

Financial Plan in accordance with the principle set out in section 2 above.

- 4.6 All new loans required to fund expenditure which has arisen subsequent to the Financial Plan being confirmed shall require Council approval by a specific resolution of the Council including the reasons why expenditure was not included in the Financial Plan.
- 4.7 Debt may be raised in either fixed or floating rate terms, and for short (ie up to one year) or long maturity terms subject to limits.
- 4.8 The term of a loan must not be longer than the economic life of the capital assets it funds (as defined by the Council resolution) and in any event no more than 20 years.
- 4.9 A loan may be raised in several tranches for terms less than 20 years. Repayments at maturity of a tranche within the term of a loan may be refinanced without further Council resolution. Refinancing loans shall not add to the term of the original loan.
- 4.10 For new loans, the Council must consider the risks of borrowing including a sensitivity analysis to changing interest rates.
- 4.11 The borrowing resolution shall define who has the authority to raise loans. Should it be silent then authority is granted to staff as defined in section 9.2 below.
- 4.12 Unless the Council resolves to the contrary and subject to any instruction issued by the Director of Finance, the Funds Accountant may raise loan funds by way of bank overdraft to cover short term cash shortfalls limited to a maximum of \$2m. Borrowing under this clause is not subject to the constraints of clauses elsewhere in this policy.

The Director of Finance may from time to time issue guidelines and instructions on the raising of overdraft funds up to the \$2m limit.

Any overdraft so raised shall be reported to the Director of Finance within two working days.

For the purposes of this clause the term “short-term” means for terms of less than one year.

5 Repayment of Debt

- 5.1 Debt may be repaid by one or a combination of:
 - Annual Sinking Fund instalments where the Sinking Fund Commissioners hold the funds as a separate trust, for the Council, for the sole purpose of debt repayment of specific loans.
 - Annual Contributions to a Loan Repayment Reserve to be held by the Council for the sole purpose of applying at appropriate opportunities to repayment or reduction of loans.
 - Annual table repayment instalments providing for full repayment over the term of a loan being 20 years or less.
 - Repayment from revenue or other sources.

- 5.2 With the exception of table loans, a minimum of 3% of the aggregate of the initial external debt raised by the Council and Christchurch City Holdings Ltd, combined, shall be repaid annually in accordance with one or a combination of the options set out in 5.1 above. Initial Debt is defined as the original sum of any loan borrowed which has not been fully repaid.
- 5.3 The rate of 3% shall be reviewed from time to time to ensure that with accumulated interest earnings on invested funds that sufficient funds are available to repay each initial loan tranche at the end of 20 years. At all times 3% shall be a minimum.
- 5.4 Sinking Funds and Loan Repayment reserves may be applied to earlier repayment of loans in conjunction with refinancing of tranches. In such cases the annual contributions to sinking funds or loan repayment reserves shall be recalculated to ensure that sufficient funds will be on hand to ensure repayment of the balance within the 20 year time frame.
- 5.5 When the repayment provision for any specific loan has been fully funded, no further contributions will be required for that loan.
- 5.6 The Funds Accountant, after consultation with the Director of Finance and the Company Secretary of Christchurch City Holdings Ltd, may select the specific debt to be repaid in any one year to optimise the mix of debt types retained within the group.

6 Interest Rate Exposure

- 6.1 The interest rate policy of the Council is to manage the exposure to adverse interest rates consistent with the need to have interest costs, where possible, at or below interest rates projected from time to time in the Council's Financial Plan or Long Term Financial Strategy or the rates determined to be economically feasible for specific assets funded.
- 6.2 The Funds Accountant may implement an interest rate strategy with interest rates higher than that budgeted, where this is supported by an interest rate view and strategy formed under the procedures of 6, 7, 8, and 9 below.
- 6.3 The Council may have an exposure to both fixed and floating interest rates. Fixed Rate Debt may vary between 35% and 100% of total debt maintained by either direct borrowing under these terms or by interest rate hedging. There is a preference for fixed rate borrowing to fund long term asset acquisition.
- 6.4 The Funds Accountant shall be authorised to enter into interest rate hedging contracts to avoid an exposure to adverse rates based on the interest rate view.
- 6.5 All hedging contracts are only to protect the actual debt and debt planned to be raised. Speculation is not permitted.
- 6.6 All hedging contracts are to be discussed with the Director of Finance and in his absence with the Funds