
Long-Term Plan Disclosure Statement

Long-term plan disclosure statement for period commencing 1 July 2024

What is the purpose of this statement?

The purpose of this statement is to disclose the Council's planned financial performance in relation to various benchmarks to enable the assessment of whether the Council is prudently managing its revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities and general financial dealings. The Council is required to include this statement in its long-term plan in accordance with the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 (the regulations). Refer to the regulations for more information, including definitions of some of the terms used in this statement.

Rates affordability benchmark

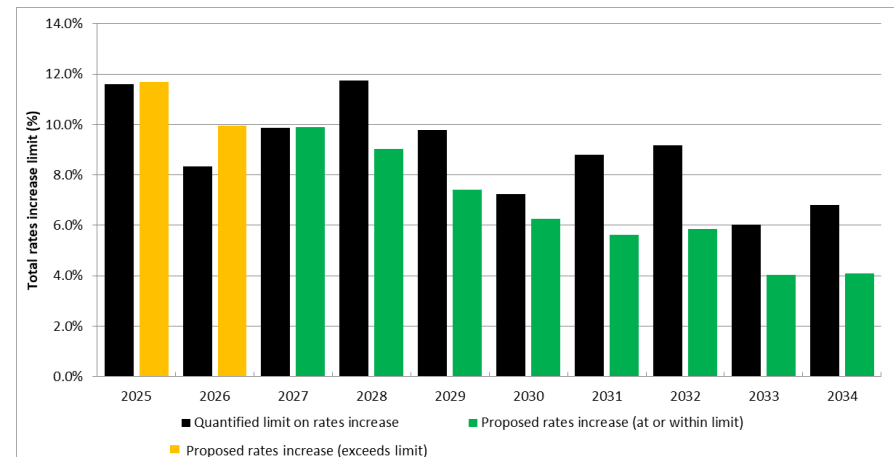
The Council meets the rates affordability benchmark if:

- its planned rates increases equal or are less than each quantified limit on rates increases.

Rates (increases) affordability

The following graph compares the Council's planned rates increases with a quantified limit on rates increases contained in the financial strategy included in this long-term plan. The quantified limit is that total rates will increase by no more than the Local Government Cost Index (LGCI):

- plus the growth in the rating base
- plus 2% (to fund the cost of higher standards and new services)
- plus increase in funding required for interest and debt repayment.

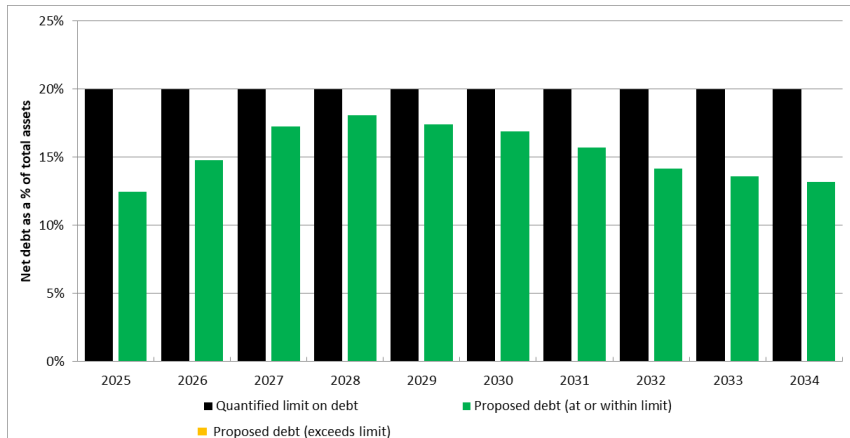


Debt affordability benchmark

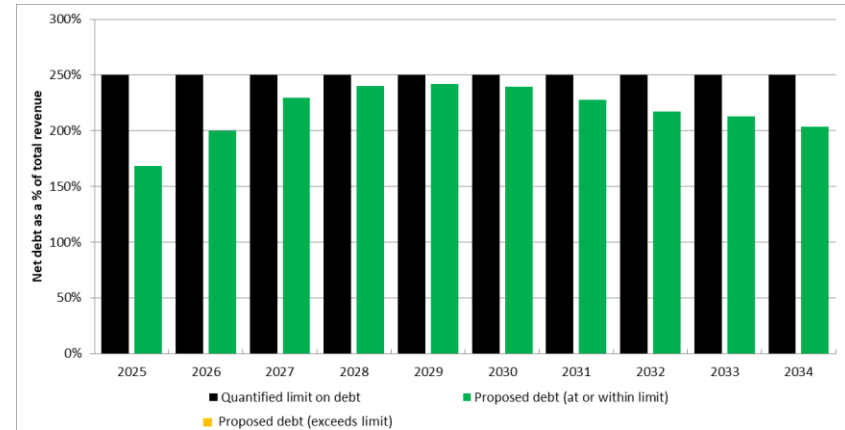
The Council meets the debt affordability benchmark if its planned borrowing is within each quantified limit on borrowing.

The following four graphs compares the Council's planned debt with a quantified limit on borrowing contained in the financial strategy included in this long-term plan.

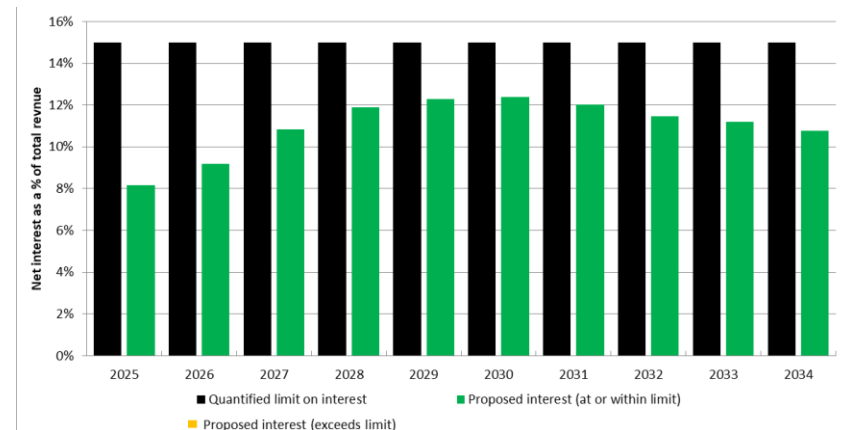
The quantified limit for this graph is that net external debt as a percentage of total assets will not exceed 20%.



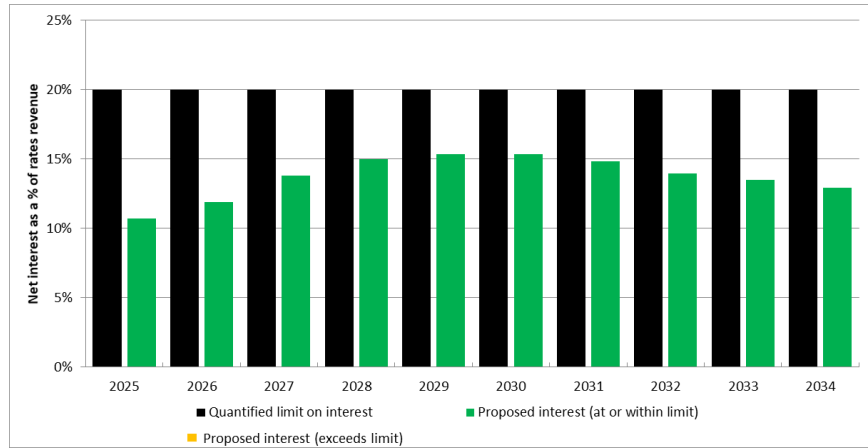
The quantified limit for this graph is that net external debt as a percentage of total revenue will not exceed 250%.



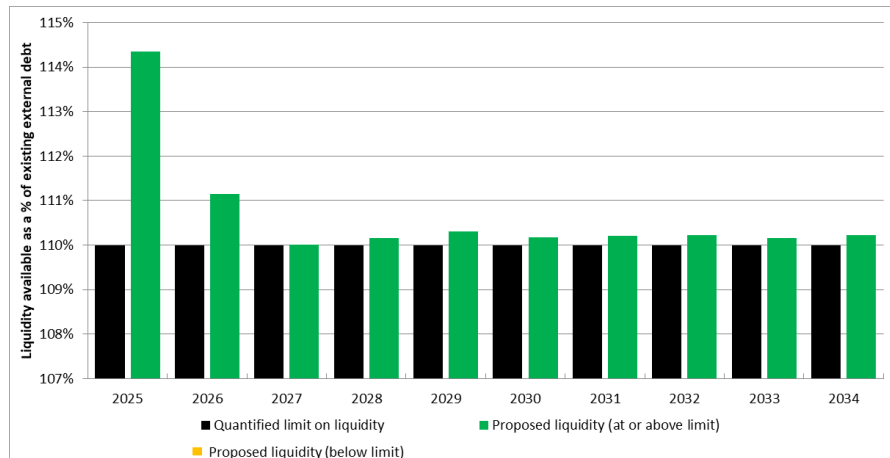
The quantified limit for this graph is that net interest as a percentage of total revenue will not exceed 15%.



The quantified limit for this graph is that net interest as a percentage of annual rates income will not exceed 20%.



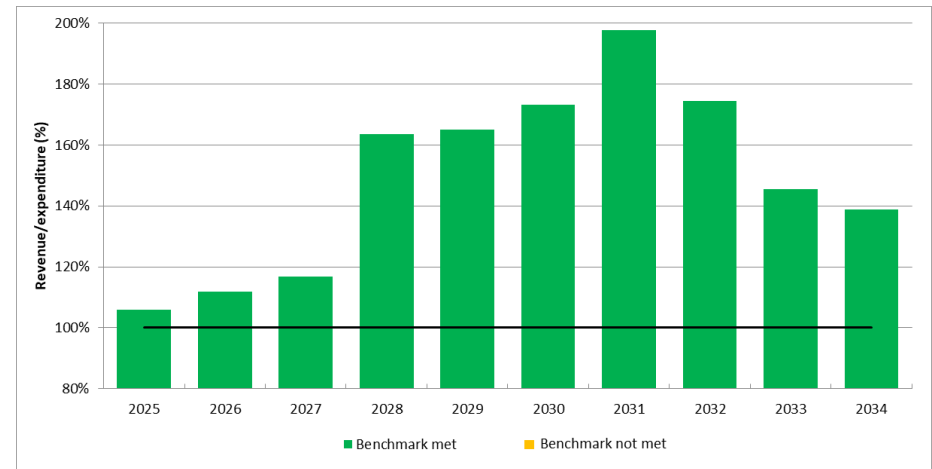
The quantified limit for this graph is that liquidity available will exceed 110% of existing external debt. Liquidity available is defined as the sum of existing external term debt, unused committed bank/loan facilities and liquid investments.



Balanced budget benchmark

The following graph displays the Council's planned revenue (excluding development contributions, financial contributions, vested assets, gains on derivative financial instruments, and revaluations of property, plant or equipment) as a proportion of planned operating expenses (excluding losses on derivative financial instruments and revaluations of property, plant or equipment).

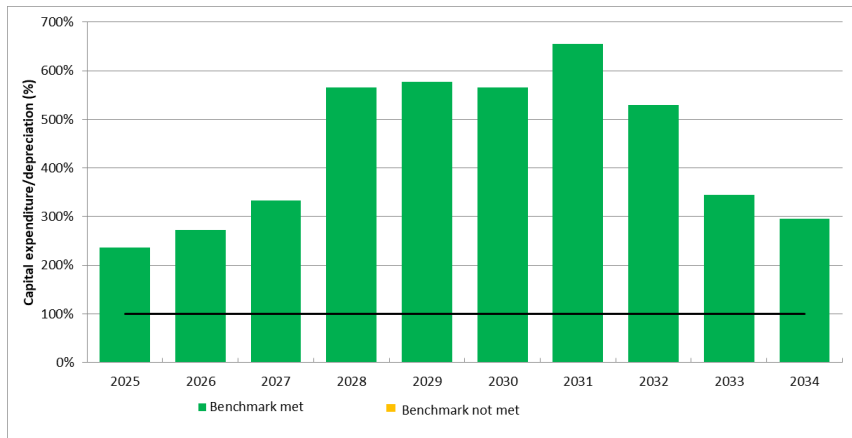
The Council meets the balanced budget benchmark if its planned revenue equals or is greater than its planned operating expenses.



Essential services benchmark

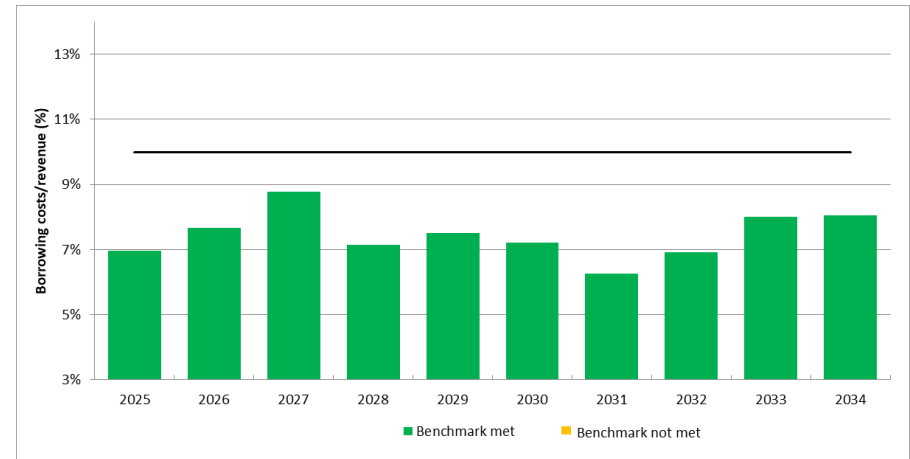
The following graph displays the Council's planned capital expenditure on network services as a proportion of expected depreciation on network services.

The Council meets the essential services benchmark if its planned capital expenditure on network services equals or is greater than expected depreciation on network services.



Debt servicing benchmark

The following graph displays the Council's planned borrowing costs as a proportion of planned revenue (excluding development contributions, financial contributions, vested assets, gains on derivative financial instruments, and revaluations of property, plant, or equipment). Because Statistics New Zealand projects the Council's population will grow as fast as the national population is projected to grow, it meets the debt servicing benchmark if its planned borrowing costs equal or are less than 10% of its planned revenue.



Additional information or comment

Rates (increases) affordability

At this stage the proposed Long-term Plan does not achieve the policy aim for years 1 and 2. Rates requirements are reviewed annually when the annual plan is prepared. The forecast rates increases (and the policy maxima) include provision for significant debt servicing and repayment costs relating to the investments in new infrastructure and facilities.

The forecast increases in rates do not include any levies that would be charged to ratepayers to fund the Nature Calls project. Early estimates are this will amount to at least \$1,000 per ratepayer introduced progressively from about year 5. There will be further public engagement about this as the project progresses through the consent approval process.