

Report 99.374

28 June 1999

File: G/4/1/1

Report to the Policy and Finance Committee
from Stuart Macaskill, Chairman

Facing the Future 1997-2007: 1999 Update and 1999/2000 Annual Plan

At the meetings of the Policy and Finance Committee and Council on 7 July 1999 consideration needs to be given to adopting the final version of *Facing the Future 1997-2007: 1999 Update and 1999/2000 Annual Plan*. A copy of this updated version will be forwarded to Councillors as a separate document.

As you know 1999/2000 is the 3rd year in a series of three years' hard numbers and as such there has been only fine tuning to the course which was chartered within *Facing the Future 1997-2007* (which was adopted two years ago).

Some changes have been made as a result of the submission process and as a result of rebudgeted expenditure and other adjustments which were considered by the Policy and Finance Committee on 22 June 1999.

The end result is a 1.5% increase in Regional rates in 1999/2000. The increase in Regional rates in 1999/2000 is marginally below the 1.85% increase signalled in the proposed *Facing the Future:1999 Update* published in April 1999 and marginally above the 1.2% increase which was signalled within *Facing the Future:1998 Update* published in July 1998. This is a good result and, given the Council has been hit by the impact of the October 1998 floods, is a further testament to the financial management of the Council.

The Council's decision to reduce the Water Supply Levy by 4% is also incorporated within the document and again reflects well in the Council's stewardship of this vital community service.

Recommendations

That the Policy and Finance Committee recommend that Council:

- (1) Receive the Report and note the contents..*
- (2) Adopt, pursuant to sections 122K and 223D of the Local Government Act Council “Facing the Future 1997-2007: 1999 Update and 1999/2000 Annual Plan”, subject to any minor editorial changes approved by the Chairman and General Manager.*

STUART MACASKILL
Chairman