



24 March 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ATTENTION: CHIEF REPORTERS
CIVIC REPORTERS

Ten Year Draft Plan adopted; out for consultation

The Invercargill City Council today adopted its Draft Ten Year Plan (Towards 2019) which contains seven key issues on which it is asking for community feedback and signals a proposed rates increase of 7.91% for 2009/2010.

Corporate Planner Pamela Gare said that every three years all of New Zealand's local authorities are required by law to develop a Long Term Council Community Plan that looks at their activities for the next ten years.

"Invercargill City Councillors and staff have worked closely together for the past three years to review and develop the Ten Year Plan. This has included consulting the community on the levels of service it wishes Council to provide, development of Asset Management Plans for Council's key assets, Activity Plans for all services and Financial Policies on how Council should prudently manage its money. All these documents are the building blocks on which the Long Term Plan is based.

"Councils are required to develop the Draft Ten Year Plan and then they must produce a summary document that they use as the basis for consultation with their communities as to what they want. This consultation sets the direction for Council for the next three to ten years."

Mrs Gare said that a Summary of the Ten Year Plan would be delivered to all ratepayers over the next few weeks.

The Summary contains information about the seven key areas where Council would particularly like community input. These are:

1. Housing Care Service;
2. Solid Waste Management;
3. Bluff Swimming Pool;

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4. The Awarua Industrial Development;
5. The Rugby World Cup;
6. Southland Indoor Leisure Centre Charitable Trust; and
7. Southland Museum and Art Gallery Trust Board.

Mrs Gare said that people have a choice as to how they give their feedback to Council: They can:

- Fill out the submission form contained in the Summary posted to them.
- Speak to their submission on 18 May at a Council Hearing.
- Fill out a form on the Council's website www.icc.govt.nz
- Speak directly to Councillors at key locations in the city, with staff present to help record the submission. (Details to be advised later.)
- Ring CUE TV City Talkback on 1 April and 6 May.

Submissions open on 5 April and close on 11 May 2009.

Ends.

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