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Report To: Council

Meeting Date:	24 November 2026
Subject:	**Les Munro Centre and Waitomo District Library - Future Options**
Type:	Decision Required
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1 Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this business paper is for Council to formally adopt options for further investigation to improve the future use and efficiency of the Les Munro Centre and Waitomo District Library.

2 Suggested Resolutions

2.1 The following are suggested resolutions only and do not represent Council policy until such time as they are adopted by formal resolution.

1 The business paper on Les Munro Centre and Waitomo District Library - Future Options be received.

2 Council authorise the Mayor and Chief Executive to carry out the necessary work plan to enable details for the following two options to be brought back to the Council for further consideration and that promotion, facility management and modernization of the Les Munro Centre is to be a key consideration in both options:

Option 1: Two Separate Buildings (Les Munro Centre and Waitomo District Library)
- Renovate and extend existing Library
- Create flexible spaces within the current Les Munro Centre

Option 2: Les Munro Centre Revitalisation into Community Hub (inclusive of Library)

3 Background

3.1 Council at a workshop on 17 November 2026 considered a schedule, including a high level evaluation with pros and cons, of possible options for the future of the Les Munro Centre (LMC) and Waitomo District Library so that an indication of preferences could be obtained from Elected Members.

3.2 The options considered were as follows:

A. Status Quo

B. Renovate + Add to Library

Renovate, modest fitout and add floor area to current library to increase the services offered and space offered.

C. Renovate Library + Upstairs

Renovate, modest fitout and move into part of upper floor of the current library building to increase the services offered and space offered.

D. Build new Library on new site

Building a new Library which potentially includes some purpose-built community hub features in Te Kuiti.

E. Deliver Library programmes in LMC

Deliver some new library programmes from the current LMC facility.

F. Increase usage of LMC

By adding promotional activities, facility management and modernising infrastructure.

G. Create flexible spaces within the current LMC

To support a community hub concept to improve utilisation.

H. LMC revitalisation into Community Hub (inclusive of Library)

Build new library facility adjacent to LMC and create flexible spaces within the current LMC to support a community hub concept to improve utilisation.

I. Demolish LMC

J. Downsize LMC

K. Contract out/sell LMC

4 Commentary

4.1 At the conclusion of workshopping through the presented options, Council's direction was for the Mayor and Chief Executive to proceed with a work plan that would put together detailed proposals for further consideration by the Council for the following two options:

Option 1: A combination of options (B) Renovate and add to the Library on its current site and (G) Create flexible spaces within current Les Munro Centre.

Option 2: Option (H) Les Munro Centre revitalisation into Community Hub (inclusive of the Library)

4.2 Council also noted that it is imperative that Option (F) Increase usage of Les Munro Centre be a key consideration in both of the above two options.