

Development Contributions Policy Review 2024 – Findings Report

Meeting: Council Briefing
Date of meeting: 3 February 2025
Reporting officer: Virginia Smith, Policy Analyst

Purpose | Ngā whāinga

To provide Elected Members with the Findings Report of the Development Contributions Policy review and seek Elected Member feedback to further assist with the progression of the Development Contributions Policy review process.

Context | Horopaki

This is a Council directed voluntary review of the statutory Development Contributions Policy made under sections 102(1) and 102(2)(d) of the Local government Act 2002 (LGA). The intention is for this full review to occur by mid-2025 and the new Development Contributions policy to be in place prior to the Local Government Elections.

Staff have now completed a Findings report that identifies the issues discovered during the Policy review process. While time limitations have impacted the depth of analysis and limited the research sources consulted, staff have undertaken and completed the Findings report, which can be viewed at **Attachment A**.

Discussion | Ngā kōrerorero

The Findings report builds on the high-level desktop analysis of the Development Contributions Policy (Policy) staff presented at the [6 November Council Briefing meeting](#), which outlined a number of important Policy issues. Council supported staff's request to align the review timeframe to the end of the current triennium.

Although this process is a voluntary review, Council must still adhere to the statutory requirements applicable to a statutory Policy review process under the LGA.

The Findings report has found:

- The Policy is underperforming and struggling to achieve its statutory purpose or objectives.
- The methodology requires review and updating to ensure that the Policy is equitable, transparent and predictable.
- The Policy form is impeding useability, application and implementation of the Policy.
- The Policy's current schedule of assets is outdated and without updating, may jeopardise the predictability of funding and legal compliance.
- There are equity issues with the current Policy.

Overall, the Findings report concludes that the Policy in its current form is not fit for purpose and requires comprehensive review (i.e. document replacement) to address and rectify the identified Policy issues and to improve usability.

Staff seek feedback on the Findings report and encourage discussion to ensure that the next phase of the Policy review (issues and options) addresses any outstanding Policy issues not covered in the previous high-level desktop analysis or the Findings Report at **Attachment A**.

Next steps | E whaiake nei

Dependant on Elected Member feedback, staff will progress the policy review and present Elected Members with policy options based on the Findings report. The next step will be to present the

issues and options report, along with draft methodology for Council to consider next month (March).

Attachments | Ngā tapiritanga

	Title
A	Development Contributions Policy Review 2025 – Findings Report