MAORI ENGAGEMENT (INCLUDING MANA WHENUA)

We acknowledge the special place of Maori in Wellington’s history.

Wellington has a long history of occupation by Maori, and this creates responsibilities for the Council. We want to see the special position of mana whenua (i.e. iwi with customary authority over the area) acknowledged and reflected in the way we make decisions about the city and its resources.

So our governance arrangements include formal opportunities for mana whenua to contribute.

We work with the city’s two mana whenua organisations, the Wellington Tenths Trust and Ngati Toa Rangatira, to ensure their views are represented in decisions about the city, and to ensure their contribution to Wellington’s heritage is fully and publicly recognised. Our responsibilities to these groups are outlined in memoranda of understanding.

We also involve the wider Maori community on issues of specific interest to them.

What it will cost

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>USER CHARGES AND OTHER REVENUE $000</th>
<th>NET EXPENDITURE / RATES FUNDING REQUIREMENT $000</th>
<th>EXPENDITURE 2007/08 $000</th>
<th>EXPENDITURE 2008/09 $000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mana Whenua partnerships (7.2.1)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total for 2007/08</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>110</td>
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<td>-</td>
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</table>

Measuring our performance

We measure progress in this area by interviewing representatives of both mana whenua organisations. In 2007/08, our targets are for both organisations to be ‘quite satisfied’ (4 measured on a 5-point scale).
We aim to keep residents informed, provide opportunities for input, and make sound decisions in line with community aspirations.

Democratic local decision-making is important for its own sake, because we exist to represent the collective will of the people we serve. It is also important for the benefits it brings such as higher levels of community engagement and higher confidence in local decision-making. We aim for a culture of openness, in which residents can get information about the city and how it is run, and feel they can make their views known. We’d like to encourage greater levels of engagement in local decision-making.

We aim to achieve this by providing information and opportunities for input.

We:
- keep residents informed through a wide variety of media, including newspapers, radio, Council publications and our website
- give members of the public access to information on property values
- engage and consult widely before making decisions, and seek feedback on issues facing the city through resident surveys and partnerships with a wide range of groups
- provide agendas for Council and committee meetings in advance, and make our meetings open to the public except on occasions where there is a legitimate reason for keeping Council business confidential
- provide information, answer queries and deal with complaints through our 24-hour-a-day Contact Centre and our City Service Centre in Wakefield St
- will hold the 2007 local body elections on 13 October.

Over the next two years, we are planning several new projects aimed at keeping people informed about local issues and enhancing involvement in decision-making. These include:
- using e-democracy initiatives to increase public input into our decisions, for example by using e-petitions or setting up an ‘e-panel’ of residents who can provide online feedback on issues we face
- strengthening community involvement in our decisions by increasing opportunities for residents to provide regular feedback – one option under consideration is to set up a ‘civic network’ of residents who will provide regular feedback about issues facing the city
- continuing our communication with Pacific groups through regular Pacifica pages in our Absolutely Positively Wellington newspaper and by increasing the number of appearances by Council officers on Samoan Capital Radio.

**WHAT IT WILL COST**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>OPERATIONAL SPENDING</th>
<th>CAPITAL SPENDING</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>USER CHARGES AND OTHER REVENUE</td>
<td>NET EXPENDITURE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultation and communication (7.1.1)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>City governance and decision-making (7.2.2)</td>
<td>(215)</td>
<td>8,018</td>
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<td>Civic information (7.2.3)</td>
<td>(346)</td>
<td>4,520</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total for 2007/08</td>
<td>(560)</td>
<td>12,642</td>
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