



Submission on Mackenzie District Council Draft Long Term Plan 2018-2028

To: Mackenzie District Council
PO Box 52 Main Street, FAIRLIE 7949

Submitter: South Canterbury District Health Board

Proposal: Mackenzie District Council Draft Long Term Plan 2018-2028

SUBMISSION ON MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL DRAFT LONG TERM PLAN

Details of submitter

1. South Canterbury District Health Board (SCDHB).
2. This submission has been developed by SCDHB in conjunction with Community and Public Health (CPH), a division of the Canterbury District Health Board, which provides public health services to Canterbury, South Canterbury and the West Coast.
3. CPH is responsible for promoting the reduction of adverse environmental effects on the health of people and communities and for improving, promoting and protecting their health pursuant to the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000 and the Health Act 1956. These statutory obligations are the responsibility of the Ministry of Health and in the South Canterbury region, are carried out under contract by CPH under Crown funding agreements, and on behalf of SCDHB.

General comments

4. We welcome the opportunity to comment on the Mackenzie District Council Draft Long Term Plan 2018-2028. While healthcare services are an important determinant of health, health is also influenced by a wide range of factors beyond the health sector. The future health of our population therefore relies not only on healthcare services but on a responsive environment where all sectors work collaboratively. The Long Term Plan provides the Mackenzie District Council (MDC) with an important opportunity to influence the determinants of health of the people in its district, through the prioritisation of funds for activities that support health and wellbeing.
5. SCDHB is pleased to see that public health has been considered in the Draft Long Term Plan, particularly in relation to drinking water. We have a number of recommendations for consideration which would further improve health outcomes for the Mackenzie population.

Specific comments

Drinking water

1. The MDC recognises that the provision of safe public drinking water supplies is essential to maintain and protect public health. SCDHB commends the Council for its overall approach to managing drinking water supplies and its comprehensive review of these in the Draft Long Term Plan. The Infrastructure Strategy also recognises the need to meet current and future demand for water.
2. SCDHB commends the Council's continued upgrading of its water supplies to meet its obligations under the Health (Drinking Water) Amendment Act 2007 and the New Zealand Drinking Water Standards 2005 (revised 2008).
3. SCDHB recommends that the MDC reviews the population numbers for water supplies in its district and how the supplies are characterised. Tourism in the area, particularly for the Twizel and Lake Tekapo supplies, will greatly affect the number of consumers and demand for water. SCDHB recognises that MDC is aware of the emerging issues that will influence its water supplies with regards to land use changes, resource issues, climate change and growth in the district.
4. SCDHB supports the MDC's plans to upgrade the Fairlie water supply and to install a new reservoir.
5. The Pukaki Airport drinking water supply is currently not registered. While SCDHB appreciates that decisions are still being made as to whether the supply will continue to stand alone or join on to the Tekapo supply, registration should be completed in the meantime.
6. Decisions regarding the Albury and Allandale supplies (as discussed on page 66 of the Water Activity Management Plan) reference the potential for classification as Rural Agricultural Drinking Water Supplies (RADWS). While the specifics of how these supplies will meet the New Zealand Drinking Water Standards (DWSNZ) are not available, the definition of a RADWS is clear in the Health (Drinking Water) Amendment Act 2007. If it has not done so already, MDC should investigate whether the Albury and Allandale supplies meet the definition of a RADWS, as this will clarify the options available to these supplies for meeting the DWSNZ.

7. While the Tekapo and Twizel drinking water supplies have been upgraded, MDC has not provided the data required to demonstrate that the upgraded treatment is meeting the compliance requirements of the DWSNZ. These supplies therefore remain non-compliant in terms of protozoal compliance in the annual reporting. For these two supplies and for future upgrades, the MDC should ensure that the demonstration of compliance is facilitated.

Stormwater

8. Stormwater discharges frequently contain pollutants that may adversely affect recreational and drinking water quality. Furthermore, heavy rainfall events are predicted to become more frequent due to climate change and stormwater services will need to be robust. SCDHB therefore supports the MDC's plans to improve stormwater management.
9. SCDHB supports the proposed preparation of a Stormwater Management Plan to comply with Environment Canterbury's Land and Water Regional Plan.
10. SCDHB supports the planned installation of treatment facilities for stormwater discharges.
11. SCDHB supports the continuation of planned upgrades and only implementing a "run to failure" strategy to low priority assets where the consequence of failure is not major.

Sewerage

12. SCDHB supports the MDC's plans to identify and assess a new permanent disposal site for the Tekapo wastewater treatment plant. We support strategic planning to accommodate predicted growth in the area.
13. SCDHB supports the funding allocated to the replacement of the ageing sewerage networks in Fairlie and Tekapo.

Transport and roading

14. Given the large proportion of unsealed roads in the region, SCDHB commends MDC in identifying dust as a potential risk to health and wellbeing. The current policy is to seal past houses that were built or relocated after 2002. Cost-sharing for properties

built or relocated before this date may benefit residents who would otherwise not be able to afford improvements. SCDHB supports the MDC's investigation of materials that will perform best for the reduction of dust nuisance in the extremes of the local climate.

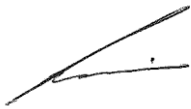
Smokefree

15. SCDHB was encouraged to see the MDC's commitment to smokefree expressed in the previous Long Term Plan (2015-2025). It stated that "the Council will develop a smokefree policy and strategy by Year 3 of the Long Term Plan". SCDHB notes that smokefree is not discussed in the Draft Long Term Plan 2018-2028. SCDHB would welcome the opportunity to support the MDC in reviewing its current Smokefree Playgrounds and Sport Fields Policy, which was adopted in 2012, and in developing an implementation strategy. SCDHB recommends that funding is allocated in the 2018-2028 Long Term Plan to investigate the development and implementation of an updated Smokefree policy and strategy for the Mackenzie District.

Conclusion

6. The SCDHB does not wish to be heard in support of this submission, however Community and Public Health wishes to be heard in relation to the Smokefree component of this submission.
7. Thank you for the opportunity to submit on Mackenzie District Council Long Term Plan 2018-2028.

Person making the submission



Signature

Nigel Trainor
Chief Executive Officer

Date: 20/04/2018

Contact details

Rose Orr
For and on behalf of
South Canterbury District Health Board
Community and Public Health
PO Box 510
TIMARU 7940

P +64 3 687 2600

Email: rose.orr@cdhb.health.nz