)
Total Mobility Committee	Council appointee (<i>Cr Rawlinson</i>)
Water Management Zone Committee	Council appointee (<i>Cr Wilson</i>)

GLOSSARY

ACL	Ashburton Contracting Limited
ADC	Ashburton District Council
ALGIM	Association of Local Government Information Management
AMP	Activity Management Plan
AP	Annual Plan
AR	Annual Report
BERL	Business and Economic Research Limited
CCO	Council Controlled Organisation
CBD	Central Business District
CDEM	Civil Defence Emergency Management
DP	District Plan
EA	Electricity Ashburton
EANC	Electricity Ashburton Networks Centre
EM	Elected Members
EPH	Elderly Peoples Housing
ETS	Emissions Trading Scheme

FAR	Financial Assistance Rate
FS	Financial Strategy
FIS	Funding Impact Statement
IS	Infrastructure Strategy
LAPP	Local Authority Protection Program
LGA	Local Government Act 2002
LGCI	Local Government Consumer Index
LTP	Long-Term Plan
PGF	Provincial Growth Fund
NPS	National Policy Statement
NZTA	New Zealand Transport Association
ONRC	One Network Roding Classification
Project AF8	Project focused on the Alpine Fault (magnitude 8)
RDR	Rangitata Diversion Race
RMA	Resource Management Act 1991

MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE



HAMISH RIACH
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



PAUL BRAKE
GROUP MANAGER:
BUSINESS SUPPORT



JANE DONALDSON
GROUP MANAGER:
STRATEGY & COMPLIANCE



STEVE FABISH
GROUP MANAGER:
COMMUNITY SERVICES



NEIL MCCANN
GROUP MANAGER:
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES



SARAH MOSLEY
PEOPLE & CAPABILITY MANAGER



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ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL
LONG-TERM PLAN

2021-31

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