BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL

NEW FEES UNDER THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991

Recent changes to the Resource Management Act 1991 (the RMA) have introduced two new consenting processes – permitted boundary activities (section 87BA of the RMA) and deemed permitted activities (section 87BB of the RMA). These new provisions come into force on 18 October 2017.

Council is proposing to set fees for carrying out these new processes (the Proposal).

The Proposal

It is proposed that both permitted boundary activities and deemed permitted activities have a $450 deposit with full cost recovery. This is the same fee structure as for certificates of compliance under the RMA, which involve a similar process.

Reasons for the Proposal and Analysis of Reasonably Practicable Options

Council's Annual Plan 2017-18 states that consenting processes under the RMA will be funded 100% by fees. The Proposal gives effect to this as it proposes that the new processes be fully cost recoverable.

There are two possible alternatives; partial cost recovery, and not charging for these processes. Council does not favour either of these options for the following reasons:

- They are inconsistent with the approach outlined in Council's Annual Plan 2017-18;
- The benefits from these processes are to the person/s who undertake them and it is considered fair that they should meet the costs;
- Any costs not covered by fees would have to be met by ratepayers.

Written submissions on the proposed fees are invited and must be received by Council during the submission period which opens Wednesday 18 October 2017 and closes 4.30pm on Monday 20 November 2017.

Submissions can be made online via Council's website, emailed to theplan@bdc.govt.nz, faxed to (03) 788 8041, delivered to Council's Westport office or posted to Buller District Council, PO Box 21, Westport 7866.

Submitters who wish to be heard will be given the opportunity to address Council in support of their submission.