

Title: Grantlea pupils present to Council
Hearing

This Media Release has
been prepared by
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Enthusiastic Grantlea Downs pupils made a presentation to the Council this week proposing that the nearby Taitarakihi Stream be cleaned up, with a planted walkway and cycleway alongside the stream. The ten students had done work to analyse the current water conditions, and plan the plantings alongside the track.

Pupils Chris Claphen and Rickie Mitchell made the presentation to the Council's Annual Plan Hearing. Plant samples, diagrams and pictures produced by their team were passed around Councillors for closer examination.

Their submission was received a positive response from councillors, who have agreed to look at securing access to the bordering land, and subsequent construction of a track linking Old North Road to Evans Street alongside the Taitarakihi Stream.

Deputy Principal, Berni Leonard said "The experience is valuable. The students see they can make a difference".

Other submissions at the Hearing included requests for ongoing improvement of the cycle tracks and combined road/cycle path routes around Timaru; and requests for the building consent costs for installation of solar heating to be waived to encourage more use of this renewable energy source.

Additional requests for funding included \$50,000 for celebrations of the 150 years since Timaru was established, and a \$25,000 contribution towards the redevelopment of the Roncalli College entrance on Craigie Avenue. These were both approved.

The overall rates increase was set very slightly lower than proposed, down from 3.61% to 3.60%, plus a \$53 charge per sewerage connection.



+ Picture: Chris Claphen and Rickie Mitchell take the hot seats around Council tables, while team members (from left) Indya Frost, Ilano Fruart, James Spence, Sean Hunter, James Brosnahan, BJ Mason, Malcolm Beattie and Olivia Chisnall lend support, with encouragement from Councillors Mulvey, Lyon and Barker.

ENDS

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