



LAKES DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD

Submission to the Taupō District Council
Proposed Long Term Plan 2018-2028



Ron Dunham
Chief Executive Officer
Lakes District Health Board

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Introduction – Lakes District Health Board

The Lakes District Health Board (Lakes DHB) is one of 20 District Health Boards in New Zealand and has a purpose of funding and providing personal health services, public health services and disability support services for the Lakes district. The Lakes DHB serves a population of just over 110,000 and covers 9,570 square kilometres. One third of the population are under 25 and the same proportion identify as having Māori ethnicity. The Lakes district stretches from Mourea in the north to Mangakino in the west down to Turangi in the south and across to Kaingaroa village in the east. The major centres of population are Rotorua and Taupō and the main smaller communities are Mangakino and Turangi. Multiple iwi lie within the Lakes DHB region, with the various Te Arawa iwi in the north (Rotorua area), Ngāti Tuwharetoa in south (Taupō, Turangi area), Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa in the west (Mangakino area) and Ngāti Manawa in the east (Kaingaroa Village area).

Introduction - Toi Te Ora Public Health

Toi Te Ora¹ Public Health (Toi Te Ora) is funded by the Ministry of Health and is the public health unit for the Lakes DHB. Toi Te Ora's purpose is to improve and protect the health of the population, with a focus on reducing inequalities in health. Toi Te Ora has prepared this submission on behalf of Lakes DHB.

Many of the crucial underlying factors that contribute to population health and wellbeing are directly influenced by the decisions and activities of councils. For this reason, Toi Te Ora and Lakes DHB welcome the opportunity to (a) provide feedback to the Taupō District Council on its proposed long term plan for the district; and (b) assist Taupō District Council to achieve its goals and deliver on its vision. Toi Te Ora's vision, purpose and goals are closely aligned. *(Please refer to Appendix 1 for Toi Te Ora's Strategic Plan Overview.)*

Social Determinants of Health

Lakes District Health Board, with its public health unit Toi Te Ora, places a great deal of emphasis on the social determinants of health, or what has been referred to as:

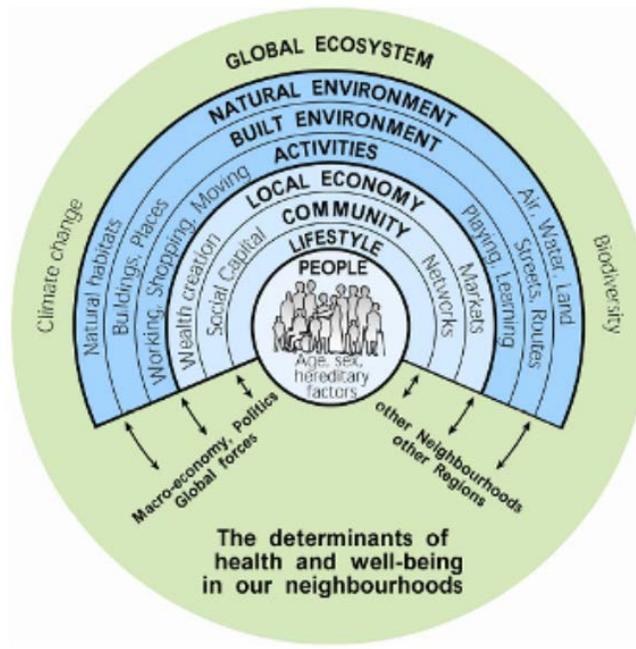
"...the social, economic and environmental conditions that influence the health of individuals and populations. They include the conditions of daily life and the structural influences upon them, themselves shaped by the distribution of money, power and resources at global, national and local levels. They determine the extent to which a person has the right physical, social and personal resources to achieve their goals, meet needs and deal with changes to their circumstances. There is a clear link between the social determinants of health and health inequalities..."²

Essentially, health starts where we live, learn, work and play. Individuals often have little control over the social determinants of health, but these determinants can either constrain or support the choices we make, as well as the lifestyle we lead. The most effective illustration of this approach comes from the 1992 work of Dahlgren and Whitehead:³

¹ Toi Te Ora represents the ideal of the ultimate and enduring wellbeing. 'Toi' is the name of a celebrated ancestor in the Eastern Bay of Plenty and 'Ora' is to be alive, well and healthy.

² http://www.local.gov.uk/health/-/journal_content/56/10180/3511260/ARTICLE

³ http://www.local.gov.uk/health/-/journal_content/56/10180/3511260/ARTICLE



Local government has a great deal of influence over the determinants of health, which is why it is important we work together to make a difference. Lakes DHB encourages Taupō District Council to take a “health in all policies” approach⁴ that systematically takes into account the health implications of decisions, in order to improve population health and health equity.

Specific priorities for Taupō District Council, and the subject of the current consultation process, which have a major impact on health outcomes for the population, include management of traffic congestion, safe water supply and the prevention of wastewater spills. These issues are excellent examples of the importance of our organisations collaborating to achieve similar outcomes. By working together using a preventative approach we can create a community that supports healthy lifestyles, rather than treating people who are already unwell.

This Submission

For ease of reference, Lakes DHB responses in the following tables are linked to specific pages in the following key document supplied by Taupō District Council as part of this consultation process:

- Looking after the place we love for the next 10 years; Consultation Document for the Long-Term Plan

A symbol has been used to confirm Lakes DHB’s position on each of the issues to which it has responded, as defined in the following key:

Symbol	District Health Board Position
✓	Support and endorse
*	Recommend further consideration
X	Disagree

⁴ http://www.who.int/social_determinants/hiap_statement_who_sa_final.pdf

Topic and Comments	Page Ref	Key
<p>Improving traffic flow through Taupō central business district</p> <p>Lakes DHB recommends Council considers a third option in addressing the congestion issues faced in and around Norman Smith Street and surrounding areas.</p> <p>Public and active transport measures should be considered and adopted as a viable and sustainable option in addressing the congestion in Taupō. Success will result in fewer cars on the road and therefore less congestion.</p> <p>Multimodal transport systems that feature high levels of active and public transport are associated with reduced traffic congestion, and multiple health benefits including, but not limited to, reduced air pollution and carbon emissions, reduced road traffic crashes and associated injuries, increased physical activity and healthy weight, improved social connection and mental wellbeing, and improved mobility and health equity.</p> <p>Lakes DHB recommends that Council invests in services and amenities to promote and encourage the use of public and active transport. This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe and attractive cycle ways and bicycle storage facilities • Public transport services that ensure maximum patronage • Public transport provisions that connect to sheltered pedestrian pathways • Park and ride (cycle or bus) or walk facilities on the outskirts of town • Ride sharing. 	17-18	
<p>Upgrading Acacia Bay's water supply</p> <p>Lakes DHB supports Option 2, where Council proposes to connect Acacia Bay and Mapara Roads to the Taupō water treatment plant.</p> <p>Lakes DHB understands that significant investment has been made to the development and maintenance of the main Taupō water treatment plant. It is appropriate that the benefits of this investment, including the high standard of water supplied, are spread round as many communities as practical.</p>	19-20	
<p>Working to reduce wastewater spills</p> <p>Lakes DHB supports Option 1, where Council proposes to increase its annual operational budgets to undertake more preventative work, to reduce the incidence and effects of wastewater overflows.</p> <p>Lakes DHB supports all efforts to prevent the incidence of such events, including public education.</p> <p>Lakes DHB also encourages Council to explore innovative infrastructure design solutions that can manage the issues arising from human behaviour, as well as reducing the risk of wastewater entering a waterway when a spill occurs.</p> <p>Overflows and spills can cause illness, as people may be exposed to harmful levels of bacteria and other pathogens.</p>	21-22	

Topic and Comments	Page Ref	Key
<p>General feedback and comments</p> <p><i>Civic Administration Building</i></p> <p>Lakes DHB acknowledges and supports the development of a masterplan for the area by the Great Lake Centre. Lakes DHB encourages the Council to consider the following as decisions are made about the centre:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The entire precinct be smokefree with visible supporting signage • Active transport options are catered for with amenities such as shower facilities, bicycle lockup cage and cycleway connections to and from all parts of the town. This will reduce the number of carparks needed on site and make it easier for staff and visitors to the Council building and Great Lakes Centre to be active and travel sustainably • Design the whole area so that people walking and on bikes have priority over cars, especially when crossing Tongariro Street. Building a Tongariro Street overpass or underpass for pedestrians and cyclists would be one option to reconnect the two sides of the town which are currently separated by the road. <p>Lakes DHB encourages the Council to take the 'do it once, do it right' philosophy and create a future-focused, sustainable and participatory environment that is world class. Lakes DHB would welcome the opportunity to discuss any of the detail mentioned above as Council moves through the investigation and development process.</p>	23	

Further Information and Oral Submissions

If Taupō District Council requires any further information on this submission, please contact Robyn Woods, Management Support Officer, Toi Te Ora Public Health who will direct any enquiry to the most appropriate person. Robyn's contact details are as follows:

Email: Robyn.Woods@bopdhb.govt.nz

Ph: 07 577 3769

Lakes DHB and Toi Te Ora wish to thank Taupō District Council for the opportunity to provide feedback on its proposed long term plan, and confirm it wishes to present by way of oral submissions during the hearings later in 2018. We would appreciate being allocated an appropriate amount of time to cover the range of public health issues raised.



Ron Dunham

Chief Executive Officer

Lakes DHB