

Workshops

From time to time council will hold workshops. The purpose of a workshop or briefing is to prepare councillors with the appropriate background and knowledge to make robust decisions for their communities, and to allow discussion among and between elected members and council staff. Workshops are part of an educative phase of the council's decision making process. Workshops cannot be used to make final decisions, as final decisions and resolutions cannot lawfully be made outside the context of a properly constituted meeting.

It is intended that all workshops are open to the public in accordance with requirements of the LGA 2002, that '...a local authority should conduct its business in an open, transparent and democratically accountable manner....'

The reasons for excluding the public from a workshop are detailed in Section 7 of the Local Government Official Information Meetings Act 1987.

The table below provides information on whether a session is open or closed to the public and if closed, the reason for this decision.

Rotorua Lakes Council workshops

| Date/Time /Venue | Duration | Title of workshop & workshop notes | Workshop outline | Open / closed workshop | Councillor attendance |
|--------------------------------|-----------|---|--|------------------------|---|
| 14 November 2024 10-11:30am | 1.5 hours | Community Halls Workshop | | Open | |
| 21 October 2024 10am-12pm | 2 hours | <p>Annual Plan Workshop #1</p> <p>At this workshop councillors were provided with a recap of Year 2 as set out in the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034, and a timeline for the Annual Plan 2025/2026 process.</p> <p>Councillors questions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for information on Inflation forecasts. Request for circulation of the BERL report. Potential for consideration of levels of service. What constitutes a long-term plan amendment. Whether efficiency targets would require consultation. Appropriate financial costs for councils to be servicing. Make up of 'other costs' as shown in a council expenditure breakdown provided by Council officers. How the policy used for funding depreciation is determined and implemented. Pros and cons of deferring depreciation. | The purpose of this workshop is to recap LTP Year 2 and outline what has changed since the adoption of the LTP | Open | <p>Mayor Tania Tapsell, Cr Sandra Kai Fong, Cr Gregg Brown, Cr Trevor Maxwell, Cr Don Paterson, Cr Conan O'Brien, Cr Karen Barker, Cr Robert Lee, Cr Lani Kereopa (zoom).</p> <p>Apologises Cr Fisher Wang, Cr Rawiri Waru.</p> |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difference between museum exhibition funding and museum building funding. • Whether further workshops could include revenue lines alongside expenditure. • How water asset depreciation rates are determined. • Year 2 rates impact of Tarawera sewerage scheme. | | | |
| 10 October 9:30-10:30am | 1 hour | Waikato Regional Council Presentation - Regional Public transport Rate | <p>Waikato Regional Council recently consulted on options for a regional rate for public transport through their 2024-2034 Long Term Plan, resulting in WRC councillors deciding to proceed with the rate from 2025/26 after further developing rating models in partnership with local councils.</p> <p>The purpose of this presentation is an opportunity for WRC to present revised options to our council and invite feedback.</p> | Open | Mayor Tania Tapsell, Cr Karen Barker, Cr Don Paterson, Cr Conan O'Brien, Cr Lani Kereopa, Cr Robert Lee, Cr Gregg Brown (zoom) |
| 9 October 2024 1.30pm-2.30pm | 1 hour | Development of Local Alcohol Policy workshop <p>At this workshop Councillors were provided with further information on the development of the Local Alcohol Policy (LAP) and Statement of Proposal in preparation to go out for public consultation in December 2024 – February 2025.</p> <p>Councillors questions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for statistics on sales to underage people in supermarkets. • Request for data on the alcohol types that are causing harm to underage people. • Requests for information on the impact/correlations of hours of sale for alcohol. • Do other regions differentiate in their LAP's between off license and licensed premises. • Is the development of the LAP going to include data from communities who have opposed extension of alcohol licenses. • Request for further information on residential accomodation proximity, regarding number of complaints between commercial and private accomodations. | The purpose of this workshop is to update Councillors on the preparation of a local Alcohol policy. | Open | <p>Mayor Tania Tapsell, Cr Sandra Kai Fong, Cr Lani Kereopa, Cr Karen Barker, Cr Don Paterson, Cr Conan O'Brien, Cr Robert Lee, Cr Rawiri Waru, Cr Trevor Maxwell</p> <p>Cr Gregg Brown declared conflict of interest and while in attendance, did not take part in the discussion.</p> <p>Apologies Cr Fisher Wang</p> |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the policy differentiate between an on licence night club and on license restaurant. Who are key stakeholders that will be consulted with prior to the wider public consultation. | | | |
| 30 September 2024 2.00-4.00pm | 2 hours | Collaborating on Climate Work (presentation) | The purpose of this presentation is to provide an opportunity for Rotorua Lakes Council, Waikato Regional Council and Bay of Plenty Regional Council to present on their Climate Change Action Plans | Open | Mayor Tania Tapsell, Cr Lani Kereopa, Cr Karen Barker, Cr Don Paterson, Cr Gregg Brown (zoom) |
| 19 September 2024 1.00-2.30pm | 1.5 hours | <p>PARSS (Play, Active, Recreation & Sport Strategy) workshop</p> <p>At this workshop Councillors were provided with a situational report on the background to the development of the Play, Active, Recreation & Sport Strategy (PARSS). Including the work done to identify the current and projected demand and supply of sports facilities in Rotorua. There was information on why a strategy is needed and the need of a strategy so that Councillors are well informed as they consider the next Long-term Plan.</p> <p>Councillors questions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did the mapping take schools into account and is it possible to work with schools regarding access to their spaces? Does the information correlate with population statistics to estimate future demand? Have we seen a bounce back in sports participation by students since Covid? Clarity on where further expansion of sports fields may occur? Importance of the relationship with Sports Bay of Plenty? Clarification on the Rotorua Golf Strategy and funding of it? Does the strategy consider the needs of the older population of Rotorua? Was the Springfield Golf Course asked to participate in the feedback on the strategy? Can Councillors be supplied with the other strategies that were considered in the development of the strategy? | The purpose of this workshop is to provide an update to Councillors on the development and future implementation of the Play, Active, Recreation & Sport Strategy. | Open | <p>Mayor Tania Tapsell, Deputy Mayor Sandra Kai Fong, Cr Fisher Wang, Cr Gregg Brown (zoom), Cr Karen Barker, Cr Conan O'Brien, Cr Don Paterson, Cr Robret Lee, Cr Rawiri Waru, Cr Lani Kereopa</p> <p>Apologies Cr Trevor Maxwell</p> |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification of Council's partial ownership of the Racing Club land? Are there plans to include kapa haka in the strategy? Request for statistics on the growth of golf participation in Rotorua? Clarification on Council's funding and revenue policy in regard to sports and recreation? | | | |
| 18 September 2024 2.30pm-4pm | 1.5 hours | Events & Venues workshop | The purpose of this workshop is to provide an update to Councillors on Events & Venues. | Confidential for the reasons of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons | Mayor Tania Tapsell, Deputy Mayor Sandra Kai Fong, Cr Fisher Wang, Cr Gregg Brown, Cr Karen Barker, Cr Conan O'Brien, Cr Don Paterson, Cr Rawiri Waru Apologies Cr Lani Kereopa, Cr Robert Lee |
| 11 September 2024 1pm-2pm | 1 hours | Class IV Gambling Policy workshop At this workshop Councillors were provided with an update on the Gambling act 2002, the Act's impact on gambling, types of gambling and the addictive nature of electronic gaming machines (pokies), lack of research on economic benefit of gambling to communities and distribution of funding. | The purpose of this workshop is to provide Councillors with information following the review of the Class IV Gambling Policy | Open | Mayor Tania Tapsell, Deputy Mayor Sandra Kai Fong, Cr Fisher Wang, Cr Gregg Brown, Cr Karen Barker, Cr Conan O'Brien, Cr Don Paterson, Cr Robret Lee Apologies Cr Trevor Maxwell, Cr Lani Kereopa, Cr Rawiri Waru |
| 10 September 2024 1pm-4.30pm | 3 hours | District Licensing Committee workshop At this workshop Councillors received information on the aims of the Sale & Supply of Alcohol Act, the role of the District Licensing Committee and how they make their decisions, statistics on the harm caused by alcohol consumption in New Zealand, recent changes to the Act and the effect that a new Local Alcohol Policy could have on the decision-making powers of the District licensing Committee. Councillors questions included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How many people present at Lakes DHB as a result of alcohol-related harm? | The purpose of this workshop is to provide Councillors with information on recent changes that have been made to the licensing process in the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 and the impact on Council processes. | Open | Mayor Tania Tapsell, Deputy Mayor Sandra Kai Fong, Cr Fisher Wang, Cr Gregg Brown, Cr Karen Barker, Cr Conan O'Brien, Cr Don Paterson, Cr Robret Lee Apologies Cr Trevor Maxwell, Cr Lani Kereopa, Cr Rawiri Waru |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Links between location of alcohol outlets and instances of domestic violence in same area? • Functionality of online applications to the District Licensing Committee? • Request for Eftpos point of sale data? • Ability for Council to increase number of sensitive sites in the Local Alcohol policy? • Length of time it would take for the ilcommunity to feel the positive effect of changes in a new Local Alcohol Policy? | | | |
| 5 September 2024 | 1.5hours | Springfield Golf Course workshop- part 2 | | Confidential for the reasons of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holding information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. Prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage. | Mayor Tania Tapsell, Deputy Mayor Sandra Kai Fong, Cr Fisher Wang, Cr Gregg Brown, Cr Karen Barker, Cr Lani Kereopa, Cr Rawiri Waru, Cr Conan O'Brien, Cr Don Paterson, Cr Robret Lee Apologies Cr Trevor Maxwell |
| 5 September 2024 | 1 hour | Better Off Funding Workshop | | Confidential for the reasons of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holding information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. • Prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage. | Mayor Tania Tapsell, Deputy Mayor Sandra Kai Fong, Cr Fisher Wang, Cr Gregg Brown, Cr Karen Barker, Cr Lani Kereopa, Cr Rawiri Waru, Cr Conan O'Brien, Cr Don Paterson, Cr Robret Lee Apologies Cr Trevor Maxwell |
| 29 July 2024 | 1.5 hours | Briefing on the Local Government (Māori Wards) Amendment Bill At this briefing Councillors were guided through the Local Electoral (Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Bill before Parliament and the implications of the legislation for Rotorua Lakes Council. | The purpose of this briefing is to update Councillors on the Māori Wards Amendment Bill. | Open | |

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| | | <p>Councillors were provided with the background to the introduction of Maori Wards in Rotorua under the former legislation. (Local Electoral (Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Act 2021).</p> <p>The parameters of the new legislation were outlined followed by guidance for Councillors on the options for Council to either disestablish Māori Wards prior to the 2025 elections or hold a binding poll at the 2025 elections on whether to retain Maori Wards following the 2025 elections. (in this case maori Wards would remain in place for the 2025-2028 term).</p> | | | |
| 25 July 2024 1pm-4.pm | 3 hours | Museum exhibition workshop | Purpose of the workshop is to provide an update to elected members on the progress of the Museum Exhibition. The workshop will provide an overview of the concept and proposed detail design. | Confidential for the reasons of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holding information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. • Prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage. | |
| 10 July 2024 11.30am-12.30am | 1 hour | <p>Accessibility Policy</p> <p>At this workshop Councillors were provided with information on the current status of accessibility in Rotorua and the perceptions of stakeholders obtained via focus groups/survey/LTP submissions.</p> <p>Councillors were updated on the process to develop an Accessibility policy and advised that the policy when developed would come back to a Council meeting for adoption.</p> <p>Councillors questions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were the perceptions of accessibility in Rotorua? • Requests for information about specific facilities. • Questions about universal access standards. | The purpose of the workshop is on the development of an accessibility policy, including initial community engagement, best practice and potential scope of policy. | Open | Mayor Tania Tapsell, Deputy Mayor Sandra Kai Fong, Cr Gregg Brown, Cr Karen Barker, Cr Rawiri Waru, Cr Trevor Maxwell, Cr Robert Lee, Cr Don Paterson, Cr Conan O'Brien, Cr Fisher Wang Apologies Cr Lani Kereopa |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council's role as a leader in regard to disseminating information. • If local businesses are becoming more accessible. • Current accessibility requirements for events. • Government funding options to support delivery. | | | |
| 17 May 2024 10am-12pm RLC Council Chamber | 2 hours | <p>Te Arawa Partnership Agreement workshop At this workshop RLC councillors and Te Tatau o Te Arawa board members discussed the recommendations from the Te Arawa Partnership Working Party and identify timeframes going forward to inform the Terms of Reference.</p> | This is an opportunity for the Te Arawa Partnership Agreement review findings and recommendations going forward to be traversed by both the Te Tatau o Te Arawa Board and Rotorua Lakes Council elected members before any decisions are made. | Open | <p>Andrew Moraes (CE, RLC), Leo Watson, (Coordinator), Mayor Tania Tapsell, Deputy Mayor Sandra Kai Fong, Cr Gregg Brown, Cr Karen Barker, Cr Rawiri Waru, Cr Lani Kereopa, Cr Trevor Maxwell,</p> <p>Te Tatau o Te Arawa James Hamiora (Chair), Te Taru White, Kiri Potaka-Dewes, Jude Pani (Manahautū), Roku Mihinui, Tiwhai Wetini, Jenny Riini</p> <p>Apologies Cr Robert Lee, Cr Don Paterson, Cr Conan O'Brien, Mariana Vercoe, Kahutapeka Ututaonga, Rangitiarua Tibble, Anaru Te Amo</p> |
| 13 March 2024 1pm –3.30pm RLC Council Chamber | 2.5 hours | <p>Draft Development Contributions Policy workshop</p> | <p>The purpose of the workshop is to provide information to councillors about the Draft Development Contributions Policy prior to the council meeting on 27th March 2024.</p> <p>Development Contributions It is recognised that development, especially new development, creates a cost to the district to build and maintain new local roads, footpaths, wastewater, water and stormwater systems and open space. A development contributions policy puts the cost of providing additional infrastructure needed to accommodate the demand arising from development directly on those who benefit ie the developers.</p> <p>In 2022, Council re-introduced a Development Contributions Policy in anticipation of further growth in the district. Alongside this growth requirement is the understanding of the level of infrastructure investment required to support the growth. The revised Draft 30 Year Infrastructure Plan and funding of growth projects from the Government provides the opportunity to revise assumptions and calculations in the formation of a Draft Development Contributions</p> | Closed | <p>Mayor Tapsell, Cr Karen Barker, Cr Gregg Brown, Cr Lani Kereopa (via zoom), Cr Robert Lee, Cr Conan O'Brien, Cr Don Paterson, Cr Fisher Wang</p> <p>Apologies Deputy Mayor Sandra Kai Fong, Cr Trevor Maxwell, Cr Rawiri Waru</p> |

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| | | | Policy. When completed it shall be consulted on alongside the LTP 2024-34. | | |
| 29 February 2024 2pm – 4.30pm RLC Council Chamber | 2.5 hours | RLC/BOPRC Joint Workshop – LTP 2024-2034 | <p>This workshop is an opportunity for RLC and BOPRC elected members to present an overview of their draft LTP 2024-2034 consultation documents.</p> <p>The livestreamed workshop provides an opportunity for the residents and ratepayers of Rotorua and the wider BoP to view the workshop, hear more about the RLC and BoPRC long term plans and receive important information should they wish to participate in the consultation.</p> | Open | Apologies: Cr Sandra Kai Fong |
| 28th February 2024 2 – 4pm RLC Council Chamber | 2 hours | LTP workshop – Capital funding programmes and introduction to property rating revaluations | | <p>Closed</p> <p>Confidential for the reasons of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holding information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. • Prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage. | <p>Mayor Tania Tapsell, Cr Karen Barker, Cr Gregg Brown, Cr Lani Kereopa (via zoom), Cr Robert Lee, Cr Conan O'Brien, Cr Don Paterson, Cr Fisher Wang, Cr Rawiri Waru</p> <p>Apologies Cr Sandra Kai Fong, Cr Trevor Maxwell</p> |