## **Mahere ā-Tau 2025/26** Annual Plan 2025/26





Absolutely Positively **Wellington** City Council

Me Heke Ki Pōneke



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## **Kia ora**Welcome

## About this document

This Annual Plan identifies our activities, the resources to deliver them and where the resources will come from, for example rates or user charges.

The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002) requires the Council to produce a Long-term Plan (LTP). This sets out the budget for the next 10 years and is reviewed every three years. Our current 2024-34 LTP was adopted in June 2024.

In 2024/25, an LTP amendment was triggered as a result of the October 2024 Notice of Motion to begin the process of removing the sale of our Wellington International Airport Limited (WIAL) shares from the plan.

To continue to address our financial risks, several capital programmes were reviewed and changed over the remaining nine years of the LTP to create additional debt headroom to be used in response to a natural disaster.

In between producing LTPs, the Council produces an Annual Plan that focuses on any changes to the LTP programme for that year because of changed circumstances.

These changes could be budget revisions, new priorities that arise, the rescheduling of projects underway or new work to address issues facing the wellbeing of the city.

#### **Public consultation**

We consulted with our community on the LTP amendment and Annual Plan in March-April 2025. The outcome of this engagement is summarised on page 6.

More details on the 2024–34 LTP and Amendment are available at: wcc.nz/ltp2024.

#### We acknowledge Te Tiriti o Waitangi

We recognise that Te Tiriti o Waitangi forms the underlying foundation of the Council and mana whenua relationship. The Council continues to act in accordance with Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

#### Tākai Here

The Tākai Here partnership has strengthened the partnership and collaboration with mana whenua in Te Whanganui-a-Tara. This agreement also allows for a stronger governance relationship and sets out the principles, values, and priorities for the way we will work together.

Through the Tākai Here partnership, we work in with:

- Taranaki Whānui Ki Te Upoko o Te Ika (Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust)
- Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira
- Te Rūnanganui o Te Āti Awa Ki Te Upoko o Te Ika a Māui

## He mihi nā te Koromatua me te Tumu Whakarae

Tēnā tātou katoa.

He taonga a Pōneke, he whenua ātaahua, he whenua whai ahurea, he whenua tōrangapū, he whenua me mātua tiaki mō ngā reanga whakaheke.

Koinā te take o ā mātou kōkiritanga whakamua ki te whakapakari i ngā tūāhanga, i ngā whare, i ngā whakahaere tūraru, me te whai kia pai ā mātou ratonga mō te hapori.

Inā ā mātou kaupapa whakatipu e haere ake ana ki te whakarauora i te pokapū o tō tātou tāone, ā, he haumi nui tērā mō te hapori. He \$439.1 miriona kia whakamohoa ngā kāinga pāpori, he mahi whakarauora i a Courtenay Place nō te whakamohoa o Maero Koura, me te \$0.6m pikinga o ngā pūtea tautoko ā-tau mō te toitūtanga tahua o ngā whakaari me ngā rōpū toi, koinā ngā whāinga matua nō mātou i titiro whakamua ana.

Katoa ēnei he mea me āki tonu e tātou i roto i ngā aupēhi pūtea o te wā, ngā pikinga utu, ngā hekenga pūtea tautoko a te kāwanatanga ki ngā tūnuku. He mahere ngahuru tau tā mātou e taea ai e mātou te papare i ngā tūohotata,

i ngā wā rānei o te pōkai kaha. Ko tā te whakahoutanga ki te mahere he aro ki te iti rawa o te inihua me te kanorau kore o ngā haumi, waihoki te hekenga o ngā pūtea tautoko tūnuku.

He tapuwae tahi te mahere ā-tau ki tō mātou mahere ngahuru tau ōnāia. Inā ngā tino ratonga a Te Kaunihera o Pōneke. He mea nui te haere tonutanga o te haumi e noho tonu mai ai hei painga mō te katoa. Ko tā tēnei mahere ā-tau he kimi i te kauhanga i waenga i te pēhitanga ohaoha me te whakahaere i tō tātou tāone.

Ko tētehi wāhanga o te whakahaere tāone, ko te kohi rēti e taea ai e mātou ngā ratonga maha mō ō tātou hapori te whakatū. E ai ki te mahere pūtea ā-tau 2025/26. ko te toharite o te pikinga o ngā rēti ko te 12 paihēneti, waihoki he 1.4 paihēneti mō ngā utu kene. He iti ake tēnā i tā mātou i matapae ai i te mahere ngahuru tau 2024. Katoa mai, e whai ana Te Kaunihera kia kohia he \$629m (GST exclusive) i ngā rēti i te tau 2025/26. Mō te wāwāhitanga o ngā rēti, te wāwāhitanga rānei o "te keke" ka utua e koe, kei te āhua o ngā pae wāriu ō mua i whakahaerehia ki roto ngā whare huri noa i te tāone i te mutunga o tērā tau.

E kite ana mātou he pānga nui tō te pikinga rēti ki ngā whānau, ki ngā pakihi, ki a Ngāi Pōneke. Ka wānanga tonu mātou i ngā āhuatanga e māuru ake ai tēnei pānga, pēnei i te wāwahi i te utu, me te arotake anō i ā mātou ratonga, me tā mātou tiaki i ō tātou rawa.

Kei reira ngā pikinga ki ētehi o ngā utu, ko ngā rēti whare Kaunihera ēnā, ko ngā utu mino, me te hekenga wāriu. E māmā ake ai te pānga ki ngā kaiutu rēti, i whakatauria e mātou ka kore e ngā whare hekenga wāriu e whai i te katoa o te pūtea tautoko, waihoki ko te pūtea tautoko nama me te utu mō te whakahoutanga whakawhiti wai.

E aro pū ana mātou ki ngā mea i rawe ai a Pōneke, ā, e haere tahi ana ko ngā whakaaro rangatira hei oranga mō te anama. Nō tātou katoa te hiahia kia pakari tō tātou tāone, kia aumangea, kia rite anō mō te haere ake nei.

Tēnā koe e hoe nei i te waka o te ora, ki te anamata taurikura o Pōneke.



Tory Whānau Te Koromatua o Pōneke



Matt Prosser Te Tumu-Whakarae

## Welcome from Mayor and Chief Executive

Tēnā tātou katoa.

Wellington is a treasure. Geographically stunning, culturally rich, and politically significant, it is a city worth protecting for generations to come.

This is why we are taking steps to strengthen our infrastructure and buildings, improve risk management, and provide reliable services for our community.

We have several transformative projects underway to revitalise our city centre and are investing significantly in our communities. This includes \$439.1m to upgrade social housing, work to revitalise Courtenay Place as part of the Golden Mile upgrade, and a \$0.6m increase in annual funding for local arts groups and events financial sustainability is a key goal as we look to the future.

All of this must be achieved amid growing financial pressure, rising costs, and reduced transport funding from central government.

We are delivering a Long-term Plan (LTP) that boosts our ability to respond to a major emergency or extreme time of need. The amendment to the LTP aims to address the challenge of underinsurance, undiversified investments, and the reduction in transport funding.

The Annual Plan is one important step in our current LTP. Wellington City Council provides so many essential services. Continued investment is critical to make sure they are maintained for the benefit of all. This year's Annual Plan is about striking the right balance between tight economic constraints and delivering for our city.

Part of keeping the city operating is collecting the rates that enable us to provide hundreds of services for our communities. The 2025/26 Budget includes an average rates increase of 12 percent, including 1.4 percent for the sludge levy. This is slightly below the forecast for the year in the 2024-34 LTP. In total, the Council proposes to collect \$629m (GST exclusive) of rates during 2025/26. The distribution of rates, or the portion of "the pie" you pay, will depend on the recent rating valuations that were undertaken on properties across the city at the end of last year.

We recognise that any increase in rates has impacts to households, businesses, and Wellingtonians. We continue to explore ways to reduce this impact, like spreading some costs over time, and by reviewing how we provide services and manage our assets.

There have been increases in some of our costs, including rates on Councilowned utilities, borrowing costs, and depreciation. In order to minimise impact on ratepayers, we made the decision to not fully fund some depreciation and utilities increases and to debt-fund the proposed water reform transition costs.

We're focused on protecting what makes Wellington special, while making smart, future-focused decisions. Everyone wants our city to be strong, resilient, and ready for what's next.

Thank you for being part of the journey to lead Wellington towards a thriving future.

#### Wāhanga 1 | Section 1

## Kupu Whakataki Introduction



#### Kei tēnei wāhanga

He tirohanga whānui tēnei wāhanga ki ā mātou whai wāhitanga i roto i te mahereā-tau 2025/26. He whakaraupapatanga o ngā panonitanga matua ki te hōtaka mō te tau, mai anō i tōna tukunga tuatahi i roto i te mahere ngahuru tau 2024 ki te 34, me ngā whakahoutanga whai muri mai. He pānui anō hoki e pā ana ki tā mātou mahitahi ki ngā iwi mana whenua, ki tō mātou matawhānui me ō mātou whakaarotau, ka mutu he whakarāpopototanga o ā mātou mahere pūtea pūrawa, paheko anō hoki.

#### In this section

This section provides an overview of our engagement on the 2025/26 Annual Plan. It outlines key changes to the programme for the year since it was first presented in the 2024-34 LTP and subsequent amendment. It also includes an update on our mana whenua partnerships, our LTP vision and priorities, and summaries of our capital and operational budgets.



# Ngā whakahoki kōrero ā te hapori mō runga i te mahere ā-tau 2025 ki te 26 Community feedback on 2025/26 Annual Plan

Community engagement activities were carried out from 20 March to 21 April 2025 on the 2025/26 Annual Plan, as part of a joint consultation with the 2024-34 LTP Amendment and Local Water Done Well reform options.

Public submissions were received through multiple formats – online, email, hardcopy, verbal, video and audio etc. The aim was to enable feedback in as many forms as possible by reducing barriers to participation.



### **Tā ngā tāngata i kī ai** What people said

The Annual Plan consultation questions focused on three key areas, outlined here, as well as asking about the overall level of support for the plan. The consultation programme also included a Representative Survey to gather feedback from a group of residents broadly illustrative of Wellington (based on age, gender and ward). The survey used the same questions as the Annual Plan submission form.

#### **Overall plan**

The level of support for the overall Annual Plan was mixed. The number of submitters who strongly or somewhat support the plan and those who strongly or somewhat oppose the plan were equal – both 38 percent. In the survey there was a stronger level of support, 40 percent vs 30 percent opposed.

The main comments provided by submitters included concerns about the level of rates and spending, dissatisfaction with the Council or the plan and calls for further investment in some areas such as core services.

#### Mātai Moana Reserve

Mātai Moana, located near the entrance of Te Whanganui-a-Tara (Wellington Harbour) is a crown-owned 74-hectare block of land at the northern end of Te Motu Kairangi (Miramar Peninsula, also known as Watts Peninsula). It is a historically, culturally and ecologically significant part of the city.

Subject to Ministerial decisions, the vision is to establish Mātai Moana as a reserve under the Reserves Act 1977 for the people of Wellington and New Zealand. The decision being consulted on through the Annual Plan was whether Taranaki Whānui would manage the reserve jointly with the Council or, if iwi would continue discussions about the land with the Crown and no Council involvement.

The Council's preferred option was joint management with Taranaki Whānui on Mātai Moana Reserve. The preferred option received a high level of support (60 percent) from both the consultation and the panel survey (64 percent). This option was subsequently adopted by the Council. Further information about the joint management arrangements will be agreed during the 2025/26 year.

In the submissions we received several comments asking the Council to include community groups that already have an interest in the area in the discussions on the reserve management. This feedback will be addressed during the discussions on the joint management arrangements. Further consultation will occur as required under the Reserves Act 1977.

## Short-term accommodation provider rating

The city's short-stay accommodation sector provides an effective alternative to motels and hotels and adds capacity when major events are held in Wellington. This accommodation is most often provided through peer-to-peer platforms such as Airbnb or Bookabach.

Currently, most short-term accommodation providers pay residential rates, even though the current Council policy is that some should pay commercial rates.

We have a self-reporting process in place for providers, which is not effective and hard to implement.

The Council's proposal was to change the policy to limit commercial rating to rating units (eg entire house or apartments) that are rented or available to be rented for more than 60 days. This would change the policy to exclude applying commercial rates to rating units where only part of the unit is available (ie sleepouts, single rooms or granny flats).

Overall, there was majority support for making changes to the rating policy for short-term accommodation providers from both submitters (66 percent strongly support or somewhat support) and through the representative survey (71 percent strongly support or somewhat support).

However, analysis of submissions indicated there was some uncertainty on what was being proposed:

- some submissions indicated that the public was likely unaware the current policy included charging commercial rates, but was difficult to enforce; and
- the proposal to change the policy included addressing this issue.

The Council agreed in principle to amend the Rating Policy and introduce a new general rates differential (that was lower than the Commercial, Industrial and Business differential) for short-term accommodation providers from 2026/27. There is now more work to be done on the details of this approach, and the proposed policy will be consulted on in the 2026/27 Annual Plan engagement.

#### **Fee changes**

The consultation showed reasonable support for the proposed change in the parklet fee structure and also forthe other fee changes proposed. See the Changes to fees and user charges section on page 20 for more information. The full list of fees for the 2025/26 year are available on the Council website (2025/26 Annual Plan Section 5 – Appendices).



## Te Pānga o te whai wāhitanga Impact of the engagement

#### **Funding requests**

During consultation eight funding requests were made as part of submissions from the community and organisations.

The most common funding requests were for:

- An increase in the level of grants that are currently provided
  - ☐ Capital Kiwi increase in funding
  - ☐ Wellington Free Ambulance increase in funding
- Maintaining or bringing forward funding for an existing project/s
  - $\hfill\Box$  Papawai Stream flooding issues
  - ☐ Adelaide Road planting
  - ☐ Grenada North Sport Hub building upgrades
  - ☐ Carrara Park public toilet installation
  - ☐ Owen Park public toilet installation
  - Middleton Road pedestrian and cyclist safety improvements

The Council granted an additional \$0.15m to Capital Kiwi each year for five years, bringing the annual contribution from Council to \$0.25m.

The budget for the Cararra Park toilets was incorrectly budgeted in year 4 of the LTP. This funding has been moved into the 2025/26 Annual Plan and work to install the toilets at the park will commence this year.

The other funding requests were not progressed due to the Council's financial situation or were referred to other areas of Council, such as the Grants subcommittee.

#### **Other changes**

In response to submitter feedback the Council will also:

- investigate the feasibility of opening central city libraries late into the evening, in order to provide a familyfriendly alternative to city nightlife;
- continue to engage with the Chinese Garden Society to explore opportunities for the garden at Frank Kitts Park,
- work with Wellington Water and any new water entity to establish what water infrastructure is required to enable the further housing development at Tapu te Ranga Marae; and
- review the current safety and wellbeing situation in Newtown, including maintenance and lighting, as part of the next City Safety Plan briefing and recommend what further actions could be taken to improve these issues.





# Whakahaere taiao:Panonitanga matua me ngā awenga Operating environment: Key changes and influences

We will continue to deliver on the programme of work set out in the 2024–34 LTP and subsequent amendment, but there are areas where some changes have been made.

Also influencing this Annual Plan are pressures from inflation, climate change and changes to some of the 2024-34 LTP strategies.

### Ngā panonitanga i te mahere ngahuru tau 2024 ki te 34 Changes from 2024-34 LTP

## Airport share sale decision reversed

The 2024-34 LTP included plans to sell the Council's 34 percent stake in Wellington International Airport Ltd (WIAL). This was to address the two financial risks relating to underinsurance of the Council's assets and an undiversified investment portfolio.

On 10 October 2024, Councillors voted on a Notice of Motion to begin the process of removing the sale of the airport shares from the plan. This triggered an amendment to the 2024–34 LTP meaning that alternative solutions were needed to meet financial risks stated above.

The LTP amendment was adopted on 26 June 2025 and includes:

- A reduced capital investment programme to increase our debt headroom (the gap between maximum borrowing limits and self-imposed borrowing limits). This gives us the ability to borrow more to respond to a significant event; and
- The creation of a small, diversified investment fund for disaster relief

#### **Impact on Annual Plan**

The amended capital programme reduced the 2024–34 LTP 10-year capital spend by \$385m. The impacts of these changes on the 2025/26 Annual Plan (which is Year 2 of the 2024–34 LTP) are detailed on page 27.

#### Ngā awenga o roto i te mahere Influences on the plan

Key influences shaping this Annual Plan are:

- the LTP amendment particularly the reduction in the capital programme;
- continuing the significant LTP upgrade and strengthening projects already underway; and
- the impact of financial pressures and investment priorities on rates affordability.

The Annual Plan budget includes a rates increase of 12.0 percent after growth in the ratepayer base, (which is slightly below the 12.8 percent increase forecast in the 2024–34 LTP). This includes 1.4 percent for the sludge levy, introduced in 2024/25 to support the development of the new Sludge Minimisation Treatment Plant.

The plan also reflects rising costs in several areas, including rates on Councilowned utilities, increased borrowing expenses, and higher depreciation.



### Te mahitahi ki a mana whenua Partnership with mana whenua

Our primary focus is to uphold the Tākai Here partnership, through the partnership agreement and the Tūpiki Ora Māori Strategy. We value our partners' insights into the conditions affecting whānau, hapū, and iwi and aim to define our future direction collaboratively.

#### Tūpiki Ora Māori Strategy

Tūpiki Ora is Council's 10-year Māori strategy. It is co-designed with mana whenua and broader Māori communities, and sets the direction for how we will work together to achieve positive outcomes for all Māori in the city. The Tūpiki Ora Māori strategy is in its third year of its implementation, and Wellington City Council continues to make strides towards achieving its vision.

Through the four pae hekenga (priority waypoints), the Council continues to build on the foundations set in the previous years. In particular, deepening our commitment to enhancing Māori wellbeing across Pōneke

The four pae hekenga are:

- Te whakatairanga i te ao Māori
   Enhancing and promoting te ao Māori
- Tiakina te taiao Caring for our environment
- Te whakapakari pūmanawa - Building capability
- He whānau toiora Thriving and vibrant communities

While we are seeing early impacts, the continued focus on the integration of the strategy into the Council's broader priorities strengthens the necessary foundation that will lead to long lasting and meaningful change.

#### Tākai Here Partnership Agreement

The Tākai Here partnership, signed in 2022, established a shared commitment to partnership. Our primary focus remains on upholding the Tākai Here partnership. The Mayor and Tākai Here Chairs determine the 2025/26 shared priorities, acknowledging the need for adaptability to meet our communities' current needs. We value our partners' insights into the conditions affecting whānau, hapū, and iwi and aim to define our future direction collaboratively.

With the support of Mataaho Aronui, the Council will continue to collaborate with iwi to deliver on projects that are mutually beneficial and meet iwi and Māori outcomes.



## **Aronga rautaki** Strategic direction

Strategic direction is set by the Council through the Long-term Plan

Each new Council, in partnership with the community, reviews and sets the strategic direction for Wellington city. This includes the financial and infrastructure strategies, which are mandated in the LGA 2002.

The strategic direction supports the Council's decision-making on the overarching budget and levels of service. Together, the strategic direction, levels of service, and budget form the LTP for Wellington City Council. The plan drives the Council's work programme and the decisions that relate to it.

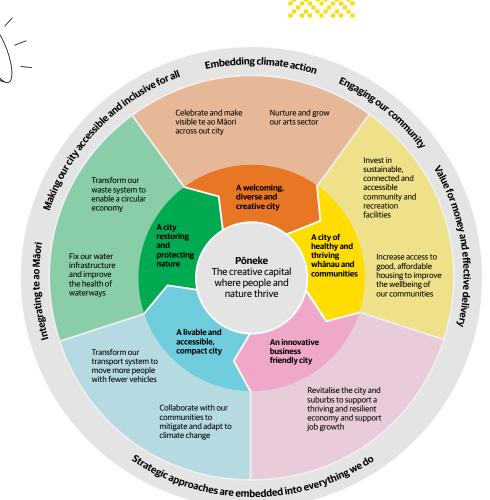
A new LTP must be developed every three years and cover a minimum period of 10 years. Following city wide public consultation and engagement, the 2022-2025 Council agreed the current strategic direction as part of the 2024-34 LTP, outlined in the graphic here.

#### **Our vision:**

Poneke, the creative capital where people and nature thrive.

#### **Our commitment:**

We're committed to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and strong partnerships with mana whenua. Tākai Here and Te Tiriti o Waitangi lay the foundation for everything the Council does.



## **Tā ō pūtea mahi** Your money at work

## **Puna pūtea tautoko** Funding sources

The Council's budget has operating and capital programmes – that together support our services and the delivery of development projects to improve the city.

The money for operating expenses comes mainly from rates, fees and charges from the users of a service, or revenue from investment income (for example, ground lease income and any Wellington International Airport dividend).

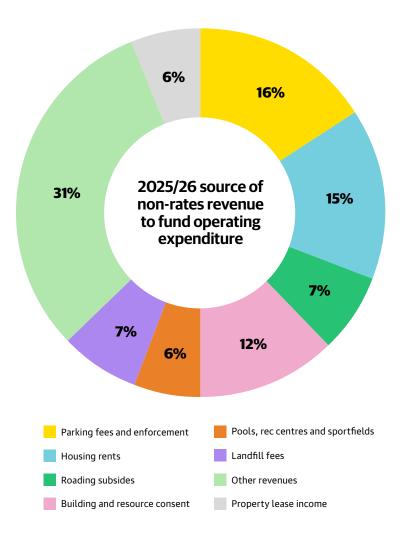
Rates are made up of general rates, which everyone pays, and targeted rates, which are paid by those who use a specific service. This year rates are expected to fund 61.8 percent of our operating budget.

Debt funds most of our capital projects and expenses – our development projects and renewing and upgrading our assets and infrastructure. We borrow for these expenses as they are often quite large.

It also means we can spread the cost of paying for the projects over time and over the multiple generations that will benefit from them. We do this through the repayment of the debt and ensure the community assets remain fit for purpose through funding depreciation.

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency also provides funding for parts the transport network, such as cycleways.

For some projects, such as a new housing development, the Council will provide roading or water pipes as a contribution to the development. We recover some of these costs by requiring the developer to reimburse the Council. These are called development contributions.



### **He aha tēnei mea te rēti?** What are rates?

## What are rates for, and why are they important?

In the same way, our national taxes contribute to the running of the country, Council rates are important to ensure Wellington continues to function.

We set our rates based on the needs of the community, demand for services and affordability in rates. Your money helps us deliver hundreds of day-to-day services and pay for the borrowings used to fund big capital projects across Wellington.



Some of the services and facilities that Wellingtonians receive through their rates include<sup>1</sup>:



416

litres of drinkable water supplied per resident per day<sup>2</sup>



827<sub>km</sub>

stormwater pipes





footpaths





**2**m

physical items borrowed from our 13 libraries





803,971

resources in City Archives



169,628

calls answered by our Contact Centre staff



**204** sqm

open space per Wellingtonian



play areas



18,828

streetlights operated

- 1 Wellington City Council, 2023/24 Annual Report
- 2 Not all of this water is used in a resident's home. Other users include industry, businesses, schools, hospitals, the fire service and Councils

#### **Ngā whika** The numbers



202,900

Wellington city residents



83,238

Total properties that pay rates



**52:48** 

Ratio of the general rate collected from base and commercial ratepayers

This year, the rates increase (after growth in the ratepayer base) is **10.6 percent**, plus **1.4 percent** for the sludge levy, resulting in a total of **12.0 percent**.

This is slightly below the 12.8 percent forecast for the year in the 2024-34 LTP. In total, the Council proposes to collect \$628m (GST exclusive) of rates during 2025/26.

There have been increases in some costs since the 2024–34 LTP such as the rates on Council-owned utilities, borrowing costs, and depreciation.

We recognise the burden that increasing costs places on rate payers and users of our services. Therefore, the Council has used alternative funding mechanisms to absorb these impacts and to ensure the rates increase is below the level signalled in the 2024–34 LTP. For example, debt-funding the proposed water reform transition costs.

#### **Sludge Levy**

In July 2024, the Council began collecting a new sludge levy to fund the cost of the new Moa Point Sludge Minimisation Facility, on behalf of Crown Infrastructure Partners.

This was approved under the Infrastructure Funding and Finance Act 2020 (IFFA). The Council consulted with the community on this option as part of developing the 2021–31 LTP. The sludge levy also received support from the New Zealand Government (Cabinet and the Minister of Housing) in August 2023.

The amount of the sludge levy is determined by the property classification (ie is classified as commercial or residential) and, where its wastewater is treated.

The following are examples of the indicative sludge levy for 2025/26 for a property with a Capital Value of \$1m:

- Commercial property with wastewater treated at Moa Point, Karori or the new Sludge Minimisation Facility: \$240.21
- Residential property with wastewater treated at Moa Point, Karori or the new Sludge Minimisation Facility: \$165.43
- Commercial property with wastewater not treated in one of the above plants or not connected: \$60.71
- Residential property with wastewater not treated in one of the above plants or not connected: \$43.66



## Helping people to pay rates

There are several ways to help people manage their rates payments, such as spreading your payments into regular affordable amounts across the year.

Along with the Government, we have a rates remission that provides a reduction in rates if set low-income criteria are met.

- People with a low income can apply for a Government rates rebate at: govt.nz/rates-rebate
- Those who are eligible for the Government rates rebate, the Council can provide an additional reduction of your rates.
- If you are concerned about paying your rates invoice, please get in touch with us as soon as possible at rates@wcc.govt.nz or call 04 499 4444.
- Rates can be paid in multiple ways

   online, by direct debit, internet/
   telephone banking and in person at any NZ Post Shop.

#### **Revaluations and rates**

Every three years, the Council updates its records of city property values to reflect current values, and 2024/25 was a revaluation year.

This means that the share of rates each ratepayer contributes is recalculated based on updated property values. Revaluations do not change how much rates we collect in dollar terms, but the share each rate payer contributes may change.

The total dollar value we collect is based on our plans and costs for the year as outlined in the Operating Budget on page 23.

The current revaluation resulted in an overall, city-wide, decrease in value for all properties. Some properties will have values that decrease more than the city average and some will have values that decrease less than the city average.

Therefore, while the rates increase is to be an average of 12.0 percent, ratepayers whose properties have decreased in value less than the city average will have higher percentage rates increase. Equally, ratepayers whose properties have decreased by more than the city average will see lower percentage rates increase.

The exact rates change for each ratepayer will vary depending on their individual circumstances.

Revaluations impact commercial properties differently than residential, and as a result can impact the share of rates that each sector funds. In particular, this year's revaluation saw commercial utilities (including our own, which makes up the majority in this group) increase substantially in value.



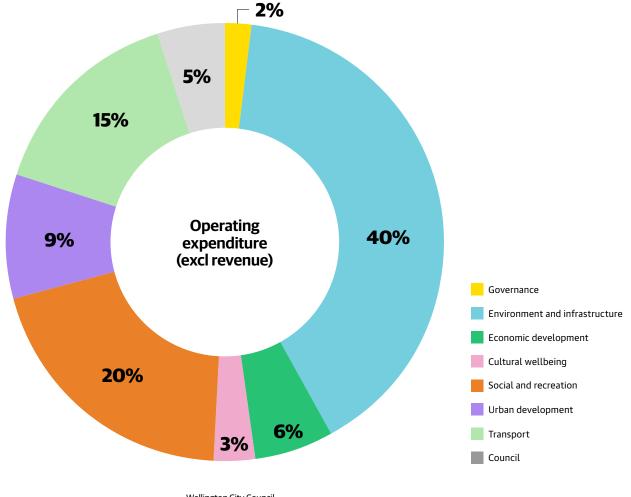
## **Ngā mahere pūtea mō te tau** Budgets for the year

# **Mahere pūtea paheko**Operating budget

The cost of delivering and running Council services in 2025/26 is budgeted to be \$1b or \$12.68 per resident per day.

This is an \$64.8m increase from what was set for Year 2 of the 2024–34 LTP, which primarily relates to increased utilities, increased funding for Wellington Water Limited, and depreciation costs.

The adopted split for our budget across our eight activity areas is to the right.



Wellington City Council

### **Ngā panonitanga ki ngā utu** Changes to fees and user charges

Our Revenue and Financing policy guides our decisions on how to fund council services.

The policy requires us to consider who benefits from a service, for example, individuals, parts of the community or the whole community. This helps determine how the service is to be funded.

The policy also sets the funding targets for each council activity, stating what proportion should be funded from user charges, general rates, targets rates and other sources of income.

#### Material change

The following activities have **materially changed** this year because of changes to existing Council policies or implementation of new policies.

## Public health regulation - Parklet fees

We have revised the existing parklet fee structure, which now follows the same two-tiered fee structure as other pavement provisions (flat fee plus square meter charge). For 2025/26 the flat fee is \$240.50 for new applications or \$120.50 for renewals of existing permissions. The lease fees per square metre charge is \$115.50 in the inner city and \$74.50 in the outer suburbs.

#### **Above inflation**

Changes to existing Council policies and raising costs for the delivery of Council services have meant increased fees above the rate of inflation for the following activities, in order to align with Council's funding policies:

- Public health regulation increase in alcohol licencing fees, following bylaw change.
- Development control and facilitation

   increased officer's hours included
   in consent fees. This is a partially
- Waste minimisation services increased Waste Minimisation Act levy.

#### **New fees**

We are also introducing **new fees** in the following areas to streamline some Council booking processes or to implement new services:

- Sports fields including new fees for premier Field & Changing Room and use of outdoor training lights.
- Waterfront new fees for Container placement and commercial filming.
- Recreation Centre new fee for Pickleball Paddle Hire.
- Marinas new fee for storage of abandoned boats.
- Building Control & facilitation new fee for assessment of alternative plans and specifications.
- Parks & Reserves new fee for Ecology officer.

The new Metered Motorcycle Parking fee will be introduced in 2025/26. The fee is \$1 per hour, from Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm, with a daily cap of \$6 per day. All designated motorcycle parking bays in the central city area will be metered.

#### **Inflation adjustments**

We also have standard inflation increases proposed for the following areas:

- Wellington Gardens
- Parks & Reserves
- Waterfront
- Swimming pools
- Recreation centres
- Sports fields
- Marinas
- Cemeteries
- Public health regulations
- Building control and facilitation
- Development control and facilitation
- Waste minimisation

More detail on the proposed fees can be found on our website: wcc.nz/annual-plan



### Mahere pūtea pūrawa Capital budget

Capital expenditure is used to renew or upgrade existing assets or to build new assets to provide a higher level of service or account for growth.

Our assets include buildings, roads and footpaths, water, stormwater and wastewater pipes, libraries, swimming pools, and sportsfields.

We have a significant capital expenditure programme in place, with \$784.7m planned for 2025/26 (this includes \$177.5m for the Sludge Minimisation Facility project funded by the IFFAA).

This year, our programme includes significant investment in our water, stormwater, wastewater and transport networks, and construction projects such as finishing the construction of the city's new Te Matapihi Central Library. The 2024–34 LTP amendment has resulted in changes to the timing of some projects, for example delays until the later years of the LTP or reductions in scope. Details of these changes are outlined in the following section.

While the LTP amendment resulted in a reduction in planned capital expenditure, the final 2025/26 capital budget has increased by \$142m compared to what was included in the 2024-34 LTP as first adopted.

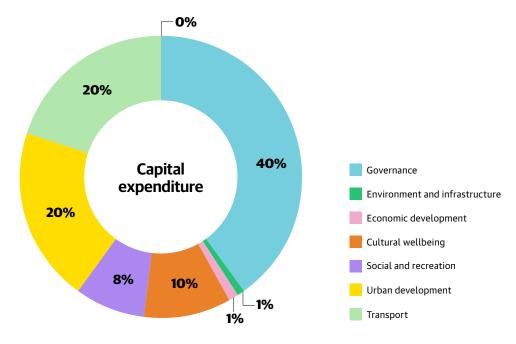
The change mainly relates to refined project costs, the inclusion of sludge minimisation project costs, inflation pressures, and timings on some significant projects which have been delayed from 2024/25.

## **Ö** mātou nama Our borrowing

We borrow to fund upgrades to our assets or to invest in new infrastructure. This allows us to spread the cost of funding this expenditure over the multiple generations that will benefit from the investment.

For 2025/26, total borrowings are forecast to increase by \$418m over the year. Borrowing is forecast to be \$2.1b at the end of the year. This is similar to the LTP year two forecast of \$2.1b while also reflecting the changes in the capital programme.





## Ā mātou mahi mō te tau



## Our work for the year

#### Kei tēnei wāhanga

Kei tēnei wāhanga ko ngā pito e whitu o te wāhi ki ngā rautaki, ko ngā panonitanga mai anō i te tukunga o tō mātou mahere ngahuru tau, ko ētehi atu kaupapa matua, ko ngā pūrongo whakaari me te utu. E aro ana te mahere ā-tau 2025/26 ki ngā panonitanga ki te tau tuatoru o tā mātou mahere ngahuru tau, me ētehi pānui mō ētehi atu kaupapa matua. Mō ngā kōrero katoa e pā ana ki ngā ratonga a Te Kaunihera, tirohia te mahere ngahuru tau 2024 ki te 34 i tā mātou whārangi ipurangi nei wcc.nz/ltp2024.

#### In this section

In this section we outline each of our seven strategic area, highlight what's changing since we released Our 10-Year Plan, other key projects, performance information and what it costs.

The Annual Plan 2025/26 focuses on changes to year three of Our 10-Year Plan, with some updates on other key projects.

For full details of our Council services, see 2024-34 Long-term Plan on our website: wcc.nz/ltp2024.



## Ngā kaupapa me ngā hōtaka haumi matua Key investment projects and programmes

### Pānga o te whakahoutanga ki te mahaere ngahuru tau Impact of LTP amendment

After considering public feedback on the LTP amendment the Council has made the following changes to LTP programmes and projects which are now reflected in the 2025/26 Annual Plan.

Programmes / Projects	Changes
Begonia House	Minimal remediation to keep the site operational, including structural, greenhouse, café, kitchen, HVAC, and storage upgrades, with single glazing replacement and existing planting retained. New project LTP total: \$11.m, an increase of \$2.9m to the original budget of \$8.1m.
Karori Event Centre	Return the Karori Event Centre to the Karori Community Hall Trust to complete remediation and fit-out, with up to \$1.9m in debt-funded support. Funding is conditional on a verified work plan, Council financial oversight, and no further operational funding. A WCC officer will join the governance board, and cost overruns over 10% may trigger a review. If no agreement is reached in three months, Council will move to sell the site.
Paneke Pōneke Bike network	Rephasing and reducing the Paneke Poneke Bike network to occur over 20 years and decreasing the budget to \$66.9m (from \$115.2m).
City streets projects	Rephasing and rescaling the City Streets project with new budget of \$34.5m (from \$165.1m).
Low cost, low risk transport projects	Rescale and rephase low cost, low risk transport projects with new budget of \$96.7m (from \$164.5m).
Frank Kitts Park	Rephase and rescope Frank Kitts Park redevelopment from \$54.5m to \$8.4m in Year 1 to 6 to support the Fale Malae proposal, plus \$15m in Years 10+. New LTP total: \$8.4m. Saving: \$46.1m.
Wellington Zoo	Retain the lions upgrade and rephase the Savannah upgrade, with a new budget of \$12.6m (from \$13.8m.)
Te Ngākau Civic Square precinct	Remove all budgets not currently allocated to set projects. New LTP total \$113.9m, savings of \$89.4m) years.
Venues upgrades	Remove all funding from budget as it is currently unallocated. New LTP total \$0, saving of \$13.2m.
Bond Store upgrades	Rephase \$19m to years 8 to 10, with \$1.5m across years 1 to 2 for targeted strengthening.  Savings is \$0 but funding moved to later in the LTP easing debt to revenue ratio.
Suburban Town Centres	Rephase \$11m into \$5.5m in both years 4 and 8, savings is \$0 but funding moved to later in the LTP easing debt to revenue ratio.
Te Awe Māpara	Reduce \$10m in years 8 and 9. New LTP total \$103.1m, savings of \$10m.

## Hōtaka mahi 2025/26 work programme and projects

While the LTP amendment has resulted in change to the 2024–34 LTP programmes and project, we continue to have a full work programme and projects planned or underway across the city. Many of those already underway, have had prior consultation as part of developing the 2024–34 LTP.

## Projects that start this year

#### **Local Election**

We are preparing for the Local Election, scheduled to take place in October 2025. Candidate nomination opens on 4 July.

#### Mātai Moana

Following the vesting of the reserve by the Crown, the Council will work with Taranaki Whānui on the joint management of the site. This will include transitioning maintenance from the Crown to Council, remediation works, and likely opening the reserve in phases, as it's safe to do so. Taranaki Whānui and the Council will then seek to develop a 100-year vision of the site and the reserve management plan, which will be publicly consulted.

## Projects that continue throughout the year

#### Sludge minimisation project

Construction continues on the new Sludge Minimisation Facility at Moa Point, creating a solution for minimising and managing sludge and reducing the amount of waste going to landfill in order to meet waste and carbon reduction targets. Expected to be producing grade A biosolid by November 2026.

#### **Carrara Park Toilets**

Begin investigating, scoping and engage with the community on toilets for Carrara Park and subject to design, consultation and consenting, processes, commence construction of the toilets.

#### **Khandallah Swimming Pool**

We will proceed with the option to remediate the swimming pool within a budget of \$7.5m, as identified in the technical review completed in 2024/25. While the project is in the development stage, the pool will continue to operate.

#### **Degasification of pools**

Planning works continue to degasify Council's swimming pool network over the next five years. The focus in 2025/26 is the implementation of degasification at Tawa Pool and investigation and design works for the multi stage requirements at the Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre.

## Grenada North Community Sports Hub

Improvements to Grenada North Park are planned to enhance the usability, accessibility, and utilisation of the sports fields and other facilities. Developed design and consenting will commence in 2025/26, with completion anticipated in 2027/28.

#### Kilbirnie Park Upgrade

Upgrade the open spaces at Kilbirnie Park to create a cohesive, vibrant, and accessible community and recreation park including a destination skate park and refreshed community play space. Construction begins in 2025/26 with expected completion in 2027.

## Housing Upgrade Programme Phase 2 (HUP2)

In May 2025, the Programme Business Case endorsed by Council, confirming the scope of the programme. Over the next 10 years, the programme is planned to deliver 825 upgraded units, remediation of 9 Earthquake Prone buildings, and return of the Granville site to the Tenths Trust. 2025/26 will see return of the Granville site to the landowner the Tenths Trust, fourteen projects initiated, and completion of upgrades to 36 standalone houses.

#### Te Kāinga programme

Two new buildings will launch in late 2025, which will provide an additional 183 affordable rentals to the city. Work continues to negotiate the next tranche of buildings in the pipeline, as we work towards the extended programme target of 1,500 units by 2033. Tenancy management operations will continue to be provided for our existing buildings.

#### **Golden Mile**

Work to revitalise Courtenay Place as part of the Golden Mile upgrade started in May 2025, with improvements to the Kent/Cambridge Terrace intersection. Redevelopment includes the construction of new pedestrian and bike crossings and improved footpaths.

#### **Re-imagining Toi Pōneke**

Implementation of the re-imagined Toi Pōneke Arts Centre operating model, including finalising design (early 2025/26), fit-out and relocation to the new premises, and targeting full operational delivery by mid-2026.

#### Waterfront Safety Enhancements Lighting and Edge Protection

Continue installing improved lighting to enhance safety along the waterfront, with a focus on non-wharf areas.

Consultation on edge protection for the waterfront is proposed to take place in early 2025/26.

#### **Huetepara Park**

Wellington International Airport Ltd (WIAL) has proposed incorporating the objectives of the Huetepara Park project into an upgraded development using a combination of Council land (to be acquired) and its own.

The proposed development includes publicly accessible toilets, showers, and storage, alongside a redeveloped multiuse park that retains the vision of the Huetepara Park Community Group.

#### Paneke Poneke -Bike network plan

We will complete the remaining Transitional projects-Berhampore to Newtown, Kilbirnie, Thorndon, Wadestown, and Botanic to Karori-and continue construction on Evans Bay Stage 2. Detailed planning for Brooklyn Hill will be finalised, with physical works commencing. Business case development will begin for Middleton Road and the Johnsonville to Ngaio route. We will also continue to monitor programme outcomes and identify any service gaps in completed sections of the network.

#### **Organic Waste**

Currently progressing work on a solution for organic waste processing to support the changes to kerbside collections outlined in the 2024–34 LTP. This includes introducing a kerbside food and garden waste collection service. A decision is expected on the preferred way forward in August 2025.

#### 44 Frederick Street Urban Park

Design and development of a new inner-city park at the corner of Frederick Street and Taranaki Street. Expected completed in September 2026.

#### Te Ngākau Civic Square

- **Precinct:** Continue overseeing and managing key projects in the Te Ngakau precinct, including Te Matapihi, City Gallery strengthening, basement strengthening and plaza redevelopment. This work will be completed, and the precinct reopened to the public by March 2026.
- Town Hall: The seismic strengthening of Heritage Category 1 listed building continues its progress toward practical completion in 2026. The work includes base isolation, redevelopment of services including acoustic elements, reinstatement of heritage elements and a new auditorium basement. A strengthened town hall will be part of the national music centre with partners NZSO and VUW. Main construction of the Town Hall will be completed by mid-2026.

Wellington City Council



Mahere ā-Tau | Annual Plan 2025/26

## Projects that finish this year

#### **Te Matapihi Central Library**

Seismic strengthening and refurbishment of the library will reach practical completion in August 2025 – with the expected opening in March 2026. Te Matapihi will feature the City Archives, Nōku te Ao Capital E – discovery and learning for young people to grow their creativity, the Council Customer Service Centre and large ground floor café. The space will include a new makerspace, recording studio, community and meeting rooms, as well as anextensive collection of books and heritage material.

#### **Three Waters transition**

We will continue preparing for the transition of Three Waters responsibilities to a proposed new multi-Council-owned water services entity. In collaboration with other councils in the region, we will submit a Water Services Delivery Plan to government in September 2025.

Transition to the new organisation will be overseen by a new Establishment Board and interim Chief Executive. The new organisation will begin delivering water services from 1 July 2026 with some functions and support continuing to be provided by councils in the interim, where necessary.

#### **Southern Landfill**

Continuing the construction of the Southern Landfill extension, which is due to be completed and in operation by June 2026. The project will provide a landfill solution that minimises environmental and social impacts and enables the transition to a circular economy.





## **Ngā pito rautaki e whitu** Our seven strategic areas



## Our work is grouped into seven strategic activity areas:

- Te mana urungi Governance
- Te Taiao me te Tūāhanga Environment & Infrastructure
- Whanaketanga ōhanga Economic development
- Oranga ahureaCultural wellbeing
- Pāpori me te hākinakina Social and recreation
- Tāone tupu ora Urban development
- Tūnuku Transport

These activity areas provide the foundation for the Council's governance, monitoring, reporting performance and showcasing achievements - for example in the Annual Report.

To help us meet our objectives for Wellington, we have also established several companies and trusts. These were set up to independently manage Council facilities, or to deliver significant services and undertake development on behalf of the Wellington community.

Where necessary, we provide funding to support their operations and capital investment requirements.

#### The organisations are:

- Wellington Museums Trust (Experience Wellington)
- Wellington Regional Economic Development Agency Ltd (WellingtonNZ)
- Wellington Zoo Trust
- Basin Reserve Trust
- Karori Sanctuary Trust (ZEALANDIA)
- Wellington Cable Car Limited
- Wellington Water Limited
- Wellington Regional Stadium Trust (Sky Stadium)

For more details on the organisations, their objectives, structure, and how their performance is measured, please refer to Our 10-Year Plan wcc.nz/ltp2024

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## **Te mana urungi**Governance

Our governance work includes all the activities that support Council decision-making and ensure we are accountable to the people of Wellington.

#### What we do

Our governance activities include managing local elections, informing residents about the city and the issues or challenges it faces, listening to residents' views and making decisions in the best interests of Wellingtonians. This area also drives our focus on being open and talking with people who live in Wellington about the plans and decisions we make for our city.

We also operate the City Archives, where the public can access historic information about Wellington, and property information. The Governance activity is responsible for the development of strategies, policies and plans.

There is one group of activities in this area:

■ 1.1 Governance, information and engagement.

What it costs

**\$26m**Operating expenditure

\$0.2m

Capital expenditure



There has been no change to KPIs in this strategic activity area from what was adopted in the 2024-34 LTP.



# **Te Taiao me te Tūāhanga**Environment and Infrastructure

This area covers an extensive range of Council services, and includes everything from open spaces, waste reduction and energy conservation to water, wastewater and stormwater.

Our conservation attractions Wellington Zoo and ZEALANDIA - Te Māra a Tāne, are also part of this portfolio.

#### What we do

Poneke has rich parks and open spaces that support active recreation, thriving ecosystems, and climate resilience. Wellington Zoo and Zealandia support indigenous plants and wildlife to thrive. The landfill generates approximately 80 percent of the Council's emissions. The construction of the Sludge Minimisation Facility will enable us to shift from a model that manages waste to a system that enables people to avoid waste going to the landfill in the first place.

This area also manages our drinking water supply, wastewater and stormwater networks. This area faces material challenges and does not meet all service levels. About 30 percent of the network is at or near the end of its life, and over 50 percent will need replacement within 30 years. Prioritising leak repairs over additional supply investment is crucial to increase water availability.

As part of the Government's Local Water Done Well reform, the Council has confirmed a Wellington regional multi council water Council-controlled Organisation as the future service delivery model for water. There will be several changes in this area in 2025/26 as we work towards transitioning services to the new entity from 1 July 2026.

There are six groups of activities in this area:

- 2.1 Parks, beaches and open spaces
- 2.2 Waste
- 2.3 Water network
- 2.4 Wastewater
- 2.5 Stormwater
- 2.6 Conservation organisations

What it costs

\$402m

Operating expenditure

\$319m

Capital expenditure

## **Key Performance Indicators**

KPIs relating to water quality have changed from what was adopted in the 2024-34 LTP. The new KPIs are detailed in Section 5: Appendices.



### Whanaketanga ōhanga Economic development

The mahi for Economic development supports a thriving economic, employment and events sector.

#### What we do

We seek to be New Zealand's preferred city for businesses, investors, and developers, and a hub for creativity and innovation, with a dynamic CBD and thriving suburban centres.

Our Economic wellbeing strategy aims to provide equal opportunities for meaningful, fairly paid, and inclusive work, supporting the transition to a zero-carbon circular economy.

Council services in City promotions will focus on inner-city revitalisation, aligning with Economic wellbeing and LTP priorities. Enhanced coordination of Council spending across transportation, public spaces, and open areas is also crucial for improved economic and social outcomes. Given cost constraints, we will prioritise existing spending to maximize impact.

Our venues need significant investment requiring a strategic approach for affordable management. Working with the Wellington Stadium, the Seismic Resilience Project will address the venue's health and safety concerns.

There is one activity group in this area:

■ 3.1 City promotions and business support.

What it costs

\$60m

Operating expenditure

\$5m

Capital expenditure



KPIs relating to equivalent advertising value and engagement on digital channels and platforms have changed from what was adopted in the 2024–34 LTP. The new KPIs are detailed in Section 5: Appendices.



## **Oranga ahurea**Cultural wellbeing

Arts and culture are an important foundation stone in Wellington's offering – it's a point of difference for the city and one that all Wellingtonians are proud of.

#### What we do

Our overall approach as part of the 2024-34 LTP is to continue making investments that secure foundational arts and culture facilities in the city. This will allow the sector to thrive over the long term. Many of our arts and culture facilities are earthquake prone and require substantial investment in the years ahead. This will be the primary focus in the next three years with most of the capital costs increases for this activity area going into the Town Hall.

We will also do master planning on other arts and culture facilities that are earthquake prone such as the Michael Fowler Centre (MFC), the Opera House and the Bond Store to enable decisions on the way forward to be made as part of the 2027–37 LTP.

To address affordability pressures, we will explore more efficient delivery of arts and culture services, operating more commercially where possible, and identifying savings. Our strategic focus is on making essential investments and targeted adjustments to support the sector's significance to the city while easing cost pressures.

There is one activity group in this area:

■ 4.1 Arts and cultural activities.

What it costs

\$30m

Operating expenditure

\$7m

Capital expenditure



KPIs relating to Toi Pōneke have changed from what was adopted in the 2024–34 LTP. The new KPIs are detailed in Section 5: Appendices.



# **Pāpori me te hākinakina**Social and recreation

The mahi for social and recreation is focused on the health and wellbeing of the community.

#### What we do

Wellington's open space and recreation networks are crucial for the city's environmental, social, economic, and cultural wellbeing. The Open Spaces and Recreation Strategy envisions a network of parks and recreation facilities integrated into daily life, designed for flexible use to meet diverse needs.

The Council's Te Awe Māpara | The Community Facilities Plan outlines a 30-year framework with 58 prioritized actions to ensure thriving, accessible community facilities. These spaces aim to foster connection, fun, and belonging.

To reduce carbon emissions, the Council will invest in transitioning swimming pools away from gas, which currently contributes 45 percent of the Council's building emissions.

Community facilities and services aim to create liveable, safe, and inclusive communities through support initiatives, housing access, and facilities like community centres and libraries. Most services will remain at current levels for the 2024–34 LTP. The opening of Te Matapihi will enhance central city facilities, celebrating te ao Māori. Social housing upgrades continue to be a key improvement.

Over the next ten years, the adoption of Te Awe Māpara will guide the evolution of community facilities to maximize benefits and make smarter decisions. This includes investigating facility needs and potential changes to future facility mixes.

We continue to focus on processing of alcohol licenses, food safety certificates, dog registrations, gambling consents and health licenses for businesses and activities that could impact human health. We will also continue to operate animal control service and litter enforcement.

There are three groups of activities in this area:

- 5.1 Recreation Facilities and Services
- 5.2 Community Facilities and Services
- 5.3 Public health and safety

What it costs
\$207m
Operating expenditure

\$76m

Capital expenditure



## **Key Performance Indicators**

KPIs relating to satisfaction with pools have changed from what was adopted in the 2024-34 LTP. The new KPIs are detailed in Section 5: Appendices.



## **Tāone tupu ora**Urban development

The mahi for urban development is focused on the way the city is developed and how it shapes the quality of life and experience for residents and visitors.

#### What we do

Urban Planning is key to designing the city's layout, optimising space for community needs, and accommodating growth. The 2024–34 LTP includes continued investments to shape the city for a growing population, maintaining core spatial and urban planning activities, and delivering the Te Kāinga affordable rental programme, with up to 1,000 properties for medium to lower-income earners. Significant investment is planned for public space development, notably the Golden Mile project.

To manage cost pressures, we will seek more efficient service delivery within a tight budget. This involves prioritising capital programmes to focus on existing urban development projects and postponing other public space upgrades.

We will aim to meet or exceed statutory timeframes requirement for processing consents, ensuring efficient services, and enhancing our systems to meet customer needs and minimise risks.

The proposed District Plan, Medium Density Residential Standards, and expected Resource Management system changes could impact how we approve and enforce regulations. While these changes might decrease the number of resource consents, they would likely make the approval process more complex.

The anticipated increase in earthquakeprone building notices will require the Council to be more involved, either by assisting building owners or stepping up enforcement efforts.

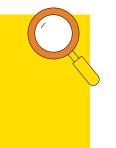
There are two groups of activities in this section:

- 6.1 Urban planning, heritage and public space development
- 6.2 Building and development

What it costs
\$89m
Operating expenditure

**\$63m** 

Capital expenditure



## **Key Performance Indicators**

KPIs relating to resource consents with multi-unit housing, building control service and resource consent services have changed from what was adopted in the 2024–34 LTP. The new KPIs are detailed in Section 5: Appendices.



### **Tūnuku** Transport

The mahi for transport is focused on the way the city is developed and how it shapes the quality of life and experience for residents and visitors.

#### What we do

Our overall approach to transport investment is to continue changing the transport network to support reducing emissions and making it easier to get around. This includes continued delivery of the city wide Paneke Pōneke bike network and increasing investment in improving the resilience of the network through retaining wall and structure strengthening.

Investment on the Golden Mile and City streets projects will improve connections for people on buses, bikes or walking in the Central City and on key routes between the central city and suburban centres. The parking policy provides a framework to guide future decision-making on the management of all Council-controlled parking spaces. This includes off-street parking and on-street parking, both free-of-charge (unrestricted) and those which incur a user-charge. Off-street parking includes

parking areas at any of the Council's parks, sports, recreation and other community activities; and any off-street parking buildings that the Council controls.

The policy sets out objectives, high level principles, a parking space hierarchy (that prioritises the types of parking in different areas), area-based parking management guidance (that prioritises how we manage supply and demand). It also provides a new approach to setting parking fees and developing area-based parking management plans.

There are two groups of activities in this section:

- 7.1 Transport
- 7.2 Parking

What it costs

156m
Operating expenditure

\$154m

Capital expenditure



## **Key Performance Indicators**

KPIs relating to critical transport structures have changed from what was adopted in the 2024-34 LTP. The new KPIs are detailed in Section 5: Appendices.





#### Wāhanga 3 | Section 3

## Pārongo Ahumoni



## Financial information

#### Kei tēnei wāhanga

He tirohanga whānui tēnei wāhanga ki tō mātou ahumoni mō te Mahere ā-tau 2025/26, ā tae noa ki tōna tauākī whakakapi, ki ngā tauākī pānga tahua, ngā rēti tautuhi, ngā tauākī matapae ahumoni, me te whakarāpopoto ki ngā kaupapa here mahi kaute anganui.

#### In this section

This section provides an overview of our finances for the 2025/26 Annual Plan, including the Annual Plan Disclosure Statement, funding impact statements, indicative rates, forecast financial statements and the summary of significant accounting policies.



## Tauākī whakakapi ki te mahere ā-tau Annual plan disclosure statement

### For year ending 30 June 2026

# **Aronga**The purpose

The purpose of this statement is to disclose the council's planned financial performance in relation to various benchmarks to enable the assessment of whether the council is prudently managing its revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities, and general financial dealings.

The council is required to include this statement in its annual plan in accordance with the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 (the regulations). Refer to the regulations for more information, including definitions of some of the terms used in this statement.

Benchmark	Planned	Met			
Rates affordability benchmark					
Income: Quantified limit \$609m	\$628m	No			
Increases: Quantified increase limit 7.4%	10.6% increase	No			
Debt affordability benchmark					
Net closing debt over operating income 200%	223%	No			
Balanced budget benchmark					
100%	107%	Yes			
Essential services benchmark					
100%	245%	Yes			
<b>Debt servicing</b>					
10%	6%	Yes			

### **Notes**

### Rates affordability benchmark

- 1. For this benchmark:
  - a. the Council's planned rates income for the year is compared with a quantified limit on rates contained in the financial strategy included in the council's LTP; and
  - the Council's planned rates increases for the year are compared with a quantified limit on rates increases for the year contained in the financial strategy included in the council's Long-term Plan.
- 2. The Council meets the rates affordability benchmark if:
  - a. its planned rates income for the year equals or is less than each quantified limit on rates; and
  - b. its planned rates increases for the year equal or are less than each quantified limit on rates increases.

### **Debt affordability benchmark**

- For this benchmark, the Council's planned borrowing is compared with a quantified limit on borrowing contained in the financial strategy included in the council's Long-term plan.
- The Council meets the debt affordability benchmark if its planned borrowing is within each quantified limit on borrowing.

### **Balanced budget benchmark**

- 1. For this benchmark, the council's planned revenue (excluding development contributions, vested assets, financial contributions, gains on derivative financial instruments, and revaluations of property, plant, or equipment) is presented as a proportion of its planned operating expenses (excluding losses on derivative financial instruments and revaluations of property, plant, or equipment).
- The council meets the balanced budget benchmark if its revenue equals or is greater than its operating expenses.

#### **Essential services benchmark**

- For this benchmark, the council's planned capital expenditure on network services is presented as a proportion of expected depreciation on network services.
- The council meets the essential services benchmark if its planned capital expenditure on network services equals or is greater than expected depreciation on network services.

### **Debt servicing benchmark**

- For this benchmark, the council's planned borrowing costs are presented as a proportion of planned revenue (excluding development contributions, financial contributions, vested assets, gains on derivative financial instruments, and revaluations of property, plant, or equipment).
- Because Statistics New Zealand projects that the council's population will grow slower than the national population growth rate, it meets the debt servicing benchmark if its planned borrowing costs equal or are less than 10 percent of its planned revenue.



## **Ngā utu** Fees and user charges

Our Revenue and Financing Policy guides our decisions on how to fund Council services.

Under the policy, we consider who benefits from a service (individuals, parts of the community, or the whole community) because this helps us determine how the service should be funded.

The policy sets targets for each Council activity, determining what proportion should be funded from the user charges, general rates, targeted rates and other sources of income.

A breakdown of changes to user fees and charges can be found in our online appendices: Annual Plan – Section 5 at wcc.nz/annual-plan.



## Tauākī pānga pūtea tautoko Funding impact statements

#### **Whole of Council LTP** Variance **Annual** 2024/25 Plan 2025/26 Sources of operating funding General rates, uniform annual general 329,612 366,392 36,780 charges, rates penalties Targeted rates (other than a targeted rate 236,104 262,582 26,478 for water supply) Subsidies and grants for operating 18,062 14,144 (3,918)purposes Fees and charges 191,732 195,832 4,099 Interest and dividends from investments 10,500 14,636 4,136 Local authorities fuel tax, fines. 10.750 9.879 (871)infringement fees, and other receipts Total operating funding (A) 796,761 863,464 66,703 Applications of operating funding Payments to staff and suppliers 560,934 623,557 62,623 Finance costs 72,264 68,333 (3,931)Other operating funding applications 56,944 69,104 12,160 Total applications of operating funding (B) 760,994 690,143 70,852 Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B) 106,618 102,470 (4,148)

### Funding impact statement for whole of Council (\$000s)

Whole of Council	LTP 2024/25	Annual Plan 2025/26	Variance
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	185,103	190,217	5,114
Development and financial contributions	3,500	3,500	0
Increase (decrease) in debt	376,222	457,852	81,630
Gross proceeds from sales of assets	23,410	31,000	7,590
Lump sum contributions	0	0	0
Total sources of capital funding (C)	588,235	682,569	94,334
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	72,089	13,543	(58,546)
- to improve level of service	361,135	487,663	126,528
- to replace existing assets	261,630	283,543	21,913
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(0)	291	291
Increase (decrease) in investments	0	0	0
Total applications of capital funding (D)	694,853	785,040	90,186
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	(106,618)	(102,470)	4,148
Funding balance ((A-B) + (C-D))	0	0	0

## **Ngā rino o te rēti** Rating mechanisms

### **Rates**

Rates are a property tax to fund local government activities. Rates are assessed under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 (the Act) on rating units in the Rating Information Database.

Where rates requirements are allocated based on a rating unit's value, the rateable value will be the capital value as assessed by the Council's valuation services provider. The latest city-wide revaluation was carried out as at 1 September 2024. This revaluation remains effective through until the 2027/28 rating year, except where subsequent maintenance valuations have been required under valuation rules or the Council's rating policies.

### **Policy objective:**

- To provide the Council with adequate income to carry out its mission and objectives.
- To support the Council's achievement of its strategic objectives.
- To be simply administered, easily understood, allow for consistent application and generate minimal compliance costs.
- To spread the incidence of rates as equitably as possible by balancing the level of service provided by the Council with ability to pay and the incidence of costs in relation to benefits received.
- To be neutral in that it does not encourage people to redirect activity to avoid its impact.
- To reflect the decisions of the Council's policies and rating reviews.

### **General Rates**

General rates are set under section 13 of the Act on all rateable rating units in the City of Wellington.

The Council has set a general rate based on the capital value of each rating unit within the city.

The general rate is set on a differential basis, based on the use to which the land is put and/or the zoning. All rating units (or part thereof) will be classified for the purposes of general rates within one of the following differential rating categories.

### **Differential Rating Categories**

### **Base Differential**

The Base differential rating category shall be applied to the following rating units:

- a. Separately rateable land used for one or more household units; excluding those properties that provide short stay (28 days or less) commercial accommodation for which a tariff is charged.
- b. Vacant land zoned residential.
- c. Land used as farmland and lifestyle blocks which is included in the rural activity area in the District Plan.
- d. Farmland is defined as land used exclusively or principally for agricultural, horticultural, pastoral or silvicultural purposes, or for the keeping of bees or poultry or other livestock but excluding commercial dog kennels or catteries.
- e. Separately rateable land occupied by a charitable organisation which is deemed by the Council to be used exclusively or principally for sporting, recreation or community purposes and that does not generate any private pecuniary benefit.

This category has a general rate differential rating factor of 1.0.



## Commercial, Industrial and Business Differential

The Commercial, Industrial and Business differential rating category shall be applied to the following rating unit:

- a. Separately rateable land used for a commercial or industrial purpose.
- b. Vacant land zoned commercial, industrial or business.
- c. Land used for offices, administrative and/or associated functions.
- d. Land used for commercial accommodation for which a tariff is charged and where the principal purpose is the provision of short stay (28 days or less) accommodation.
- e. Business-related premises used principally for private pecuniary benefit.
- f. Any rating unit not otherwise categorised within the Base Differential.

This category has a general rate differential rating factor of 3.7.

## Vacant Land / Derelict Building Differential

Vacant land / derelict buildings means land with an area of not less than  $40m_2$  in the Downtown area (as defined for the purposes of the Downtown Targeted Rate) which is either vacant or which contains a building or other improvements which are derelict, and includes:

Land which is undeveloped and is not under active development;

- a. Land which has no active or consented use (land will be treated as having a consented use if there is a current approved resource consent for development on it);
- b. Land which comprises a building or other improvements which:
  - i. are unoccupied and/or in a poor state of repair because they have not been lived in or used for a substantial period of time;
  - ii. have been determined to be dangerous, affected, or insanitary for the purposes of Part 6 of the Building Act 2004, or earthquake prone for the purposes of Part 6A of the Building Act 2004.

Note: a building will not be treated as derelict if there is a current approved building consent for development or demolition of the building [and work has commenced, or progress towards commencing work can be demonstrated to the Council].

This category has a general rate differential rating factor of 5.0

## Differential Rating Category Conditions

The differential apportionment for the Commercial, Industrial and Business differential is 3.7 times the rate per dollar of capital value payable by those properties in the Base differential.

The differential apportionment for the Vacant land/ Derelict Building differential is 5.0 times the rate per dollar of capital value payable by those properties in the Base differential.

Where a rating unit has more than one land use the rating unit may be 'divided' so that each part may be differentially rated based on the land use of each part.

A rating unit will be differentially rated where a division of the rating unit is established, based on the use to which the land is put and/or the zoning. A division will be established where:

- a rating unit has a value of greater than \$1.5m or
- the minority use(s) account for more than 30 percent of the total capital value of the rating unit

If neither of these criteria are met no division will take place, and the rating category will be established on the primary use of the rating unit.

In any other case, the general rate differential is determined by principal use.

In regard to the rates attributable to a rating unit during the transition period between two differential rating categories, a ratepayer may apply for a change in rating category at any time between the lodgement of a building consent application with the Council (on the condition that the principal prior use has ended) and the earlier of either:

- The time at which the Council gives final approval of the completed works, or
- b. The property is deemed (by the Council) to be available for its intended use.
  - In situations where the change in land use does not require a Council consent, but warrants a change in differential rating category, the onus is on the ratepayer to inform the Council prior to the property being utilised under the new use.
  - ii. The differential rating category of all rating units must be set prior to the commencement of a rating year and will remain in place for that entire rating year. Any change in circumstances that results

- in a change of differential rating category during a rating year will apply from 1 July of the following rating year.
- iii. Any property eligible for mandatory 50 percent nonrateability under Part 2, Schedule 1, of the Act, will be first classified under the appropriate general rate differential classifications and the non-rateability applied to that rate.

### **Uniform Annual General Charge**

The Council does not assess a uniform annual general charge.

### Non-rateable land

#### Non-Rateable

Any land referred to in Part 1, Schedule 1 of the Act is non-rateable with the exception of targeted rates solely for sewerage and water where the service is provided.

#### 50 Percent Non-Rateable

All land referred to in Part 2, Schedule 1 of the Act is 50 percent non-rateable in respect of the rates that apply, except for targeted rates for sewerage and water for which the land is fully rateable if the service is provided.

### **Targeted Rates**

Targeted rates are set under section 16, 17, 18 and 19, and schedules 2 and 3 of the Act.

The Council has not adopted any lump sum contribution schemes under part 4A of the Act in respect of its targeted rates, and will not accept lump sum contributions in respect of any targeted rate.

The differential rating categories described above are unitised and referred to in a number of targeted rates.

### **Sewerage Targeted Rate**

Targeted sewerage rates are to be apportioned 60 percent:40 percent of rates between properties incorporated under the Base differential and the Commercial, Industrial and Business differential in accordance with the Revenue and Financing Policy.

This rate is set to pay for the cost of the provision and maintenance of the sewage collection and disposal network, and sewage treatment facilities for the city.

This rate is assessed on all rating units connected to the public sewerage drain.

For the purposes of these rates the sewage collection, and disposal and treatment service is treated as being provided to a rating unit if the rating unit is connected to a public sewerage drain

(either directly or indirectly), irrespective of whether the property is considered fully rateable or is mandatory non-rateable or 50 percent non-rateable under Schedule 1 of the Act.

Sewerage targeted rate is calculated as follows:

- For rating units incorporated in the Commercial, Industrial and Business differential rating category:
  - ☐ A rate per dollar of capital value on all rating units connected to a public sewerage drain, to collect 40 percent of the required rates funding, after having deducted the total dollar amount budgeted to be collected through Trade Waste Charges (excluding consent fees).
- For rating units incorporated in the Base differential rating category:
  - ☐ A fixed amount per annum per rating unit, plus a rate per dollar of capital value on all rating units connected to a public sewerage drain, to collect 60 percent of the required rate funding.

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### **Water Targeted Rate**

A targeted rate for water is to be apportioned with the aim of achieving a 60 percent:40 percent split between properties incorporated under the Base differential rating category and the Commercial, Industrial and Business differential rating category in accordance with the Revenue and Financing Policy.

This rate is set to pay for the provision and maintenance of water collection and treatment facilities, the water distribution network and water conservation for the city.

This rate is assessed on all rating units connected to the public water supply.

For the purposes of these rates, the water service is treated as being provided to a rating unit if the rating unit is connected to the public water supply (either directly or indirectly), irrespective of whether the property is considered fully rateable or is mandatorily non-rateable or 50 percent non-rateable under Schedule 10f the Act.

Water targeted rate is calculated as follows:

- For rating units incorporated in the Commercial, Industrial and Business differential rating category, either:
  - A consumption unit rate per cubic metre of water used for all rating units connected to the public water supply with a water meter installed, plus a fixed amount per annum per rating unit.

### Or

A rate per dollar of capital value on all rating units connected to the public water supply, without a water meter installed.

The water targeted rate does not apply to ratepayers with whom Council has a separate agreement for a consumption charge.

- For rating units rated incorporated in the Base differential rating category, either:
  - A consumption unit rate per cubic metre of water used for all rating units connected to the public water supply with a water meter installed, plus a fixed amount per annum per rating unit.

#### Or

A fixed amount per annum per rating unit, plus a rate per dollar of capital value on all rating units connected to the public water supply without a water meter installed.

### **Stormwater Targeted Rate**

A targeted stormwater rate is to be apportioned 77.5 percent to the non-rural rating units incorporated under the Base differential and 22.5 percent to the non-rural rating units incorporated under the Commercial, Industrial and Business differential in accordance with the Revenue and Financing Policy.

This rate is set to pay for the provision and maintenance of the stormwater collection/disposal network for the city.

Properties classified in the rural area in the Council's District Plan are excluded from the liability of this rate.

Stormwater targeted rate is calculated as follows:

- For the Commercial, Industrial and Business differential rating category:
  - ☐ A rate per dollar of rateable capital value to collect 22.5 percent of the required rates funding.
- For the Base differential rating category:
- ☐ A rate per dollar of rateable capital value to collect 77.5 percent of the required rates funding.

### **Base Sector Targeted Rate**

This rate is set to pay for activities where the Council's Revenue and Financing Policy identifies that the benefit can be attributed to properties incorporated under the Base differential rating category.

This incorporates the following activities:

- 100 percent of the facilitation of cultural grants, facilitation of recreation partnerships and community advocacy activities.
- 95 percent of the provision of community centres and halls activities.

This rate is assessed on all properties incorporated in the Base differential rating category and is calculated on a rate per dollar of rateable capital value.

### **Commercial Sector Targeted Rate**

This rate is set to pay for activities where the Council's Revenue and Financing Policy identifies that the benefit can be attributed to properties incorporated in the Commercial, Industrial and Business differential rating category.

This incorporates the following activity:

Approximately 30 percent of the cost of the Wellington Regional Economic Development Agency (WREDA) and Venues. This is the equivalent of 100 percent funding of the events attraction and support activity within WREDA.

This rate is assessed on all properties incorporated in the Commercial, Industrial and Business differential rating category and is calculated on a rate per dollar of rateable capital value.

# Downtown Targeted Rate

This rate is set to pay for tourism promotion.

## This incorporates the following activities:

**25%** of galleries and museums activity

**50%**of the cost of the
Wellington Regional
Economic Development Agency (WREDA)

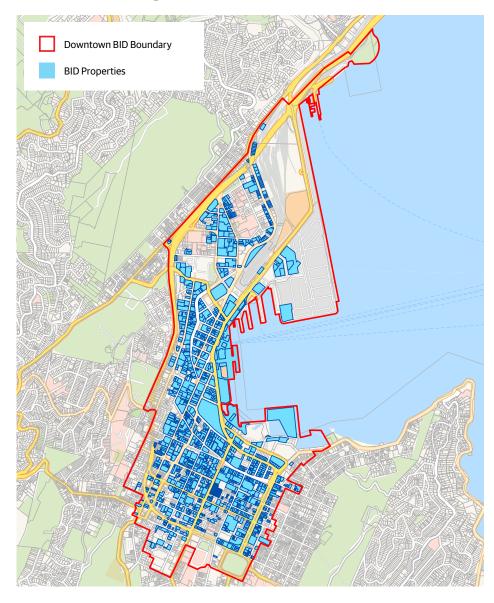
and Venues activities)

**70%** of the visitor attractions activity

40%
of the cost of the
Wellington Convention
Centre activity

This rate is assessed on all properties incorporated in the Commercial, Industrial and Business differential rating category in the downtown area and is calculated on a rate per dollar of rateable capital value. For the purposes of this rate, the downtown area refers to the area as described by the Downtown Area map as follows:

### Downtown targeted rate



## Tawa Driveways Targeted Rate

This rate is set to pay for the maintenance of a specified group of residential access driveways in the suburb of Tawa, overseen by the Council.

This rate is assessed on a specific group of rating units that have shared access driveway that are maintained by the Council in the former Tawa Borough.

The rate is calculated at a fixed amount per annum per rating unit.

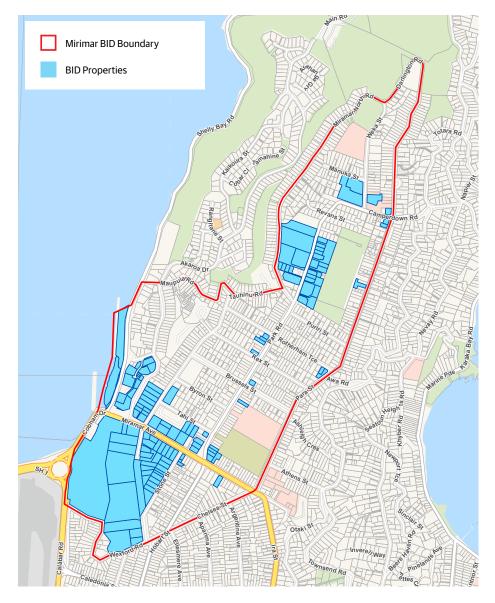
### Miramar Business Improvement District Targeted Rate

This rate is set by the Council to fund the Business Improvement District activities of Enterprise Miramar Peninsula Incorporated.

This rate is set is on all rating units within the Miramar Business Improvement District (see map) which are subject to the Commercial, Industrial and Business differential rating category.

This rate is calculated as a fixed amount per rating unit, plus a rate per dollar of rateable capital value.

### **Miramar BID boundaries**



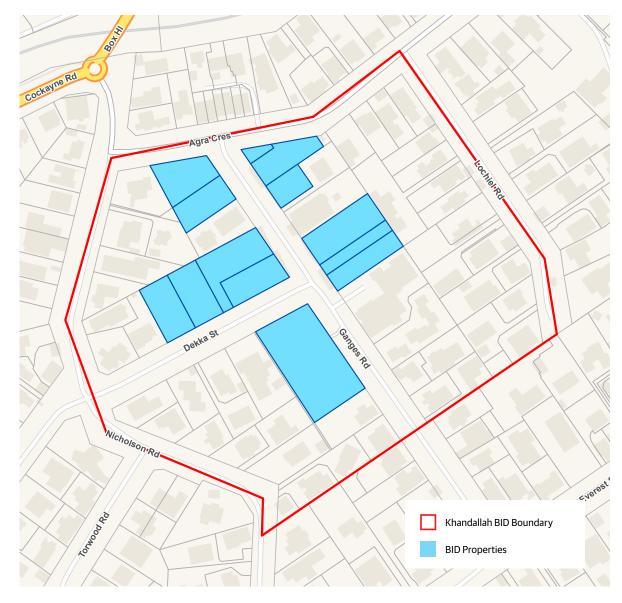
## Khandallah Business Improvement District Targeted Rate

This rate is set by the Council to fund the Business Improvement District activities of the Khandallah Village Business Association.

This rate is assessed on all rating units within the Khandallah Business Improvement District (see map) which are subject to the Commercial, Industrial and Business differential rating category.

This rate is calculated as a rate per dollar of rateable capital value.

### **Khandallah BID boundaries**



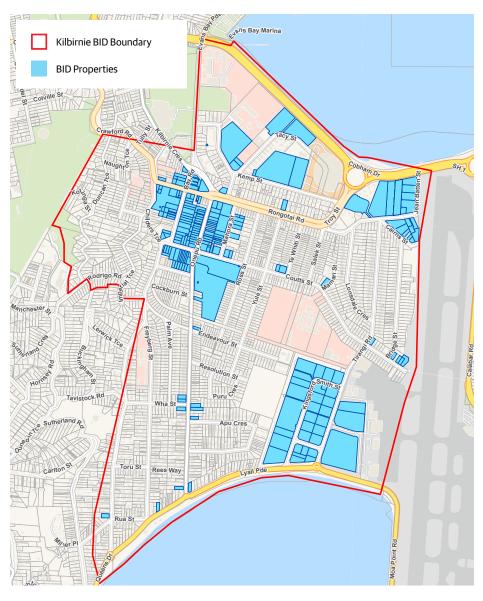
## Kilbirnie Business Improvement District (Destination KRL) Targeted Rate

This rate is set by the Council to fund the Business Improvement District activities of the Kilbirnie Business Network.

This rate is set on all rating units within the Kilbirnie Business Improvement District (see map) which are subject to the Commercial, Industrial and Business differential rating category.

This rate is calculated as a fixed amount per rating unit, plus a rate per dollar of rateable capital value.

### **Kilbirnie BID boundaries**



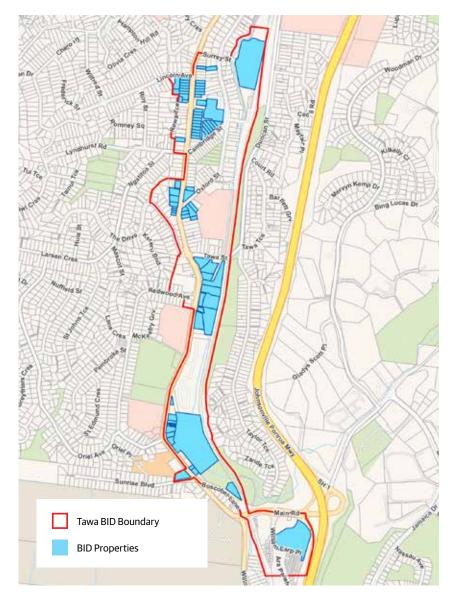
## Tawa Business Improvement District Targeted Rate

This rate is set by the Council to fund the Business Improvement District activities of the Tawa Business Network.

This rate is assessed on all rating units within the Tawa Business Improvement District area (see map) which are subject to the Commercial, Industrial and Business differential rating category.

This rate is calculated as a fixed amount per rating unit, plus a rate per dollar of rateable capital value.

### **Tawa BID boundaries**



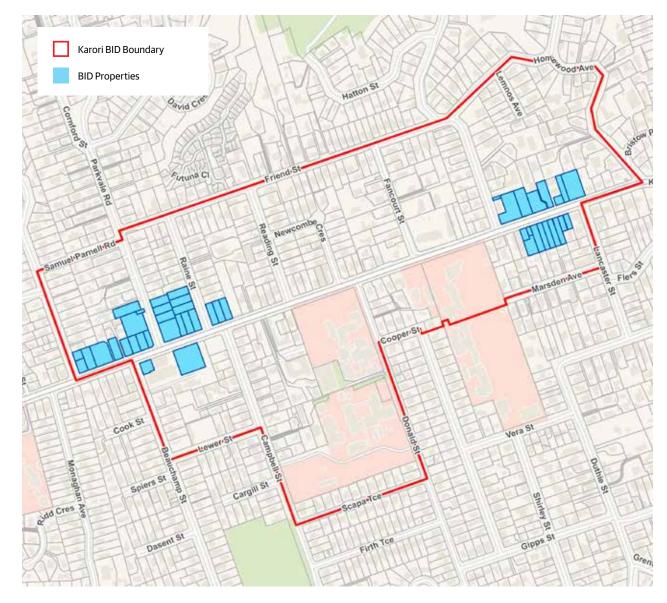
## Karori Business Improvement District Targeted Rate

This rate is set by the Council to fund the Business Improvement District activities of the Karori Business Association.

This rate is assessed on all rating units within the Karori Business Improvement District area (see map) which are subject to the Commercial, Industrial and Business differential rating category.

This rate is calculated as a rate per dollar of rateable capital value.

### **Karori BID boundaries**



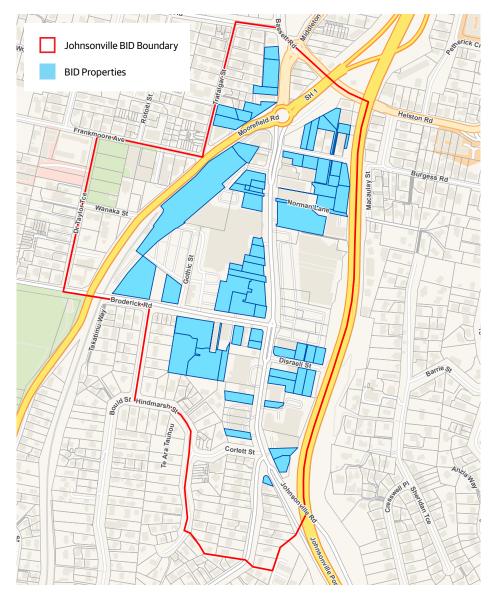
## Johnsonville Business Improvement District Targeted Rate

This rate is set by the Council to fund the Business Improvement District activities of the Johnsonville business network.

This rate is assessed on all rating units within the Johnsonville Business Improvement District area (see map) which are subject to the Commercial, Industrial and Business differential rating category.

This rate is calculated as a fixed amount per rating unit, plus a rate per dollar of rateable capital value.

### **Johnsonville BID boundaries**



### 2025/26 Funding Impact Statement - Rates Funding Statement (excluding GST)

Rate	Category	Factor	Differential Charge Type	Total Value of Factor	Rate / charge*	Rates yield
	Base	Capital Value	Base differential	\$73,917,364,185	¢0.262168	\$189,765,149
General Rate	Vacant Land	Capital Value		\$60,573,001	¢1.285319	\$778,556
	Commercial, Industrial & Business	Capital Value	Commercial, industrial & business differential	\$18,382,126,328	¢0.958681	\$174,564,283
	Total					\$365,107,988
	Base	Fixed amount/ rating unit	Base differential per connection status	73131 properties	\$152.68	\$11,165,463
Sewerage		Capital Value	Base differential per connection status	\$77,676,329,975	¢0.048730	\$37,851,763
targeted rate	Commercial, Industrial & Business	Capital Value	Commercial, industrial and business differential per connection status	\$14,311,694,358	¢0.228332	\$32,678,150
	Total					\$81,695,376
	ra Base	Fixed amount/ rating unit	Base differential per connection status without a water meter	63387 properties	\$337.76	\$21,409,593
		Capital Value	Base differential per connection status without a water meter	\$64,334,474,929	¢0.053413	\$34,362,861
	Base F	Consumption unit charge	Base differential per connection status with a water meter	n/a	5.85/ m3	\$1,205,136
Water targeted		Fixed amount/ rating unit	Base differential per connection status with a water meter	n/a	\$274.50	\$172,386
rate	Commercial, Industrial & Business	Capital Value	Commercial, industrial and business differential per connection status without a water meter	\$771,172,000	¢0.689687	\$5,318,672
	Commercial, Industrial	Consumption unit charge	Commercial, industrial and business differential per connection status with a water meter	n/a	5.85/ m3	\$28,923,271
	& Business	Fixed amount/ rating unit	Commercial, industrial and business differential per connection status with a water meter	n/a	\$274.50	\$868,518
	Total					\$92,260,438
	Base	Capital Value	Base differential (excluding land defined in the rural activity area)	\$72,681,462,876	¢0.048112	\$34,968,517
Stormwater targeted rate	Commercial, Industrial & Business	Capital Value	Commercial, industrial and business differential (excluding land defined in the rural activity area)	\$14,853,932,328	¢0.068347	\$10,152,150
	Total					\$45,120,667

Rate	Category	Factor	Differential Charge Type	Total Value of Factor	Rate / charge*	Rates yield
Base sector targeted rate	Base	Capital Value	Base differential	\$73,977,937,185	¢0.025468	\$18,832,979
Commercial sector targeted rate	Commercial, Industrial & Business	Capital Value	Commercial, industrial & business differential	\$18,382,126,328	¢0.030170	\$5,475,199
Downtown targeted rate	Commercial, Industrial & Business	Capital Value	Commercial, industrial & business differential located in the downtown area	\$10,993,215,088	¢0.172428	\$18,672,467
Tawa driveways targeted rate	Base	Fixed amount/ rating unit	Shared residential access driveways maintained by Council in the suburb of Tawa (extent of provision of service)	256 properties	\$133.85	\$34,266
Karori Business Improvement District targeted rate	Commercial, Industrial & Business	Capital Value	Commercial, industrial & business differential located in the Karori Business Improvement District area	\$56,083,000	¢0.106984	\$60,000
Khandallah Business Improvement District targeted rate	Commercial, Industrial & Business	Capital Value	Commercial, industrial & business differential located in the Khandallah Business Improvement District area	\$20,303,000	¢0.107373	\$21,800
Kilbirnie Business Improvement	Commercial, Industrial	Fixed amount/ rating unit	Commercial, industrial & business differential located in the Kilbirnie Business Improvement District area	265 Properties	\$285.00	\$75,525
District (Destination KRL) targeted	& Business	Capital Value	Commercial, industrial & business differential located in the Kilbirnie Business Improvement District area	\$562,333,000	¢0.013244	\$74,475
rate	Total					\$150,000
Tawa Business	Commercial, Industrial	Fixed amount/ rating unit	Commercial, industrial & business differential located in the Tawa Business Improvement District area	122 properties	\$520.00	\$63,440
Improvement District targeted rate	& Business	Capital Value	Commercial, industrial & business differential located in the Tawa Business Improvement District area	\$197,614,000	¢0.020297	\$40,110
	Total					\$103,550

Rate	Category	Factor	Differential Charge Type	Total Value of Factor	Rate / charge*	Rates yield
Miramar Business	Commercial, Industrial	Fixed amount/ rating unit	Commercial, industrial & business differential located in the Miramar Business Improvement District area	125 properties	\$365.00	\$45,625
Improvement District targeted rate	& Business	Capital Value	Commercial, industrial & business differential located in the Miramar Business Improvement District area	\$375,172,000	¢0.012940	\$48,546
	Total					\$94,171
Johnsonville Business	Commercial, Industrial	Fixed amount/ rating unit	Commercial, industrial & business differential located in the Johnsonville Business Improvement District area	81 properties	\$520.00	\$42,120
Improvement District targeted rate	& Business	Capital Value	Commercial, industrial & business differential located in the Johnsonville Business Improvement District area	\$205,609,000	¢0.025719	\$52,880
	Total					\$95,000
Total rates require	ement (excluding gst)					\$627,723,899

#### \*Note:

When rates for 2023/24 are assessed, GST will be applied to the final rates. The total rates requirement includes rates remissions but excludes rates penalties which are budgeted separately. The total rates requirement (excluding GST) differs from the revenue from rates in Forecast Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense as the revenue from rates includes penalties not included in this statement.

The total rates requirement (excluding GST) differs from the revenue from rates in Forecast Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense as the revenue from rates includes penalties not included in this statement.

### **Rates Increases**

			2025/26				Year on Yea	r increases	
	Commercial		Base	Vacant	Total	Commercial	Base	Vacant	Total
General Rate	174,564	189,765		779	365,108	22.85%	2.21%	35.70%	11.21%
Water Rate	35,110	57,150		-	92,260	5.56%	14.55%		10.95%
Sewerage Rate	32,678	49,017		-	81,695	4.54%	1.46%		2.67%
Stormwater rate	10,152	34,969		-	45,121	36.88%	36.88%		36.88%
Targeted Service rate	5,475	18,833		-	24,308	4.05%	10.77%		9.18%
Downtown Levy	18,672	-			18,672	5.82%	0.00%		5.82%
BIDs & Tawa Driveways	525	34			559				2.23%
Total	277,177		349,768	779	627,724	44.16%	55.72%	0.12%	100%
Rates increase before growth						16.73%	7.14%		
Growth per sector						0.60%	0.60%		
Rates increase per sector after growth						16.13%	6.54%		

## **Projected property information**

Projected property information at 30 June 2025					
Rating Units	83,714				
Capital Value	99,282,389,562				
Land value	51,282,316,601				

### **Indicative rates**

The following tables show the indicative residential and commercial property rates (inclusive of GST) for a selection of billing categories, based on the 2025/26 budget Indicative residential property (for properties without a water meter)

	2025/26 Proposed	Increase over
<b>Capital Values</b>	Rates	2024/25**
400,000	2,242	6.43%
500,000	2,680	6.24%
600,000	3,118	6.10%
700,000	3,556	6.00%
800,000	3,994	5.92%
900,000	4,431	5.86%
1,000,000	4,869	5.80%
1,100,000	5,307	5.76%
1,200,000	5,745	5.72%
1,300,000	6,183	5.69%
1,400,000	6,621	5.66%
1,500,000	7,059	5.64%
1,600,000	7,497	5.62%
1,700,000	7,935	5.60%
1,800,000	8,372	5.58%
1,900,000	8,810	5.57%
2,000,000	9,248	5.55%

Indicative downtown commercial property rates (for properties with a water meter)\*

Capital Values	2025/26 Proposed Rates	Increase over 2024/25**
1,000,000	14,854	4.91%
1,250,000	18,499	4.88%
1,500,000	22,144	4.86%
1,750,000	25,789	4.84%
2,000,000	29,434	4.83%
2,250,000	33,079	4.82%
2,500,000	36,723	4.81%
2,750,000	40,368	4.81%
3,000,000	44,013	4.80%
3,250,000	47,658	4.80%
3,500,000	51,303	4.79%
3,750,000	54,948	4.79%
4,000,000	58,593	4.79%
4,250,000	62,238	4.79%
4,500,000	65,883	4.78%
4,750,000	69,527	4.78%
5,000,000	73,172	4.78%

Indicative sub-urban commercial property rates (for properties with a water meter)

Capital Values	2025/26 Proposed Rates	Increase over 2024/25**
1,000,000	19,752	12.62%
1,250,000	24,690	12.62%
1,500,000	29,628	12.62%
1,750,000	34,566	12.62%
2,000,000	39,504	12.62%
2,250,000	44,442	12.62%
2,500,000	49,380	12.62%
2,750,000	54,318	12.62%
3,000,000	59,256	12.62%
3,250,000	64,195	12.62%
3,500,000	69,133	12.62%
3,750,000	74,071	12.62%
4,000,000	79,009	12.62%
4,250,000	83,947	12.62%
4,500,000	88,885	12.62%
4,750,000	93,823	12.62%
5,000,000	98,761	12.62%

<sup>\*</sup>Excludes water by consumption which are charged based on consumption

<sup>\*\*</sup> For equivalent Capital Values – taking into account the changes in CV due to the 2024 revaluation

## **Ngā tauākī ahumoni** Financial statements

Tauākī matapae pūtea puta whānui me te utu Forecast Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense

For the year 2025/26 (\$000s)

	2024/25 LTP	2025/26 LTP	2025/26 Annual Plan	Variance to LTP
Revenue				
Rates	565,716	633,644	628,974	(4,670)
Revenue from operating activities				
Development contributions	3,500	3,500	3,500	-
Grants, subsidies and reimbursements	202,665	221,578	232,728	11,150
Other operating activities	189,916	197,743	193,796	(3,947)
Investments revenue	21,867	26,719	25,392	(1,327)
Vested assets and other revenue	1,700	3,265	2,247	(1,018)
Fair value movements - gains	7,557	5,938	4,758	(1,180)
Finance revenue	100	102	36	(66)
Total revenue	993,021	1,092,489	1,091,431	(1,058)
Expense				
Finance expense	72,264	74,702	68,333	(6,369)
Expenditure on operating activities	617,876	631,488	692,954	61,466
Depreciation and amortisation	222,314	245,230	254,956	9,726
Total expense	912,454	951,420	1,016,243	64,823
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year	80,567	141,069	75,188	(65,881)
Other comprehensive income				
Fair value movement - property, plant and equipment (net)	206,393	219,263	208,804	(10,459)
Share of equity accounted surplus from associates	-	-	-	-
Total other comprehensive income	206,393	219,263	208,804	(10,459)
Total comprehensive income for the year	286,960	360,332	283,992	(76,340)

Tauākī matapae tahua pūtea Prospective Statement of Financial Position

For the year 2025/26 (\$000s)

	2024/25 LTP	2025/26 LTP	2025/26 Annual Plan	Variance to LTP
Assets				
Current assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	41,916	44,110	15,838	(28,272)
Derivative financial assets	-	-	724	724
Receivables and recoverables	97,445	102,867	112,778	9,911
Prepayments	20,329	20,877	33,884	13,007
Other financial assets	347,500	336,500	367,215	30,715
Inventories	1,013	1,013	1,355	342
Non-current assets classified as held for sale	-	-	-	-
Total current assets	508,203	505,367	531,794	26,427
Non-current assets				
Derivative financial assets	72,984	72,984	63,713	(9,271)
Other financial assets	62,604	68,555	68,075	(480)
Intangibles	44,745	45,531	48,713	3,182
Investment properties	287,169	293,107	158,214	(134,893)
Property, plant and equipment	11,763,613	12,343,659	12,436,940	93,281
Investment in controlled entities	5,998	5,998	5,998	-
Investment in associates and joint venture	19,384	19,384	19,384	
Total non-current assets	12,256,497	12,849,218	12,801,037	(48,181)
Total assets	12,764,700	13,354,585	13,332,831	(21,754)
Liabilities				
Current liabilities				

	2024/25 LTP	2025/26 LTP	2025/26 Annual Plan	Variance to LTP
Derivative financial liabilities	-	-	-	-
Exchange transactions and transfers payable	161,928	154,555	185,445	30,890
Deferred revenue	21,741	22,637	22,268	(369)
Borrowings	267,500	256,500	266,500	10,000
Employee benefit liabilities and provisions	12,747	12,852	13,786	934
Provisions for other liabilities	3,435	3,142	4,164	1,022
Total current liabilities	467,351	449,686	492,163	42,477
Non-current liabilities				
Derivative financial liabilities	-	-	-	-
Exchange transactions and transfers payable	-	-	-	-
Borrowings	1,942,363	2,191,400	2,057,367	(134,033)
Employee benefit liabilities and provisions	1,064	1,073	975	(98)
Provisions for other liabilities	28,395	26,567	28,813	2,246
Total non-current liabilities	1,971,822	2,219,040	2,087,155	(131,885)
Total liabilities	2,439,173	2,668,726	2,579,318	(89,408)
Net assets	10,325,527	10,685,859	10,753,513	67,654
Equity				
Accumulated funds and retained earnings	5,195,111	5,336,176	5,257,050	(79,126)
Revaluation reserves	5,031,193	5,250,456	5,406,869	156,413
Hedging reserve	73,180	73,180	65,326	(7,854)
Fair value through other comprehensive income and expense reserve	6,889	6,889	7,330	441
Restricted funds	19,154	19,158	16,938	(2,220)
Total Equity	10,325,527	10,685,859	10,753,513	67,654

Tauākī matapae panonitanga ki te tūtanga

Prospective Statement of Changes in Equity (\$000s)

For the year 2025/26 (\$000s)

	2024/25 LTP	2025/26 LTP	2025/26 Annual Plan	Variance to LTP
Equity - opening balances				
Accumulated funds and retained earnings	5,114,549	5,195,111	5,181,879	(13,232)
Revaluation reserves	4,824,800	5,031,193	5,198,065	166,872
Hedging reserve	73,180	73,180	65,326	(7,854)
Fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense reserve	6,889	6,889	7,330	441
Restricted funds	19,149	19,154	16,921	(2,233)
Total Equity - opening balances	10,038,567	10,325,527	10,469,521	143,994
Changes in Equity				
Retained earnings				
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year	80,567	141,069	75,188	(65,881)
Transfer to restricted funds	(3,671)	(3,547)	(3,545)	2
Transfer from restricted funds	3,666	3,543	3,528	(15)
Transfer from revaluation reserves	-	-	-	-
Transfer to revaluation reserves	-	-	-	-
Revaluation reserves				
Fair value movement - property, plant and equipment - net	206,393	219,263	208,804	(10,459)
Transfer to retained earnings		-	_	_

	2024/25 LTP	2025/26 LTP	2025/26 Annual Plan	Variance to LTP
Hedging reserve				
Movement in hedging reserve	-	-	-	-
Fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense reserve				
Movement in fair value	-	-	-	-
Restricted Funds				
Transfer to retained earnings	(3,666)	(3,543)	(3,528)	15
Transfer from retained earnings	3,671	3,547	3,545	(2)
Total comprehensive revenue and expense	286,960	360,332	283,992	(76,340)
Net Equity - Closing Balances				
Accumulated funds and retained earnings	5,195,111	5,336,176	5,257,050	(79,126)
Revaluation reserves	5,031,193	5,250,456	5,406,869	156,413
Hedging reserve	73,180	73,180	65,326	(7,854)
Fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense reserve	6,889	6,889	7,330	441
Restricted funds	19,154	19,158	16,938	(2,220)
Total Equity - closing balances	10,325,527	10,685,859	10,753,513	67,654

Tauākī matapae i ngā nekehanga pūtea Prospective Statement of Cash Flows

For the year 2025/26 (\$000s)

	2024/25 LTP	2025/26 LTP	2025/26 Annual Plan	Variance to LTP
Cash flows from operating activities				
Receipts from rates - Council	563,121	631,011	626,355	(4,656)
Receipts from rates - Greater Wellington Regional Council	118,255	132,512	150,325	17,813
Receipts from rates – Sludge Levy	7,821	15,781	15,781	-
Receipts from activities and other income	187,982	198,324	199,288	964
Receipts from grants and subsidies - operating	18,858	16,388	14,144	(2,244)
Receipts from grants and subsidies - capital	187,807	210,730	223,106	12,376
Receipts from investment property lease rentals	11,467	11,710	10,792	(918)
Cash paid to suppliers and employees	(625,474)	(579,740)	(575,975)	3,765
Rates paid to Greater Wellington Regional Council	(118,255)	(132,512)	(150,325)	(17,813)
Rates paid to Sludge Finance LP	(7,821)	(15,781)	(15,781)	-
Grants paid	(56,450)	(61,677)	(69,057)	(7,380)
Net cash flows from operating activities	287,311	426,746	428,653	1,907

	2024/25 LTP	2025/26 LTP	2025/26 Annual Plan	Variance to LTP
Cash flows from investing activities				
Dividends received	10,400	15,009	14,600	(409)
Interest received	100	102	36	(66)
Proceeds from sale of investment properties	-	-	135,715	135,715
Proceeds from sale of intangibles	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	19,410	5,620	2,000	(3,620)
Proceeds from sale of other Financial Assets		-	191,500	191,500
Purchase of other Financial Assets		(9,082)	(287,215)	(278,133)
Purchase of intangibles	(11,070)	(599,536)	(15,836)	583,700
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(705,897)	-	(830,998)	(830,998)
Net cash flows from investing activities	(687,057)	(587,887)	(790,198)	(202,311)
Cash flows from financing activities				
New borrowings	737,844	494,537	684,867	190,330
Repayment of borrowings	(267,500)	(256,500)	(277,500)	(21,000)
Interest paid on borrowings	(72,264)	(74,702)	(68,333)	6,369
Net cash flows from financing activities	398,080	163,335	339,034	175,699
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(1,666)	2,194	(22,511)	(24,705)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	43,582	41,916	38,349	(3,567)
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	41,916	44,110	15,838	(28,272)

Tauākī matapae ahumoni o ngā panonitanga ki ngā pūtea tautoko Prospective statement of changes in restricted funds

For the period ended 2025/26 (\$000s)

	Opening balance 2024/25	Deposits	Expenditure	Closing balance 2025/26	Purpose
Special reserves and funds					
Reserve purchase and development fund	782	-	-	782	
City growth fund	908	2,007	(2,007)	908	
lanumana manamus	14,713	1,521	(1,521)	14,713	Allows the Council to meet the uninsured portion of insurance claims
Insurance reserve					insurance claims
Total special reserves and funds	16,403	3,528	(3,528)	16,403	
Trusts and bequests	518	17	-	535	
Total restricted funds	16,921	3,545	(3,528)	16,938	

### Whakamāratanga ki ngā hemihemi me ngā tarepa Explanation of surplus/ deficit (\$000s)

The following are items that are presented in the Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense but do not offset rates.

	2025/26
Balanced Budget	0
Depreciation not funded by rates	(81,550)
Revenue received for capital purposes	221,761
Ring-fenced expenditure	(35,274)
Items funded from prior year surpluses	
Operational expenditure funded through other funding mechanisms	(34,507)
Fair value movement on investment property revaluation	4,758
Total Surplus / (Deficit)	75,188

## Whakarāpopototanga o ngā Kaupapa here mahi kaute Summary of significant accounting policies

### **Reporting entity**

Wellington City Council (the Council) is a territorial local authority established under the LGA 2002 and is domiciled and operates in New Zealand. The relevant legislation governing the Council's operations includes the LGA 2002 and the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

The primary purpose of the Council is to provide goods or services for community or social benefits rather than making a financial return. As a defined public entity under the Public Audit Act 2001, the Council is audited by the Office of the Auditor General and is classed as a Public Sector Public Benefit Entity (PBE) for financial reporting purposes.

These prospective financial statements are for the Council as a separate legal entity and have been prepared for the period from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026. This provides an opportunity for ratepayers and residents to review the projected financial results and position of the Council. Subsequent actual results may differ from these estimates and these variations may be material.

### **Basis of preparation**

### **Statement of compliance**

The prospective financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the LGA 2002, which includes the requirement to comply with New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (NZ GAAP). The Council has complied with PBE FRS 42 in the preparation of these prospective financial statements.

The prospective financial statements have been prepared to comply with Public Benefit Entity Accounting Standards (PBE Accounting Standards) for a Tier 1 entity.

The reporting period for these prospective financial statements is the year ended 30 June 2026. The prospective financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars, rounded to the nearest thousand (\$000), unless otherwise stated.

The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these prospective financial statements which were adopted by the Council for issue on 26 June 2025. The Council is responsible for the prospective financial statements presented, including the assumptions underlying the prospective financial statements and all other disclosures. The Annual Plan is a forecast and as such contains no actual operating results.

Consolidated prospective financial statements comprising the Council and its controlled entities, joint ventures and associates have not been prepared.



### **Measurement base**

The measurement basis applied is historical cost, modified by the revaluation of certain assets and liabilities as identified in this summary of significant accounting policies. The accrual basis of accounting has been used unless otherwise stated.

For the assets and liabilities recorded at fair value, fair value is defined as the amount for which an item could be exchanged, or a liability settled, between knowledgeable and willing parties in an arm's-length transaction. For investment property, non-current assets classified as held for sale and items of property, plant and equipment which are revalued, the fair value is determined by reference to market value. The market value of a property is the estimated amount for which a property could be exchanged on the date of valuation between a willing buyer and a willing seller in an arm'slength transaction.

Amounts expected to be recovered or settled more than one year after the end of the reporting period are recognised at their present value. The present value of the estimated future cash flows is calculated using applicable inflation factors and a discount rate.

## Foreign currency balances and transactions

Foreign currency transactions (including those subject to forward foreign exchange contracts) are translated into New Zealand Dollars (the functional currency) using the spot exchange rate at the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

### **Comparative information**

Comparative information from the 2024–34 LTP adopted by the Council on 27 June 2024 has been provided as a comparator for these prospective financial statements. The closing equity balance in this comparative information differs from the opening equity position used to prepare these prospective financial statements which is based on the most up-to-date forecast information.

## Goods and services tax (GST)

All items in the prospective financial statements are exclusive of GST, except for receivables and payables, which are stated as GST inclusive. Where GST is not recoverable as an input tax, it is recognised as part of the related asset or expense.

## Judgements and estimations

The preparation of prospective financial statements using PBE accounting standards requires the use of judgements, estimates and assumptions. Where material, information on the main assumptions is provided. The estimates and assumptions are based on historical experience as well as other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Subsequent actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and assumptions are also reviewed on an ongoing basis and adjustments are made where necessary.

Judgements that have a significant effect on the financial statements and estimates with a significant risk of material adjustment include landfill post-closure costs, asset revaluations, impairments, certain fair value calculations and provisions.

There have been no fundamental changes to our approach for judgements and estimations for the reporting periods covered in this Annual Plan.

### Revenue

Revenue comprises rates, revenue from operating activities, investment revenue, fair value gains, finance revenue and other revenue and is measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable. Revenue may be derived from either exchange or non-exchange transactions.

## Revenue from exchange transactions

Revenue from exchange transactions arises where the Council provides goods or services to another entity or individual and directly receives approximately equal value in a willing arm's-length transaction (primarily in the form of cash in exchange).

## Revenue from non-exchange transactions

Revenue from non-exchange transactions arises from transactions that are not exchange transactions. Revenue from a non-exchange transaction arises when the Council receives value from another party without giving approximately equal value directly in exchange for the value received. An inflow of resources from a non-exchange transaction recognised as an asset, is recognised as revenue. except to the extent that a liability is also recognised in respect of the same inflow. As the Council satisfies a present obligation recognised as a liability in respect of an inflow of resources from a non-exchange transaction recognised as an asset, it reduces the carrying amount of the liability recognised and recognises an amount of revenue equal to that reduction.

### Approximately equal value

Approximately equal value is considered to reflect a fair or market value, which is normally commensurate with an arm's-length commercial transaction between a willing buyer and willing seller. Some goods or services that the Council provides (for example, the sale of goods at market rates) are defined as being exchange transactions. Only a few services provided by the Council operate on a full user pays, cost recovery or breakeven basis and these are considered to be exchange transactions unless they are provided at less than active and open market prices.

Most of the services that the Council provides for a fee are subsidised by rates and therefore do not constitute an approximately equal exchange. Accordingly, most of the Council's revenue is categorised as non-exchange.

Specific accounting policies for major categories of revenue are outlined on the next page.



Mahere ā-Tau | Annual Plan 2025/26

Wellington City Council

Pārongo Ahumoni | Financial information

### **Rates**

Rates are set annually by resolution from the Council and relate to a particular financial year. All ratepayers are invoiced within the financial year for which the rates have been set. Rates revenue is recognised in full as at the date when rate assessment notices are sent to the ratepayers. Rates are a tax as they are payable under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 and are therefore defined as non-exchange.

Water rates by meter are regulated in the same way as other rates and are taxes that use a specific charging mechanism to collect the rate. However, as the water rates are primarily charged on a per unit of consumption basis, water rates by meter are considered to be more in the nature of an exchange transaction. Revenue from water rates by meter is recognised on an accrual basis based on usage.

## Revenue from operating activities

Revenue from operating activities is generally measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable.

The Council undertakes various activities as part of its normal operations which generates revenue, but generally at below-market prices or at fees and user charges subsidised by rates.

The following categories (except where noted) are classified as transfers, which are non-exchange transactions other than taxes.

#### Grants, subsidies and reimbursements

Grants, subsidies and reimbursements are initially recognised at their fair value where there is reasonable assurance that the monies will be received and all attached conditions will be complied with. Grants include the funding from Sludge Finance LP for the Sludge Minimisation Facility. Reimbursements include NZTA roading claim payments.

### **Development contributions**

Development contributions are recognised as revenue when the Council provides, or is able to provide, the service for which the contribution was charged. Until such time as the Council provides, or is able to provide the service, development contributions are recognised as liabilities.

### **Rendering of services**

Revenue from rendering of services that are exchange transactions, is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the transaction at the reporting date. Revenue from the rendering of services where the service provided is non-exchange, is recognised when the transaction occurs to the extent that a liability is not also recognised.

### Fines and penalties

Revenue from fines and penalties (eg traffic and parking infringements) is recognised when infringement notices are issued or when the fines/penalties are otherwise imposed. The fair value of parking related fines is determined as the amounts due, less an allowance for expected credit losses (ECL).

### Sale of goods

The sale of goods is classified as exchange revenue. Sale of goods is recognised when products are sold to the customer and all risks and rewards of ownership have transferred to the customer.



Mahere ā-Tau | Annual Plan 2025/26

Wellington City Council

### **Investment revenues**

### **Dividends**

Dividends from associates and equity investments are recognised when the Council's right to receive payment has been established.

## Investment property lease rentals

Lease rentals (net of any incentives given) are recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease unless another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which benefits derived from the leased asset are diminished.

### Fair value gains

Fair value gains largely reflect the increase in the fair value of investment properties.

### Finance revenue

### Interest

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method. All interest revenue is recognised in the period in which it is earned.

### Other revenue

## Donated, subsidised or vested assets

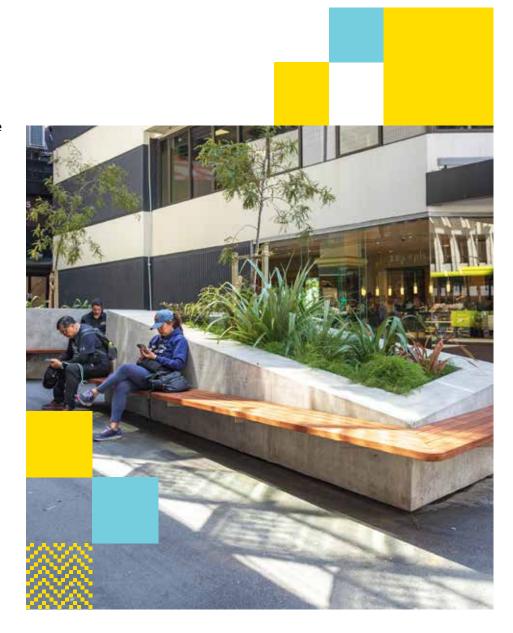
Where a physical asset is acquired for nil or nominal consideration, with no conditions attached, the fair value of the asset received, as determined by active market prices, is recognised as non-exchange revenue when the control of the asset is transferred to the Council.

#### Gains

Gains include additional earnings from the disposal of property, plant and equipment.

### **Donated services**

The Council benefits from the voluntary service of many Wellingtonians in the delivery of its activities and services (for example, beach cleaning and Ōtari-Wilton's Bush guiding and planting). Due to the difficulty in determining the precise value of these donated services with sufficient reliability, donated services are not recognised in these prospective financial statements.



### **Expenses**

Specific accounting policies for major categories of expenditure are outlined below:

### **Operating activities**

#### Grants

Expenditure is classified as a grant (or sponsorship) if it results in a transfer of resources (for example, cash or physical assets) to another entity or individual in return for compliance with certain conditions relating to the operating activities of that entity. It includes any expenditure arising from a funding arrangement with another entity that has been entered into to achieve the objectives of the Council. Grants and sponsorships are distinct from donations that are discretionary or charitable gifts. Where grants and sponsorships are discretionary until payment, the expense is recognised when the payment is made. Otherwise, the expense is recognised when the specified criteria have been fulfilled.

#### Cost allocation

Direct costs are expensed directly to the activity. Indirect costs relate to the overall costs of running the organisation and include staff time, office space and information technology costs. These indirect costs are allocated as overheads across all activities.

### **Research and Development**

Research costs are expensed as incurred. Development expenditure on individual projects is capitalised and recognised as an asset when it meets the definition and criteria for capitalisation as an asset and it is probable that the Council will receive future economic benefits from the asset. Assets which have finite lives are stated at cost less accumulated amortisation and are amortised on a straight-line basis over their useful lives.

### Finance expense

### **Interest on borrowings**

Interest expense is recognised using the effective interest rate method. All interest expense is recognised in the period in which it is incurred.

### Re-discounting of interest

Re-discounting of interest on provisions is the Council's funding cost for non-current provisions (where the cash flows will not occur until a future date).

### **Depreciation and amortisation**

### **Depreciation**

Depreciation is provided on all property, plant and equipment, with certain exceptions.

The exceptions are land, restricted assets other than buildings, investment properties and assets under construction (work in progress).

Estimated useful lives of property, plant and equipment assets	Estimated useful life (years)
Asset Category	
Operational assets	
Land	Unlimited
Buildings:	
Structure	2-100
Roof	3-40
Interior	3-45
Services	2-40
Civic Precinct	5-66
Plant and equipment	3-100
Library collection	3-10
Infrastructure assets	
Land (including land under roads)	Unlimited
Roading:	
Road pavement	10-46
Retaining / sea walls	5-198
Kerb and channel	5-36
Structures - other sea defences	100-250
Tunnels - structure and services	55-250
Bridges	5-104
Drainage, waste and water:	
Pipes	30-52
Reservoirs	30-140
Pump stations	48-91
Fittings	31-56
Restricted assets (excluding buildings)	Unlimited
Estimated useful lives of intangible assets	Estimated useful life (years)
Asset Category	
Computer software	2-11

Depreciation is calculated on a straightline basis, to allocate the cost or value of the asset (less any assessed residual value) over its estimated useful life.

The landfill post-closure costs are depreciated over the life of the landfill based on the capacity of the landfill utilised.

### **Amortisation**

Amortisation begins when the asset is available for use and ceases at the date the asset is derecognised. The carrying value of an intangible asset with a finite life is amortised on a straight-line basis over its estimated useful life.

### Income tax

The Council, as a local authority, is only liable for income tax on the surplus or deficit for the year derived from any Council-controlled trading organisations and comprises current and deferred tax.

Current tax is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the year, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the end of the reporting period, plus any adjustment to tax payable in respect of previous periods.

Deferred tax is provided using the balance sheet liability method, providing for temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and amounts used for taxation purposes.

The amount of deferred tax provided is based on the expected manner of realisation or settlement of the assets and liabilities, and the unused tax losses using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the end of the reporting period. Deferred income tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which they can be utilised.

## Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at bank, cash on hand, and short-term bank deposits of up to 3 months at acquisition.

Although cash and cash equivalents at balance date are subject to the expected credit loss requirements of PBE IPSAS 41 - Financial Instruments, no loss allowance is recognised because the estimated allowance is trivial.

### **Financial instruments**

Financial instruments are initially recognised on trade-date at their fair value plus transaction costs. Subsequent measurement and the treatment of gains or losses depends upon their classification as shown below.

Classification of financial instruments					
Financial asset category	Subsequent measurement	Treatment of gains and losses			
Financial assets at amortised cost	Amortised cost using the effective interest rate method	Surplus or deficit			
Financial assets at fair value through surplus or deficit	Fair value	Surplus or deficit			
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense	Fair value	Other comprehensive revenue and expense			
Financial liability category	Subsequent measurement	Treatment of gains and losses			
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	Amortised cost using the effective interest rate method	Surplus or deficit			
Financial liabilities at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense	Fair value	Other comprehensive revenue and expense			

## **Financial Assets**

Financial assets comprise the following categories and components:

### (a) Financial assets at amortised cost

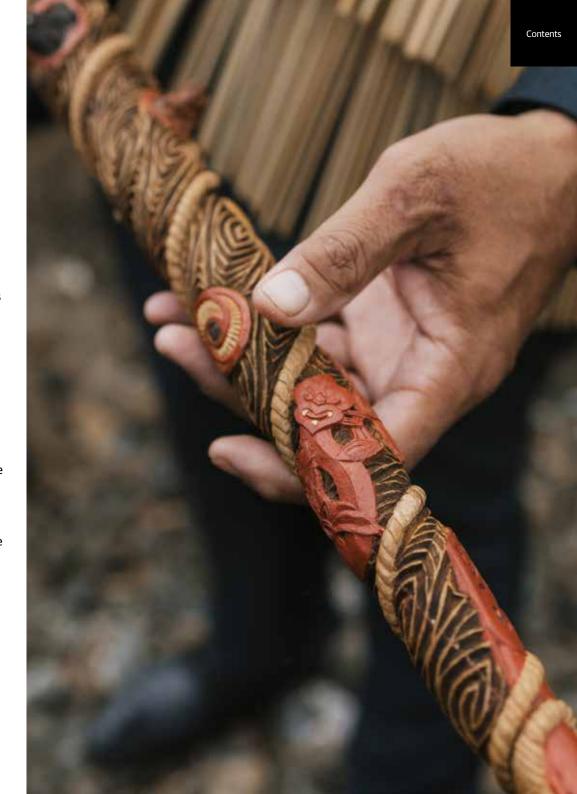
- Cash and cash equivalents include cash balances and bank deposits with maturity dates of up to 3 months at acquisition.
- Receivables and recoverables which have fixed or determinable payments. They arise when the Council provides money, goods or services directly to a debtor, and has no intention of trading the receivable or recoverable.
- Loans and deposits which include loans to other entities (including controlled entities and associates), and bank deposits with maturity dates of more than 3 months at acquisition.

Initial recognition at fair value is estimated as the present value of future cash flows, discounted at the market rate of interest at the reporting date for assets of a similar maturity and credit risk. Receivables or recoverables due in less than 12 months are initially recognised at their nominal value as an estimate of fair value.

# (b) Financial assets at fair value through surplus or deficit

- LGFA borrower notes, as the LGFA has the ability to repay the investment before the original maturity date.
- (c) Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense
- Derivatives (interest rate swaps) that qualify for hedge accounting.
- Equity investments, held for longterm strategic purposes and therefore are not intended to be sold.

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows have expired or have been transferred and the Council has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership.



# **Financial Liabilities**

Financial liabilities comprise the following categories and components:

- (a) Financial liabilities at amortised cost
- Payables under exchange transactions
- Transfers payable
- Taxes payable
- Borrowings

Financial liabilities with a duration of less than 12 months are initially recognised at their nominal value as an estimate of fair value.

- (b) Financial liabilities at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense
- Derivatives (interest rate swaps) that qualify for hedge accounting.

## **Derivatives**

Derivative financial instruments are used to manage exposure to foreign exchange risks arising from the Council's operational activities and interest rate risks arising from the Council's financing activities. In accordance with its Liability Management Policy, the Council does not hold or issue derivative financial instruments for trading purposes.

Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value on the date a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured to their fair value at each balance date. The method of recognising the resulting gain or loss depends on whether the derivative is designated as a hedging instrument, and, if so, the nature of the item being hedged.

The associated gains or losses on derivatives that are not hedge accounted are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

The full fair value of a hedge accounted derivative is classified as non-current if the remaining maturity of the hedged item is more than 12 months, and as current if the remaining maturity of the hedged item is less than 12 months.

As per the International Swap Dealers' Association (ISDA) master agreements, all swap payments or receipts are settled net.

## Cash flow hedges

The portion of the gain or loss on a hedging instrument that is determined to be an effective hedge is recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense, and the ineffective portion of the gain or loss on the hedging instrument is recognised in the surplus or deficit as part of "finance expense".

If a hedge of a forecast transaction subsequently results in the recognition of a financial asset or a financial liability, the associated gains or losses that were recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense are reclassified into the surplus or deficit in the same period or periods during which the asset acquired or liability assumed affects the surplus or deficit. However, if it is expected that all or a portion of a loss recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense will not be recovered in one or more future periods, the amount that is not expected to be recovered is reclassified to the surplus or deficit.

When a hedge of a forecast transaction subsequently results in the recognition of a non-financial asset or a non-financial liability, or a forecast transaction for a non-financial asset or non-financial liability becomes a firm commitment for which fair value hedge accounting is applied, the associated gains and losses that were recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense will be included in the initial cost or carrying amount of the asset or liability.

If a hedging instrument expires or is sold, terminated, exercised, or revoked, or it no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting, the cumulative gain or loss on the hedging instrument that has been recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense is separately recognised in equity and amortised to the surplus or deficit over the remaining period of the original hedging instrument.

There is an economic relationship between the hedged item and the hedging instrument as the terms of the interest rate swaps match the terms of the fixed rate loan (ie. notional amount, maturity, payment and reset dates). At inception of the hedge relationship the Council documents the economic relationship between hedging instruments and hedged items including whether changes in the cash flows of the hedging instruments are expected to offset changes in the cash flows of hedged items. The documentation includes its risk management objective and strategy for undertaking its hedged transactions.

Derivatives in hedge relationships are designated based on a hedge ratio up to 1:1. The Council does not hedge 100 percent of its loans, therefore the hedged item is identified as a proportion of the outstanding loans up to the notional amount of the swaps. To test the hedge effectiveness, the Council uses the hypothetical derivative method and compares the changes in the fair value of the hedging instrument against the changes in fair value of the hedged item attributable to the hedged risk.

# **Hedge ineffectiveness**

Hedge ineffectiveness in a hedge relationship can arise from:

- differences in the timing of cash flows of the hedged items and hedging instruments; or
- changes to the forecasted amount of cash flows of hedged items and hedging instruments.

# Receivables and recoverables

## **Expected credit losses**

Short-term receivables are recorded at the amount due, less an allowance for expected credit losses (ECL).

The Council applies the simplified ECL model of recognising lifetime ECL for short-term receivables. Lifetime ECL result from all possible default events over the expected life of a receivable. The Council uses a provision matrix based on historical credit loss information upon initial recognition of a receivable, using reasonable assumptions and any available customer information.

Other receivables are written-off when there is no reasonable expectation of recovery. Indicators that there is no reasonable expectation of recovery include the debtor being in liquidation.

### Rates receivable

The Council does not provide for ECL on rates receivable, except for abandoned properties where the debt is greater than 10 years past due and the likelihood of recovery is assessed to be remote. For all other rates receivables, Council has various powers under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 to recover any outstanding debts. These powers allow the Council to commence legal proceedings to recover any rates that remain unpaid four months after the due date for payment. If payment has not been made within three months of the Court's judgment, then the Council can apply to the Registrar of the High Court to have the judgment enforced by sale or lease of the rating unit.

Ratepayers can apply for payment plan options in special circumstances.

## Other receivables

In measuring ECL, all receivables have been grouped based on shared risk characteristics and the days overdue. The ECL rates for other receivables are based on the payment profile of revenue on credit over the prior three years at balance date. A provision matrix is then established based on historical, current and forward-looking information specific to each class of debtors and the macroeconomic environment affecting the ability of customers to settle their debt.

# **Investment properties**

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently measured at fair value, determined annually by an independent registered valuer. Any gain or loss arising is recognised within the surplus or deficit. Investment properties are not depreciated.

The basis of valuation varies depending on the nature of the lease. For sites that are subject to a terminating lease the approach is to assess the value of the lease revenue over the remaining term of the lease and add the residual value of the land at lease expiry.

For sites subject to perpetually renewable leases, values have been assessed utilising the discounted cash flow methodology and arriving at a net present value of all future anticipated gross lease payments.

Borrowing costs incurred during the construction of investment property are not capitalised.

Oin ground leases on the waterfront and within the central city have, for accounting purposes, been treated as sold assets due to the very long-term nature of the lease and peppercorn rentals. At a future point in time, prior to the asset being returned to the Council ownership, the Council will begin to incrementally re-recognise the value of the asset. The amortisation of the estimated future value will reflect the prevalent economic situation and will be more relevant in terms of both the estimated value and materiality.

# Non-current assets classified as held for sale

Non-current assets are classified as held for sale if their carrying value will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use.

Non-current assets held for sale are measured at the lower of the carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell. Impairment losses on initial classification are included within the surplus or deficit.

Non-current assets are not depreciated or amortised while they are classified as held for sale.

A non-current asset is classified as held for sale where:

- the asset is available for immediate sale in its present condition subject only to terms that are usual and customary for sales of such assets;
- a plan to sell the asset is in place and an active programme to locate a buyer has been initiated;
- the asset is being actively marketed for sale at a price that is reasonable in relation to its current fair value:
- the sale is expected to occur within one year or beyond one year where a delay has occurred that is caused by events beyond the Council's control and there is sufficient evidence the Council remains committed to sell the asset; and

actions required to complete the sale indicate it is unlikely that significant changes to the plan will be made or the plan will be withdrawn.

# Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment consists of operational assets, restricted assets and infrastructure assets.

**Operational assets** include land, buildings, landfill post-closure costs, Civic Precinct, plant and equipment and library collections.

**Restricted assets** include art and cultural assets, buildings on restricted land, parks and reserves and the Town Belt. These assets provide a benefit or service to the community and in most cases cannot be disposed of because of legal or other restrictions.

Infrastructure assets include the roading network, drainage, water and waste reticulation networks including service concession arrangement assets (wastewater treatment plants) and infrastructure land (including land under roads). Each asset type includes all items that are required for the network to function.

Within the above three categories, assets can also be subcategorised as heritage or vested assets.

Heritage assets are tangible assets with historical, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical or environmental qualities that are held and maintained principally for their contribution to knowledge and culture. The Council recognises these assets within these prospective financial statements to the extent their value can be reliably measured.

**Vested assets** are those assets where ownership and control are transferred to the Council from a third party (for example, infrastructure assets constructed by developers and transferred to the Council on completion of a subdivision). Vested assets are recognised within their respective asset classes.

# Recognition

Expenditure is capitalised as property, plant and equipment when it creates a new asset or increases the economic benefits of an existing asset. Costs that do not meet the criteria for capitalisation are expensed.

#### Measurement

Property, plant and equipment is recognised initially at cost, unless acquired for nil or nominal cost (for example, vested assets), in which case the asset is recognised at fair value at the date of transfer. The initial cost of property, plant and equipment includes the purchase consideration (or the fair value in the case of vested assets), and

those costs that are directly attributable to bringing the asset into the location and condition necessary for its intended purpose. Subsequent expenditure that extends or expands the asset's service potential is capitalised.

Borrowing costs incurred during the construction of property, plant and equipment are not capitalised.

After initial recognition, certain classes of property, plant and equipment are revalued to fair value. Where there is no active market for an asset, fair value is determined by using the optimised depreciated replacement cost methodology.

Optimised depreciated replacement cost is a valuation methodology where the value of an asset is based on the cost of replacement with an efficient modern equivalent making allowance for obsolescence or surplus capacity. The remaining life of the asset is estimated and straight-line depreciation applied to bring the replacement cost to a fair value.

Specific measurement policies for categories of property, plant and equipment are shown below:

# (a) Operational assets - Land and Buildings

Operational land and buildings are valued at fair value every 3 years, or whenever the carrying amount differs materially to fair value, by independent registered valuers.

#### Pārongo Ahumoni | Financial information

Where the information is available, land and buildings are valued based on market evidence. Most of the Council's land and buildings are of a 'non-tradeable' or specialist nature and the value is based on the fair value of the land plus the optimised depreciated replacement cost of the buildings. For earthquake prone buildings that are expected to be strengthened, the estimated cost to strengthen the building has been deducted from the optimised depreciated replacement cost. Non-specialised properties that comprise the City Housing portfolio have been valued on a marketbased approach with the associated land value being established through analysis of sales and market evidence.

# (b) Operational assets - Library Collections

Library collections are valued at depreciated replacement cost on a 3-year cycle by the Council's library staff in accordance with guidelines outlined in Valuation Guidance for Cultural and Heritage Assets, published by The Treasury Accounting Policy Team, November 2002.

## (c) Operational - Other assets

Plant and equipment and the Civic Precinct are measured at historical cost and not revalued.

## (d) Restricted assets

Art and cultural assets (artworks, sculptures and statues) are valued at historical cost. All other restricted assets (buildings, parks and reserves and the Town Belt) were valued at fair value as at 30 June 2005 by an independent registered valuer. The Council has elected to use the fair value of other restricted assets at 30 June 2005 as the deemed cost of the assets. These assets are no longer revalued. Subsequent additions have been recorded at cost.

### (e) Infrastructure assets

Infrastructure assets (the roading network, drainage, water and waste reticulation networks including service concession arrangement assets (wastewater treatment plants) are valued at optimised depreciated replacement cost every 3 years, or whenever the carrying amount differs materially to fair value, by independent registered valuers. Infrastructure valuations are based on the physical attributes of the assets, their condition and their remaining lives based on the Council's best information reflected in its asset management plans. The costs are based on current quotes from actual suppliers. As such, they include ancillary costs such as breaking through seal, traffic control and rehabilitation. Between valuations. expenditure on asset improvements is capitalised at cost.

Infrastructure land (excluding land under roads) is valued every 3 years, or whenever the carrying amount differs materially to fair value, by an independent registered valuer.

Land under roads, which represents the corridor of land directly under and adjacent to the Council's roading network was valued as at 30 June 2005 at the average value of surrounding adjacent land discounted by 50 percent to reflect its restricted nature. The Council elected to use the fair value of land under roads at 30 June 2005 as the deemed cost of the asset. Land under roads is no longer revalued. Subsequent additions have been recorded at cost.

The carrying values of revalued property, plant and equipment are reviewed at the end of each reporting period to ensure that those values are not materially different to fair value.

### Revaluations

The result of any revaluation of the Council's property, plant and equipment is recognised within other comprehensive revenue and expense and taken to the asset revaluation reserve. Where this results in a debit balance in the reserve for a class of property, plant and equipment, the balance is included in the surplus or deficit. Any subsequent increase on revaluation that offsets a previous decrease in value recognised within the surplus or deficit will be recognised firstly, within the surplus or deficit up to the amount previously expensed, with any remaining increase recognised within other comprehensive revenue and expense and in the revaluation reserve for that class of property, plant and equipment.

Any impairment in a revalued class of asset is recognised within other comprehensive revenue and expense and taken to the asset revaluation reserve.

Accumulated depreciation at the revaluation date is eliminated so that the carrying amount after revaluation equals the revalued amount.

While assumptions are used in all revaluations, the most significant of these are in infrastructure. For example, where stormwater, wastewater and water supply pipes are underground, the physical deterioration and condition of assets are not visible and must therefore be estimated. Any revaluation risk is minimised by performing a combination of physical inspections and condition modelling assessments.



## **Impairment**

The Council's assets are defined as cash generating if the primary purpose of the asset is to provide a commercial return. Non-cash generating assets are assets other than cash generating assets. Property, plant and equipment assets, measured at fair value, are not required to be reviewed and tested for impairment.

The carrying amounts of cash generating property, plant and equipment assets are reviewed at least annually to determine if there is any indication of impairment. Where an asset's, or class of assets', recoverable amount is less than it's carrying amount it will be reported at its recoverable amount and an impairment loss will be recognised. The recoverable amount is the higher of an item's fair value less costs to sell and value in use. Losses resulting from impairment are reported within the surplus or deficit unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount in which case any impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease and recorded within other comprehensive revenue and expense.

The carrying amounts of non-cash generating property, plant and equipment assets are reviewed at least annually to determine if there is any indication of impairment. Where an asset's, or class of assets', recoverable service amount is less than it's carrying amount it will be reported at its recoverable service amount and an impairment loss will be recognised. The recoverable service amount is the higher of an item's fair value less costs to sell and value in use. A non-cash generating asset's value in use is the present value of the asset's remaining service potential. Losses resulting from impairment are reported within the surplus or deficit unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount in which case any impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease and recorded within other comprehensive revenue and expense.

## Disposal

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds from sale with the carrying amount of the asset. Gains and losses on disposal are reported net in the surplus or deficit. When revalued assets are sold, the amounts included in asset revaluation reserves in respect of those assets are transferred to retained earnings.

# Work in progress

Work in progress represents the cost of capital expenditure projects that are not yet capable for use in the manner intended by management. The cost of projects within work in progress is transferred to the relevant asset class when the project is completed and is then subject to depreciation/amortisation.

# **Intangible assets**

Gains and losses arising from disposal of intangible assets are recognised within the surplus or deficit in the period in which the transaction occurs. Intangible assets are reviewed at least annually to determine if there is any indication of impairment. Where an intangible asset's recoverable amount is less than its carrying amount, it will be reported at its recoverable amount and an impairment loss will be recognised. Losses resulting from impairment are reported within the surplus or deficit.

Intangible assets predominately comprise computer software and carbon credits.

# Computer software

Acquired computer software is measured on initial recognition at the costs to acquire and bring to use and is subsequently measured less any amortisation and impairment losses.

### **Carbon credits**

Carbon credits comprise either allocations of emission allowances granted by the Crown related to forestry assets or units purchased in the market to cover liabilities associated with landfill operations. Carbon credits allocated as a non-exchange transaction are initially recognised at fair value, which then becomes the deemed cost. Carbon credits that are purchased are recognised at cost.

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# **Deferred revenue**

# Liabilities recognised under conditional transfer agreements

The Council receives non-exchange transfer monies for specific purposes, which apply to periods beyond the current year, with conditions that would require the return of the monies if they were not able to fulfil the agreement. The revenue from these agreements will only be recognised as the conditions are fulfilled over time.

# **Borrowings**

Borrowings on normal commercial terms are initially recognised at amortised cost. Interest due on the borrowings is subsequently accrued. Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the Council has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after balance date.

# Leases

## Operating leases as lessee

Leases where the lessor retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the leased items are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases (net of any lease incentives) are recognised within the surplus or deficit on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

### Operating leases as lessor

The Council leases certain investment properties and operational land and buildings. Rental revenue (net of any incentives given to lessees) is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

# **Employee benefit liabilities**

A provision for employee benefit liabilities (holiday leave and retirement gratuities) is recognised as a liability when benefits are earned but not paid.

# **Holiday leave**

Holiday leave includes annual leave, long service leave, statutory time off in lieu and ordinary time off in lieu. Annual leave is calculated on an actual entitlement basis in accordance with section 21(2) of the Holidays Act 2003.

# Provisions for other liabilities

Provisions are recognised for future liabilities of uncertain timing or amount when there is a present obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that expenditure will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate of the obligation can be made. Provisions are measured at the expenditure expected to be required to settle the obligation. Liabilities and provisions to be settled beyond 12 months are recorded at their present value.



# Contingent liabilities and assets

Contingent liabilities and contingent assets are disclosed at the point at which the contingency is evident. Contingent liabilities are disclosed if the possibility they will crystallise is not remote. Contingent assets are disclosed if it is probable the benefits will be realised.

# **Equity**

Equity is the community's interest in the Council and is measured as the difference between total assets and total liabilities. Equity is classified into several components including:

- accumulated funds and retained earnings
- revaluation reserves
- hedging reserve
- fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense reserve; and
- restricted funds.
- Restricted funds are those reserves that are subject to specific conditions of use, whether under statute or accepted as binding by the Council, and that may not be revised without reference to the Courts or third parties. Transfers from these reserves may be made only for specified purposes or when certain specified conditions are met.

# Prospective statement of cash flows

Cash and cash equivalents for the purposes of the prospective statement of cash flows comprise cash at bank, cash on hand, and short-term bank deposits with a maturity of up to 3 months at acquisition. The prospective statement of cash flows has been prepared using the direct approach subject to the netting of certain cash flows. Cash flows in respect of investments and borrowings that have been rolled over under arranged finance facilities have been netted in order to provide more meaningful disclosures.

Operating activities include cash received from all non-financial and non-investing activity revenue sources of the Council and record the cash payments made for the supply of goods and services.

Investing activities relate to the acquisition and disposal of assets and investment revenue.

Financing activities relate to activities that change the equity and debt capital structure of the Council and financing costs.

# **Related parties**

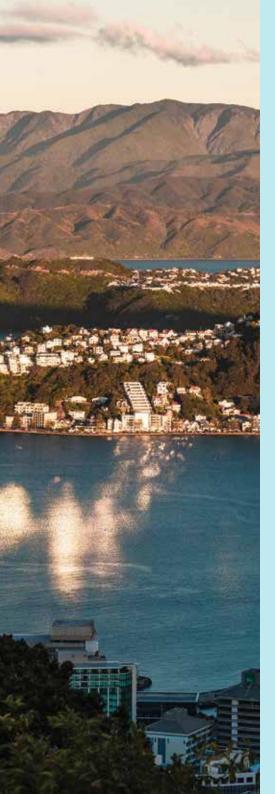
Related parties arise where one entity has the ability to affect the financial and operating policies of another through the presence of control or significant influence. Related parties include all members of the Group (controlled entities, associates and joint ventures) and key management personnel. Key management personnel include the Mayor and Councillors as elected members of the governing body of the Council reporting entity, the Chief Executive, and all members of the Executive Leadership Team, being key advisors to the Council and Chief Executive.





Mahere ā-Tau | Annual Plan 2025/26





# Wāhanga 4 | Section 4

# **Ö Kaikaunihera** Your Mayor and Councillors

The Wellington City Council is made up of 15 elected Councillors and a Mayor.
The Council also appoints two representatives of our Tākai Here partners to Council committees.

The Council is elected, along with all other local authority elected members in New Zealand, every 3 years. The next election is in October 2025.

The Mayor is elected by the city's residents. The Councillors are elected by voters from the wards they represent.

## **Citywide**

**Tory Whanau** Mayor mayor@wcc.govt.nz

**Chair:** Te Kaunihera o Pōneke Wellington City Council, and Ngutu Taki CEO Performance Review Committee

Elected: 2022

# Paekawakawa | Southern Ward

**Laurie Foon** Deputy Mayor laurie.foon@wcc.govt.nz

**Deputy Chair:** Te Kaunihera o Pōneke Council and Unaunahi Ngaio Chief Executive Performance Review Committee

Elected: 2019

### **Nureddin Abdurahman**

nureddin.abdurahman@wcc.govt.nz

**Deputy Chair:** Kōrau Mātinitini | Social, Cultural, and Economic Committee

Elected: 2022

# Takapū | Northern Ward

### **John Apanowicz**

john.apanowicz@wcc.govt.nz

**Deputy Chair:** Kōrau Tōtōpū Long-term Plan, Finance, and Performance Committee

Elected: 2022

### Ben McNulty

ben.mcnulty@wcc.govt.nz

**Deputy Chair:** Koata Hātepe Regulatory Processes Committee

Elected: 2022

## **Tony Randle**

tony.randle@wcc.govt.nz

Deputy Chair: Unaunahi Māhirahira

Audit and Risk Committee

Elected: 2022

## Motukairangi | Eastern Ward

#### Sarah Free

sarah.free@wcc.govt.nz

Chair: Koata Hātepe | Regulatory

**Processes Committee** 

**Elected:** 2013, and served as Deputy Mayor 2019–2022

#### **Tim Brown**

tim.brown@wcc.govt.nz

**Chair:** Kōrau Tūāpapa | Environment and Infrastructure Committee

Elected: 2022

#### Teri O'Neill

teri.oneill@wcc.govt.nz

Chair: Kōrau Mātinitini | Social, Cultural,

and Economic Committee

Elected: 2019

## Pukehinau | Lambton Ward

#### **Iona Pannett**

iona.pannett@wcc.govt.nz

Elected: 2007

### **Nicola Young**

nicola.young@wcc.govt.nz

**Deputy Chair:** Pītau Pūmanawa

Grants Subcommittee

Elected: 2013

## **Geordie Rogers**

geordie.rogers@wcc.govt.nz

Elected: 2024 (by-election)

## Wharangi Onslow-Western Ward

#### **Diane Calvert**

diane.calvert@wcc.govt.nz

Elected: 2016

## **Ray Chung**

ray.chung@wcc.govt.nz

Elected: 2022

#### Rebecca Matthews

rebecca.matthews@wcc.govt.nz

**Chair:** Kōrau Tōtōpū | Long-term Plan, Finance, and Performance Committee

**Deputy Chair:** Kōrau Tūāpapa Environment and Infrastructure

Committee

Elected: 2019

## Te Whanganui-a-Tara Māori Ward

#### Nikau Wi Neera

nikau.wineera@wcc.govt.nz

**Chair:** Pītau Pūmanawa Grants Subcommittee

Elected: 2022

# Pouiwi | Mana whenua representatives

## **Liz Kelly**

liz.kelly@wcc.govt.nz

## **Holden Hohaia**

holden.hohaia@wcc.govt.nz

Me Heke Ki Pōneke