WHAT'S YOUR VIEW?

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Draft Annual Plan, Wellington City Council, PO Box 2199, Wellington.

5.1 Libraries

Libraries fill many roles in our communities and provide a hub for community life.

Libraries are places to read, listen, find information, and get together. In addition to providing access to books, music, magazines and information, they provide a focal point for community events, and play a heritage role by collecting information about the city's people and communities. They contribute to our goals of making Wellington more liveable, more inclusive, more actively engaged, better connected, healthier and safer.

The Central Library and 11 branch libraries provide access to over 600,000 books, 450,000 magazines, and 85,000 CDs, DVDs, videos and other items. The Central Library has a substantial collection of reference information and a large and frequently updated selection of books, magazines and audio-visual material. Suburban branch libraries offer a similar range but on a smaller scale.

The library website (www.wcl.govt.nz) provides 24 hour-a-day access to a substantial online catalogue and to online information such as newspaper databases and digital audiobooks. The libraries also offer a variety of outreach programmes.

We're proposing some modest reductions to library services to reduce our overall costs.

The library network is a significant area of investment each year and in considering what we could do to reduce our costs from this activity we have identified a number of modest savings options that if made, will not unduly impact on service continuity and the overall service experienced by library users.

In 2011/12 we're proposing to better align opening hours at the Central Library to demand which will see the Central Library close at 7pm instead of 8.30pm during the working week (\$57,000 savings). And we're proposing that the dedicated information desk on the ground floor be closed saving \$28,000. The remaining enquiry desks will remain open. We're also proposing that we move to providing most international newspapers in digital format only which will save \$20,000 per year.

In identifying savings for the 2011/12 year, a number of other library service dimensions were explored for efficiencies – but that on balance we have decided not to recommend. This included reducing smaller 'low use' branch library opening hours (Wadestown, Khandallah and Brooklyn) to half days which could provide \$347,000 savings per year.

We spend over \$20 million every year on the libraries network and believe the modest reductions proposed above will not adversely impact on the overall experience of the library service.

We're also preparing plans for a refresh of the Central Library.

As part of a review of the city's community facilities last year, we agreed in principle to invest in a 'refresh' of the Central Library which is twenty years old. In the coming year we will prepare an initial concept plan and refine costs. The initial planning work is budgeted at \$180,000 for 2011/12 and the full cost of the Central Library refresh project is estimated at \$14.880m. A final funding decision on whether to go ahead with renewal of the Central Library will be made as part of the next long-term plan in 2012.

MEASURING OUR PERFORMANCE

Our targets for 2011/12 are:

- 90% of library users are satisfied with its services and facilities.
- 70% of residents are registered library users.
- 85% of residents are satisfied with the range and variety of collection.
- There are 2.5 million physical visits and two million website visits to our libraries.
- 80,000 (estimated) people attend various library programmes.
- 3.25 million items are issued from WCC libraries.
- 90% of residents agree that library services and facilities provide good value for money.

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511Libaiesnewak	(239)	21,216	18857	225
2011/251Tod	(239)	21,216	18857	225
2010/11/51Total	(233)	2,55	19213	2 .5 2

5.2 Recreation promotion and access

Our aim is to provide access to sport and recreation for all Wellingtonians.

Taking part in sports or other physical activity improves health and fitness. Sport and recreation also bring people together and promote a sense of community. Our aim is to provide access to sport and recreation opportunities for all Wellingtonians regardless of age, ability or circumstance, to enhance their health and well-being.

We are the city's biggest provider of places to exercise and play (see 5.3 Recreation services).

To promote and support access to recreation, we provide subsidised access to our recreation programmes and facilities through our Leisure Card programme. This scheme is available to Community Services Card holders, people with physical disabilities, mental health consumers, Green Prescription referrals, refugees, and superannuitants. It reduces cost barriers to participation in recreation for those who otherwise might not be able to afford it.

We also:

- run a variety of sports, fitness and leisure programmes for children and adults

 for example the Run Swim series, Push Play trailers, outdoor festival and
 many other programmes that together attract tens of thousands of
 participants each year
- inform residents about recreation opportunities through our website and guides
- liaise with national and regional sporting codes and provide funding support to the Basin Reserve Trust to help ensure the iconic sports ground remains New Zealand's premier test cricket venue.

Basin Reserve Assets

An asset condition survey has also been completed for the Basin Reserve and we now have detailed information on renewal and maintenance costs for this iconic sports ground. Based on the survey, we have budgeted \$297,000 for renewal requirements for the Basin Reserve in 2011/12.

MEASURING OUR PERFORMANCE

Our targets for 2011/12 are:

 At least 25,000 people use WCC recreation programmes (excluding programmes offered at recreation centres).

- At least 130,000 people use WCC recreation centre programmes.
- At least 15,800 people enrol in Learn to Swim programmes.
- At least 80,000 people participate in aquatic education.
- Leisure Cards are used at least 90,000 people times.
- 90% of residents find it easy or very easy to access WCC recreation facilities and programmes.
- At least one Sport Forum will be held with an attendance of at least 200 people.

We will also monitor the number of sports development fund grants: the number of applicants; number of successful applicants; and the total budget allocated to grants. There is no target for this measure.

5.2 Recreation, Promotion and Access	Operating expenditure 2011-2012			Capital expenditure 2011-2012
	Income (\$000)	Expenditure (\$000)	Net expenditure (\$000)	Total (\$000)
5.2.1 Recreation partnerships	-	602	602	297
5.2.2 Access support	-	126	126	-
5.2.3 Recreation programmes	(70)	766	696	-
2011/12.5.2 Total	(70)	1,494	1,424	297
2010/11 5.2 Total	(72)	1,730	1,658	112

5.3 Recreation services

We provide a wide variety of recreation facilities throughout the city to encourage health lifestyles.

To achieve our aim of providing access to sport and recreation opportunities for all Wellingtonians we:

- Provide seven swimming pools (five indoor and two outdoor), which collectively attract more than 1.2 million visitors each year.
- Provide 45 sportsgrounds and two synthetic turf sportsfields which provide yearround opportunities for recreation and competitive sport (cricket, softball, rugby, league, hockey, soccer and netball and a range of other sports).
- Provide or support recreation centres in four suburbs Karori, Kilbirnie, Khandallah (Nairnville) and Tawa – which provide a range of recreation, sport and leisure opportunities, and together attract more than 280,000 users each year.
- Provide more than 100 neighbourhood playgrounds and skate parks throughout the city.
- Own two marinas, the Evans Bay Marina and the Clyde Quay Boat Harbour.
- Will complete a 12-court indoor community sports centre at Cobham Park.

Some facilities – such as Newtown Park, the National Hockey Stadium, Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre, Rugby League Park, the new 12 court indoor community sports centre when in opens in August, and Hataitai and Karori Parks – attract visitors and raise the city's profile by hosting national and international events.

Our two marinas also help contribute to the distinct character of the waterfront.

We're looking at how we can best meet demand for deep water pool space.

Last year we identified the need to respond to increasing demand on our aquatic facilities and brought a number of scheduled and budgeted upgrades forward to meet this demand.

We also decided to partner with schools to upgrade their aquatic facilities to improve access to learn to swim opportunities and aquatic sport. Initially we had budgeted \$2 million in grant funding over two years for this work, but after discussions with potential schools and reviewing the programme we are proposing to rephase the grants programme over four years (\$500,000 per year for four years).

In 2011/12 our focus will also be on a major renewal of the Tawa pool. It will have its five yearly maintenance closure which will include the renewal of the roof which is indicated to be a six month project. We will also begin development of a learn-to-swim pool at Keith Spry pool in Johnsonville.

In the coming year another key area of focus will be to identify how demand for additional deep water pool space can be managed or met in the future. Initial community feedback was sought in 2010 on what community facilities the city should have going forward – and this follow up work is to get a better understanding of how we can specifically meet demand for aquatic space in the city.

We're proposing to spend \$650,000 in 2011/12 on feasibility work for the construction of a deep water pool at the Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre. Early cost estimates for the additional deep water pool complex is \$13 million and a further \$5.9 million is estimated for a car parking facility to likely to be needed for resource consent requirements. The annual operating costs for the new deep water pool are estimated at \$1.5 million per year.

The feasibility work on a new deep water pool at Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre was agreed in favour of the installation of the retractable roof at Thorndon Pool which we are proposing to remove from our aquatics upgrade programme.

The feasibility work will encompass:

- location on site and linkage with existing facilities
- · potential resource consent issues with a particular focus on vehicle access and carparking
- a detailed assessment of the costs of construction.

We've also looked at ways we can reduce our costs from this activity. We initially looked at closing the Khandallah pool - it is the least used pool accounting for approximately 1% of aquatic visits per year across the seven pools and total visits have been declining in the last three years. Closing the facility has the potential to deliver \$146,000 in savings. We have decided not to recommend this option at this time.

We have programmes in place to renew and upgrade our recreation facilities so they meet the needs of our communities.

Playgrounds

The 2011/12 work programme includes renewing or upgrading the Taiaroa street play area in Strathmore park, the Izard Park play area in Wilton, Raroa park play area in Tawa, the play area in Orchy Cresent in Southgate, Lynfield lane play area in Newlands, and we will complete stage two of Rongotai skate park.

We are also installing a new community play area in Churton Park on the site of the new Amesbury drive school.

Marinas

There are no major projects planned for Evans Bay Marina. We will continue to renew the existing facilities within existing budgets.

At Clyde Quay Boat Harbour our work will focus on refurbishing shed 1 (decommissioned toilets). Its possible future use has not been determined at this time

but the renewed shed 1 would be suitable for possible leasing out kayaks or similar activity.

Sportsfields

In the coming year we will upgrade the senior cricket block and upgrade drainage at Anderson Park, renew the sandfield at David Farrington Park, upgrade drainage at Nairnville Park, install lights at Martin Luckie Park, and renew the netball and tennis courts at Hataitai Park.

With the move to more artificial turf sportsfields and cricket wickets in recent years there is a change in the way we undertake some sportsfields maintenance activities, including changes to the level of service at Berhampore Golf Course. In 2011/12 we are proposing to reduce funding in this area by \$108,000 to reflect the change in the way these services are now delivered.

Fees and charges

Our fees and charges are set at a level so that those individuals that directly benefit from a service pay an appropriate contribution towards the cost of providing that service. As costs increase to deliver a service, we need to increase our fees proportionately to cover the increased costs. If we did not do that, ratepayers would be providing a greater subsidy which we do not consider appropriate. We are proposing to increase fees in the following areas for 2011/12:

- Swimming pools we are proposing to increase general admission and swim memberships (2.5%), fitness centre memberships (7.5%) and learn to swim (2.5%). Careful consideration was given to the ongoing affordability of the Council's services and therefore we plan to keep the leisure card discount at 50%.
- Sports fields to ensure that each sporting code pays a fair price and contributes the same proportionate share towards the cost of providing our facilities, we are proposing to increase the rates for all sports (excluding golf) by 18%.
- Synthetic Turfs sports fields we have continued to increase the number of turfs provided throughout the city and proposed to increase some fees so those who are using our artificial turfs are paying a fair price – see the appendix for more information.
- Recreation Centres the Indoor Community Sports Centre is scheduled to open in Mid August and so we have recently set the proposed fees for the centre to recover 25% of the cost of operating the facility for 2011/12 with a transition planned for users to ultimately fund 30%.
- Marinas the proposed increase reflects the increased cost to this activity.

Further detail can be found in the fees and charges appendix at the end of this plan.

MEASURING OUR PERFORMANCE

Our targets for 2011/12 are:

- 90% of users are satisfied with WCC swimming pools, recreation centres and playgrounds, and 85% of users are satisfied with sportsfields.
- 1.4 million people use WCC swimming pools and 720,000 use recreation centres.
- Of games that are scheduled for WCC outdoor sports fields in winter, 80% are played. Of games scheduled for WCC outdoor sports fields in summer, 95% are played.
- Use of sports fields does not exceed recommended levels.
- Thirteen sportsfields receive an 'A' quality grade, 14 a 'B' grade, 11 a 'C' grade; seven fields are sand and seven fields are artificial.
- 96% of marina berths are occupied.
- 90% of residents agree that WCC recreation services and facilities provide good value for money.

5.3 Recreation Services	Operating expenditure 2011-2012			Capital expenditure 2011-2012
	Income (\$000)	Expenditure (\$000)	Net expenditure (\$000)	Total (\$000)
5.3.1 Swimming pools	(7,527)	19,294	11,767	6,272
5.3.2 Sports fields	(353)	3,542	3,189	566
5.3.3 Synthetic turf sportsfields	(338)	991	653	-
5.3.4 Recreation centres	(2,181)	9,135	6,954	250
5.3.5 Playgrounds	-	728	728	713
5.3.6 Marinas	(556)	511	(45)	164
2011/12 5.3 Total	(10,955)	34,201	23,246	7,965
2010/11 5.3 Total	(9,160)	29,177	20,017	31,918

5.4 Public health and safety

We work to protect Wellingtonians from threats to their health and safety.

Public health and safety are fundamental to our quality of life. Threats to health and safety can arise from a number of sources including natural hazards, crime, disease, animals, or other sources.

Protecting health and safety – important in its own right – also contributes to our goals of making the city more liveable, more inclusive, more actively engaged, and better connected. To protect public health and safety, we:

- Regulate public health activities in accordance with legislation, bylaws and Council policies. This work includes licensing of food premises, licensing of liquor outlets, registration of dogs, licensing of businesses that discharge trade waste, and inspection of these activities to ensure compliance with standards.
- Operate the Wellington Emergency Management Office (WEMO), which works to make sure that the city is well-prepared for earthquakes, floods, tsunami and other emergencies.
- Provide burial and cremation services we operate two cemeteries, at Karori and Makara. There is also a crematorium at Karori Cemetery. We maintain the cemetery sites to a high standard, reflecting their importance to the community. We also keep Wellington cemetery records dating back to 1849, which are available for public viewing.
- Provide more than 60 public toilets throughout the city, as well as nearly 50 sportsfield pavilions that also have public toilets.

We also work to ensure Wellington continues to be a safe city by discouraging crime and tackling the causes of crime and disorder. Key projects include:

- the operation of closed circuit TV cameras in the central city
- monitoring by city safety officers
- banning liquor consumption in public places in the central city, and
- ensuring public areas are well lit and have high levels of visibility.

Public conveniences

We plan to invest in new public toilets in a combined venture with the proposed new Lyall Bay Surf Club building. We will be undertaking an upgrade of the public toilets in the Newlands Town Centre.

Dog control

In 2011/12, we're proposing to make changes to the way we undertake dog control work. Currently we undertake city-wide monitoring and after reviewing our approach, we are recommending a targeted approach that focuses primarily on problem areas.

The targeted approach will be more efficient and will deliver \$36,000 in savings per year.

Cemeteries

The Karori Cemetery provides sensitive and respectful bereavement services catering for a wide range of communities and beliefs. With many private crematoriums now operating, there is less demand on Karori Cemetery crematorium. A saving of \$31,000 in 2011/12 is recommended in this area which reflects the reduced demand for crematorium services and a modest reduction in the maintenance programmes for cemeteries.

Emergency management

In recent months the Wellington Emergency Management Office has been heavily involved in earthquake recovery projects in Christchurch. We will be taking the lessons learnt and incorporating them into our work in the coming year. The experience in Christchurch has emphasised the important role volunteers have to play. In the coming year we will be looking to increase our volunteer capacity across the community and continue with the vital training these volunteers need.

A quick and efficient response to a disaster is vital and we will also be reviewing our response plan in light of the events in Christchurch. How the community responds to a disaster is crucial and we will be proactively working with schools, businesses and the community at large on public education and preparedness projects such as the recent Tsunami Preparedness project in Island Bay. We will also be looking at an 'all hazards' approach to disasters so that local communities know how best to look after themselves if the need arises.

MEASURING OUR PERFORMANCE

Our targets for 2011/12 are:

- 95% of WCC public toilets will meet the required service level standard for cleanliness (monitored through regular internal service level audits).
- At least 82% (2% increase from 2009/10) of residents are either satisfied or neutral (neither satisfied nor dissatisfied) with the cleanliness of WCC public toilets.
- All scheduled liquor and food licensed premises inspections will be completed.
- 95% of food premises with an inspection rating of "excellent" or "very good" will
 maintain or improve their inspection rating (this excludes new premises and those
 that have changed occupier during the year).
- Wellington will retain World Health Organisation 'Safe Community' status.
- 170 emergency management programmes will be conducted with businesses, schools and community groups.
- All of our emergency management partners will be satisfied with Wellington's emergency preparedness and planning.
- Wellington's cemeteries and crematorium will retain ISO9001/2000 accreditation.

- There is continued reduction in the number of complaints for WCC public toilets, dog control, and food premises (2008 baseline levels: toilets 671 complaints; dogs 2103; food 50).
- All urgent dog control service requests will be responded to within an hour, and 95% of non-urgent requests will be responded to within 24 hours.
- All urgent hazardous substance service requests will be responded to within one hour.
- All urgent public toilet service requests will be responded to within four hours, and non-urgent requests within three days.
- All urgent food premises' service requests will be responded to within one hour, and 90% of non-urgent requests will be responded to within 48 hours.

5.4 Public Health and Safety	Operating expenditure 2011-2012			Capital expenditure 2011-2012
	Income (\$000)	Expenditure (\$000)	Net expenditure (\$000)	Total (\$000)
5.4.1 Burials and cremations	(808)	1,665	857	212
5.4.2 Public toilets	-	2,255	2,255	717
5.4.3 Public health regulations (food/dogs)	(2,357)	4,323	1,966	-
5.4.4 City safety	-	1,916	1,916	28
5.4.5 Wellington emergency management office	(53)	2,123	2,070	3
2011/12 5.4 Total	(3,218)	12,282	9,064	960
2010/11 5.4 Total	(3,230)	11,711	8,481	1,967

5.5 Housing

We are the city's biggest provider of housing to those in need with more than 2,200 housing units available.

All applicants for housing assistance are assessed in line with our Housing Policy. To be eligible, applicants must have modest incomes and assets, their current housing must be inadequate for their needs, and they must be in one of the following priority groups: the fit elderly, refugees, people with a physical or psychiatric disability, people with multiple disadvantages, and migrants.

Ensuring access to housing builds social cohesion, helps people to access the opportunities the city has to offer, and contributes to Wellington's reputation as a close, caring community.

Since 2008, we have embarked on a 20-year programme, with funding assistance from the Crown, to upgrade our entire portfolio of rental housing to make it healthier, safer and better suited for modern living by:

- improving kitchens, bathrooms and ventilation
- repairing or renewing joinery
- making landscape improvements
- insulating walls, floors and ceilings
- improving fire protection, safety and security
- making it easier for people to find their way around housing complexes
- carrying out earthquake strengthening where needed.

Alongside the physical upgrade, a programme of community action has also been initiated with the aim of increasing social cohesion, and community spirit and pride.

In 2011/12 work will be carried out on the following housing facilities: Newtown Park, Hanson Court, Regent Park, and Central Park.

MEASURING OUR PERFORMANCE

Our targets for 2011/12 are:

- 85% of WCC housing tenants are satisfied with services and facilities.
- 85% of tenants rate the overall condition of their house/apartment as good or very good.
- 90% of tenants rate the services and facilities as good value for money.
- City Housing services and facilities comply with all legislative requirements (e.g. RTA, building WOF).
- 75% of tenants feel safe in their complex at night.

- 90% of housing facilities are occupied.
- Monitor the average waiting time for applicants by target group.
- Monitor the proportion of applicants housed by target group.
- Achieve agreed milestones, design standards and budget in accordance with the agreed works programme and Deed of Grant between the Crown and the Council.

5.5 Housing	Operating expenditure 2011-2012			Capital expenditure 2011-2012
	Income (\$000)	Expenditure (\$000)	Net surplus (\$000)	Total (\$000)
5.5.1 Community housing	(61,175)	17,698	(43,477)	45,674
2011/12 5.5 Total	(61,175)	17,698	(43,477)	45,674
2010/11 5.5 Total	(55,200)	17,053	(38,147)	38,852

5.6 Community participation and support

We want Wellington's communities to be strong and inclusive where people feel welcomed.

Community strength is about celebrating diversity, providing opportunities for people to get involved in activities that interest them, ensuring that all people and groups can have a say about the city's direction and have opportunities to live their lives as they wish, and looking after those in need. Achieving these goals requires strong social services and active support for community groups.

We promote social well-being by providing a wide range of opportunities, facilities and initiatives.

This includes:

- providing and facilitating access to community spaces and resources
- ensuring residents have the opportunity to participate in community and civic life
- enabling communities to access support through a variety of mechanisms
- advocating and developing partnerships to ensure local services meet local needs
- building community resilience and capacity including an emphasis on volunteers and neighbourhood support
- providing information and advice to a wide range of people and community groups
- providing social and recreational grants that support our strategic objectives.

We provide and/or support a network of community centres and town halls throughout the city in addition to supporting community-owned centres. We also support projects that encourage community resilience and local sustainability.

We work with agencies and organisations to ensure welfare support is in place in case of a civil emergency.

In 2011/12 we will finalise an Accessibility Action Plan, and we will continue to deliver on the Older Persons Policy and the Homlessness Strategy.

We will also work to deliver Community facilities for Churton Park. In consultation with the Churton Park community the following three community facilities were identified: multipurpose indoor (sports) space, meeting rooms and playground upgrades. We have budgeted \$500,000 of capital expenditure in 2011/12 for Churton Park community space improvements to align this investment with the Churton Park centre and school developments.

We have also taken a closer look at some of our assets to see if they are still meeting the needs of our communities. We have reviewed Vogelmorn and Wadestown Halls, St Johns in Karori and the Te Aro garages and considered their future use. We're proposing to defer maintenance for the coming year for Volgelmorn Hall and St Johns in Karori and consider divestment opportunities. We have decided to retain Wadestown Hall and the Te Aro garages within Council ownership. The process of divesting assets takes time and we are seeking feedback on whether we should start this process in 2011/12. The level of savings in 2011/12 is \$48,000, and ongoing savings are estimated at \$159,000.

MEASURING OUR PERFORMANCE

Our targets for 2011/12 are:

- 70% of community groups are satisfied with Council relationships.
- 500,000 people use Council funded or owned community centres, and at least 70% are occupied.
- 50,000 people use community halls and at least 25% are occupied.

We also monitor the number of social and recreational grant applications we receive, the number of successful applicants, and the total budget allocation. Social and recreational grants are distributed in accordance with eligibility criteria.

We will monitor performance in the following areas but have not set performance targets:

- the number of community forums, community group meetings, advisory groups, and youth events; and estimated attendance.
- work with homeless people we will report (in our annual report) on the work we have done in partnership with others.

5.6 Community Participation and Support	Operating expenditure 2011-2012			Capital expenditure 2011-2012
	Income (\$000)	Expenditure (\$000)	Net expenditure (\$000)	Total (\$000)
5.6.1 Implementation of the homelessness strategy	-	130	130	-
5.6.2 Community advocacy	(100)	1,642	1,542	-
5.6.3 Social and recreational grants	-	4,645	4,645	-
5.6.4 Community centres and halls	(163)	2,929	2,766	336
2011/12.5.6 Total	(263)	9,346	9,083	336
2010/11 5.6 Total	(245)	8,443	8,198	41