



**STRATFORD
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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Our reference:

4 March 2020

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that the **Ordinary** meeting of Council will be held in the **Council Chambers, Stratford District Council, Miranda Street, Stratford** on **Tuesday 10 March 2020** at **4pm**.

Timetable for 10 March 2020 as follows:

1.30pm	Group photo - Elected Members & Directors
2pm	Workshop for Councillors: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Swimming Pool location- Long Term Plan- Community Groups Policy- Communication & Engagement Strategy
4pm	Ordinary Meeting of Council

Yours faithfully

Sven Hanne
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

2020 - Agenda - Ordinary - March (10/03/2020)

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ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
TUESDAY 10 MARCH 2020 AT 4.00 PM

A G E N D A

1. **WELCOME**
Health and Safety Message
2. **APOLOGIES**
3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
4. **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTEREST**
Elected members to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda.
5. **ATTENDANCE SCHEDULE**
Attendance schedule for Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings.
6. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**
 - 6.1 **Ordinary Meeting – 11 February 2020**
D20/2424 (Pages 7-12)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 11 February 2020 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

_____/_____
Moved/Seconded

- 6.2 **Policy and Services Meeting – 25 February 2020**
D20/3404 (Pages 13-22)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 25 February 2020 be received.
2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 25 February 2020 be adopted.

_____/_____
Moved/Seconded

6.3 **Executive Committee Meeting – 5 December 2019 – Public Excluded**
D20/2377 (Pages 23-24)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of Council held on Thursday 5 December 2019, including the public excluded section, be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

/_____
Moved/Seconded

6.4 **Executive Committee Meeting – 11 February 2020 – Public Excluded**
D20/2390 (Pages 25-27)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 11 February 2020, including the public excluded section, be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

/_____
Moved/Seconded

7. **DECISION REPORT – RATES REMISSION POLICY**
D20/3458 (Pages 28-42)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report be received.
2. THAT the changes to the Rates Remission Policy be approved to be released for public consultation as required under Section 102 of the Local Government Act 2002, giving effect to Section 82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Recommended Reason

The Rates Remission Policy must go out for public consultation before any amendments can be adopted, as required by legislation.

/_____
Moved/Seconded

8. **DECISION REPORT – DOG CONTROL POLICY AND STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL**

D20/87 (Pages 43-61)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report be received.
2. THAT the *draft* Dog Control Policy 2020 be approved and released for public consultation.

Recommended Reason

The recommendation of the Council is required to initiate the public consultation process required by Sections 82 and 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 to seek comments from the public on the amendments to the *draft* Dog Control Policy 2020.

Moved/Seconded

9. **DISTRICT MAYOR'S REPORT**

D20/3577 (Pages 62-69)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the District Mayor's report be received.

Moved/Seconded

10. **QUESTIONS**



Health and Safety Message

In the event of an emergency, please follow the instructions of Council Staff.

Please exit through main entrance.

Once you reach the footpath outside please turn left and walk towards the Bell tower congregating on lawn outside the Council Building.

Staff will guide you to an alternative route if necessary.

If there is an earthquake – drop, cover and hold where possible. Stay indoors till the shaking stops and you are sure it is safe to exit or remain where you are until further instruction is given.

Attendance schedule for 2019-2020 Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings.

Date	29/10/19	12/11/19	10/12/19	11/02/20	10/03/20	14/04/20	12/05/20	09/06/20	14/07/20	11/08/20	08/09/20	13/10/20	10/11/20
Meeting	I	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Neil Volzke	✓	✓	✓	✓									
Grant Boyde	✓	✓	✓	✓									
Rick Coplestone	✓	✓	✓	✓									
Peter Dalziel	✓	✓	✓	✓									
Jono Erwood	✓	✓	✓	✓									
Amanda Harris	✓	✓	✓	✓									
Alan Jamieson	✓	✓	✓	A									
Vaughan Jones	✓	✓	✓	✓									
Min McKay	✓	✓	✓	✓									
John Sandford	✓	✓	✓	✓									
Gloria Webby	✓	✓	✓	✓									

Key	
O	Ordinary Meeting
E	Extraordinary Meeting
I	Inaugural Meeting
✓	Attended
A	Apology/Leave of Absence
AB	Absent
S	Sick

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL ON TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2020 AT 4 PM

PRESENT

The District Mayor N C Volzke (the Chairman), Councillors G W Boyde, J M S Erwood, R W Coplestone, P S Dalziel, A K Harris, V Jones, M McKay, W J Sandford and G M Webby.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director – Corporate Services – Mrs T Radich, the Director Assets – Mrs V Araba, the Director Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the Executive Administration Officer – Ms R Vanstone, the Roading Asset Manager – Mr S Bowden (*part meeting*), and two members of the media (Stratford Press & the Daily News).

1. **WELCOME**

The District Mayor welcomed the Chief Executive, Councillors, staff, and members of the media. He reminded Councillors to familiarise themselves with the Health and Safety message included in the agenda.

2. **APOLOGIES**

A leave of absence was noted for the Deputy Mayor A L Jamieson.

An apology was noted from the Director Community Services - Ms K Whareaitu due to unforeseen circumstances.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the apologies be received.

BOYDE/WEBBY
Carried
CL/20/01

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The District Mayor asked elected members to remain following the close of today's meeting.

4. **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTEREST**

The District Mayor requested Councillors to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda.

Councillors McKay and Dalziel declared an interest in item 7, Americarna Road Closures, as they are members of the Stratford Business Association.

Councillors were reminded that the monthly update for the declaration of members interest would be circulated for them to update and sign.

5. **ATTENDANCE SCHEDULE**

The Attendance Schedule for Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings was attached. The District Mayor noted a 100 per cent attendance rate for these meetings to date.

6. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**6.1 **Ordinary Meeting – 10 December 2019**
D19/33813 (Pages 7-19)**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 10 December 2019 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

McKAY/ERWOOD
Carried
CL/20/02

The Executive Administration Officer undertook to make the following amendments:

- Page 7, Councillor Erwood listed as present twice, remove one reference.
- Page 9, paragraph 14.2 (recommendation), insert “scooters”.
- Page 19, “meeting minutes to be confirmed this 11th day of February 2020” not “2019”.

6.2 **Audit and Risk Meeting – 17 December 2019**
D19/34500 (Pages 20-30)**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Audit and Risk Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 17 December 2019 be received.

DALZIEL/ERWOOD
Carried
CL/20/03

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Audit and Risk Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 17 December 2019 be adopted.

VOLZKE/ DALZIEL
Carried
CL/20/04

The District Mayor noted the significance of the recommendation of the committee which saw this council become part of the Local Government Funding Agency (“LGFA”) guarantor scheme. The Director Corporate Services added that this adoption now allowed the process to commence while the Treasury Management Policy allowed for council to become a guarantor. Councillor Dalziel also noted that once council borrowings go above \$20 million there is obligation that council will become a guarantor to the LGFA.

It was clarified that a live phishing scam was run as part of an ongoing fraud awareness exercise amongst elected members and council officer late last year.

The Executive Administration Officer noted the following amendments to be made to the minutes at the next meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee:

- Page 30, “meeting minutes to be confirmed this 17th day of February 2020” not “2019”.
- Correct the spelling of the presenter, Mr Andrew *Michl* throughout the document, not Mr Andrew Michel.

6.3 **Policy and Services Meeting – 28 January 2020**
D20/2022 (Pages 31-40)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 28 January 2020 be received.

WEBBY/McKAY
Carried
CL/20/05

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 28 January 2020 be adopted.

SANDFORD/HARRIS
Carried
CL/20/06

The Executive Administration Officer noted the following amendments to be made to the minutes at the next meeting of the Policy and Services Committee:

- Page 31, Councillor Boyde was present at the meeting but was not noted as such in the attendance list.
- Page 37, third bullet point, insert ‘no’... “no further interior structural changes at this time.”

7. **DECISION REPORT - AMERICARNA ROAD CLOSURES**
D20/1948 (Pages 41-47)**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/BOYDE
Carried
CL/20/07
2. THAT pursuant to Section 342(1) (b) in accordance with Schedule 10 clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974, notice is hereby given that the Stratford District Council proposes to close the following roads on Friday 21 February 2020, between the hours of 7.00am and 1.30pm for the purpose of the 2020 Americarna event.
 - State Highway 3 Broadway between Seyton Street and Fenton Street
 - Regan Street between Miranda Street and Juliet Street between the hours of 9am to 1.30pm
 - Miranda Street between the Seyton Street and Fenton Street
 - Fenton Street between Juliet Street and State Highway 3 Broadway
3. THAT the Council approves the alternative route detailed below:
 - Southbound traffic – left into Seyton Street, right into Juliet Street, left onto Celia Street and right onto Orlando Street to return to State Highway 3 via Hills Road to the south of Stratford.
 - Northbound traffic – left onto Fenton Street, right onto Portia Street, right onto Seyton Street and left to re-join State Highway 3 at Seyton Street/State Highway 3 intersection.

ERWOOD/BOYDE
Carried
CL/20/08

Recommended Reason

In order for the Stratford Business Association to host Americarna, it is necessary to close the roads listed above for safety reasons and for the participants to exhibit their vehicles via a static display. The proposed road closures require formal endorsement by a Council resolution.

Councillors McKay and Dalziel left the table and the Roading Asset Manager joined the table at 4.15pm.

Recommendations 2-3 were read together.

Questions/points of clarification:

- Mr Bowden confirmed that no objections to road closures have been received.
- It was clarified that customers will be able to access and exit the Z Garage on the corner of Regan Street and Broadway from the Regan Street entrance. Marshalls will direct traffic.

Points noted in discussion:

- Councillor Erwood noted his support for the event which was positive for the town and businesses which benefited from the increase in customers/visitor numbers.

The Roading Asset Manager left the meeting and Councillors McKay and Dalziel re-joined the table at 4.20pm.

8. **DECISION REPORT – DRAFT CONTROL OF DOGS BYLAW 2020**

D20/74 (Pages 72-77)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report be received.

HARRIS/McKAY
Carried
CL/20/09

2. THAT the *draft* Control of Dogs Bylaw 2020 be adopted and released for public consultation.

McKAY/BOYDE
Carried
CL/20/10

The Director Environmental Services noted the following points:

- The existing Dog Control Bylaw has come up for the ten year renewal.
- The Dog Control Policy is not attached to the bylaw document today but will come before elected members at the next meeting. The submission dates in the Statement of Proposal will therefore require amendment. It is intended that the bylaw and policy document will be released for consultation at the same time.

Questions/Points of clarification:

- The District Mayor, referring to clause 1010.2 on page 81, considered that a general reference to the newspaper and council website as avenues for the public notice on temporary designations rather than a specific reference to the Stratford Press would be pragmatic.
- It was clarified that legislation requires separate bylaw and policy documents. Enforcement action is defined by the Dog Control Act.
- The District Mayor, referring to clause 1015.1 on page 82, suggested a specific reference to nuisance dogs being inserted.
- The District Mayor, referring to clause 10174.1 on page 83, suggested a wording change “..., where the owner of the dog is known to Council” not “where to owner of the dog is known to Council”.
- It was clarified that the rationale behind deleting the paragraph 1012 Dogs becoming a nuisance or injurious to heal on page 82 was that it is covered by the act.
- Councillor Boyde is supportive of the draft being released for consultation and looks forward to feedback from the community on the lifting of restrictions on dogs in Broadway and Prospero Place.
- Councillor McKay added that she was also hopeful that the community would give feedback. In her view, opening up Broadway and Prospero Place to dogs on leash will add to the vibrancy of the town.

9. **DISTRICT MAYOR'S REPORT**
D20/2039 (Pages 93-97)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the District Mayor's report be received.

VOLZKE/McKAY
Carried
CL/20/11

6

The District Mayor noted the following points:

- That he had attended two stakeholder meetings for the State Highway 43 sealing project since the funding announcement was made.
- The first meeting, before Christmas, dealt largely with process and projected timelines. NZTA is currently going through the consenting process. Mr Volzke added that he did not foresee difficulties in gaining consent as all work was being carried out inside the road reserve. Ngāti Maru and Horizons Regional Council were on board.
- In the next month to six weeks, the District Mayor anticipates further meetings including one with the eastern districts community.
- Preparatory work will commence in winter with culverts, drains, shaping and bank removal. Sealing will begin the following summer and will be completed in two phases. The first two kilometres of seal work will be offered to local contractors for tender. The remainder will be sealed the following summer and it is expected that that work will go to a larger industry player.

Questions/Points of clarification:

- Councillors Boyde and Dalziel commended the efforts of the district's voluntary fire brigade. Mayor Volzke agreed adding that the employers and families of our volunteer brigade also deserve praise for their support.

10. **QUESTIONS**

There were no questions.

The meeting closed at 4.40pm.

N C Volzke
CHAIRMAN

Confirmed this 10th day of March 2020.

N C Volzke
DISTRICT MAYOR

MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL ON TUESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2020 AT 3PM

PRESENT

The Deputy Mayor A L Jamieson (the Chairman), the District Mayor N C Volzke, Councillors M McKay, J M S Erwood, R W Coplestone, P S Dalziel, A K Harris, V Jones, W J Sandford and G M Webby.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director Community Services – Ms K Whareaitu, the Director Assets – Mrs V Araba, the Director Corporate Services – Mrs T Radich, the Environmental Health Manager – Ms R Otter, the Executive Administration Officer – Ms R Vanstone, the Communications Manager – Ms G Gibson, the Community Development Manager – Mr C Julie, the Community Development Officer – Mrs Amy Kingston, the Corporate Accountant – Mrs C Craig, two members of the media (Stratford Press & Taranaki Daily News) and three members of the public.

1. **WELCOME**

The Deputy Mayor welcomed the District Mayor, Chief Executive, Councillors, staff and the media. He reminded Councillors to familiarise themselves with the Health and Safety message included in the agenda.

2. **APOLOGIES**

A leave of absence was noted for Councillor Boyde.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the apology be received.

ERWOOD/HARRIS
Carried
CL/20/16

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The District Mayor advised elected members that a Taranaki Daily News photographer would be present at the next meeting of council on 10 March to take photos of council in session for the purpose of updating their stock of profile pictures.

Regarding item 6.2 *Ordinary Meeting – 11 February 2020*, the District Mayor advised that this item would be struck off today's meeting agenda and will come to the Ordinary meeting of council on 10 March.

4. **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTEREST**

The Deputy Mayor requested Councillors to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda. There were no declarations of interest.

5. **ATTENDANCE SCHEDULE**

The attendance schedule for Policy and Services Committee Meetings, including Hearings was attached.

6. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

6.1 **Policy and Services Committee Meeting – 28 January 2020**
D20/2022 Pages 9-18

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 28 January 2020, be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

VOLZKE/McKAY
Carried
CL/20/17

The Executive Administration Officer undertook to add Councillor Boyde to the list of those present at the meeting.

~~6.2 **Ordinary Meeting – 11 February 2020**~~
~~D20/2424 Pages 19-24~~

RECOMMENDATION

~~1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 11 February 2020, be received.~~

~~2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 11 February 2020, be adopted.~~

~~_____
Moved/Seconded~~

7. **MATTERS OUTSTANDING**

D16/47

Page 32

RECOMMENDATION**THAT** the matters outstanding be received.DALZIEL/WEBBY

Carried

CL/20/18

The Chief Executive noted that two items would come off the list of matters outstanding following today's meeting.

8. **INFORMATION REPORT – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
QUARTERLY REPORT – Q2**

D20/2666

Pages 26-32

RECOMMENDATION**THAT** the report be received.SANDFORD/McKAY

Carried

CL/20/19

The Director Community Services noted a correction to the Stratford Visitor Information Centre i-SITE figures on page 28. The year to date reported figures are slightly under actuals including 17,940 people have been through the Information Centre and 5,126 AA users to date.

Justine Gilliland, Chief Executive of Venture Taranaki, accompanied by Jenn Patterson, Business Analyst noted the following points:

- For year ending 2019, the overall unemployment rate was 4.2 per cent for the region – a drop since the last quarter. The unemployment rate for Stratford is 4.4 per cent – closer to the national average.
- Taranaki bucked national trends in terms of visitor spend with an increase of 5 per cent.
- New statistics released from Infometrix show emissions are lower per capita when compared to the rest of New Zealand.
- In terms of mean household income – mean incomes have increased – although not as much as house prices.

Questions/Points of clarification:

- Whilst Councillor Dalziel was pleased to see that 2,000 new jobs were created in Taranaki, he was concerned that only 22 of those were in Stratford – that is 1 per cent and very low. This data would be useful for our future discussions on the LTP. Ms Patterson noted that these figures come from job postings in websites and newspapers and Ms Gilliland added that businesses have a high degree of confidence in either retaining or increasing the number of staff that they have (taken from the business results survey). Skills shortages remains a top challenge for employers and is consistently signalled. This will be a focus for Venture Taranaki in the coming year.
- Councillor Dalziel commented on the increase in retail spend and Ms Gilliland replied that this was usual for the time of year when spend on petrol, groceries, gifts and merchandise increased.

- Ms Whareaitu responded to a question from Councillor Dalziel that website engagement sat independently of tourism as a report heading.

Venture Taranaki staff, the Community Development Manager and Community Development Officer left the meeting at 3.15pm.

9. **DECISION REPORT – POLICY REVIEWS 2018/19 & 2019/20 – NINTH TRANCHE**

D20/2542

Pages 57-63

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/COPLESTONE
Carried
CL/20/20

2. THAT the attached, updated policies, being the:

*Mayor’s Relief Fund Policy,
Housing for the Elderly Policy, and the
Community Archives Collection and Management Policy*

be adopted.

WEBBY/ COPLESTONE
Carried
CL/20/21

3. THAT the attached policies, being the

Monetary Bonds Policy

be deleted.

DALZIEL/McKAY
Carried
CL/20/22

The Chief Executive noted the following:

- *Mayor's Relief Fund Policy*
 - The policy gives guidance around how the fund can be applied, acknowledging some flexibility when required. Minor process changes were suggested.
 - Councillor Jamieson suggested a slight change in wording at paragraph 4 (page 64 refers) to: "*Payment will be made to the service provider for goods and services provided, not the applicant*".
 - Mayor Volzke noted that the policy was not called upon often and that there was sufficient flexibility to enable someone in desperate need. Mr Volzke added that the fund was available where other agencies did not or could not provide.

- *Housing for the Elderly Policy*
 - Based on recent experiences there is an option to add an element to the criteria of how units are assigned.
 - Traditionally there has been a 100 per cent occupation rate for housing for the elderly. Currently the system works on a first come, first serve basis, where all criteria are met. A question has been recently raised about whether, where a higher need is recognised, the applicant is able to move further up the waiting list.
 - Mayor Volzke expressed reservations at someone having to make a subjective decision about need.
 - Councillor Harris expressed similar reservations and asked how often the need to prioritise need had come up in the last 12 months. Mr Hanne responded that this situation was rare.
 - Councillor Jamieson thought that the reference (paragraph 4, page 66 refers) ought to be removed from the policy.

- *Community Archives Collection and Management Policy*
 - Elected members have had recent exposure to the policy following an enquiry from an elected member.
 - Councillor Webby thought that this policy was well constructed.
 - Mayor Volzke considered the background section to be lengthy and unnecessary however it could remain.

- *Monetary Bonds Policy*
 - This policy makes it clear to people who pay a bond that, upon completion of the required work, the bond only would be returned. For avoidance of doubt, text has been inserted suggesting that no interest on that money would be paid.
 - There were no opposing views.

10. **DECISION REPORT – PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURE FOR TARANAKI
CAR CLUB**

D20/2541

Pages 83-88

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report be received.
2. THAT pursuant to Section 342(1) (b) in accordance with Schedule 10 clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974, notice is hereby given that the Stratford District Council proposes to close Toko Road from its intersection with Ruapuha Road (RP4.6) to the end of the road (RP10.3) on Saturday 28 March between the hours of 7.30am to 5.30pm for the Taranaki Car Club to host a sprint motorsport event.

JONES/COPLESTONE

Carried

CL/20/23

The recommendations were taken together.

The Director - Assets noted that the Taranaki Car Club had liaised with affected residents on the road and a public notice had been published earlier in the month. To date, no objections have been received.

Questions/Points of clarification:

- Councillor Jamieson was pleased to see this hill climb event on the club calendar – the first to be held in Stratford for four years.
- Councillor Coplestone reaffirmed that local residents were happy that the event was being hosted.

11. **INFORMATION REPORT – PERCY THOMSON TRUST - HALF
YEARLY REPORT AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2019**

D20/689

Pages 111-129

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report be received.

WEBBY/HARRIS

Carried

CL/20/24

2. THAT Council receive the half yearly report for Percy Thomson Trust as at 31 December 2019.

WEBBY/SANFORD

Carried

CL/20/25

The Corporate Accountant joined the meeting at 3.35pm.

The Corporate Accountant noted the following points:

- The Chairman's report covers the operation of the Trust including the gallery, Percy's Place and leased space to the i-SITE and Sgt Peppers Café. The gallery attracts high quality exhibits, for example, the Rodin on loan from Te Papa, and high visitor numbers.
- Mrs Craig thanked the council, on behalf of the trust, for their continued support and in particular, the \$50,000 annual grant.

Questions/Points of clarification:

- Mrs Craig clarified that the trust intended to re-let the space currently occupied by the i-SITE.
- The District Mayor requested a more detailed breakdown of the \$250,000 investment funding. Mrs Radich clarified that an investment profile would be provided at the next meeting and requested that this item be added to matters outstanding.

12. INFORMATION REPORT – PERCY THOMSON TRUST – STATEMENT OF INTENT 2020-2023

D20/2619

Pages 130-152

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report be received.

COPELSTONE/HARRIS
Carried
CL/20/26

2. THAT Council receive the Statement of Intent for Percy Thomson Trust for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2023.

WOLZKE/WEBBY
Carried
CL/20/27

The Corporate Accountant left the meeting at 3.43pm.

13. MONTHLY REPORTS

13.1 ASSETS REPORT

D20/1972

Pages 153-175

RECOMMENDATION

- THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/HARRIS
Carried
CL/20/28

The Director Assets noted the following points:

- The Seyton Street kerb, channel and footpath replacement has been completed.
- The Mangaotuku Road strengthening continues as part of the work programme over the next few months.
- In terms of water supply, there were no issues at the 3 water treatment plants.
- The Taranaki district councils submitted a joint submission on the waste levy proposal.

Questions/Points of clarification:

- Councillor Coplestone sought clarification on whether there is an unsealed to sealed road policy. Mrs Araba confirmed that one would be prepared in the future. This year's target is to re-seal five per cent of the network or 20 kilometres of road – three kilometres have been re-sealed up to the end of January.
- Councillor Jones asked whether it was necessary to have so many speed limit signs especially on the shorter Toko roads. Mrs Araba clarified that speed signage requirements are set by NZTA.
- Councillor Harris asked how Stratford compares with other councils in terms of solid waste. Further information will be made available on Diligent.

13.2 COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

D20/265

Pages 176-187

RECOMMENDATION**THAT** the report be received.McKAY/COPLESTONE
Carried
CL/20/29

The Director Community Services noted the following points:

- Recent community events – summer nights and school holiday programme activities recorded good attendance numbers. The Youth Council's annual Colour in the Park event will be held this Saturday and the pool will host Children's Day on Sunday.
- The number of child entries to the pool more than doubled compared to the previous January. Group fitness figures almost doubled when compared with the previous month.
- Venture Taranaki have recently appointed Stratford local Sian Davies in a business development role. The position will mostly be based in Stratford.

Questions/Points of clarification:

- Councillor Jamieson asked for further elaboration of the reasons for the closing of the outdoor swimming pool. Ms Whareaitu responded that there were issues maintaining the levels of the chlorine and CPA in the water as well as issues with staffing and pool use.

13.2.1 Council Organisation and Council Representatives on Other Organisations

- The District Mayor reported that a community meeting regarding the future of Baldricks Big Day Out was well attended with about 20 people there. Some good ideas were discussed including short and long term goals and one-off events.
- The District Mayor reported that he attended a community sports day meeting last Tuesday. He commented that January is a quiet month for the stadium.
- Councillor Webby advised of an upcoming positive aging forum.

13.3 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT

D20/2622

Pages 188-194

RECOMMENDATION**THAT** the report be received.McKAY/HARRIS
Carried

The Environmental Health Manager noted that the dog pound had reopened on Monday 24 February 2002 following completion of renovations to the site.

13.4 **CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT**

D20/2482

Pages 195-199

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received.

JONES/McKAY
Carried
P&S/20/31

The Director Corporate Services noted the following points:

- A correction was noted in the report under the heading **Operation Results – Year to Date (six months)** (page 195 refers) should read, “Overall, total revenue is tracking slight over budget by \$36,452. Total expenditure is under budget by \$274,572, resulting in a positive variance against budget for the year to date (“YTD”) net surplus of \$311,023.”
- Under the **Capital Expenditure Report** heading (page 196 refers), all proposed carry forwards will come to council by the end of June for elected member approval.
- In response to a query raised by the District Mayor at a previous meeting, an explanation of the use of cookies on the council website was provided. Users of the website are not currently advised that cookies are in use however this will be addressed when the new website is developed.

Questions/Points of clarification:

- Councillor Dalziel highlighted a duplication of the Revenue by Activity report (page 203 and 204 refers).
- Mrs Radich confirmed that she will review the financial statements submitted with the report with a view to aggregating or reformatting some reports following a request by Councillor Jones.

14. **QUESTIONS**

- Councillor Dalziel asked whether the monthly reports could be streamlined with a view to an overview report being presented monthly and a more detailed summary being presented quarterly. Directors will consider a new format for presentation at the next meeting.
- Following a question from Councillor Webby, it was clarified that council meeting decisions are summarised for staff by the Chief Executive in the fortnightly staff newsletter while the council website is considered the central repository.

The meeting closed at 4.05pm.

A L Jamieson
CHAIRMAN

Confirmed this 24th day of March 2020.

N C Volzke
DISTRICT MAYOR

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE
STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL COMMITTEE
ROOM, STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL ON THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER
2019 AT 8.30 AM**

PRESENT

The District Mayor N C Volzke (the Chairman), the Deputy Mayor A L Jamieson, Councillors J M S Erwood, P S Dalziel and W J Sandford.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Executive Administration Officer – Ms R Vanstone, the Special Projects Manager – Mr N Cooper and McDonalds Real Estate Residential Sales Manager – Mr D Bates.

1. **WELCOME**

The District Mayor welcomed the Chief Executive, Councillors, staff and Mr Bates. He reminded Councillors to familiarise themselves with the Health and Safety message included in the agenda.

2. **APOLOGIES**

No apologies were received.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No announcements were made.

4. **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTEREST**

The District Mayor requested Councillors to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda.

No real or perceived conflicts of interest were received.

5. **PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEM**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely

Agenda Items No.6

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason 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 are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution to each matter	Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
1. Subdivision of land and disposal of house site	The withholding of the information is necessary to enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	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 information is necessary, under section 6 or section 7 (specifically section 7(2)(h) of the Act). (section 48(1)(a) Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

JAMIESON/SANDFORD
Carried
EC/19/5

6. **PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEM**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the open meeting resume.

ERWOOD/JAMIESON
Carried
EC/19/10

The meeting closed at 9.35am.

N C Volzke
CHAIRMAN

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE STRATFORD
DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, STRATFORD
DISTRICT COUNCIL ON TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2020 AT 12 PM**

PRESENT

The District Mayor N C Volzke (the Chairman), Councillors J M S Erwood, P S Dalziel, and W J Sandford.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Executive Administration Officer – Ms R Vanstone and the Special Projects Manager – Mr N Cooper.

1. **WELCOME**

The District Mayor welcomed the Chief Executive, Councillors and council staff to the first meeting of the Executive Committee in 2020. He reminded Councillors to familiarise themselves with the Health and Safety message included in the agenda.

2. **APOLOGIES**

A leave of absence is noted for the Deputy Mayor A L Jamieson.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No announcements were made.

4. **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTEREST**

The District Mayor requested Councillors to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda.

No conflicts of interest were noted.

5. **PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEM**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely

Agenda Items No. 6 - 10

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason 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 are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution to each matter	Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
1. Subdivision of land and disposal of house site	The withholding of the information is necessary to enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	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 information is necessary, under section 6 or section 7 (specifically section 7(2)(h) of the Act). (section 48(1)(a) Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

SANDFORD/ERWOOD
Carried
EC/20/1

6. **PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEM**

7. **PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEM**

8. **PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEM**

9. **PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEM**

10. **PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEM**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the open meeting resume.

DALZIEL/ERWOOD
Carried
EC/20/5

6

The meeting closed at 1.01pm.

N C Volzke
CHAIRMAN

DECISION REPORT



TO: Ordinary

F19/13/04 – D20/3458

FROM: Revenue Manager

DATE: 10 March 2020

SUBJECT: AMENDMENTS TO RATES REMISSION POLICY – RELEASE FOR CONSULTATION

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report be received.
2. THAT the changes to the Rates Remission Policy be approved to be released for public consultation as required under Section 102 of the Local Government Act 2002, giving effect to Section 82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Recommended Reason

The Rates Remission Policy must go out for public consultation before any amendments can be adopted, as required by legislation.

Moved/Seconded

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To formally review and approve changes to the Council's Rates Remission Policy, relating to the addition of a Fire Remission Policy, and an Abandoned Land Remission Policy and the removal of the Heritage Remission Policy, Land Protected for Conservation Purposes Policy, and Biodiversity Policy (indigenous vegetation, significant habitats of indigenous fauna and wetlands) and also on wastewater (sewerage) systems rates for educational establishments.

2. **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 2.1 This report recommends amendments to the Rates Remission Policy. The changes made to the policy enable a fair approach and application of rates, and achieve consistency with other Council rates remission policies.

3. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2002 - SECTION 10**

How is this proposal applicable to the purpose of the Act?

- Is it for the provision of good quality local infrastructure? If so, why?; **OR**
- Is it for the performance of a good quality regulatory function? If so, why?;
- OR**
- Is it for the performance of a good quality local public service?

AND

- Is it in a way that is most cost-effective to businesses and households? If so, why?

Good quality means, infrastructure, services, and performance that are efficient and effective, and appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances.

Local public service means, a service provided for the community which is for the benefit of the District.

The Rates Remission Policy is a mechanism the Council can use to make the application of rates fairer for the community.

4. **BACKGROUND**

4.1 This item covers one of the financial polices identified in Section 102 of the Local Government Act 2002 (“the Act”).

Local Government Act 2002 Section 102.

- (1) *A local authority must, in order to provide predictability and certainty about sources and levels of funding, adopt the funding and financial policies listed in subsection (2).*
- (2) *The policies are—*
 - (a) *a revenue and financing policy; and*
 - (b) *a liability management policy; and*
 - (c) *an investment policy; and*
 - (d) *a policy on development contributions or financial contributions; and*
 - (e) *a policy on the remission and postponement of rates on Māori freehold land; and*
 - (f) *in the case of a unitary authority for a district that includes 1 or more local board areas, a local boards funding policy.*
- (3) *A local authority may adopt either or both of the following policies:*
 - (a) *a rates remission policy;*
 - (b) *a rates postponement policy.*

The Council is not required to have a Rates Remission Policy, but the Act has legislated for procedures around its form and process around adoption under Sections 109 and 102(4) of the Act.

4.2 The proposed amendments outlined below provide for remission of rates for properties which meet the conditions and criteria specified.

RATING UNITS AFFECTED BY FIRE

This remission provides relief to the ratepayer where significant property loss has occurred due to fire (not deliberately lit by the owner, occupier or related party) causing the dwelling to be uninhabitable, or the commercial property to cease operations, temporarily or otherwise.

Objective

The objective of this part of the remission policy is to enable the Stratford District Council to act fairly and reasonably in its consideration of rates.

Conditions and criteria

Upon notification, and in agreement with the ratepayer, the Council will remit the targeted rates for solid waste, waste water, and water supply only for those properties, where it determines it is reasonable in the circumstances to do so. The remission applies from the date of the fire until services are reinstated.

Council will delegate decisions on rating units affected by fire to the Chief Executive.

POLICY ON REMISSION OF RATES ON ABANDONED LAND

Objective

To minimise administration costs where it is unlikely that rates assessed on an abandoned rating unit will ever be collected.

Conditions and Criteria

The policy will apply to Rating units that meet the definition of abandoned land as prescribed in Section 77(1) of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002. Land has either failed to be sold using the authority provided in sections 77-83 or is unlikely to sell at a price sufficient to cover the amount of outstanding rates.

Procedure

Rates will be remitted in full annually.

Any rates arrears owing on qualifying properties at the adoption of the policy, or in the first year a Rating unit qualifies under the policy, will also be remitted.

The removal of the following policies

Heritage Remission Policy, Land Protected for Conservation Purposes Policy, and Biodiversity Policy (indigenous vegetation, significant habitats of indigenous fauna and wetlands) and also on wastewater (sewerage) systems rates for educational establishments.

- 4.3 The changes above only relate to the addition of a remission for properties affected by fire or are classified as abandoned land therefore are considered minor in their overall impact on ratepayers.

4.4 The objective of the changes is to provide for a compassionate and fair application of rates to the Stratford district ratepayers. The amounts remitted would be minor, but can have a significant effect on the ratepayer’s attitude towards the Council and the community.

5. **CONSULTATIVE PROCESS**

5.1 **Public Consultation - Section 82**

Legislation requires that any changes, minor or otherwise, to the Rates Remission Policy are publically consulted on prior to adoption. The consultation plan is to put one public notice in the Stratford Press, one post on Facebook, and add a link on the Council’s website homepage to the amended Rates Remission Policy and a link to provide a submission. It is proposed that the consultation period run for two weeks.

5.2 **Māori Consultation - Section 81**

No separate consultation is required with Māori, due to the minor nature of the amendments.

6. **RISK ANALYSIS**

Please refer to the Consequence and Impact Guidelines at the front of the reports in this agenda.

- Is there a:
 - financial risk;
 - human resources risk;
 - political risks; or
 - other potential risk?
- If there is a risk, consider the probability/likelihood of it occurring.
- Is there a legal opinion needed?

It is a significant decision to adopt new or change existing financial policies. The scope of the tabled changes however, is such that even if fully adopted and implemented, these changes would not be material, therefore this decision is considered to not be significant.

7. **DECISION MAKING PROCESS - SECTION 79**

7.1 **Direction**

	Explain
Is there a strong link to Council’s strategic direction, Long Term Plan/District Plan?	YES, this policy directly impacts the financial implications of the LTP.
What relationship does it have to the communities’ current and future	YES, this policy forms part of the financial basis of funding and cost recovery council applies to the

needs for infrastructure, regulatory functions, or local public services?	creation, maintenance and operation of its assets.
---	--

7.2 **Data**

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do we have complete data, and relevant statistics, on the proposal(s)? • Do we have reasonably reliable data on the proposals? • What assumptions have had to be built in? |
|--|

This policy has been in place for a period of time. It has been reviewed internally and externally regularly over the years, with the last Council full review of the policy undertaken on 13 February 2018 in conjunction with the Long Term Plan 2018-28 review and some minors changes reviewed and adopted in July 2019.

7.3 **Significance**

	Yes/No	Explain
Is the proposal significant according to the Significance Policy in the Long Term Plan?	No	Financial impact even if all proposed changes are made is minimal.
Is it:	NO	
• considered a strategic asset; or	NO	
• above the financial thresholds in the Significance Policy; or	NO	
• impacting on a CCO stakeholding; or	NO	
• a change in level of service; or	NO	
• creating a high level of controversy; or	NO	
• possible that it could have a high impact on the community?	NO	

In terms of the Council's Significance Policy, is this proposal of high, medium, or low significance?		
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW
		✓

7.4 **Options**

An assessment of costs and benefits for each option must be completed. Use the criteria below in your assessment.

1. What options are available?
2. For **each** option:
 - explain what the costs and benefits of each option are in terms of the present and future needs of the district;
 - outline if there are any sustainability issues; and
 - explain if the outcomes meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions?
3. After completing these, consider which option you wish to recommend to Council, and explain:
 - how this option is the most cost effective option for households and businesses;
 - if there are any trade-offs; and
 - what interdependencies exist.

Council has the option of either:

- Option 1** Releasing the draft Rates Remission Policy for public consultation. Submissions will be summarised and brought back to elected members before the final policy will be adopted.
- Option 2** Not adopting the draft Rates Remission Policy to be released for consultation. This means the existing policy will remain in effect until the next full review with elected members.
- Option 3** Release the draft policy attached, with amendments.

The recommended option is **Option 1**.

7.5 **Financial**

- Is there an impact on funding and debt levels?
- Will work be undertaken within the current budget?
- What budget has expenditure come from?
- How will the proposal be funded? eg. rates, reserves, grants etc.

The policies covered by this report do not create a material financial impact. If council was to implement other changes, not within the scope of this report, there may be the potential for a material financial impact.

7.6 **Prioritisation & Trade-off**

Have you taken into consideration the:

- Council’s capacity to deliver;
- contractor’s capacity to deliver; and
- consequence of deferral?

The remissions granted by the adoption of the proposed amendments in this report are expected to have a very minor effect on reallocation of the total rates requirement to other ratepayers.

7.7 **Legal Issues**

- Is there a legal opinion needed?
- Are there legal issues?

No legal opinion is required.

7.8 **Policy Issues - Section 80**

- Are there any policy issues?
- Does your recommendation conflict with Council Policies?

There are no conflicts with any of the Council’s other Policies.

Attachments:

Appendix 1 – Draft Rates Remission Policy



Julie Erwood
REVENUE MANAGER



Endorsed by
Tiffany Radich
DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES



Approved by
Sven Hanne
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

DATE 3 March 2020

APPENDIX 1**STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL**

POLICY: <u>RATES REMISSION</u>	
SECTION: FINANCIAL	
RESPONSIBILITY: Chief Executive, Director – Corporate Services	REVIEW DATE: 2019/2020
VERSION: 2018 – 2028 LTP	APPROVED DATE:
FILE NUMBER:	NEXT REVIEW DATE: 2021

RATES REMISSION POLICY

The Stratford District Council has decided to postpone all or part of the rates owed by the ratepayer in respect of rating units covered by this Rates Remission Policy provided that the conditions within this policy have been met. Rates remissions will be provided for the following:

- Community, sporting and other organisations.
- On penalties.
- On Stratford District Council owned and occupied properties.
- On Māori freehold land.
- For promotion - business development.
- Fire
- Abandoned Land
- UAGC on Low Value Properties.
- Excess Water Consumption due to a Leak.
- Water Targeted Rate as compensation for water main Easement.

Where a rating unit for which the Stratford District Council has granted a rates remission is sold, leased, or otherwise disposed of, the rates remission shall be terminated at the time of disposal. If the new ratepayer qualifies for a rates remission under this policy, it will be up to that ratepayer to apply for a rates remission.

The application for rates remission must be made to the Stratford District Council prior to the commencement of the rating year. Applications received during a rating year will be applicable from the commencement of the following rating year. Applications will not be backdated.

Where a rates remission percentage applies, it is calculated on the rates that would be assessed before any application of non-rateable adjustments. (For example, if a property is 50% non-rateable, and receives a 50% remission, then no rates are due).

REMISSIONS FOR COMMUNITY, SPORTING AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS

The Stratford District Council will provide rates remission of 100% to all ratepayers who meet the objectives, conditions and criteria of this policy, excluding land in respect of which a club licence under the Sale of Liquor Act 1989 is for the time being in force, which shall receive a 50% remission if the objectives, conditions and criteria are met.

Objective

To facilitate the ongoing provision of non-commercial community services, and non-commercial recreational opportunities for the residents of Stratford District.

The purpose of granting rates remission to an organisation is to:

- Recognise the public good contribution made by such an organisation;
- Assist the organisation's survival; and
- Make membership of the organisation more accessible to the general public, particularly disadvantaged groups. These include children, youth, young families, aged people, and economically disadvantaged people.

Conditions and Criteria

This part of the policy will apply to land:

- owned by the Stratford District Council; or
- owned or occupied by a registered charitable organisation that is responsible for the rates; or
- owned or occupied by a registered non-profit organisation that is responsible for the rates; and
- is used exclusively or principally for sporting, recreation, or community purposes by that organisation; and
- the land is not used for galloping races, harness races or greyhound races.

Note that Council requires documentary evidence of charitable or non-profit organisational status. This policy does not apply to organisations operated for private pecuniary profit.

This policy does not apply to groups or organisations whose primary purpose is to address the needs of adult members (over 18 years) for entertainment or social interaction, or who engage in recreational, sporting, or community services as a secondary purpose only.

Organisations making application should include the following documents in support of their application:

- statement of objectives; and
- evidence of charitable/non profit status; and
- financial accounts; and
- information on activities and programmes; and
- details on membership or clients.

REMISSIONS ON PENALTIES

The Stratford District Council will provide rates remission on penalties to all ratepayers who meet the objectives, conditions and criteria of this policy.

Objective

The objective of this part of the remission policy is to enable the Stratford District Council to act fairly and reasonably in its consideration of rates which have not been received by Council by the penalty due date, due to circumstances outside the ratepayer's control. This section applies to all rates penalties imposed under the Council's Funding Impact Statement and Rates Resolution.

Conditions and Criteria

On application by the ratepayer, a remission of an instalment penalty imposed under Section 58(1)(a) of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 shall be granted if this is the first instance of late payment by the ratepayer within the previous three rating years and the following criteria are met:

- Where a property changes hands (sale or lease) and the new owner/lessee is responsible for an instalment when the original account was issued in the name of the previous owner/lessee.
- On compassionate grounds, i.e. where a ratepayer has been ill or in hospital or suffered a family bereavement or tragedy of some type, and has been unable to attend to payment (elderly persons living on their own etc).
- The rate invoice was not received, where it can be proved that it was not due to negligence by the ratepayer.
- Where an error has been made by Council staff which has subsequently resulted in a penalty charge being imposed.
- In the case of a deceased estate, upon receipt of a letter from a Solicitor who has been granted probate, that while the winding up of the affairs of the estate are in progress and that Council may expect full payment of rates, Council may remit penalties from the time of death.

Where a ratepayer enters into a direct debit arrangement for the payment of the current year rates and any rate arrears, further penalties will be granted a remission. However, any default in the arrangement will cause the remission to be cancelled from the date of the default. Any penalties applied up to the date of commencement of the arrangement will remain.

The Council, and officers with the appropriate delegated authority, may remit up to 100% (or other figure) of the penalties charged to a property, where the ratepayer can demonstrate that there are circumstances outside of their control which have caused the rates to incur a penalty, and where the rates are paid in full on an agreed date.

REMISSIONS ON STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL OWNED AND OCCUPIED PROPERTIES

Council will provide rates remission of 100% on rating units owned and occupied by the Stratford District Council which meet the objectives, conditions and criteria of this policy.

Objective

The objective of this part of the remission policy is to enable Council to be cost-neutral in regard to other ratepayers whilst being administratively efficient.

Conditions and Criteria

This part of the policy applies to rating units owned and occupied by the Stratford District Council. This part of the policy does not apply to rating units that are owned by Council but are leased to a third party and the terms of the lease provide for rates to be paid by the lessee.

RATES REMISSION AND POSTPONEMENT ON MĀORI FREEHOLD LAND POLICIES

Legislative Summary

Section 91 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 establishes the principle that Māori freehold land is liable for rates in the same manner as if it were general land.

Section 102(2)(e) of the Local Government Act 2002 states that Council must adopt a rates remission and postponement policy on Māori freehold land.

Section 108 and Schedule 11 of the Local Government Act 2002 states what the policy must contain.

Section 114 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 allows Council to remit all or part of the rates on a rating unit if it has adopted a remission policy and is satisfied that the conditions and criteria in the policy are met.

Section 115 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 requires Council to postpone all or part of the rates on a rating unit if it has adopted a postponement policy and is satisfied that the conditions and criteria in the policy are met.

Consultation on the policy shall be carried out using the special consultative procedures within section 82 and section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002.

REMISSION OF RATES ON MĀORI FREEHOLD LAND POLICY

Māori freehold land is defined in the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 as land whose beneficial ownership has been determined by a freehold order issued by the Māori Land Court. Only land that is subject to such an order may qualify for remission under this policy.

This policy aims to ensure the fair and equitable collection of rates from all sectors of the community recognising that certain Māori owned lands have particular conditions, features, ownership structures, or other circumstances which make it appropriate to provide relief from rates.

The Stratford District Council will provide rates remission of 100% to all ratepayers who meet the objectives, conditions and criteria of this policy.

Where a rating unit for which Council has granted a rates remission is sold, leased, or otherwise disposed of, the rates remission shall be terminated at the time of disposal. If the new ratepayer qualifies for a rates remission under this policy, it should be up to that ratepayer to apply for a rates remission.

The application for rates remission must be made to Council prior to the commencement of the rating year. Applications received during a rating year will be applicable from the commencement of the following rating year. Applications will not be backdated.

No remission will be granted on targeted rates for water supply, wastewater system or waste management.

Objectives

The objectives of this policy are:

- To recognise situations where there is no owner, occupier or person gaining an economic or financial benefit from the land.
- To set aside land that is better set aside for non-use because of its natural features (whenua rahui).
- To recognise matters related to the physical accessibility of the land.
- To recognise and take account of the presence of waahi tapu that may affect the use of the land for other purposes.
- Where part only of a block is occupied, to grant remission for the portion of land not occupied.
- To facilitate development or use of the land where Council considers rates based on rateable value make the actual use of the land uneconomic.
- To recognise and take account of the importance of land in providing economic and infrastructure support for Marae and associated papakainga housing.
- To recognise use of the land by the owners for traditional purposes.
- To recognise occasions where granting remission will avoid further alienation of Māori freehold land.
- To recognise occasions where the Stratford District Council and the community benefit through the efficient collection of rates that are properly payable and the removal of rating debt that is considered non collectible.

Conditions and Criteria

Council will maintain a register titled the 'Māori Lands Rates Relief Register' ('the Register') for the purpose of recording properties on which it has agreed to remit rates pursuant to this policy. The Register will record the property details and the appropriate objectives (1-10) above.

Applications for rates remission under this policy should include the following information:

- Details of the property.
- The objectives (1-10 above) that will be achieved by providing a remission.
- Documentation that proves the land which is the subject of the application is Māori freehold land.

Council may at its own discretion add properties to the Register.

Council will review the Register annually and may:

- Add properties that comply.
- Remove properties where the circumstances have changed and they no longer comply.

REMISSION FOR PROMOTION - BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

This provides for rates relief for new development or redevelopment of land by way of constructing, erecting or altering buildings, fixed plant and machinery or other works intended to be used solely or principally for industrial, commercial or administrative purposes where the cost of such development is more than \$500,000 (excluding GST) as assessed under the Building Act.

Council will be prepared to consider any application for building development which can demonstrate that it will be to the economic advantage of the Stratford District. Economic advantage will be deemed to occur if the development will result in:

- significant employment growth or employment retention in Stratford District; and/or
- significant downstream new business for other Stratford District manufacturers or suppliers of goods and services.

Developments for industrial, commercial or administrative purposes which the Council wishes to foster are in the following sectors:

- Primary production and processing.
- Tourism, including recreational, cultural and conference facilities.
- Manufacturing, especially those which have high potential for employment related to the total cost factor.
- Health services.
- Retailing.
- Hotels, motels and other transient accommodation.
- Administrative services, including those provided by Government and private sector agencies.

In the event of any developer, to whom rates relief has been granted, selling the property within which the eligible investment was made, rates relief ceases from the date of the sale.

Forms of Rates Relief

Council may remit or postpone (or a combination of these) part or all of the general rates otherwise payable on the subject property for the period of the development and up to three rating years thereafter.

Council may impose conditions on the remission or postponement of rates and may cancel any remission or postponement in the event of non-compliance by the applicant with those conditions. In those circumstances, Council may require payment of full rates in respect of any year in which rates have been remitted.

Factors to be Considered

Council will have regard to the following matters when considering applications for rates relief:

- Whether and to what extent, the development will, when completed, be to the economic advantage of the Stratford District including the creation of significant employment opportunities. The creation of jobs will be a strong factor in favour of granting rates relief, but the retention of existing jobs and the potential for job creation will also be positive factors.
- Whether and to what extent the granting of relief will be of material benefit to the development.
- Whether the investment limit and economic benefits criteria are met jointly in the case of a Lessor/Lessee arrangement.
- Whether and to what extent the development can be served by the existing basic Council services infrastructure.
- The level of financial contributions and development levies collected under provisions of the District Plan.
- Such other matters as Council may, from time to time, consider relevant.

REMISSION FOR RATING UNITS EFFECTED BY FIRE

Objective

This remission provides relief to the ratepayer where significant property loss has occurred due to fire (not deliberately lit by the owner, occupier or related party) causing the dwelling to be uninhabitable, or the commercial property to cease operations, temporarily or otherwise.

Conditions and Criteria

Upon notification, and in agreement with the ratepayer, the Council will remit the targeted Rates for Solid Waste, Waste Water and Water Supply only for properties, where it determines it is reasonable in the circumstances to do so.

The remission applies from the date of the fire until the services are reinstated.

REMISSION OF UNIFORM ANNUAL GENERAL CHARGE (UAGC) ON LOW VALUE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

This remission provides for low value residential properties to not be penalised by the UAGC being in excess of 5% annually of the capital value of the property.

Objective

The objective of this remission policy is to assist residential ratepayers whereby the UAGC being imposed on properties with a Capital Value of \$10,000 or less represents an excessive burden in any one financial year.

Conditions and Criteria

Council will remit the UAGC on any rating unit used solely for residential purposes as defined by Council where the capital value of that rating unit does not exceed \$10,000.

REMISSIONS FOR EXCESS WATER CONSUMPTION DUE TO A LEAK

Council may provide relief to a ratepayer that has incurred an excessive water invoice as a result of a leak where that leak has been remedied in a timely manner once the leak was detected.

Objective

The objective of this part of the remission policy is to enable Council to not penalise a water consumer for a leak that resulted in excess water consumption that was out of their control.

Conditions and Criteria

In order to provide relief to people in situations where water usage is high due to a water leak, Council may remit water consumption rates where all of the following apply:

- A remission application has been received; and
- Council is satisfied a leak on the property has caused excessive consumption and is recorded on the water meter; and
- The leak has been repaired within one calendar month of being identified (unless evidence is provided that the services of an appropriate repairer could not be obtained within this period); and
- Proof of the leak being repaired has been provided to Council promptly after repair of the leak.

The amount of the remission will be the difference between the average consumption of the property and the consumption over and above that average.

Remission for any particular property will generally be granted only once every year. However where a remission for a water leak has been granted to a property under this policy within the last year, the remission decision is to be made by the Director – Assets.

Any remission over 2,000 cubic meters is to be referred to the Policy and Services Committee for approval.

REMISSION OF WATER TARGETED RATE AS COMPENSATION FOR WATER EASEMENT

Council has water mains installed on private properties with, in some cases, an associated easement for access and maintenance.

Objective

The objective of this part of the remission policy is to provide compensation for the ratepayers that have a water main across their property and associated easement agreement that provides for such remissions. This remission may be granted in future easement agreements as part of a compensation agreement if appropriate.

The remission is for the Targeted Water Rate only. The water-by-meter charges remain, subject to the Revenue and Financing Policy.

Conditions and Criteria

In order to provide a Water Targeted Rate remission the following must apply:

- Compensation agreements must be in writing and formal easements recording them registered against the relevant land title.

POLICY ON REMISSION OF RATES ON ABANDONED LAND

Objectives:

To minimise administration costs where it is unlikely that rates assessed on an abandoned rating unit will ever be collected.

Conditions and criteria:

The policy will apply to Rating units that meet the definition of abandoned land as prescribed in Section 77(1) of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

Land has either failed to be sold using the authority provided in sections 77-83 or is unlikely to sell.

Procedure:

Rates will be remitted in full annually. Any rates arrears owing on qualifying properties at the adoption of the policy, or in the first year a rating unit qualifies under the policy, will also be remitted

DECISION REPORT



TO: Council
FROM: Director – Environmental Services
DATE: 10 March 2020

F16/1230 – D20/87

SUBJECT: DOG CONTROL POLICY AND STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report be received.
2. THAT the *draft* Dog Control Policy 2020 be approved and released for public consultation.

Recommended Reason

The recommendation of the Council is required to initiate the public consultation process required by Sections 82 and 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 to seek comments from the public on the amendments to the *draft* Dog Control Policy 2020.

Moved/Seconded

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the release of the *draft* Dog Control Policy 2020 for public consultation with minor amendments.

2. **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The recommendation is to obtain the Council's approval for the release of the *draft* Dog Control Policy with amendments for public consultation. The policy, along with the Control of Dogs Bylaw is currently in its review period. This policy is a requirement of section 10 of the Dog Control Act 1996 that requires every territorial authority to adopt a policy on dogs.
- 2.2 The draft policy, including tracked changes is attached as **Appendix A**.
- 2.3 The following amendments and approved changes have been made to the draft policy:
 - Minor amendments to wording of the policy for clarity.
 - Changes to statutory provisions for clarity.

- Deletion of clauses considered no longer necessary.
- The draft policy also proposes to remove the restriction of dogs from the central business district (“CBD”) and Prospero Place and to allow dogs to be leashed in these areas.
- The criteria for Select Ownership has been updated to include registered dog breeders.
- The policy now includes maps to define dog exercise, on leash and restricted areas.

2.4 In addition to the above, officers have been advised of new speed limits that are scheduled to commence on 1 February 2020. The new Speed limits impact on the zoning of urban dog owners as defined by Council resolution in 2015, where urban dog owners are identified as residing inside a 70 kilometre speed area. A map showing the new area has been included.

2.5 Dog owners who are affected by the above change will still have the ability to declare their dog as a working dog and be eligible for the rural dog fee.

2.6 Maps will be tabled at the meeting defining the dog control areas and zoning for urban dog owners.

3. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2002 - SECTION 10**

How is this proposal applicable to the purpose of the Act?

- Is it for the provision of good quality local infrastructure? If so, why?; **OR**
- Is it for the performance of a good quality regulatory function? If so, why?; **OR**
- Is it for the performance of a good quality local public service?

AND

- Is it in a way that is most cost-effective to businesses and households? If so, why?

Good quality means, infrastructure, services, and performance that are efficient and effective, and appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances.

Local public service means, a service provided for the community which is for the benefit of the District.

This policy will contribute to the *performance of a good quality regulatory function and local public service.*

4. **BACKGROUND**

4.1 This policy, established in accordance with the objectives of Section 10 of the Dog Control Act 1996 is to:

- Encourage responsible dog ownership;
- Minimise danger, distress and nuisance to the community generally;

- Avoid the inherent danger in allowing dogs uncontrolled access to public places that are frequented by children;
- Enable as far as is practicable the public to use the streets and public amenities without fear of attack or intimidation by dogs; and
- Recognise the exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners.

4.1 The policy should be read and implemented concurrently with the Control of Dogs Bylaw that is currently being reviewed.

5. **CONSULTATIVE PROCESS**

5.1 **Public Consultation - Section 82**

Public Consultation is required.

5.2 **Māori Consultation - Section 81**

There are no specific Māori issues relating to this matter and therefore this consultation is not considered to be appropriate.

6. **RISK ANALYSIS**

Please refer to the Consequence and Impact Guidelines at the front of the reports in this agenda.

- Is there a:
 - financial risk;
 - human resources risk;
 - political risks; or
 - other potential risk?
- If there is a risk, consider the probability/likelihood of it occurring.
- Is there a legal opinion needed?

6.1 This policy is required is required by Section 10 of the Dog Control Act. There are no other risks as a result of this review.

7. **DECISION MAKING PROCESS - SECTION 79**

7.1 **Direction**

	Explain
Is there a strong link to Council’s strategic direction, Long Term Plan/District Plan?	Policies form the basis of a variety of council functions including the provision of regulatory functions and the provision of a local public service.
What relationship does it have to the community’s current and future needs for	The bylaw would support the community’s need for a well resourced regulatory function relating to the control of dogs.

infrastructure, regulatory functions, or local public services?	
---	--

7.2 **Data**

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do we have complete data, and relevant statistics, on the proposal(s)? • Do we have reasonably reliable data on the proposals? • What assumptions have had to be built in? |
|--|

Data on the application of the current policy is based on officer’s experience applying the policy. Policies from other Councils are readily available and have informed recommendations about proposed amendments to their policies.

7.3 **Significance**

	Yes/No	Explain
Is the proposal significant according to the Significance Policy in the Long Term Plan?	No	
Is it:	No	
• considered a strategic asset; or	No	
• above the financial thresholds in the Significance Policy; or	No	
• impacting on a CCO stakeholding; or	No	
• a change in level of service; or	No	
• creating a high level of controversy; or	No	
• possible that it could have a high impact on the community?	No	

In terms of the Council’s Significance Policy, is this proposal of high, medium, or low significance?		
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW
		✓

7.4 **Options**

An assessment of costs and benefits for each option must be completed. Use the criteria below in your assessment.

1. What options are available?
2. For **each** option:
 - explain what the costs and benefits of each option are in terms of the present and future needs of the district;
 - outline if there are any sustainability issues; and
 - explain if the outcomes meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions?
3. After completing these, consider which option you wish to recommend to Council, and explain:
 - how this option is the most cost effective option for households and businesses;
 - if there are any trade-offs; and
 - what interdependencies exist.

There are 2 Options:

Option 1

The Council ***approves and releases for consultation*** the *draft* Dog Control Policy with amendments.

Option 2

The Council ***approves and releases for consultation the*** current Dog Control Policy with no amendments.

7.5 **Financial**

- Is there an impact on funding and debt levels?
- Will work be undertaken within the current budget?
- What budget has expenditure come from?
- How will the proposal be funded? eg. rates, reserves, grants etc.

There are no financial implications.

7.6 **Prioritisation & Trade-off**

- Have you taken into consideration the:
- Council's capacity to deliver;
 - contractor's capacity to deliver; and
 - consequence of deferral?

Council considers that:

- The Council and our Contractors are able to deliver on the purposes and objectives of this policy;
- Implementing this policy at this time will ensure that Council is able to comply with legislation.

- There is no value in deferring the implementation of this policy.

7.7 **Legal Issues**

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is there a legal opinion needed?• Are there legal issues? |
|--|

No legal opinion was required. The Policy is required by legislation.

7.8 **Policy Issues - Section 80**

- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are there any policy issues?• Does your recommendation conflict with Council Policies? |
|---|

There are no policy issues.

Attachments

- Appendix 1** – The *draft* Dog Control Policy
- Appendix 2** – The current Dog Control Policy
- Appendix 3** – The Statement of Proposal



Blair Sutherland
DIRECTOR – ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



[Approved by]
Sven Hanne
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

DATE 3 March 2020

APPENDIX 1**STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL**

DRAFT POLICY: <u>DOG CONTROL</u>	
DEPARTMENT: Environmental Services	RESPONSIBILITY:
SECTION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Environmental Services • Environmental Health Manager • Environmental Compliance Officer
REVIEW DATE: 2019/2020	NEXT REVIEW: 2030
VERSION: 2	APPROVAL DATE:

8**PURPOSE**

1. In accordance with the Dog Control Amendment Act 2003 Section 10(4), the purpose of this policy is:
2. To provide a framework which recognises:
 - the need to minimise danger, distress, and nuisance to the community generally; and
 - the need to avoid the inherent danger in allowing dogs to have uncontrolled access to public places that are frequented by children, whether or not the children are accompanied by adults; and
 - the importance of enabling, to the extent that is practicable, the public (including families) to use streets and public amenities without fear of attack or intimidation by dogs; and
 - the exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners.
3. It is further acknowledged that although the use of legally stipulated control measures is required, and conflicts will be resolved, as far as is practicable in the first instance, through discussions with dog owners.

DOG CONTROL BYLAW

1. The Act allows for the making of a bylaw to reinforce the provisions of this Policy. This Policy should be read in conjunction with the Stratford District Council Control of Dogs Bylaw 2020.
2. The Stratford District Council Control of Dogs Bylaw 2020 addresses the following issues:
 - Control of dogs in public places.
 - Minimum standards for accommodation of dogs.
 - Number of dogs per household.
 - Removal of dog faeces by owner.
 - Nuisances related to dogs.
 - Confinement of bitches in season.
 - Impounding of dogs.

APPENDIX 1

- Disposal of impounded dogs
- Neutering of dogs
- Fees
- Additional provisions

CONTROL OF DOGS IN PUBLIC PLACES

Prohibited Public Places

Dogs are **PROHIBITED** in the following areas:

- The public area surrounding the front entrance of the TSB Swimming Pool Complex is a prohibited area.
- Within 20 metres of any children's playground equipment which is on land controlled by Council except any public road or footpath adjacent such an area.
- Te Papakura o Taranaki except with a Department of Conservation permit.
- Whanganui National Park except with a Department of Conservation permit.
- Areas gazetted as **CONTROLLED DOG AREAS** under the Conservation Act 1987, except with a Department of Conservation permit.
- Pembroke Road, from the Te Papakura o Taranaki Gate to the Plateau Car Park being the entire length of the road which is bounded on both sides by the National Park.
- Manaia Road, from the Te Papakura o Taranaki Gate to the Dawson Falls Road End Car Park, being the entire length of the road which is bounded on both sides by the National Park.

Leash Controlled Public Places

Dogs must be **CONTROLLED ON A LEASH** in the following areas:

- Any part of any footpath or berms adjacent to a footpath within the district.
- Broadway, including the footpaths, between the northern roundabout, at the intersection of Broadway and Regan Street, and the southern roundabout, at the intersection of Broadway and Fenton Street.
- Prospero Place.
- The entrance to King Edward Park from the Colonel Malones gates to the eastern extent of the tennis courts and includes the Scout Den, Netball Courts, and surrounding area as included on the attached map.
- Any part of any street or public place that has for the time being been so declared by any resolution of Council.

Dog Exercise Areas

Dogs may be exercised **UNLEASHED BUT UNDER CONTINUOUS CONTROL** in all areas of the Stratford District except those specified above. Every such area shall be a **DOG EXERCISE AREA**.

Dogs may be exercised without a Department of Conservation permit and subject to certain conditions in the following **OPEN DOG AREAS**:

- Areas gazetted as open dog areas under the Conservation Act 1987.
Every such area shall be a **DOG EXERCISE AREA**.

APPENDIX 1

CLASSIFICATION OF PROBATIONARY OWNERS

A person shall, unless they are required to be classified as a disqualified owner, be classified as a probationary owner for a period up to 24 months in accordance with section 21 of the Dog Control Act 1996.

CLASSIFICATION OF DISQUALIFIED OWNERS

A person shall be classified as being disqualified from owning a dog for a period up to five years in accordance with section 25 of the Dog Control Act 1996.

CLASSIFICATION OF DOG OWNERS

"General Dog Owner" - Any persons who have during the previous two years have either:

- lives in a urban zoned dog area
- a dog impounded on more than one occasion; or
- received a written warning concerning complaints; or
- received an infringement notice; or
- been convicted for a dog offence; or

"Good Dog Owner" - Any persons who during the previous two years have:

- lives in a urban zoned dog area
- not had a dog impounded on more than one occasion; and
- not had a written warning concerning complaints; and
- not had an infringement notice; and
- not been convicted for a dog offence; and
- paid registration fees before penalties are applicable on at least one of those registration years.

"Select Dog Owner" - Any person who:

- lives in a urban zoned dog area
- meets the good owner policy, requirements; and
- has a fenced area of their property; and
- meets all the dog bylaw requirements; and
- has all their dogs neutered; or the owner is a recognised New Zealand Pedigree Breeder.
- has made an application to be a Select Owner by 30 April (before registration due).

"Rural Dog Owner" - Any person who:

- lives in a rural zone; and
- meets the good dog owner policy requirements.

INFRINGEMENT NOTICES

Stratford District Council Animal Control Officers shall issue infringement notices in respect of the following infringement offences as detailed in the First Schedule of the Dog Control

APPENDIX 1

Act 1996 in accordance with the stated purpose of this Policy:

<u>Section</u>	<u>Description of Offence</u>
• S18	Wilful obstruction of Dog Control Officer or Dog Ranger.
• S19(2)	Failure or refusal to supply information or willfully stating false particulars.
• S20(50)	Failure to comply with any bylaw authorised by Section 20.
• S28(5)	Failure to comply with effects of disqualification.
• S32(4)	Fraudulent sale or transfer of dangerous dog.
• S36A	Failure to implant microchip transponder in dog.
• S41	False statement relating to registration.
• S42	Failure to register dog.
• S46(4)	Fraudulent attempt to procure replacement label or disc.
• S48(3)	Failure to advise change of ownership.
• S49(4)	Failure to advise change of address.
• S51(1)	Removal or swapping of labels or discs.
• S52A	Failure to keep dog controlled or confined.
• S53(1)	Failure to keep dog under control.
• S54A	Failure to use or carry leash in public place.
• S62(1)	Allowing dogs known to be dangerous to be at large unmuzzled.

8**Waiver of Infringement Notices**

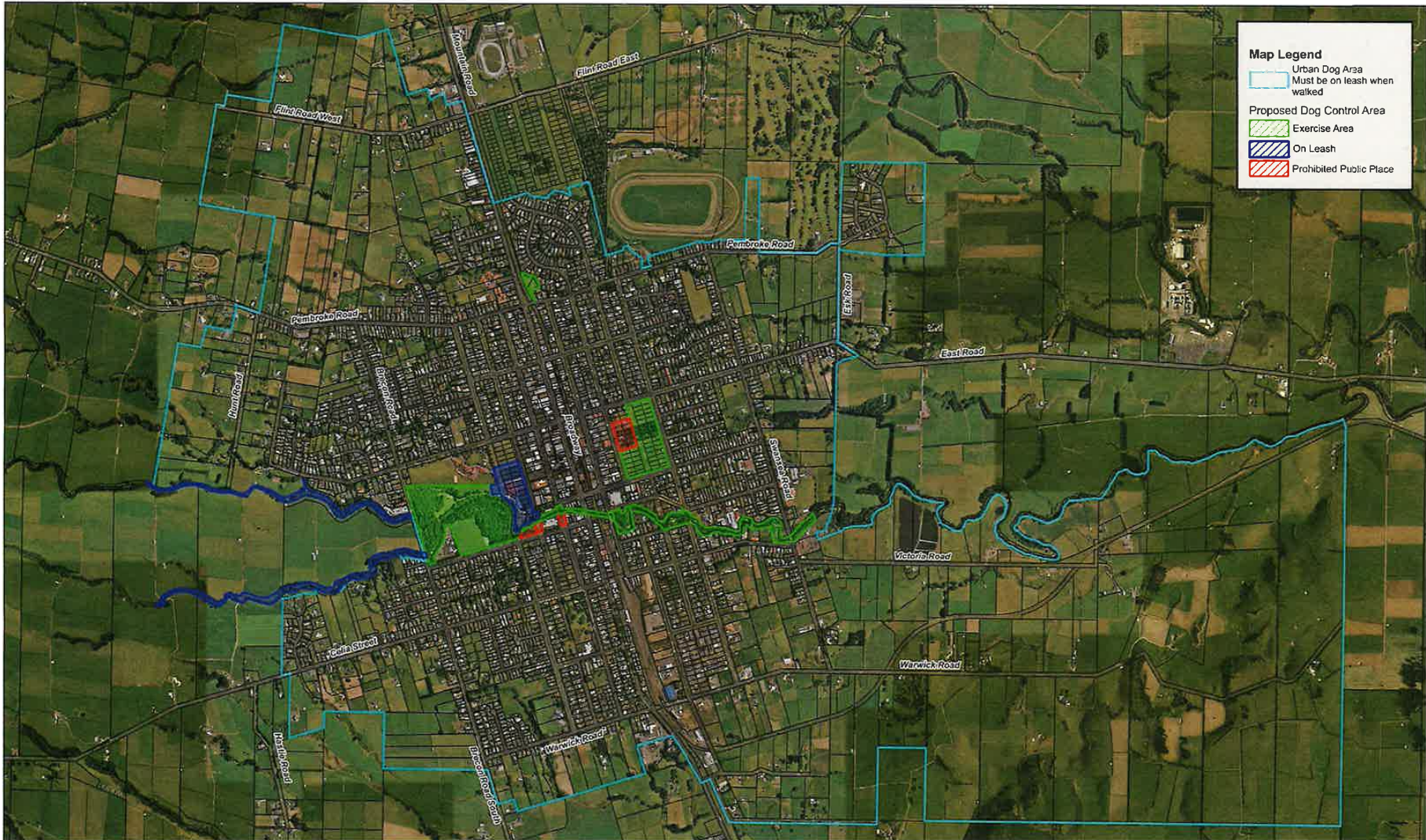
Where the offence giving rise to the issue of an infringement notice has been mitigated within 56 days of the date of issue, then the fine may be waived on receipt of written documentation of the mitigating circumstances. Such circumstances include:

- Registration of the dog.
- Re-housing of the dog.
- Destruction of the dog.
- Other exceptional circumstances.


Dog Control Fees

Refer to the Stratford District Council's current fees and charges relating to dog control fees.

APPENDIX 1



Stratford Proposed Dog Control Areas

Map Version: 2 

Date Printed February 2021

The information provided is an indication only and needs to be validated in the field. The Stratford District Council accepts no responsibility for errors or omissions for loss or damage resulting from the reliance or use of this information. Cadastral information is derived from LINZ's Digital Cadastral Record System (CRS) CROWN COPYRIGHT RESERVED.

APPENDIX 2**STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL**

<u>POLICY: DOG CONTROL</u>	
DEPARTMENT: Environmental Services	RESPONSIBILITY:
SECTION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Environmental Services • Compliance Officer
REVIEW DATE: 2009/2010	NEXT REVIEW: 2018
VERSION: 1	APPROVAL DATE: 5/10/10

8**PURPOSE**

1. In accordance with the Dog Control Amendment Act 2003 Section 10(4), the purpose of this policy is:
2. To provide a framework which recognises:
 - the need to minimise danger, distress, and nuisance to the community generally; and
 - the need to avoid the inherent danger in allowing dogs to have uncontrolled access to public places that are frequented by children, whether or not the children are accompanied by adults; and
 - the importance of enabling, to the extent that is practicable, the public (including families) to use streets and public amenities without fear of attack or intimidation by dogs; and
 - the exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners.
3. It is further acknowledged that although the use of legally stipulated control measures is required, and conflicts will be resolved, as far as is practicable in the first instance, through discussions with dog owners.

DOG CONTROL BYLAW

1. The Act allows for the making of a bylaw to reinforce the provisions of the Policy.
2. The Stratford District Council Dog Control Bylaw addresses the following issues:
 - Control of dogs in public places.
 - Minimum standards for accommodation of dogs.
 - Number of dogs per household.
 - Overnight confinement of dogs.
 - Removal of dog faeces by owner.
 - Nuisances related to dogs.
 - Confinement of bitches in season.
 - Impounding of dogs.
 - Disposal of impounded dogs.

APPENDIX 2**STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES**

Where there is a right of objection to any action by the Stratford District Council under the Act, then, pursuant to the Local Government Act 2002, Schedule 7, Section 32(1), the Stratford District Council delegates to its Chief Executive the power to hear and decide on objections lodged in respect of:

The Classification of an Owner as a Probationary Owner

Pursuant to Schedule 7, Section 32(1) of the Local Government Act 2002, the Stratford District Council delegates to the Chief Executive or any officer appointed by him, the power to hear and reach a decision in respect of an objection lodged as a result of a dog owner being classified a probationary owner pursuant to Section 22 of the Act.

The Classification of an Owner as a Disqualified Owner

Pursuant to Schedule 7, Section 32(1) of the Local Government Act 2002 the Stratford District Council delegates to the Chief Executive or any officer appointed by him the power to hear and reach a determination on any objection to disqualification lodged pursuant to Section 26 of the Act.

The Classification of a Dog as a Dangerous Dog

Pursuant to Schedule 7, Section 32(1) of the Local Government Act 2002 the Stratford District Council delegates to the Chief Executive or any officer appointed by him, the power to hear and reach determinations in respect of any objection lodged with the Stratford District Council pursuant to Section 31 of the Act and which pertains to the classification of a dangerous dog.

The Classification of a Dog as a Menacing Dog

Pursuant to Schedule 7, Section 32(1) of the Local Government Act 2002 the Stratford District Council delegates to the Chief Executive or any officer appointed by him, the power to hear and reach a determination in respect of any objection lodged with the Stratford District Council pursuant to Section 33B of the Act pertaining to the classification of a menacing dog.

The Serving of a Notice Relating to a Barking Dog

Pursuant to Schedule 7, Section 32(1) of the Local Government Act 2002 the Stratford District Council delegates to the Chief Executive or any officer appointed by him, the power to hear and reach a determination in respect of any objection lodged pursuant to Section 55 of the Act pertaining to barking dogs.

The Serving of an Infringement Notice

Pursuant to Schedule 7, Section 32(1) of the Local Government Act 2002 the Stratford District Council delegates to the Chief Executive or any officer appointed by him, the power to issue infringement notices in respect of infringement offences and fees detailed in the First Schedule of the Dog Control Amendment Act 2003.

APPENDIX 2

The Impounding of a Dog Threatening Public Safety

Pursuant to Schedule 7, Section 32(1) of the Local Government Act 2002 the Stratford District Council delegates to the Chief Executive or any officer appointed by him, the power to determine whether a dog which has been retained for reasons outlined in Section 71 of the Act should be released.

CONTROL OF DOGS IN PUBLIC PLACES

Prohibited Public Places

Dogs are **PROHIBITED** in the following areas:

- Broadway, including the footpaths, between the northern roundabout, at the intersection of Broadway and Regan Street, and the southern roundabout, at the intersection of Broadway and Fenton Street.
- Prospero Place.
- Within 20 metres of any children's playground equipment which is on land controlled by Council except any public road or footpath adjacent such an area.
- Egmont National Park except with a Department of Conservation permit.
- Whanganui National Park except with a Department of Conservation permit.
- Areas gazetted as **CONTROLLED DOG AREAS** under the Conservation Act 1987, except with a Department of Conservation permit.
- Pembroke Road, from the Egmont National Park Gate to the Plateau Car Park being the entire length of the road which is bounded on both sides by the National Park.
- Manaia Road, from the Egmont National Park Gate to the Dawson Falls Road End Car Park, being the entire length of the road which is bounded on both sides by the National Park.

Leash Controlled Public Places

Dogs must be **CONTROLLED ON A LEASH** in the following areas:

- Any part of any footpath or berms adjacent to a footpath within the district.
- Any part of any street or public place that has for the time being been so declared by any resolution of Council.

Dog Exercise Areas

Dogs may be exercised **UNLEASHED BUT UNDER CONTINUOUS CONTROL** in all areas of the Stratford District except those specified above. Every such area shall be a **DOG EXERCISE AREA**.

Dogs may be exercised without a Department of Conservation permit and subject to certain conditions in the following **OPEN DOG AREAS**:

Areas gazetted as open dog areas under the Conservation Act 1987. Every such area shall be a **DOG EXERCISE AREA**.

APPENDIX 2

CLASSIFICATION OF PROBATIONARY OWNERS

A person shall, unless they are required to be classified as a disqualified owner, be classified as a probationary owner for a period of 24 months when that person either:

- (a) Is convicted of any offence, not being an infringement offence, against the Dog Control Act 1996; or
- (b) Commits three or more infringement offences, but not relating to a single incident or occasion, within a continuous period of 24 months.

CLASSIFICATION OF DISQUALIFIED OWNERS

A person shall be classified as being disqualified from owning a dog for a period of five years, unless the Stratford District Council is satisfied that the circumstances of an offence or offences do not warrant disqualification, if:

- (a) the person commits 3 or more of any of the following infringement offences, but not relating to a single incident or occasion, within a continuous period of 24 months:
 - S18 Wilful obstruction of a dog control officer or dog ranger
 - S32(4) Fraudulent sale or transfer of a dangerous dog
 - S46(4) Fraudulent attempt to procure replacement label or disc
 - S53(1) Failure to keep dog under control, where the incident resulted in injury to any person or animal;

or

- (b) the person is convicted of any one of the following offences, not being an infringement offence, against the Dog Control Act 1996:
 - An offence in respect of an incident which resulted in injury to any person or animal
 - An offence in respect of any dog which has been declared a Dangerous Dog pursuant to S31
 - An offence in respect of any dog, the owner of which is classified as a Probationary Owner pursuant to S23;

or

- (c) the person is convicted of an offence against Part 1 or Part 2 of the Animal Welfare Act 1999, section 26ZZP of the Conservation Act 1987, or section 56(I) of the National Parks Act 1980.

CLASSIFICATION OF DOG OWNERS

"General Dog Owner" - Any persons who have during the previous two years have either:

- a dog impounded on more than one occasion; or
- received a written warning concerning complaints; or
- received an infringement notice; or

APPENDIX 2

- been prosecuted for a dog offence; or
- not registered their dog(s) prior to late payment penalties being applicable on more than one occasion.

"Good Dog Owner" - Any persons who during the previous two years have:

- not had a dog impounded on more than one occasion; and
- not had a written warning concerning complaints; and
- not had an infringement notice; and
- not been prosecuted for a dog offence; and
- paid registration fees before penalties are applicable on at least one of those registration years.

"Select Dog Owner" - Any person who:

- meets the good owner policy, requirements; and
- has all their dogs neutered; and
- has a fenced area of their property; and
- meets all the dog bylaw requirements; and
- has made an application to be a Select Owner by 30 April (before registration due).

"Rural Dog Owner" - Any person who:

- lives in a rural zone; and
- meets the good dog owner policy requirements.

INFRINGEMENT NOTICES

Stratford District Council Animal Control Officers shall issue infringement notices in respect of the following infringement offences as detailed in the First Schedule of the Dog Control Act 1996 in accordance with the stated purpose of this Policy:

<u>Section</u>	<u>Description of Offence</u>
• S18	Wilful obstruction of Dog Control Officer or Dog Ranger.
• S19(2)	Failure or refusal to supply information or wilfully stating false particulars.
• S20(50)	Failure to comply with any bylaw authorised by Section 20.
• S28(5)	Failure to comply with effects of disqualification.
• S32(4)	Fraudulent sale or transfer of dangerous dog.
• S36A	Failure to implant microchip transponder in dog.
• S41	False statement relating to registration.
• S42	Failure to register dog.
• S46(4)	Fraudulent attempt to procure replacement label or disc.
• S48(3)	Failure to advise change of ownership.
• S49(4)	Failure to advise change of address.
• S51(1)	Removal or swapping of labels or discs.
• S52A	Failure to keep dog controlled or confined.
• S53(1)	Failure to keep dog under control.
• S54A	Failure to use or carry leash in public place.
• S62(1)	Allowing dogs known to be dangerous to be at large unmuzzled.

APPENDIX 2

Waiver of Infringement Notices

Where the offence giving rise to the issue of an infringement notice has been mitigated within 56 days of the date of issue, then the fine may be waived on receipt of written documentation of the mitigating circumstances. Such circumstances include:

- Registration of the dog.
- Re-housing of the dog.
- Destruction of the dog.
- Other exceptional circumstances.

APPENDIX 3



STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL Statement of Proposal *Draft Dog Control Policy*

8

INTRODUCTION

This Statement of Proposal has been prepared as part of the Special Consultative Procedure (SCP) in accordance with Section 83 of the Local Government Act (LGA) 2002.

The draft Dog Control Policy should be read in conjunction with the *draft* Control of Dogs Bylaw 2020 that has been approved for public consultation.

WHY DOES THE COUNCIL NEED A CONTROL OF DOGS BYLAW?

Pursuant to Section 10AA of the Dog Control Act 1996, the Stratford District Council ('Council') has reviewed the Dog Control Policy to regulate dog control in the Stratford District. The Dog Control Policy should be read in conjunction with Control of Dogs Bylaw that is also under review and has been released for public consultation.

WHY IS THE COUNCIL REVIEWING THE DOG CONTROL POLICY?

The Stratford District Council must review its Dog Control Policy in accordance with section 10AA of the Dog Control Act 1996, if an operative dog control bylaw requires review.

The Stratford District Council Control of Dogs Bylaw is currently under review.

This Statement of Proposal includes a copy of the proposed *draft* Dog Control Policy.

WHAT IS THE COUNCIL PROPOSING IN THE CONTROL OF DOGS POLICY?

- Minor amendments to wording of the policy for clarity
- Changes to statutory provisions for clarity
- deletion of clauses considered no longer necessary.
- The draft policy also proposes to remove the restriction of dogs from the CBD and Prospero Place.
- The criteria for Select Ownership has been updated to include registered dog breeders.
- The inclusion of maps to define dog exercise, on leash and restricted areas and urban dog owner zoning. Maps include proposed amendments.

WHAT MUST COUNCIL CONSIDER WHEN MAKING THIS POLICY?

Pursuant to Section 10 of the Dog Control Act 1996, the Council must adopt a policy in respect of the control of dogs in its district. The policy shall consider:

APPENDIX 3

- (a) the need to minimise danger, distress, and nuisance to the community generally; and
- (b) the need to avoid the inherent danger in allowing dogs to have uncontrolled access to public places that are frequented by children, whether or not the children are accompanied by adults; and
- (c) the importance of enabling, to the extent that is practicable, the public (including families) to use streets and public amenities without fear of attack or intimidation by dogs; and
- (d) the exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners.

The requirements of Section 10 have been considered. This *draft* Dog Control Policy is, along with the Control of Dogs Bylaw, the most appropriate way of dealing with the control of dogs within the Stratford District.

HOW WILL THE COUNCIL IMPLEMENT AND FUND THE POLICY?

The majority of provisions in the *draft* Dog Control Policy are either already budgeted for in Council's Long Term Plan (LTP) 2018-2028 or are subject to Council's *Fees and Charges*. Any new cost recovery provisions will be included in the Council's *Fees and Charges* and consulted on as part of the 2020/2021 Annual Plan.

WHERE DO I GET COPIES OF THE *Draft* CONTROL OF DOGS BYLAW?

This *Draft* Dog Control Policy and the Statement of Proposal are available upon request at the following locations:

- The Council Offices @ 61-63 Miranda Street, P O Box 320, Stratford;
- The Stratford Library @ Prospero Place, Stratford West 4332; and
- The Council's website @ www.stratford.govt.nz.

RIGHT TO MAKE SUBMISSIONS AND BE HEARD

Any person or organisation has a right to be heard in regard to this proposal and the Council would encourage everyone with an interest to do so.

Submissions should be addressed to:

Director, Environmental Services
Stratford District Council
P O Box 320, STRATFORD 4352

No later than Thursday **23 April 2020** at 4.30pm. The Council will then convene a hearing, which it intends to hold on **19 May 2020**, at which time any party who wishes to do so can present their submission in person. Equal weight will be given to written and oral submissions.

Council will permit parties to make oral submissions (without prior written material) or to make a late submission, only where it considers that special circumstances apply.

Every submission made to the Council will be acknowledged, copied and made available to the public, in accordance with the Local Government Act. Every submission will be heard in a meeting which is open to the public.

Section 82 of the Local Government Act sets out the obligations of the Council in regard to consultation and the Council will take all steps necessary to meet the spirit and intent of the law.

MONTHLY REPORT



TO: Council

FROM: District Mayor

DATE 10 March 2020

D20/3577-F13/13/04

SUBJECT: REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2020

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the District Mayor's report be received.

_____/_____
Moved/Seconded

1. FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT OF \$13.4 MILLION FOR SH 43

Following the recent announcement of \$9.6 million of funding for the sealing of 12 kilometres of highway through the Tangarakau Gorge, we have been pleasantly surprised with the announcement of an additional \$13.4 million to be utilised for further improvements along the route. The decision by Minister Jones to fund the long overdue improvements that were identified in the business case prepared last year, is very significant, very welcome and very satisfying.

The improvements will remove many of the barriers that deter motorists from using this route and will facilitate a predicted increase in visitor numbers using the route by around 13,000 annually and add to regional GDP by \$45 million over 40 years. Given the strategic location of Stratford this has enormous potential for business and employment development in this area.

State Highway 43 provides the direct link between the centre of the North Island and the Taranaki region and it is already identified as a scenic route to drive. Lonely Planet has also listed it as a great cycle route, something that has considerable value in terms of promotion.

Details of the work to be undertaken and the exact timeline is yet to be confirmed, but the Minister has expressed a strong desire for some quick action and it is anticipated we will see commencement of physical works within a few months. Known work will include safety improvements, crash barriers, passing opportunities, improved signage, a single lane bridge upgrade and culvert replacements. Combined these will add resilience to the route and the central North Island's transport network.

2. SUBMISSION ON RACING INDUSTRY BILL

Following the closure of submissions earlier in February, the Racing Industry Bill is currently being debated by Parliament's Transport and Infrastructure Committee. I have had a good deal of feedback from members of the community on the negative aspects of the Bill that will enable the forced sale of freehold land and more specifically their objection

to the transfer of resulting funds to the codes parent body in Wellington. The whole notion of enabling a forced land sale and subsequently taking the funds is completely unjust.

My submission focussed on the clauses in the Bill that would eventually lead to the demise of Te Kapua Park as a racing and training facility. I am absolutely confident that across the community there is a widely held view that the course should not be sold, especially for the benefit of others. The Bill is scheduled to return to the House in April and will be passed into law in June. Let's hope that by the Third Reading it looks considerably different. I have attached a copy of the submission in correspondence.

3. STAFF ASSISTANCE DURING EMERGENCY EVENTS

During the last month staff members Riccardo Goddard and Mario Bestall have been involved with emergency events. Riccardo joined 60 other fire fighters to battle a twenty hectare bush fire in South Taranaki, in his role with the Rural Fire Service.

While as a council we were able to answer the call for assistance with the Southland Civil Defence Emergency by offering the skilled services of Mario Bestall in the role of planning and operations. This secondment helped Southland with the management of the event and in addition provided an opportunity for Mario to attain hands on experience in a real event, something that will prove invaluable should we experience something similar in the future. I have received an acknowledgement from Mayor Tracy Hicks expressing his appreciation of the support given by fellow councils throughout New Zealand.

4. TAPUAE ROA STEERING GROUP

The Steering Group held its February meeting in New Plymouth and as usual representatives from the Provincial Growth Fund ("PGF") were present. I acknowledge the work and departure of Al Morrison from his role as regional liaison officer as he has been a positive, instrumental figure in Taranaki receiving funds from central government.

The PGF is likely to be fully expended around June and will therefore dry up as a source of future project funding for the region. However, in year one and two of the funds existence, there were considerable numbers of feasibility studies and business cases undertaken that identified ideas for future growth. While the PGF will not be available to fund the further development of these ideas other sources will take its place to ensure the work done to date is not wasted and the ideas will come into fruition.

5. POSITIVE AGING FORUM - DR DOUG WILSON

The February forum proved to be a popular event and the guest presenter Dr Doug Wilson was very well received. Dr Wilson spoke about the content of his latest book "Aging for Beginners" and was an informative, entertaining and very engaging speaker. He had some key take home messages that included the need for older people to exercise their brain and to foster and maintain people relationships. He also talked about community support and participation, so it came as no real surprise when he made some very complimentary comments about what he saw and experienced in Stratford. The Positive Aging Forum was an excellent format and a model he thought many other towns should establish and promote.

6. PERCY THOMPSON RODIN EXHIBITION

The gallery has once again exceeded all expectations as it exhibits the prestigious “Remembering Rodin” Exhibition. For a small gallery like the Percy Thompson to be able to bring this quality of artwork to our District is really quite remarkable and I acknowledge the special efforts of those involved. As always, the opening was well attended and I would encourage anyone even remotely interested in art to visit the gallery regularly and enjoy the works on display.

7. CORRESPONDENCE - See attached.

8. SOME EVENTS ATTENDED

- Attended the SCSS Stadium Committee meeting
- Met with Regan Duff – Taranaki Rural Community Resilience Project
- Attended Stratford Youth Council meeting
- Attended meeting of Tapuae Roa Steering Group
- Attended a presentation on Regenerative Agriculture
- Met with Representative of the Stratford Swimming Club
- Met with Representative of the Stratford Basketball Association
- Met with Representative of Stratford Youthworks
- Attended Grey Power Annual General Meeting – Guest Speaker
- Attended Baldricks Big Day Out public meeting
- Attended Percy Thompson Gallery “Remembering Rodin” exhibition opening
- Met with Representative of the Stratford A & P Association
- Attended Maryann Retirement Village Residents Annual General Meeting
- Attended Positive Aging Forum
- Hosted Dr Doug Wilson (author)
- Met with CEO of Nga Tangata Tiaki O Whanganui
- Attended Colour in the Park Event
- More FM Interview (x2)
- Daily News Interview (x3)
- Attended Council Meetings (x5)
- Attended Council Workshops (x2)



**N C Volzke JP
DISTRICT MAYOR**

Stratford Volunteer Fire Brigade Call Outs February 2020

The Stratford fire brigade responded to 15 calls in February 2020

02-02-20 Tanker required digger on fire Te Wera assist Toko fire brigade

04-02-20 Tanker required vegetation fire Opunake Road assist Kaponga fire brigade

04-02-20 Alarm activation Stratford Vets Juliet Street

10-02-20 Standby Hawera fire station

10-02-20 Alarm activation Z Stratford Broadway

12-02-20 MVA car vs. motorbike Opunake / Rowan Road Assist Kaponga fire brigade 1 Fatal

15-02-20 Rubbish fire Portia Street

16-02-20 Rubbish fire Swansea Road

19-02-20 Assist ambulance with medical call Orlando Street

19-02-20 Rubbish fire Lear Street

20-02-20 Rubbish fire Flint Road

21-02-20 Tanker required hayshed fire Hastings Road Assist Kaponga and Eltham fire brigades

24-02-20 Assist ambulance medical call Pembroke Road Stood down before arrival

24-02-20 Tanker required vegetation fire Ohura Road Kohuratahi assist Toko fire brigade

25-02-20 Couch on fire Whitcombe Terrace Midhirst

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



STRATFORD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

61-63 Miranda Street
PO Box 320, Stratford, 4352
Phone 06 765 6099
Fax 06 765 7500
www.stratford.govt.nz

Our reference

F16/1152 – D20/2274

Inquiries to:

10 February 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

SUBMISSION ON THE RACING INDUSTRY BILL

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the Racing Industry Bill that was introduced on 5 December 2019. The purpose of this Bill is to provide a legislative framework to enable recommendations of the Messara Report into the New Zealand Racing Industry to be implemented. These include changes to the post-transition governance structure of the racing industry, creating a legislative framework to enable property re-structuring within the racing industry, and enabling new ways of seeking approval for betting products.

We respect and accept the right of the industry leaders to make changes to the industry, whether we agree or not, and therefore we have no comment on the legislation affecting future governance structures or around betting products. We do however have comment to make in regard of the property/venues clauses of this legislation as the impacts stretch well beyond the immediate realms of the racing industry alone.

On behalf of our community, we would like to express our concerns about this legislation.

Specifically, we reject the collective intent of Clauses 24, 25, 26 and 27 of Sub Part 2 that would allow the forced sale of Te Kapua Park (the Stratford Racecourse) and others, and the follow on action, of funds resulting from the sale being confiscated and deposited with the code's governing authority based in Wellington.

Horse training has a long history in Stratford - as part of the research for this submission we were able to track the beginnings Stratford's current racetrack, Te Kapua Park, back to 1891 – some 127 years ago, known as Bushford Park at the time.

The obvious and immediate impact of losing Te Kapua Park would be the loss of a local training facility for the current 7 trainers and circa 60 horses in their care. The training activity provides income and employment as well as economic spin-offs through associated services, suppliers, vets, etc. It all forms part of the critical mass it takes for rural towns like Stratford to retain services and employment.

At a time when the government focuses on economic development in the regions, it seems counterintuitive for the government to actively terminate the livelihoods of a long-standing and well-respected profession in the very regions you are claiming to be supporting.

It is also noteworthy that, by virtue of Section 9(2) of the Racing Act 2003, the Racing Board must “*comply with the principles of natural justice; and exhibit a sense of social responsibility by having regard to the interests of the community in which it operates*”. We would suggest that the Messara report, which fails to recognise this obligation on the part of the Board, is in direct conflict with this requirement and the flow on proposed legislative “property transfer” clauses of the new Bill are even more in conflict.

To be clear - we do not disagree with the aggregation of racetracks for the purpose of racing, however we do strongly object to local training facilities that are essential to the livelihoods of some of our residents being disowned and sold to fund facilities elsewhere.

We feel the need to address the matter of the government taking freehold land, which is owned by the community, for the purpose of funding similar facilities outside our community. We are unable to find a legal precedent to this kind of action and are unable to see how this can be undertaken legally under current legislation. The closest legislation relative to the signalled action would be the Public Works Act, but even that has compensation of the property owner at the core. In our view it is a slippery slope and we strongly urge the government to stay clear of such indefensible actions.

We find Clause 25 particularly repugnant as it makes a mockery of good faith negotiation and natural justice. It creates a platform for the racing club and the code to negotiate an agreement but where an agreement is not reached, a Ministerial intervention can force a transfer proposal to occur. This situation is not conducive to a positive outcome for a property owning racing club and the negotiation in reality becomes a farce. It gives too much power to the Minister of the day and in effect means that if the club does not comply with the codes and /or Ministers wishes, a negative decision will be forced upon them.

Having legislation such as this that enables privately owned property to be snatched away by Order in Council and which is most likely against the wishes of the people in the local community, is simply wrong. Legislation enabling the forced sale of land and the diversion of the funds to the code's parent body is enabling nothing less than theft from the club, the community and the volunteers that have contributed to that facility development for, in Stratford's case, more than one hundred years.

In recent months I have had many approaches from people in the Stratford area who are angry and opposed to the notion that a forced sale of the Stratford Racecourse could occur because of this legislation. The community objection is even more resolute when it relates to taking any funds from the local racing club and the Stratford community, in a situation where there is also a broad sense of community ownership.

The use of cosy phrases like “*property transfer*” and “*industry capital*” do nothing to disguise the fact that the collective intent of Clauses 24 to 27 is tantamount to land confiscation and theft.

In addition to horse training and racing, Kapua Park is used for a much wider range of activities than just horse racing. Community groups as well as local schools actively use the facility.

While this legislation will enable any racecourse to be sold anywhere, and we acknowledge there is some provision for community impact to be factored into negotiations for any transfer proposal, there are no assurances that this would be meaningful and the wishes of the code's parent body would most likely outstrip those of the community.

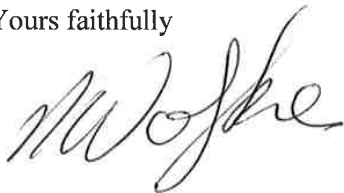
The resulting loss of the facility would remove public access and put further pressure on existing council facilities, or require council to develop a facility to meet the needs of the wider community, currently filled by Te Kapua Park. Once again, government is transferring costs onto councils, with no consultation and despite repeat claims by its ministers "*that unlike their predecessors, they will be working in partnership with local government*".

An example of the flow on effects is the impact to the Stratford Trotting Club, that still uses the local facilities for training and racing purposes but would have to find another venue, against its wishes.

In conclusion, we submit that:

1. All clauses within the Bill that serve to enable the forced sale for privately owned, freehold land should be deleted.
2. Any property sale should only occur when the club owner requests and agrees to a sale occurring.
3. Any funds derived from a property sale should not be re-directed to the parent code unless the club concerned agrees to such an action.
4. The power of the Minister to force a property sale by way of Order in Council without any guaranteed form of compensation to the club concerned, should be removed.

Yours faithfully



Neil Volzke, JP
DISTRICT MAYOR

31 January 2020

Tēnā koutou donors and supporters,

After an exciting year of progress in 2019 we are looking forward to 2020 with tremendous confidence. With funds raised rising steadily, an exciting site development plan in place and a confirmed construction programme siteworks will begin in July 2020. The work to be done will see New Zealand's oldest stone church, built in 1846, strengthened and the stories embedded in the historic site shared using exhibitions, tours, events and digital resources. Sensitive developments will transform the site into a significant heritage, education and visitor destination. It will be a heritage hub and a community catalyst for peace and reconciliation. It will be a place of community building and collaboration in the heart of New Plymouth.

Much progress has been made on site development designs, with plans being finalised following consultation with mana whenua hapū, Ngāti Te Whiti, and the Taranaki Cathedral parish. A striking new contemporary building, Te Whare Hononga (the house that binds) will be sited beside the Cathedral. The vicarage will be brought forward and repurposed to link with other buildings and allow for carparking. The lower floor of the vicarage will be a function and hospitality space supporting the exhibition space and Cathedral. The upper floor will provide the learning spaces for the education hub which ties the site together- the Sir Paul Reeves Centre of Peace and Reconciliation. A courtyard will also be created between the buildings. In order to speed the completion of the entire building programme construction will start on Te Whare Hononga first. This allows for final funds for the cathedral strengthening to be raised while physical works are underway and fulfils the requirements of our community funding partners. With these major building blocks firmly in place the project is poised for a public relaunch, with new signage and publicity material to share the vision for the site widely. A raft of speaking engagements to groups are also being planned.

Fundraising through 2019 has progressed well with \$9m of the \$15m total now raised. In July the project received a \$1.5m boost from the TSB Community Trust and the project continued attracting support from a wide cross section of the community. Among these supporters were Jones and Sandford, who celebrated their 100th year in business with a \$100,000 donation - a tremendous birthday present! Fundraisers of many kinds have been held, with quiz nights, Sudoku tournaments and auctions to name a few. Leading the way was The Great Antique and Collectables Roadshow, organised by Terry Parkes and an energetic group of helpers, which raised \$34,000 and spurred a great deal of public interest and support. We look forward to another exciting year of progress and look forward to you joining us as we continue building this important community asset.

Ngā mihi nui

The Cathedral Project Team

HOW TO DONATE



Find us on Facebook Cathedral Project - A Taranaki Taonga

Online donations: TATB: The Cathedral Project: 15 3942 0846740 01 Ref [your name].

Post cheques to: 37 Vivian St, New Plymouth 4310

Give a Little: <https://givealittle.co.nz/donate/Organisation/cathedralproject>

Donate in person: Taranaki Cathedral 37 Vivian Street, New Plymouth

Project office hours 10am-1pm Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Larger donations can be spread over a period of years to suit individual circumstances

All donations are tax deductible