

OUR ROLE AND DIRECTION



We have two key jobs.

1. To promote the **well-being** of Wellington and its people.
2. To facilitate **democratic local decision-making**.

The Wellington City Council is made up of 15 elected representatives – the mayor and 14 councillors. It's their job to make bylaws, set the city's overall strategic direction, and approve budgets, policies and plans aimed at achieving that direction. Part of their role is to listen and take the pulse of the community before making decisions.

The elected representatives are supported by the Council's chief executive and 1,450+ staff, who provide advice, implement Council decisions, and look after the city's day to day operations.

We seek your views before determining our work programme. Then we make ourselves accountable by reporting on our delivery of that programme.

Every three years we take a long-term look at how the city is doing, what the community's aspirations are, and how we can help to meet those aspirations. This helps form the basis of a long-term work programme – including budgets, policies, and information about how we'll monitor the levels of service we provide and the quality and effectiveness of our work. These details are published in a long-term plan.

In-between these three-yearly plans, we take a fresh look at our annual work programme and consider whether any changes are needed – changes to our budgets, for example, or new projects to help deal with issues or challenges facing the city. We publish a *draft annual plan* and listen to your feedback before publishing an *annual plan* (this document).

Every year, we also publish an annual report. This sets out how we performed against the long-term plan or annual plan for the year. Did we do all we said we'd do? Did we meet our budgets? Did we do as good a job as we should have? Did we contribute to improvements in the overall well-being of Wellington and its residents?



After public consultation during 2005 and 2006, we set 13 long-term goals (or “outcomes”) for Wellington. They are:

- Wellington will become more **liveable**
- Wellington will develop a stronger **sense of place**
- Wellington will become more **compact**
- Wellington will become more **eventful**
- Wellington will become more **inclusive**
- Wellington will become more **actively engaged**
- Wellington will become more **sustainable**
- Wellington will become **safer**
- Wellington will become **healthier**
- Wellington will become **better connected**
- Wellington will become more **prosperous**
- Wellington will become more **competitive**
- Wellington will become more **entrepreneurial and innovative.**

The indicators that we use to measure our progress towards these are contained in the appendix. More details on the outcomes can be found in the long-term plan.

WHAT'S DIFFERENT ABOUT THIS PLAN?

We've always worked hard to make our plans as clear and easy to understand as possible. That's part of being accountable and consulting effectively.

This year, we've made some improvements to the 'Our Activities in Detail' section of our plan by grouping some activities together that we'd separated in the past. This change means you can more clearly see our plans in their full context – for example, we're describing all of our work relating to the transport network in one place, instead of considering separate parts of the network (roads, cycleways etc) over several pages. There's no change to the level of formal detail that's available about our finances and expected service performance – it's just presented in a simpler, clearer way. You'll also see that activity numbers are provided in the 'what it will cost' tables for easy references back to the long-term plan.

Copies of the long-term plan are available on our website www.Wellington.govt.nz, from your local library or by calling 499 4444.