

Report of an ordinary meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee, held in the Council Chambers, 29 Bowler Avenue, Gore, on Tuesday 13 March 2018, at 5.38pm

**Present** His Worship the Mayor (Mr Tracy Hicks, JP), Cr Bolger (Chairman), Crs Beale, Davis, Dickson, Gardyne, P Grant, Highsted, Phillips, Reid and Sharp.

**In Attendance** The Chief Executive (Mr Stephen Parry), Chief Financial Officer (Mr Luke Blackbeard), General Manager Regulatory and Planning (Dr Ian Davidson-Watts), General Manager Infrastructure (Mr Ramesh Sharma), Transport Manager (Mr Peter Standring), HR/Administration Manager (Susan Jones), 3 Waters Asset Manager (Mr Matt Bayliss), Communications-Marketing Manager (Sonia Gerken), Building Control Manager (Mr Russell Paterson), Planning Consultant (Mr Keith Hovell), Animal Control Officer (Mr David McKewen), Corporate Support Officer (Mrs Suzanne Lucas) and one member of the public in the gallery.

**Apology** Cr D Grant apologised for absence.

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**1. PRESENTATION FROM AWARUA SYNERGY – CLEAN AIR LOAN SCHEME (SC2017)**

Ms Sumaria Beaton, General Manager of Awarua Synergy was in attendance and provided a presentation on the clean air loan scheme.

Details of the statistics for assessments and work in progress were tabled at the meeting. The details also covered installation numbers and those applications waiting for Council approval.

On average insulation cost about \$3,000. Gore had a lot of older housing stock. Black polythene was used for under the house and insulation stapled under the floor and installed in the ceiling.

Cr Highsted asked if there was anything the Council could do to increase the profile of the scheme and encourage more people to take it up.

Ms Beaton said the social media promotion of the scheme had been done very well by the Gore District Council. One of the barriers for Gore residents was having insulation and heating combined. Invercargill allowed residents to upgrade their insulation separately from heating. She added there were people outside of the Gore air shed who enquired about the scheme but who were ineligible.

His Worship said he had had quite a lot of feedback from Mataura residents who were disappointed they could not access the scheme.

In response to Cr Beale, Ms Beaton said rental properties had to be properly insulated by 2019.

She said for every dollar spent on insulation there was a return of \$6-7 to the community through less hospital admissions and ill health.

In response to Cr Highsted, Ms Beaton said once the loan scheme had been established, other Councils had taken the opportunity to use a similar approach to installing tanks for water harvesting, for example.

Cr Bolger thanked Ms Beaton for attending the meeting. She departed at 5.55pm

## 2. CIVIC LIABILITY POOL AND RISKPOOL ANNUAL REPORT 30 JUNE 2017 (SC1910)

A memo had been received from the Chief Financial Officer together with a copy of the annual reports of Civic Liability Pool and RiskPool for the year ended 30 June 2017. The Council no longer had professional indemnity or public liability insurance with those organisations. Those risks were insured through Jardine Lloyd Thompson's London insurance programme, however, the Council still had obligations arising from its part membership of RiskPool.

In response to Cr Beale, the Officer said it was unknown how long the Council may be liable to a claim from RiskPool.

The Chief Executive added the most risk around leaky buildings had occurred pre-2005 and his view was the statute of limitation for making civil claims ended after six years. The substantive risk was coming to an end. Most of the leaky building claims had been dealt with through a "longstop provision" which lasted for ten years after a building had been completed.

Cr Davis suggested paying the \$37,000 sale proceeds off a debt and if there was a call to fund a future capital contribution, then borrow to do so.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr Reid, THAT the report be received,**

**THAT any dividend received from Civic Financial Services be used to reduce debt,**

**THAT in the event Riskpool issues a call for capital, the call be funded by loan,**

**AND THAT once the proceeds have been received, a further report be furnished to the Committee.**

**3. RATE ARREARS REPORT (SC1912)**

A memo had been received from the Chief Financial Officer detailing rate arrears as at the end of February 2018. At the end of February, the Council was owed \$182,000 in rates relating to prior financial years which was approximately 1% of the current year's rates revenue.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Dickson, seconded by Cr Davis, THAT the report be received.**

**4. FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JANUARY 2018**

The Committee perused a financial report for January 2018.

**RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Highsted, seconded by Cr P Grant, THAT the financial report for the seven months ended 31 January 2018 be received.**

The meeting concluded at 6.07pm