

Annual Budget Submission Form



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We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date.
For more information, see our [privacy statement](#) on our website.

**Have your say by 4pm,
Thursday 17 April**

Your details

Name Patrick Power

Organisation you represent (if relevant)

Address 7(2)(a) Privacy

Phone 7(2)(a) Privacy

7(2)(a) Privacy

Email

Signature [Signature]

If you would like to make a personal presentation in support of your submission at one of our hearings to the Mayor and Councillors, please select your preferred date and time:

Wednesday 30 April

☐ Morning

☐ Afternoon

☐ Early evening

Thursday 1 May

☐ Morning

☐ Afternoon

☐ Early evening

You can get your submission to us in any of these ways

Online

pncc.govt.nz/annualbudget

Email

submission@pncc.govt.nz

Phone

06 356 8199

Freepost

Annual budget submissions
Palmerston North City Council
Freepost PX33317
Palmerston North DX Sort

Deliver to

Customer Service Centre
Civic Administration Building
Te Marae o Hine -
32 The Square
Palmerston North

or to any Council library

What are your thoughts on our proposed Annual Budget 2025/26?

I have no particular objections. Sad to see so many projects cancelled due to lack of transport funding but that's outside of the council's control.

What, if anything, would you like to see changed?

I'd like there to be funding into ~~see~~ a look into light pollution in the city and ways it could be mitigated.

Are there specific activities or services we should be considering more or less of, and why?

More for ~~biod~~ biodiversity and climate change.
Climate problems are only going to get worse. Increased biodiversity should make the local environment here more resilient.

**Do you support our preferred option for managing
Te Motu o Poutoa Civic Marae and Cultural Centre?**

We're proposing a stand-alone Council-Controlled Organisation (CCO) charitable entity, jointly governed by the Council and Rangitāne o Manawātū.

Find out more at pncc.govt.nz/civicmarae

☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ I don't know / No opinion

I'm not in favour of the options where Rangitāne involvement is limited.

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Your details

Name *Eugén Pereira*

Organisation you represent (if relevant)

Address

Phone

Email

Signature

[Signature]

7(2)(a) Privacy

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Are there specific activities or services we should be considering more or less of, and why?

1. Avoid wasteful spending by catering to certain interest groups. Spending should be for the benefit of the whole of P.N residents.
2. Well planned spending - When cycle ways were proposed, bulky planter boxes were installed. Then it ~~was~~ replaced by reflectance poles. Now small concrete blocks are in place. The previous failed projects were a waste of rate payer money. Who was held accountable? The council employs qualified professional-engineers. This type of wasteful decision should not happen.
3. Audit NZ REPORT - Millions of \$ of subsidy not claimed from Federal Govt. Poor, lackadaisical project management - BE MORE ACCOUNTABLE + RESPONSIBLE WITH RATE PAYER'S MONEY.

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☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know / No opinion

By having a stand-alone entity there should be greater accountability and responsibility in better fund management and prudent spending.

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Your details

Name David Southon

Organisation you represent (if relevant)

Address 7(2)(a) Privacy

Phone 7(2)(a) Privacy

7(2)(a) Privacy

Email 7(2)(a) Privacy

Signature DS Southon

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What are your thoughts on our proposed Annual Budget 2025/26?

12 months ago the Auditor General quoted in the 10 yr L.T.P. the council does not have adequate evidence to support the cost of the projects. You are proposing to increase our debt to over \$1.5 Billion with a further increase in 10 yrs of another \$600 million. These are big ticket items regardless if drinking water and nature calls water is managed by a separate identity. Let the rate payers have to pay. I am surprised that there has not been a revisit on costings (water done wise) and give the public an update. Knowing meeting the expectations of what the Auditor General is looking for. How common is it ... When cuts occur, we need to dial back spending, reduce debt and be thorough with our costings, and future proofed and meet the requirements if a fresh audit was made.

What, if anything, would you like to see changed?

We have a current debt of 366 million there is no mention in the L.T.P. to reduce this debt. New projects coming on stream need to be geared around reducing debt. Which helps the rate payers (when the important is keep of our city needs attention) to absorb the big ticket items.

We have the Arapuni library community centre upgrade with bid purchase 26 million. Our P.O city library needs earth quake strengthening you want to gift 10 million rate payers money to Te Hōkai O Pōkeka Civic Māori for traffic management improvements in the square corner of and Featherston St, just a dead duck. I feel sorry for emergency service vehicles needing to use these routes.

Are there specific activities or services we should be considering more or less of, and why?

Any dollar spent on improvements there needs to be a financial gain or don't don't, ie get behind events that attract outsiders to come to Palmerston North. Main city library needs up keep before investment or even retaining satellite libraries.

I believe you are restoring. More do him by respecting those wishes what's sacred to them, how our water (nature calls) is handled.

I think in right timing the Te Motu o Poutoa Civic Marae and Cultural Centre could be incorporated with the information centre in the square. ie new build incorporating all. I don't think it will be patronised the same as if we where Rotorua or maybe incorporated into Te Manawa.

Do you support our preferred option for managing Te Motu o Poutoa Civic Marae and Cultural Centre?

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☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ I don't know / No opinion

Need to keep to the core business of council work. I think its good to build relations with local iwi. We are not a tourist city words like (CCO) "charity entity" means on top of paying for it we the rate payers are paying to run it.

I think pork chop hill should be sold to a developer and the proceeds against our debt.

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PNCC Rec'd 17 APR 2025



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Your details

Name **ROGER DOUGLAS KEEN**

Organisation you represent (if relevant)

Address **7(2)(a) Privacy**

Phone **7(2)(a) Privacy**

7(2)(a) Privacy

Email **7(2)(a) Privacy**

Signature **R D Keen**

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What are your thoughts on our proposed Annual Budget 2025/26?

Sensible & well thought out.

Will Trump's actions have any negative impacts?

e.g. Insurance may be impacted, credit rating changed.

What, if anything, would you like to see changed?

Are there specific activities or services we should be considering more or less of, and why?

Name streets after Nobel Prize winners, starting with NZ's three. Easy educational promotion.

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☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know / No opinion

Please ensure light pollution is reduced so the Observatory is not impacted.

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Your details

Name *John and Margaret Wood*

Organisation you represent (if relevant)

Address **7(2)(a) Privacy**

Phone **7(2)(a) Privacy**

Email

Signature *[Signature]* *[Signature]*

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What are your thoughts on our proposed Annual Budget 2025/26?

- Further careful reviewing of services and projects needs to be done, especially with the Manawatu and Kapiti District Councils opting out of the four-councils water entity, and the uncertainty whether any others will co-opt. It may mean some projects will have to be deferred.
- 7.7% proposed rate increase is higher than the current rate of inflation of 2.2% (next update is due on 17 April). People and businesses are already having financial struggles, so any increase needs to be thoughtfully considered. They will also have an increased rates bill from Horizons. It has just been announced that the rate of inflation has risen to 2.5%.
- Maybe more of our net debt should be on fixed interest to take advantage of lower market rates.

What, if anything, would you like to see changed?

- Civic Mōrae and Cultural Centre: This is a 'nice to have' project with a high cost, especially in the current economic climate.
Upgrade to Cliff Road: Have any other options been considered? The money for these projects needs to go towards maintaining basic and necessary services.
- Establish a night shelter for homeless people to enable them to sleep and have a hot shower. Maybe the former police station could be converted. Christchurch has recently built one.
- Review the number of Councillors. Other councils operate well with a fewer number e.g. Wellington - 15; Tauranga - 10; Kapiti-11; Whanganui - 13. Palmerston North has 16.
A reduction would decrease the operating expenses.

Are there specific activities or services we should be considering more or less of, and why?

- Increase maintenance of roading, footpaths, and street lighting to enable people to be safe.
- Arena development is an important project which will be a great asset to Palmerston North with the increased number of sporting and other ^{cultural} events happening.
- Community events could be held every two years. The costs would be spread over a wider time-frame and reduce the annual expenses. Some, for example, ANZAC would be held every year.
- Encourage organisations to fund-raise instead of requesting grants.
- Continue with education about recycling. Soft plastic recycling could be introduced.
- Re illegal dumping of rubbish. Maybe there could be two or three days per year (free of charge) to encourage people to dispose of rubbish in a responsible way.

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☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ I don't know / No opinion

- This proposal needs careful consideration as it is a 'nice to have' project.
- Not sure whether this is a good option.