

## **Buller District Council Response to Minute 16 – Strategic Directions**

To the Hearings Panel,

This correspondence is provided in relation to Minute 16, seeking feedback on Ms Easton's response to this minute.

Council appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback. As a submitter and contributor to development of the plan, Buller District Council wishes to express support for Ms Easton's response to Minute 16.

At this stage, it is noted that Council does not support a significant re-write of the Strategic Directions, based on the following:

- Council considers, that as currently written, the objectives capture the specific economic areas that are strategically important to our District and region;
- In addition, Council notes that the Strategic Directions were developed during a lengthy process of consultation with the partnering Councils; and thus considers, as drafted, encapsulate a generally robust understanding of the issues and aspirations of these communities.
- Similarly, Council notes that considerable input was also sought from stakeholders and the community as part of plan development, wherein Ms Easton also invested positively into this consultation process.
- As highlighted by Ms Easton, Council considers that any proposal to replace the current provisions with overarching economic development objectives could potentially result in a dilution of the intent of the current strategic directions, which are considered to target key economic areas.
- Council agrees with Ms Easton, that a potential area for revision within the Strategic Directions is with respect to climate change, which Council would support inclusion of objectives in this regard.

We trust the above facilitates your further considerations.

Kind regards,

**Nathan Riley** | Group Manager Regulatory Services

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