

Rotorua Lakes Council Annual Plan Consultation 2023/2024 Submission

- 1. We wish to speak to our submission.
- 2. This submission is made in alignment with the Te Arawa 2050 Vision *Mauri Tū*, *Mauri Ora*, *Te Arawa E*, including the Te Arawa Rangatiratanga | Leadership whāinga tawhiti of:
 - ➤ Our future has the best leaders making and effectively implementing the best decisions about our resources to continuously achieve the best outcomes for our people. We lead, create and shape korero, partnerships and opportunities that bring about positive change on kaupapa that affect us.
- 3. While we appreciate the opportunity to submit on Council's *Annual Plan Consultation 2023/2024*, our appreciation is limited noting that for the first time since 2016, Council did not enable participation by Te Tatau o Te Arawa in any workshops or committee discussions on Annual Plan priorities as included in Council's consultation document.
- 4. The exclusion of Te Tatau from these processes is in conflict with the Te Arawa Partnership Agreement signed in 2015.
- 5. Moreover, had we been included in these processes we would have worked with Council to, at a minimum:
 - Provide Te Arawa perspective and input into the identification of Annual Plan priorities for 2023/2024.
 - ➤ Show recognition and provision for Te Arawa strategic priorities as outlined by the Te Arawa 2050 Vision as well as Te Tūāpapa o ngā Wai o Te Arawa Te Arawa Cultural Values Framework; Te Ara ki Kōpū Te Arawa Climate Change Strategy and the Te Arawa Mauri Ora Wellbeing Compass.
 - Ensure inclusion of Te Arawa (and mātāwaka) audiences in the engagement schedule for the Annual Plan consultation
- 6. Importantly, we would have also helped Council identify potential and likely impacts to Te Arawa and mitigations for the same, that are missing from the implications of your proposals included in Council's consultation document.
- 7. For instance, we are concerned about the lack of consideration in the document of impacts to Te Arawa on the proposed Resource Management Fees discount policy revocation particularly in terms of the characteristics and restrictions unique to whenua Māori and its development. The language used in the consultation document is so high level that we are unclear if development fees on whenua Māori would be considered in the same way as for general land.
- 8. Our exclusion from inputting into the development of Annual Plan priorities combined with the lack of identification of implications for Te Arawa in the consultation document itself means we cannot be anything other than concerned about all of Council's Annual Plan proposals.
- 9. Te Tatau o Te Arawa therefore cannot support what is proposed in the Annual Plan consultation document until the above issues have been resolved.
- 10. As good partners to Council, we will continue however to work with Council to resolve these issues, and support Council to reconcile any issues raised by Te Arawa whānui (and the wider community) in this consultation process.