

**From:** [Submissions](#)  
**To:** [Administration Support](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Submission on 10 year plan  
**Date:** Saturday, 25 April 2015 1:57:07 p.m.

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**From:** Gass[SMTP:GASS@TASMAN.NET]  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 25, 2015 1:57:01 PM  
**To:** Submissions  
**Subject:** Submission on 10 year plan  
**Auto forwarded by a Rule**

Hi Team,

In looking at the 10 year plan and also the Mail's article on how council rates are spent, I would like to submit the following –

1 – The 16 cents per dollar on Arts, festivals etc should be reduced to a figure of 5 cents in the Dollar.

2 – The long term plan should be focused on Debt repayment and not looking at incurring more debt. The reduction proposed in 1 above would allow this to happen and the 11 cents in the dollar put towards reducing debt.

These 2 measures will allow rates to be held as the constant increase in rates per year will become a tipping point to the council in the near future. It is a seemingly innocuous tax that is really a compound interest tax.

The reduction in amount in the dollar spend on arts etc would show that the council is serious about debt, because if spends keep happening in non essential areas there will come a point that the ratepayers will default on rate payments and then all this money that has been spent in what can be called a "fringe" area would not count for anything anyway.

So fiscal responsibility is paramount and keeping up with the Jones is not part of Nelson's long term plan. Core business and debt reduction must be part on the 10 year plan.

Regards

Benjamin Gass  
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