

What are the key issues to consider?

What is going on at Council.....these are some of the key issues that have been identified by Council which cover a range of projects and opportunities considered to be of interest to our community. **We would like to hear your views.**

Further information is available within the Consultation Document and the full draft 2019-2020 Annual Plan.

Key Issue 1	<h2>Westport Harbour</h2> <p>Council still has the dredge 'Kawatiri' for sale, however pending the outcome of a feasibility study on the joint ports of Greymouth and Westport (funded by the Provincial Growth Fund) Council will look at outport dredging contracts to minimise the cost of running the Port for 2019-2020. Overall the increased cost of operating the Westport Harbour is \$130,000 greater than the Long Term Plan predicted.</p>
Key Issue 2	<h2>Freedom Camping</h2> <p>Central Government's Responsible Camping Fund provided Buller District Council with \$580,000 during 2018-2019. The fund provided for additional monitoring and compliance staff, education and signage. Council has not made any provision for ongoing support within the 2019-2020 Annual Plan. A request will be put to the Provincial Growth Fund to assist with compliance offer costs, however if this is not successful Council must decide if this service will be retained, the cost of which would fall to the ratepayer.</p>
Key Issue 3	<h2>Reefton Swimming Pool</h2> <p>The Long Term Plan did not provide for budgeted work on the Reefton Swimming Pool. This is an important community facility which is in need of a capital upgrade. The cost is estimated to be \$300,000, which has been included in the Annual Plan, to be carried out during 2019-2020.</p>
Key Issue 4	<h2>Rates Policy Review</h2> <p>Council commenced the review of the rating system in 2014 and has consulted with the community twice since then to help shape a new model.</p> <p>Council planned to consult during the 2019-2020 Annual Plan, however has decided there is more work to do and now anticipates consulting on a new way of collecting rates during 2020-2021.</p>
Key Issue 5	<h2>Punakaiki Master Plan</h2> <p>During 2018-2019 Council assumed the lead role to deliver a Punakaiki Master Plan. As well as core infrastructure requirements which are provided by local government, Council is working with other stakeholders who have contributed to the Master Plan. Council's proposed share of the total cost is \$10,000, which has been included in the 2019-2020 Annual Plan, in addition to \$95,000 which was carried forward to be used toward the Punakaiki Community Facility.</p>
Key Issue 6	<h2>Roading Issues for 2019-2020</h2> <p>Footpaths: Council has budgeted to spend \$610,000 on district footpaths for the 2019-2020 year. With footpath maintenance and resurfacing now funded by NZTA at 66% subsidy, work to the value of \$610,000 will be delivered for a ratepayer contribution of \$210,000, with a further \$30,000 allocated for new footpaths. This means that the district will get nearly three times its annual spend on footpaths with no extra cost to the ratepayer.</p> <p>Rough River Bridge: Provision has been made within the 2019-2020 Annual Plan to loan fund \$1.1m to Council's share of the cost of work on the Rough River Bridge. The bridge spans the boundary between the Buller and Grey Districts and half of the net cost to ratepayers is shared between each Council, with NZTA subsidising 59% of the cost.</p> <p>Karamea Special Purpose Road: The Karamea Highway provides a vital lifeline to the Karamea community and is a designated 'Special Purpose Road' (SPR) which receives 100% funding from NZTA. For the 2019-2020 Annual Plan Council has assumed that the funding for the SPR will continue at 100%. If this does not eventuate Council has assumed that the Karamea Highway will revert to State Highway.</p>

How can you have your say?

We would like to hear what you think of the key issues and risks highlighted in our 2019-2020 *draft* Annual Plan.

Submissions are accepted during the consultation period, from Monday 8 April 2019 until Friday 10 May 2019. There are a number of ways you can find out more about any aspect of the Plan:

- Roadshows will be held throughout the District.
- The 2019-2020 *draft* Annual Plan, Consultation Document and Submission Forms can be found on Council's website www.bullerdc.govt.nz/plans and are also available at Council offices and libraries in Westport and Reefton. Copies of the documents will also be available from i-Site and Resource Centres in Karamea, Ngakawau and Punakaiki.
- Councillors and staff are available during the consultation period to discuss any aspects of the 2019-2020 *draft* Annual Plan.
- You also have an opportunity to present a verbal submission to Councillors on Thursday 30 May 2019.
- Councillors will consider all submissions and make any necessary changes to the 2019-2020 *draft* Annual Plan, with the *final* 2019-2020 Annual Plan adopted on Wednesday 26 June. The plan will come into effect from 1 July 2019.
- Submissions can also be completed online by visiting: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/19-20AnnualPlan>