



# Shaping your district

Have your say - make a submission until 17 May

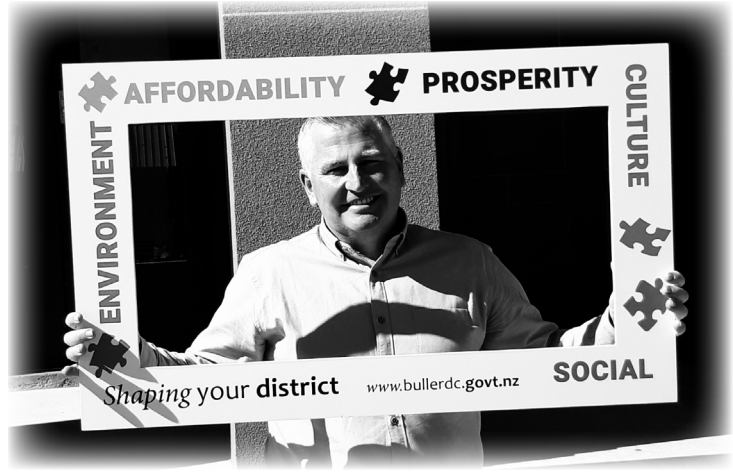
# Connect

April 2022 • Issue 117

Keeping you up to date with news from your Buller District Council

Photo: Richard Rositter

It's the time of year when we ask the community for feedback on the Annual Plan for the new financial year 2022/23. Council is committed to "shaping our district" by continuing to work with the community together on the challenges and opportunities.



## Tell Council what you think about its 2022-2023 Draft Annual Plan.

Between 14 April and 17 May Council is consulting on its course for the coming year.

Go to [www.bullerdc.govt.nz](http://www.bullerdc.govt.nz)

I'm hopeful that this year will bring a meaningful recovery for our district as we progress from successive severe weather events and the Covid-19 pandemic. All these events had a profound effect on our people in recent times.

The flood recovery effort is consuming considerable time for elected members and Council staff as we navigate the central government system and work hard to ensure our flood affected residents get the support needed to rebuild their lives and property.

Council's infrastructure has also been severely compromised and work to return this to pre-flood service levels will likely require considerable multi year projects.

Weather events have highlighted the need for some difficult conversations with the community around climate change and adaptation as the effects are being felt "here and now". Council continues to take a balanced and science based approach as we work alongside the WCRC and central government in developing a plan to mitigate and adapt to natural hazard risks over the coming years.

Our economic development strategy is also continuing with Council maintaining the role of facilitator, seeking to leverage funding opportunities with central government, businesses and the community in partnership, all while minimising risk to ratepayers.

I am amazed by the resilience of the community in times of adversity and urge you to remain unified. Council remains focussed on supporting our district as we move forward together. Take care **Mayor Jamie Cleine**

## How to have your say

The Consultation Document and the Draft Annual Plan are available for public consideration with submissions being accepted until 4.30pm Tuesday 17 May 2022.

There are several ways you can find out more about the full Draft Annual Plan, and how to have your say ...

- Download the Consultation Document and Draft Annual Plan from [www.bullerdc.govt.nz](http://www.bullerdc.govt.nz).
- Consultation Documents and submission forms can be collected from Council's offices and libraries in Westport and Reefton, i-Sites, and Resource Centres across the district.
- Make a submission online at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/2022-2023Annualplan](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2022-2023Annualplan)
- Councillors and staff are available during the consultation period to discuss the Draft Annual Plan. To make an appointment please phone 0800 807 239 or email [submissions@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@bdc.govt.nz).
- Contact your elected representatives (Councillors) – you'll find their contact details on our website.
- A submission form is included on page seven and eight of this newsletter.



**There is a lot happening. Check out some of the amazing initiatives, people, & organisations that Council supports to create a thriving, inclusive, healthy, and vibrant community.**

## Readalymphics Summer Reading Programme at the library a success

The Buller District Libraries successfully ran the annual four-week Summer Reading Programme over the summer holidays despite Covid-19 restrictions and flooding events.

For this year's Summer Reading Programme, participants had to read a minimum of three days a week, with an option to read more to be awarded a bronze, silver, or gold medal.

The programme aims to increase literacy levels and foster good literacy habits for children through the school holidays.

By successfully completing their weekly reading participating kids could collect prizes rewarding their reading effort. The program also included quizzes and activities like making a helicopter, and a book review, to make it more fun and engaging.

After the four weeks two winners were drawn out of all successfully participating children. The two winners each received a brand-new Chromebook.

Winner Grace's mum Linsey said: "Grace could not wait to come in and collect her prize! Grace didn't think she would win because she had entered the year before. But it just goes to show if you keep trying, you're in with a chance and it could be you next time!"

This year the programme format was changed from reading every day to reading three days a week with the option to read more. This change made the program more inclusive, and attractive for new young readers.

This change received positive feedback, from parents and caregivers. Chromebook winner Fergus mum, Lucy said Fergus was first reluctant to enter. His mum kept telling him,

"You've got to be in it, to win it".

Encouraged by his mum Fergus did his best, completed the challenge, and was very happy with his achievement.

Acting manager libraries Nicky Meadowcroft says: "This year it was especially important for the children to have a holiday programme that would not be cancelled."

A special thanks to the Criterion Hotel, the Karamea Village Hotel for funding the programme through Pub Charity Limited and their local sponsors, as well as the Karamea Community Library for their support.



## Youth Voice Kawatiri puts on awesome events this autumn

**Youth Voice Kawatiri will rock the district with a chocker line up of events**

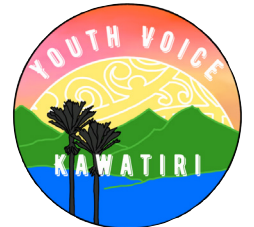
Youth Voice Kawatiri will bring Youth Week to Kawatiri in May with three events between 7 - 15 May. Kicking off with a sport event in Westport, the team will take Youth Week virtual with a health and nutrition event on social media and finish with a Kawatiri Rangatahi Carnival at Victoria Park in Westport.

In June a team of Youth Voice members will travel to Wellington to attend the Festival for the Future engaging in thought provoking discussions around local and global key issues.



Be excited for the Matariki Winter Festival with Youth Voice Kawatiri. Rangatahi are invited to celebrate Puanga Matariki with a chocker day of activities including star gazing, hangi, kapa haka, carving, and a masquerade.

To keep updated about what is happening in the district for youth email [youthvoicekawatiri@gmail.com](mailto:youthvoicekawatiri@gmail.com). or like, and follow Youth Voice Kawatiri on instagram, facebook, or TickTock.



## Kawatiri Super Hero Challenge comes to Westport during the school holidays

**Westport has had a rough time lately, so SportTasman wants you to have some fun these school holidays and celebrate the amazing superheroes that make up our community.**

It's your turn to channel your inner superhero, throw on your cape, get active and find the clues between 15 - 29 April to be in the win for some awesome spot prizes

Spot prizes include 2x skateboards, movie vouchers, swim vouchers and much more!

Clues can be found within a small area of Westport, so grab your bike, scooter or walking shoes and get going!

Entry forms are available to pick up from PERC and or the library.

For more information contact Kylie Carlson 027 201 5248 or [kylie.c@sporttasman.org.nz](mailto:kylie.c@sporttasman.org.nz)



**SPORT TASMAN**



We live in a stunning place so let's care about the magnificent environment we call home. Explore how you can help improve Buller's waste and recycling footprint by reducing, reusing, and recycling.

## The recycling and refuse system in Buller at a glance

The Buller District is divided into three zones. Each of these zones has specific refuse and recycling guidelines which you can find on Council's website.

Council provides recycling kerbside collection only in zone one. You can find the recycling map and instructions how to determine your collection day online on Council's website under Recycling and Refuse Recycling Collection Map.

If you live in zone one, place your wheelie bin and glass crate as close to the kerb as possible and clear of the footpath by 7:30am on your collection day. The new auditing system will only apply to zone one since only in this part of Buller recycling is collected from the kerbside.

Overfull glass crates are a safety hazard. You must ensure the glass is level with the top of the crate or it may not be picked up. Extra bottles can be taken to the transfer station for FREE.

You must follow the local recycling rules. It's important we all manage our waste correctly to minimise waste going into landfills.



## New traffic light system to check recycling bins in Buller

To reduce recycling contamination in Buller from 21 March 2022 recycling bins will be regularly audited by Smart Environmental Ltd and Council staff as part of the two-weekly recycling collection 👍👍👍



During the collection, staff will assess visually the recycling material. Based on the evaluation employees will label the bin with a green, yellow, or red tag !! 👍

For more information go to Council's website under Recycling and Refuse, pick up a guide at Council's offices in Westport or Reefton, or call 0800 807 239 <sup>100</sup>

Be a local hero and follow the recycling guidelines, so your bin will be picked up 🏆

### GREEN TAG

👍 **Thumbs up - you did an amazing job and we are pleased to empty such a spot on bin.**

Give yourself a pat on the back 🏆 <sup>100</sup> We appreciate the work you put into following the local recycling guidelines.

You are truly a yellow bin expert and your effort ensures that your recycling has a second life 👍👍.

### YELLOW TAG

👉 **Improvement needed - your bin contains recyclable items that do not meet the recycling guidelines.**

Please have a look at our recycling guidelines to ensure that your recycling can be recycled in the future.

Check out what we found in your bin and read the local recycling guidelines to become a yellow bin expert 🏆.

### RED TAG

👎 **Thumbs down - your bin had a lot of unrecyclable items in it so your bin could not be emptied.**

Please sort through your recycling and take out unrecyclable items and deposit these as refuse 😞🚫.

Check out what we found in your bin and read the local recycling guidelines to become a yellow bin expert 🏆.





# BULLER RECOVERY update

The flood recovery update we're providing this week focusses on housing, where to go for help and explains the role of the Buller Steering Group in the recovery process.

There's a lot happening!

In terms of housing, we've made some good progress with the first people moving into new temporary housing on Queen Street, and the Stafford Street homes aren't far behind. We've updated our website with more information on Alma Road to help people understand what is planned there.

We know there's still a need for this kind of support, TAS is still actively helping 73 households who have been displaced by the floods. If you're stuck for how to get help, it's important to know the community hub and navigators are a really great resource. On the off chance they can't help you directly, they can steer you in the right direction.

We know these are tough times for our community, but it's lovely to see initiatives like the community kitchen bringing people together, and the kind gifts we're still receiving from around the country like the Crafty Tarts of Motueka.

Kia kaha. We can get through this together.

**Bob Dickson**  
Project Manager  
Buller Recovery



## Temporary accommodation update

The floods of both July last year and February 2022 have displaced people from their homes.

The Temporary Accommodation Service (TAS) is designed to provide accommodation for people while they work with insurance and repairers to either get their homes to a stage where they can move back in, or relocate and rebuild.

Overall, the number of whānau requiring TAS support continues to trend down as households return home, however, TAS is still actively helping 73 households (as at 13 March 2022).

Of these, 55 are in TAS-supplied accommodation – 36 in motel accommodation, 13 in motorhomes and 6 in portacabins.

It is predicted that by the end of the year, about 30 households will still require temporary accommodation support.



## Westport housing update

### Queen Street

The three new homes in Queen Street in Westport are part of work to provide temporary accommodation for people displaced by the floods.

The two and three bedroom houses are newly constructed and were relocated from Napier. They were blessed in early March (pictured at right) by Te Rua Mason (Kai Tahu, Kati Waewae), with tenants moving in the following week.

The properties are owned by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) and managed by the Temporary Accommodation Service (TAS).

### Stafford Street

The five houses on Stafford Street were donated by Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities to provide temporary accommodation for flood affected residents. They are managed by TAS.

They are all small three bedroom homes constructed in the late 70s/early 80s and relocated from Canterbury.

Once the properties were on-site, additional work was required to get them ready for people to make them their homes. Piles, foundations, gardens, fences, landscaping and internal fit out was funded by Development West Coast.

### Alma Road

TAS is proposing to build a 22-house temporary accommodation area on Alma Road in Westport to continue supporting affected residents while they wait to return to the

homes or rebuilds. The area is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2022.

The reasoning for building the Alma Road temporary accommodation area is:

- the ongoing demand for housing following this incident,
- a shortage of rental accommodation,
- The Buller District (BDC) has a small rating base (5,000), so cannot undertake such a project on its own.

You can find out more about the planned Alma Road temporary accommodation area at [www.westportfloodrecovery.org.nz](http://www.westportfloodrecovery.org.nz) and search under **Flood Recovery/Built**.

Following the resource consent process, we look forward to being able to share some concepts for what the proposed homes at Alma Road will look like. Watch this space.



*Pictured above: Westport Flood Recovery and MBIE came together to organise the blessing of the Queen Street houses before the new tenants moved in. (Photo: NomadAV).*

*Top: One of the new Queen Street homes.*



## Community kitchen a success

Many flood-affected residents have struggled with cooking while in temporary accommodation or while their homes have been repaired. February 1 marked the opening of Westport's Community Kitchen at the RSA where hot meals are provided on a Tuesday evening.

Meals can be picked up or delivered but for many it is the social connection and being able to sit and enjoy each other's company in the RSA that is the highlight of the night.

On the first night of service, the team provided 37 meals and this number has climbed to an astonishing 140 hot meals. Many of these are delivered to residents by a fantastic army of volunteers.

Due to high demand, bookings are absolutely essential. To book your meal, phone 03 789 6000, text 027 279 0277 or email [admin@poti.co.nz](mailto:admin@poti.co.nz)

The Community Kitchen is being run by No. 37 Potikohua Trust with funding from the Department of Internal Affairs.

*Pictured right: Karen Leslie with her foster children: Frank, Karma and Blade.*



## Steering Group explained

Buller Recovery Steering Group Independent Chair, Richard Kempthorne, explains the role of the Steering Group in the recovery process.

"The Buller Recovery Steering Group was established last year to support the Buller flood recovery effort including overseeing Government recovery funding. The Steering Group has more recently also been tasked with identifying and recommending an integrated package of long-term resilience measures to increase the resilience of Westport and its surrounds from future flood events.

"The Steering Group has established a cross-agency project to investigate longer-term flood recovery priorities and measures that will make up this integrated package, and be put forward for possible funding through a co-investment approach with Government.

"The Steering Group will report back to elected Council members of both the West Coast Regional Council, and Buller District Council with the recommended package of measures by the end of June 2022. Subject to the Councils' and iwi agreement on the package, a proposal to seek co-investment from central government will then be made to the Minister of Local Government.

"It is important to note that the Steering Group itself will not be making any decisions on behalf of Buller residents. The project team reporting to the Steering Group has been tasked with considering all options for long-term flood resilience in Westport. This cross-agency team will then report back to both the BDC and WCRC, via the Steering Group, for agreement, before a proposal is made to Central Government for funding. It seems to me that Government funding will be crucial for the people in Westport and Buller. This is a necessary process and is nothing out of the ordinary."



## Many thanks to the Crafty Tarts of Motueka

It's always lovely to know that people from around the country are thinking of us.

We recently received a wonderful gift of hand-made quilts and other crafts from a group of Motueka women who love creating craft work.

They wanted to donate them to flood-affected residents as they thought they would be useful.

In the end, they rallied together and sent us four large bags of beautiful things – quilts, embroidered cushions, crocheted rugs and toys, and more.

Thanks to the Crafty Tarts for thinking of us.

*Top: Marian, Val and the team of Crafty Tarts.*



Providing information and support for all flood-affected residents of Buller.

If you are feeling stressed or anxious about dealing with any aspect of your recovery, come and have a cuppa and a chat with our friendly team.

### The Community Hub

175 Palmerston Street, Westport  
Phone 0800 768 348  
Monday to Friday 9.30am to 4pm



# Community and Council notices

## The district is booming and Council is busier than ever

Because of the high workload and demands on the Regulatory Services team, and while Council goes through recruitment processes, there will be time delays across a range of our building and planning services.

The issuing of building consents, resource consents, land information memorandum, and rapid numbers will be the most impacted.



Council is working hard to secure support from external services in order to process applications, but due to the fact many other Councils are experiencing similar issues, this is proving to be a challenge.

Council asks for residents' patience during this time and please make sure when you submit applications they are as complete and detailed as possible to avoid further delays.

If you need information regarding applying for a building consent, or you are not sure if you need a building consent, our building team has a lot of useful information on [www.bullerdc.govt.nz/building](http://www.bullerdc.govt.nz/building).

Building inspections can be booked through our customer services team on 0800 807 239, please have your building consent number and details of which inspection you require to be booked.

Frequently asked questions regarding planning and resource consent matters can be found on [www.bullerdc.govt.nz/district-council/property/new-planning-resource-consents/frequently-asked-questions](http://www.bullerdc.govt.nz/district-council/property/new-planning-resource-consents/frequently-asked-questions).

If you can't find what you are looking for online, please refer building queries to [BDC-Duty.Inspector@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:BDC-Duty.Inspector@bdc.govt.nz) and district plan/resource consent queries to [planning@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:planning@bdc.govt.nz).

Your enquiries are important to us but there could be a delay in responding.

## Water notices

### Water supplies

Council would like to remind consumers to flush their taps with a mugful of water in the morning prior to use. This applies to all supplies including rainwater. Visit Council's website 'water - plumbosolvency' for details.

There are different levels of water treatment in Buller. The Cape Foulwind water supply (Wilson's Lead Road and Bulls Rd) is a stock supply not intended for human use. A permanent boil water notice applies for Little Wanganui Subdivision, Mokihinui, Ngakawau/Hector, South Granity and Waimangaroa. Reefton is on a permanent precautionary boil water notice.

For more information contact Council or your local water supplier for Ngakawau/Hector and South Granity or visit [www.bullerdc.govt.nz/water/](http://www.bullerdc.govt.nz/water/)

### Sewer systems

Council operates sewerage treatment in Little Wanganui, Reefton and Westport.

Please don't flush any wipes, including those labelled as flushable or paper towels into the sewer.

People who have a connection to the Orowaiti sewerage scheme are reminded that they should no longer be using septic tanks and should be connected to the reticulation.

For more details contact Council or visit [www.bullerdc.govt.nz/sewerage/](http://www.bullerdc.govt.nz/sewerage/)

### Storm water

It is important that storm water is not incorporated into the sewer within the Westport reticulation. Storm water that enters the sewer must be treated as sewerage, this represents a significant cost and can cause sewer capacity problems during prolonged and heavy rainfall.

## Meetings April to July

Due to the COVID-19 environment and following public health measures guidance, Council meetings will be held by Zoom.

All meetings will be livestreamed to Council's Youtube channel Buller District Council.

The 2022 meeting calendar can be found at [www.bullerdc.govt/meetings](http://www.bullerdc.govt/meetings).

### ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETINGS

13 April, 3pm to adopt the Draft Annual Plan

27 April, 3pm

25 May, 3pm

29 June, 3pm to adopt the Annual Plan

27 July, 3pm

### COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT & SERVICES COMMITTEE

11 May, 3pm

13 July, 3pm

### INANGAHUA COMMUNITY BOARD

12 April, 5pm

14 June, 5pm

### FINANCE, RISK AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

20 April, 3pm

18 May, 3pm

22 June, 3pm

20 July, 3pm

### REGULATORY & HEARINGS COMMITTEE

22 June, 3pm

### INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY COMMITTEE

11 May, 1pm

If you would like to join the meeting by Zoom, have any questions regarding these meetings, or would like to address Council (by Zoom) during the public forum part of the meeting please contact: Governance Assistant, email [governance.assistant@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:governance.assistant@bdc.govt.nz) or phone 0800 807 239.

6-8 Brougham St, PO Box 21, Westport 7866  
Ph 03 788 9111 or 0800 807 239

66 Broadway, PO Box 75, Reefton 7851  
Ph 03 732 8821 or 0800 808 821

[www.bullerdc.govt.nz](http://www.bullerdc.govt.nz)

24 hr Noise and Animal Control Services  
Ph 03 788 9115

After hours Operations emergencies  
Ph 03 788 9119 Westport, or 03 732 8092 Reefton

# MAKE A SUBMISSION

## to the Draft 2022/2023 Annual Plan



Shaping  
our **district**

### HOW TO HAVE YOUR SAY

Submissions are accepted during the consultation period from Thursday 14 April until 4:30pm on Tuesday 17 May 2022.

There are a number of ways you can find out more about the plan, get a copy of the document, or make a submission:

- Email [submissions@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@bdc.govt.nz) with your request.
- Visit Council's website [www.bullerdc.govt.nz/plans](http://www.bullerdc.govt.nz/plans)
- Submissions can be completed online by visiting: <https://surveymonkey.com/r/2022-23Annualplan>

Councillors and staff are available during the consultation period to discuss any aspects of the 2022/2023 Draft Annual Plan. Phone Council on (0800) 807 -239 or email [submissions@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@bdc.govt.nz) to arrange a time that suits.

Return this completed form to Council's Office in Brougham Street or drop it off at the Reefton Service Centre.

#### Submitter's details - Please complete all fields

Name

Organisation

Postal address

Number, Street/Road

City/Town

Post code

Phone

Email

Would you like to speak at the Annual Plan Hearing on  
1 June 2022?

Yes

No

Would you prefer your contact details be withheld  
when submissions are made available online?

Yes

No

*The format of the hearing will be known once confirmation of the Covid - 19 alert level at that time is known*

**HAVE  
YOUR  
SAY!**

### 1. Westport wastewater pump stations

A Budget of \$2.24 million has been included in the Draft Annual Plan to upgrade sewerage pump stations and for resource consents to be gained.

Agree

Disagree

Neither

Further comment

### 2. Westport water supply trunkmain connection to town

The Draft Annual Plan provides funding of \$1.65 million towards trunkmain replacement not in the Long Term Plan. This additional fund is necessary to complete the upgrade all the way to Westport.

Agree

Disagree

Neither

Further comment

### 3. Reefton water supply chlorination

Council must undertake work to design, install and commission a compliant chlorination system. To complete this a budget of \$445,000 has been provided for in the Draft Annual Plan, which was not included in the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan.

Agree

Disagree

Neither

Further comment

#### 4. Waimangaroa drinking water upgrade

Council continues to invest in capital works for the Waimangaroa water supply and remains committed to providing drinking water standards (\*DWS) compliant water for consumers. This will be completed progressively, based on priority and affordability. The current upgrade of the raw water trunk main will be completed as we begin this Annual Plan period. However, due to market pricing exceeding Council's budget provision, the proposed water treatment plant will be deferred until an alternative funding stream or strategy is identified in consultation with the community. Council will consider options to repurpose funding from the already approved project budget to focus on improved reliability and resilience of the supply. However, this would not deliver drinking water which meets the DWS as proposed in the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan.

Agree                       Disagree                       Neither

Further comment

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#### 5. Deferral of community facility projects – Brougham House upgrade and Clocktower Chambers upgrades

The net impact of the proposed capital programme changes for 3 waters projects has resulted in a breach in net debt limit in the financial strategy contained in the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan, which Council considers necessary to continue to provide core services to the community. Council also undertook a reprioritisation of its planned capital programme to accommodate the new projects while limiting the breach as much as possible.

Agree                       Disagree                       Neither

Further comment

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#### 6. Karamea restricted water supply

Currently the water supply to the Karamea Campground, which is managed by Karamea reserve Sub-committee, is supplied through an agreement with the Karamea Area School which expires in October 2022. Options will be considered by Council, including various self-supply alternatives for the Campground, as well as a limited network incorporating the School and utilising upgraded infrastructure. The additional targeted rates revenue to fund the new Karamea water scheme forms part of the additional increase in total rates included in the Draft Annual Plan

Agree                       Disagree                       Neither

Further comment

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#### 7. Community grants

Council has chosen to partly offset the rates increase, caused by increasing interest and inflation, by reducing the funding available for community grants. Contestable grants were reduced by 50% and tourism and museum support grants by 25% compared to the same year in the Long Term Plan. Council considers this does not result in a change in the level of service as community grants are continued to be provided to the community. There is no proposal for any other consumers to connect to the restricted supply.

Agree                       Disagree                       Neither

Further comment

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#### FURTHER FEEDBACK

Do you have any other items or requests that you would like Council to consider in its Annual Plan?

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