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MEDIA RELEASE

TO: CHIEF REPORTER

FROM: Clare Shave – Manager Finance and Business Support

SUBJECT: Draft Annual Plan for 2005/6

The draft Annual Plan 2005/6, which includes some amendments to the Long Term Council Community Plan 2004-2014, is being presented to Council today for adoption.

The work programmes and the rating effects for individual ratepayers in the draft Plan are generally in line with those outlined in the Long Term Council Community Plan for 2004-2014. The average household can expect a rate increase of 5.3%, although movements will vary across the district.

Significant projects that will be undertaken in the coming year include:

- Completion of \$36.6 million ocean outfall for the Eastern Districts.
- Providing sewer and water services to Southbrook industrial area.
- Implementing a \$2.7 million stormwater solution for South Kaiapoi.
- Investigating alternative water supplies for Rangiora, Oxford and Summerhill.
- Numerous roading improvements including commencing Tram Road widening, improving the Flaxton/Skewbridge/Threlkelds intersection.
- Furthering growth strategies for Woodend and Kaiapoi.

Some of the proposed amendments to the Long Term Council Community Plan include:

- The establishment of some rates for Loburn Lea sewer and drainage and Ohoka kerbside recycling services.
- The replacement of the existing Kaiapoi and Rangiora Commercial Works and Services Rate with two new targeted rates. The proposed new Area

Maintenance and Street Works rate would be payable in respect of commercial properties situated in the area surrounding the Kaiapoi and Rangiora central business districts. The proposed new Promotions and Economic Development rate would apply to commercial properties (other than primary producers and properties used primarily for network utility purposes) across the district.

- Some changes in rating areas, including the Waimakariri coastal rural drainage area, the Rangiora urban drainage rating area and the Rangiora Town Rating Boundary used to levy the community services rate.
- A new policy which would enable the Council to accept lump sum contributions in respect of major capital works in certain circumstances.

Following adoption by the Council, the draft Annual Plan will be notified for consultation on Saturday, 5 March.

Copies of the draft Annual Plan and submission forms will be available from Council service centres and the Rangiora from Monday, 7 March. Submissions on the draft Annual Plan close on 8 April.

For further information contact:

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