



**IT'S TIME FOR THE SPORTING
SECTOR TO BE HEARD**

MAKING A SUBMISSION TO YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL

Do you know what our Council is planning for sport and recreation in Tairāwhiti?

You can influence this by submitting to GDC's upcoming Long Term Plan (LTP). The LTP consultation process is the main opportunity for local people to have their say in council decision-making.

Your organisation is therefore encouraged to make a submission on the key issues facing it in respect to council's activities and services. If you don't make your views known you are likely to miss out.

KEY DATES FOR 2018





WHY BOTHER?

- Because Councils are major providers of sports and recreation facilities – without Council supporting the development of sporting facilities much of what happens in our sector wouldn't be possible
- Draft LTPs are the opportunity to make a submission on what the council plans to do for your community over the next 10 years
- Because Councils are not immune from the current economic climate. They have to make tough choices about the mix of services they provide. For some, this may mean limiting or even reducing funding for some sports and recreation services



WHAT ARE LTPS?

LTPs are key planning tools for councils, setting out priorities and work programmes for the following 10-year period. They outline everything a council plans to do, how it fits together and what it costs. The LTP process is designed to minimise the risk of “surprises” (unanticipated expenditure) for local government.

These plans are reviewed every three years. It is an important opportunity for sport and recreation organisations to make a submission on what your council plans to do for your community over the next 10 years.

Councils are required to widely distribute a summary of their draft LTPs. Full drafts are often available on their websites or can be obtained from council offices. In order to get a better understanding of the key issues in your council’s draft LTP you should also consider talking with Council officers and/or politicians before you prepare your submission.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Councils are required to carry out consultation prior to the adoption of the LTP and this provides them with important feedback on their future direction and priorities.

During the consultation period members of the public have the opportunity to make submissions and attend information sessions and hearings.

After considering submissions, final LTPs are adopted by the full councils at the start of the financial year (1 July). LTPs are then the mechanisms by which Councils set rates.

Details on how and when you can make submissions are published on council websites or are available from their offices. Every person who lodges a written submission on time is entitled to a written acknowledgement and an opportunity to attend a hearing and speak to his or her submission.

VIEW THE FULL CONSULTATION INFO:

The Gisborne District Council have made the draft 2018-2028 Long Term Plan available on their website:

www.gdc.govt.nz

Submissions can be made online, or in-person at their offices at 15 Fitzherbert Street, Gisborne.

MAKING EFFECTIVE SUBMISSIONS



State what your topic is and where it fits into the LTP or the Community Facilities Strategy



Provide evidence of a need that is quantified and verifiable (what stats and feedback can you draw on?)



Outline the benefits to your city or district (e.g. participation and hosting events) AND the wider community



Show that you have given consideration to alternative options (e.g. partnering, multi-use), and if relevant, that it aligns to the recommended development options in the Community Facilities Strategy.



Give evidence of your organisation's capability and financial sustainability



Tell Council what decision you want them to make



Use headings and/or bullet points – it makes your point(s) clearer



Be clear about how you think the service should be paid for



Indicate if you want to speak at a LTP submission hearing – you will have much greater impact if you do

WHILE NUMBERS COUNT IN POLITICS, IT'S PERSUASION THAT INFLUENCES DECISIONS.

KEY MESSAGES FOR ALL SPORTS:

- The final LTP needs to provide greater detail on how the Community Facilities Strategy will be implemented
- The Council need to commit some resource to the adoption of the strategy - in particular funding towards the community facilities relationship position that was outlined in the CF strategy, and towards the development of feasibility studies and business cases
- The top two points are required because of the **huge value** of sport and recreation and its impact upon our community has not been reflected in the plan.

THREE STEPS TO BE HEARD:



Align your submission to the priority projects within the Community Facilities Strategy and with any other codes or groups that you would work with.



If you would like, send your draft submission to us for feedback and guidance.



Submit your submission to the Gisborne District Council before the 20th of April, and request to speak at the submission hearing.

**WELL PREPARED
AND
WIDELY
SUPPORTED
PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS
DO
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE.**

