



REPORT 2

GRAFFITI VANDALISM MANAGEMENT PLAN

1. Purpose of report

This report outlines Council's approach to the management of graffiti vandalism in Wellington. The Graffiti Vandalism Management Plan establishes a consistent, integrated approach to the prevention, management and reduction of graffiti vandalism for Wellington City.

2. Executive summary

Graffiti is a significant public nuisance and can be seen as an indicator of an increase in more serious crimes. The successful management of graffiti vandalism is essential for Wellington to maintain high levels of perceived safety and liveability.

The Council is the lead agency for the coordination of the management of graffiti vandalism in the city and has developed a Graffiti Vandalism Management Plan to deliver a best-practice programme of activities which focuses on a consistent, coordinated, and collaborative approach based on 'zero tolerance' principles.

The plan outlines an integrated collaborative approach focused on reducing graffiti vandalism. This will be delivered through prevention, eradication and enforcement programmes. It also emphasises shared responsibility and initiatives and programmes need to be developed and delivered in partnership with key stakeholders and the community.

3. Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Community, Recreation and Sport Committee:

- 1. Receive the information.*
- 2. Note the Graffiti Vandalism Management Plan aligns with the Wellington Regional Graffiti Prevention Strategy.*
- 3. Agree to adopt a zero tolerance approach to graffiti vandalism as outlined in the plan.*

4. Discussion

The Summary Offences (Tagging and Graffiti Vandalism) Amendment Act 2008 defines graffiti vandalism as:

“the act of a person damaging or defacing any building, structure, road, tree, property, or other thing by writing, drawing, painting, spraying or etching on it, or otherwise marking it –

- a) Without lawful authority; and*
- b) Without the consent of the occupier or owner or other person in lawful control”*

In February 2013, the Regional Mayoral Forum agreed to a Wellington Regional Graffiti Prevention Strategy 2013-17 (Appendix1). This provides a framework for consistency in approach across the region as well as a platform for wider stakeholder discussions.

Surveys indicate that graffiti vandalism occurs at a higher level in Wellington than in neighbouring areas and in comparative cities internationally.

“The "in-scope" score measuring the level of graffiti on assets that the council is responsible for, or could clean was 79 - barely adequate by international standards. (The UK targets 96 for its councils, although only achieves 92.) Hutt City Council currently scores 90 out of 100.

The ambient graffiti score which ignores who is responsible for the asset was 72 - well below the benchmark set in the UK, as well as the NZ best-practice results. (Anything above 80 is a reasonable result, but something in the mid-nineties is more desirable.)

Some wards (Lambton, Southern) have very low ambient scores, indicating a substantial graffiti problem. Lambton in particular was very low, scoring similar to the rail corridors.”

Tasman Research and Consultation: A survey of graffiti vandalism in Wellington

Graffiti was also identified as a concern for Wellington residents in the 2012 Quality of Life survey where 79% indicated it was a problem (average across NZ was 61%). The survey also indicated a decreased feeling of safety in the community with 22% feeling unsafe walking in their neighbourhood at night (Appendix 2)

The level of graffiti removal is captured through the STOPTAGS database and an annual audit. STOPTAGS shows that in the last 12 months 11,712 graffiti incidents were removed across the city (Appendix 2) while this figure covers only incidents loaded into STOPTAGS, it reflects the underlying trends and shows that:

- Tagging is generally location specific – Te Aro and Newtown accounting for over a third of all reported graffiti incidents.

- The top 25 locations highlight that there are some specific areas targeted such as key pedestrian areas, tunnels and walkways, railway stations and skateparks.
- There is a range of property types targeted.

During the 2012/13 financial year the Council spent \$580,000 on graffiti removal. Although the Council provides a good service the management of graffiti needs to incorporate an integrated response with ownership from our partners, businesses, building owners and the community.

As Wellington seeks to position itself as a people centred city, higher than expected levels of graffiti vandalism can compromise this. As a result the successful management and eradication of graffiti vandalism is important in achieving the outcomes that Wellington city seeks.

4.1 A 'zero tolerance' approach

'Zero tolerance' is a strategy for addressing graffiti vandalism and arose from the successful strategies developed in New York in the 1980's and has informed the approach outlined in this document. A zero tolerance approach to graffiti vandalism will deliver a clear message to the community and businesses and give officers guidance on practice. In order to see a city clear of graffiti it has been shown that rapid removal of all visible graffiti will, if consistently and constantly maintained, lead to a large reduction of graffiti vandalism over time.

The approach adopted in the Graffiti Vandalism Management Plan (Appendix 3) is to standardise and integrate services across the city and one that emphasises:

- Zero tolerance to graffiti vandalism with clear messaging to the residents of Wellington.
- Graffiti is vandalism and a crime which impacts negatively on community.
- Collaboration with key stakeholders and the community where all parties take joint responsibility for reducing the problem and achieve beneficial outcomes.
- Programmes that provides for a sustainable, significant and measurable reduction in graffiti vandalism in Wellington.
- Graffiti removal that is standardised, cost effective and responsive
- Outcomes that enhance civic pride and perception of safety.

5. The Plan

The plan focuses on prevention, eradication and enforcement. The plan also provides a simple and effective service model to address graffiti vandalism that utilises national and international best-practice.

5.1 Prevention

- Integrating Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles in policy and planning projects.

- Recognising the benefits from community driven programmes and provide and promote opportunities for communities and volunteers to become involved in and lead community preventative programmes which includes development of murals.
- Recognising that combining rapid eradication, focused enforcement and effective education programmes provide further opportunities for prevention.
- Promotion and public awareness about minimising graffiti and demonstrating community pride and responsibility through the media, schools and businesses.
- Education of business owners about the benefits of quick graffiti removal and encourage locating spray cans behind counters.
- Partnering with community police teams to incorporate the issue of graffiti into their youth and student education programmes.
- Provide a “tool kit” for residents and business to assist:
 - property owners to consider CPTED measures to reduce the likelihood of graffiti vandalism
 - with removal including opportunity to progress community lead initiatives.

5.2 Eradication

- Streamline and standardise response to graffiti to deliver a rapid and efficient eradication service.
- Partnering and collaborating with owners of the city’s telecommunication and transport infrastructure. This includes a collaborative approach to standardise responses and taking advantage of any economies of scale relating to resources and supplies.
- Establishing a process for rapid response and consistency for eradication with private property/asset owners.
- Utilizing community driven projects as well utilising opportunities and partnerships with corrections and police diversion schemes.
- Work with the Police so that graffiti eradication becomes a key objective through the apprehension of offenders and youth aid programmes.

5.3 Enforcement

- Partner with the Police to ensure graffiti vandalism offenders and hot spot locations are targeted.
- Fully utilize availability of tag mapping, identification and the data and report functions of STOPTAGs to assist with eradication and monitoring.
- A focus on frequently tagged sites encouraging residents and businesses to report incidences of graffiti.
- Applying existing legislation where appropriate which include restrictions on the sale of spray cans.
- Seeking reparation from graffiti vandalism offenders.
- Considering new graffiti vandalism bylaw legislation.

6. Consultation and Engagement

With all relevant stakeholders; including the police, utility providers, KiwiRail and other councils in the region.

Engagement with local communities will be crucial as part of the implementation as the majority of graffiti damage is on privately owned buildings, infrastructure and facilities.

7. Financial considerations

The Management Plan will be delivered as part of business as usual, and there are no new financial considerations.

8. Climate change impacts and considerations

There are no climate change impacts and considerations.

9. Long-term plan considerations

There are no Long Term Plan implications

10. Conclusion

Graffiti is a significant public nuisance and is a crime that is associated with and contributes to reduced perceptions of safety, increased criminal activity, a decline in property values and with perceived reduction in the city's liveability.

The Wellington City Council is the lead agency for the management of graffiti vandalism in the city and the plan delivers an effective model to address graffiti vandalism that is recognised both nationally and internationally.

The Graffiti Vandalism Management Plan establishes a consistent, integrated approach to the prevention, management and reduction graffiti vandalism for Wellington City.

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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1) Strategic fit / Strategic outcome

The paper supports Council's overall vision of Wellington Towards 2040: Smart Capital. It supports the goal for Wellington to be a 'people centred' city – that is, a city that puts people first, is healthy and safe, welcoming and friendly, provides opportunities for all, has strong neighbourhoods and communities, and embraces diversity and change.

2) LTP/Annual Plan reference and long term financial impact

There are no Long Term Plan implications

3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations

There are no Treaty considerations as a result of this paper.

4) Decision-making

This is not a significant decision.

5) Consultation

a) General consultation

The success of this management plan requires ongoing community engagement in the areas where graffiti vandalism is an issue.

b) Consultation with Maori

NA

6) Legal implications

There are no direct legal implications arising from this paper. However effective enforcement requires a strong working relationship with the Police and the justice system.

7) Consistency with existing policy

This paper is consistent with existing policy.

Wellington Regional Graffiti Prevention Strategy 2013-17

WELLINGTON REGIONAL GRAFFITI PREVENTION STRATEGY 2013-17

Our Vision:
**PREVENTING GRAFFITI
VANDALISM TOGETHER**

HOW WE PREVENT

<p>LEADERSHIP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide direction Agree activities Share resources Ensure accountability 	<p>ENGAGEMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistent messages Effective partnerships Share and learn Targeted education 	<p>ERADICATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prompt removal Quality services Cost effective Community action 	<p>ENFORCEMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply the law Seek reparation Focus on hot spots Target repeat offenders
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BENEFITS/OUTCOMES	HOW WE MEASURE
SUSTAINABLE GRAFFITI REDUCTION	Crime data Graffiti audits Shared 'Stop Tags' database
IMPROVED ENVIRONMENT	Community feedback Graffiti audits Shared 'Stop Tags' database
IMPROVED SAFETY PERCEPTIONS	Perception of safety audits Community feedback Crime data
ENGAGED AND EMPOWERED COMMUNITIES	Community feedback Crime data Graffiti removed (\$ and time)
VALUE FOR INVESTMENT	Total spending Graffiti removed (\$ and time) Crime data Shared 'Stop Tags' database Graffiti audits Community feedback Perception of safety audits

WHO WE ARE

Principles, Definitions and Implementation

Purpose of Strategy: To promote region-wide collaboration and consistency for reducing and preventing graffiti vandalism.

Principles and Definitions: The organisations with logos appearing on the Strategy's front page have signed up to this Regional Strategy. Each of those organisations will adopt the principles and definitions (below) as part of their local action plans and other efforts to prevent graffiti. No activities should be inconsistent with those principles and definitions.

Guiding Examples: The examples are for guidance around how to implement the principles. There is no expectation, however, that organisations signing up to this Strategy implement all of the examples, particularly if other projects better suit local circumstances.

The definitions and examples below will generally be relevant for communities and stakeholders.

Wellington Regional Graffiti Prevention Strategy 2013-17: Principles, Definitions and Implementation

Purpose of Strategy: To promote region-wide collaboration and consistency for reducing and preventing graffiti vandalism.

Principles and Definitions: The organisations with logos appearing on the Strategy's front page have signed up to this Regional Strategy. Each of those organisations will adopt the principles and definitions (below) as part of their local action plans and other efforts to prevent graffiti. No activities should be inconsistent with those principles and definitions.

Guiding Examples: The examples are for guidance around how to implement the principles. There is no expectation, however, that organisations signing up to this Strategy implement all of the examples, particularly if other projects better suit local circumstances.

The definitions and examples below will generally be relevant for communities and stakeholders such as: territorial authorities (TAs), Wellington Regional Council, KiwiRail, Wellington Electric, other utility companies, NZ Police, government organisations, businesses, schools, residents associations and youth clubs.

Implementation and Evaluation: Organisations signing up to this strategy will annually evaluate progress using the measures on the Strategy's front page that are relevant to them (for example crime data, graffiti audits, shared 'Stop Tags' database). Annual progress will be reported back to the regional working group.

Appendix 1

Overarching Principle	Definition	Sub-Principles	How principles can be implemented (Examples)
Leadership	Provide region - wide direction and guidance to address graffiti vandalism in neighbourhoods, communities and businesses.	Provide direction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give best-practice and consistent advice on how to tackle local graffiti effectively. • Promote region-wide activities (including the Graffiti Prevention Strategy, Governance Group and quarterly reporting).
		Agree activities	Undertake initiatives, such as the following, to help divert people from graffiti vandalism: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Murals • Community programmes • Youth activities • Education projects • Partner with businesses.
		Share resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share data/analysis (e.g. StopTags information), communication and advertising materials. • Have common funding streams. • Share contracting services.
		Ensure accountability Ensure accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have local graffiti policies. • Clearly define who is responsible for what. • Measure policy success and feed this back to the community.
Engagement	Work collaboratively with communities and stakeholders to promote ownership and action in preventing and removing graffiti vandalism.	Consistent messages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use standard format for messaging. • Do not use real graffiti images in published materials or media.
		Effective partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involve stakeholder groups in community work or projects. • Work with young people in school holidays.
		Share and learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give permission for other councils/businesses to use your printed materials. • Share and learn from successes and things needing to be done differently. • Share ideas, principles and initiatives. • Seek feedback and learn from communities.
Eradication	Prompt removal of graffiti vandalism to promote a sense of	Prompt removal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set and adhere to time standards.
		Quality services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have consistent and effective ways of removing graffiti across all assets.

Appendix 1

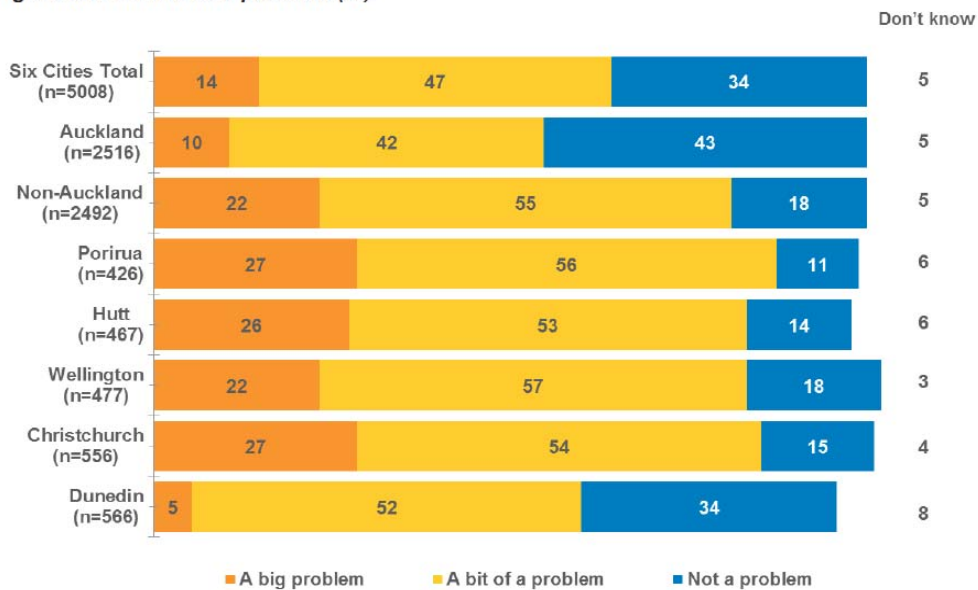
Overarching Principle	Definition	Sub-Principles	How principles can be implemented (Examples)
	ownership and safety.	Cost effective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streamline removal methods. • Target surveillance. • Bulk-order products.
		Community action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate a volunteer programme (adopt a spot) and encourage the reporting of offences and offenders. • Work towards regionally consistent practices for public access to resources to eradicate graffiti.
Enforcement	Effective use of legislation in enabling communities to be free of graffiti vandalism.	Apply the law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosecute, prevent and deter graffiti vandalism. • Assist the Police by providing information on offenders or offences. • Ensure retailers do not sell spray paint to underage customers.
		Seek reparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always seek reparation after a specific amount of damage. • Penalties should be commensurate with the level of offending (e.g. penalties under the Crimes Act for significant damage, Summary Offences for less significant vandalism).
		Focus on hot spots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use StopTags to identify and concentrate resources on areas of concern. • Councils to inform the Justice sector about the impact of graffiti on communities.
		Target repeat offenders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top 10 offender lists

Snap Shots and Audits

The 2012 Quality of Life Survey

This survey undertaken in 2012 highlights the high levels of graffiti in the Wellington region compared to Auckland and Dunedin.

Figure 8.7: Graffiti as a problem (%)



STOPTAGS Data

Table 1: Reported Graffiti Incidents by Suburb: Wellington City – Yr to May 2013

Suburb	Reported Incidents	
Te Aro	2,724	24%
Newtown	1,253	11%
Mount Cook	888	8%
Hataitai	635	6%
Tawa	484	4%
Kilbirnie	469	4%
Aro Valley	442	4%
Wellington Central	402	4%
Berhampore	398	4%
Rongotai	354	3%
Island Bay	320	3%
Mount Victoria	298	3%
Johnsonville	283	3%
Kelburn	261	2%
Northland	247	2%
Sub Total	9,458	85%
Other	1,714	15%
Total	11,172	

Appendix 2

Table 2: The Top 25 Reporting Streets: Wellington City - Yr to May 2013

Site	Reported Incidents	
Cuba Street	507	5%
Coutts Street	501	4%
Skate Park	430	4%
Riddiford St	410	4%
Railway Station	321	3%
Aro Street	279	2%
Other Parks	236	2%
Adelaide Road	218	2%
Manners Street	215	2%
Vivian Street	215	2%
Wallace St	174	2%
Crawford Road	167	1%
Chaytor St	167	1%
Tasman Street	165	1%
Abel Smith St	156	1%
Moxham avenue	149	1%
Ghuznee St	136	1%
Waitoa Road	134	1%
The Parade	125	1%
Brooklyn Rd	118	1%
Webb St	111	1%
Rintoul St	110	1%
Upland Rd	106	1%
Constable St	102	1%
Toilets	100	1%
Subtotal	5,352	48%
Other	5,820	52%
Total	11,172	

Appendix 2

Table 3: Reported Graffiti Incidents by Property Type: Wellington City - Yr to May 2013

Property Type	Reported Incidents	
Commercial: Commercial Building	1,708	15%
Private: Fence	1,106	10%
Undefined	962	9%
Parks & Gardens	763	7%
Public: Bus Shelters	710	6%
Public: Tunnel	667	6%
Commercial: Power	560	5%
Private: Garage	521	5%
Public: Council Facilities	469	4%
Public: Power Pole	464	4%
Commercial: Suburban Shopping Centre	452	4%
Commercial: Other	405	4%
Public: Street Lamp posts	334	3%
Commercial: CBD	277	2%
Private: House	247	2%
GWRC	191	2%
Public: Traffic Signage	184	2%
Public: Roading Furniture	157	1%
Public: Street Signage	120	1%
Other	875	8%
Total	11,172	

Table 4: Reported Graffiti Incidents summarised by Property Type: Wellington City - Yr to May 2013

Property Type	Reported Incidents	
Commercial	3,402	32%
Public	4,059	42%
Private	1,874	18%
Undefined	1,837	9%

Table 5: Reported Graffiti Method: Wellington City - Yr to May 2013

Tag Type	Reported Incidents	
Spray Painting	4,019	36%
Felt Tip Pen	3,397	30%
Paint Bomb	1,514	14%
Undefined	962	9%
Paint	803	7%
Other		4%

The STOPTAGS database shows that tagging is generally quite location specific. This supports a community based approach including the Council, business owners and residents, and police to respond to it in high risk areas.

Figure 1: Reported Graffiti: Newtown

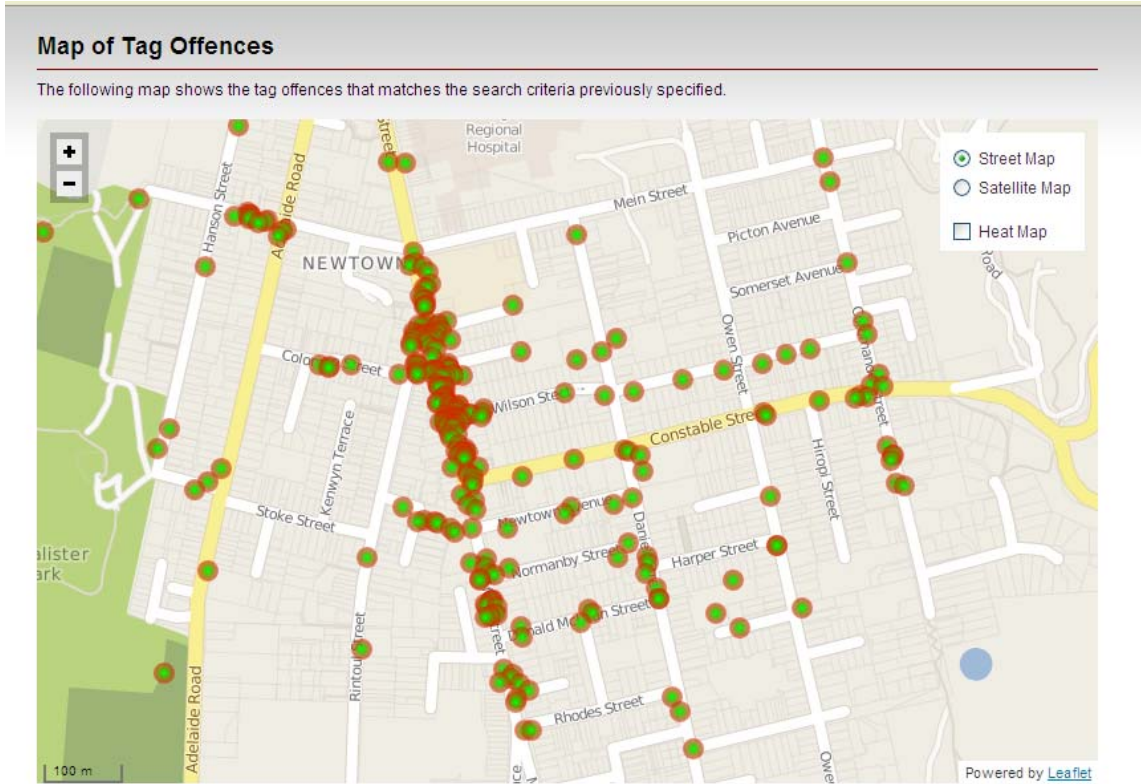


Figure 2: Reported Graffiti: Haitaitai

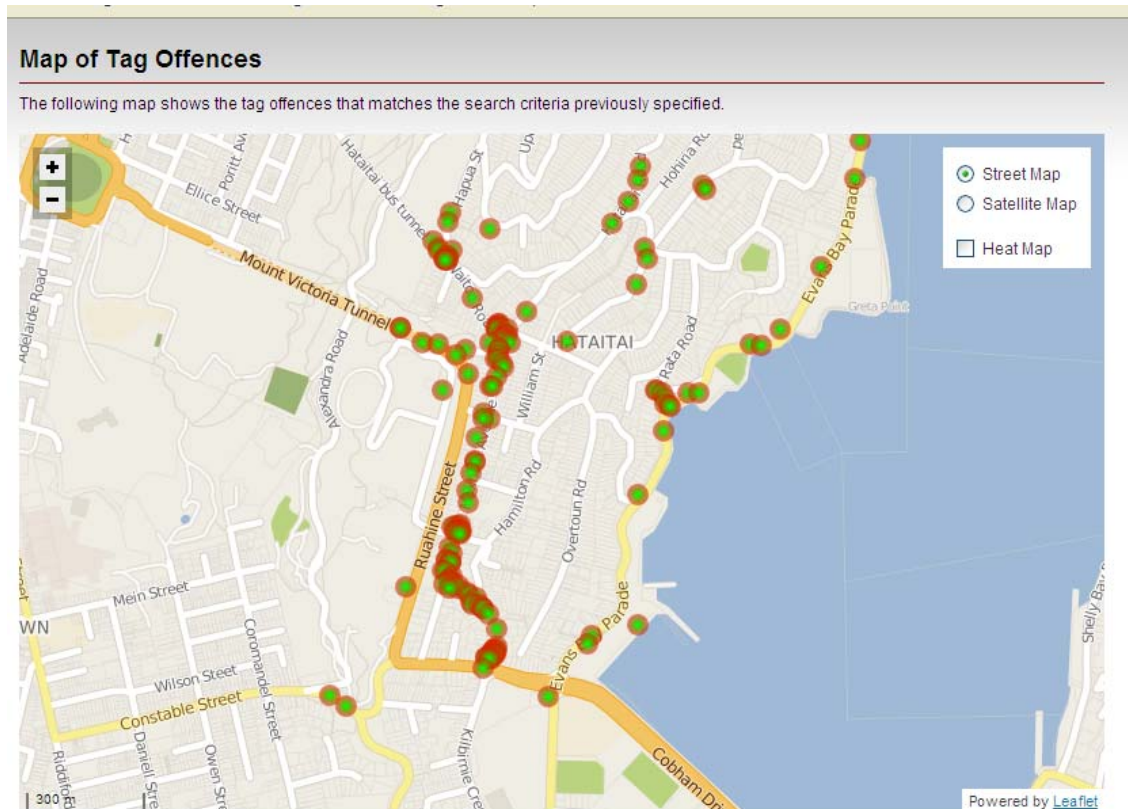


Figure 3: Reported Graffiti: Te Aro



The Plan

This plan provides direction to ensure graffiti vandalism is managed consistently across Council and its partners. This plan will assist in a significant reduction of graffiti vandalism in Wellington.

Progress will be monitored through annual graffiti audits, StopTAGs data and the Residents Satisfaction Survey. Reporting will be through the Quarterly and Annual Reports.

The Ministry of Justice Stop Tagging Our Place (STOP) Strategy has a main objective of prevent graffiti vandalism in New Zealand where it identifies that the most effective crime prevention strategies involve communities working together.

The most effective crime prevention/reduction campaigns involve partnerships between local councils, community organisations and community members such as businesses, schools, sports clubs and private individuals – all with a focus on community engagement, ownership and action. As a start, Police and local government should collectively identify areas targeted by graffiti vandalism offenders, then coordinate opportunities to engage with volunteer organisations and paid staff to prevent and remove graffiti vandalism” – Ministry of Justice STOP strategy.

1. Leadership

The Council has an important role in providing leadership on all graffiti interventions within Wellington City. Leadership is crucial in driving initiatives which will integrate actions between and across agencies, local authorities and the community.

Area	Actions
Active participation in the Regional Forum	The Council will actively participate in the Regional Graffiti Forum.
Consistent approach with regional stakeholders (Utility companies, WRC etc)	The Council will advocate for consistent regional approaches to be adopted with utility businesses and the Wellington Regional Council/KiwiRail (Railway stations and corridor) so that a similar graffiti management approach is developed and adopted with these organisations across the region.
Local forum and a consistent approach	The Council will develop a local forum of property owners, key residents and business association representatives, the Police, and youth agencies to coordinate the approach to managing graffiti vandalism.

Partnership with the community	The successful management of graffiti requires a community based approach. The Council will work with the community in locations where there is a high incidence of graffiti to develop strategies to report and remove graffiti, to identify those who are tagging and to more effectively enforce this issue.
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2. Prevention of Graffiti Vandalism

The goal of these initiatives is to reduce the number of people engaging in graffiti vandalism and reduce the amount of graffiti vandalism occurring in the city.

The most effective prevention strategies involve communities working together and should engage the whole community, including young people, media and business groups.

Initiative	Actions
Reduce access to tools	<p>Partner with Police and other organisations to assist spray can retailers and educational institutions in understanding and complying with the spray can sales restrictions under the Summary Offences Act.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information is available on-line and as part of a tool kit of resources for business, retailers, property owners and the community. - Promote the Ministry of Justice resources and provide information on the STOP Strategy to retail premises managers and staff - Assist retailers by providing Provide information and posters on the prohibition of spray can sales to minors - Provide information for school boards of trustees and governing bodies on their obligations in selling spray cans to enrolled students for their coursework.
Incorporate best practice design principles	<p>Integrate Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles though out Council:</p> <p>CPTED will be considered and included where possible when developing policy, strategy, action plans and design guidelines.</p> <p>Develop a best practice guideline for a whole of Council approach to Graffiti management.</p> <p>Develop comprehensive resource to assist the public in considering CPTED principles in private developments – on-line and printed materials.</p>

Appendix 3

	Promote the use protective coatings (laminare, graffiti – resistant paint) in hot spots and new developments and on all Council's assets
Education and use of media	<p>Council will ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - consistent messaging that graffiti vandalism regarding zero tolerance - images of graffiti vandalism will not be used for Council sponsored marketing and or media - Graffiti awareness is seen as a priority and the message promoted to residents, retailers and community groups whenever possible - Leverage off partnerships with schools and youth groups and raise awareness that graffiti is a crime.
Working with the community	<p>Develop partnerships and programmes with the community in areas where graffiti is an identified issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - developing a community response plan to report, eradicate and enforce measures to reduce graffiti vandalism locally - Support volunteer activities that assist in managing graffiti. This could include initiatives such as adopt a Spot, street clean ups and community murals - Develop a graffiti vandalism removal volunteer programme - Work with community organisations to support initiatives that use green walls to deter and control graffiti vandalism. - Work with organisations, the police and local artists to support the development of at least 6 murals each year - In consultation with the residential and business community identify and target graffiti hotspots <p>The further development of graffiti walls will not generally be supported and removal of graffiti from community murals is a priority.</p> <p>The Council's preference is to support image-based murals over graffiti-style text based or 'wild-style' works, however it depends on the context for these artworks.</p>

3. Eradication of Graffiti Vandalism

Prompt removal is the most effective way of managing graffiti vandalism. International research and best practice shows that the fresher the graffiti is, the

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more easily it is removed; the presence of graffiti attracts more graffiti; and prompt removal deprives the graffiti vandals of the recognition they seek.

Initiative	Actions
Whole of Council Approach	Streamline and standardise response to graffiti to deliver a rapid and efficient eradication service.
Working with partners – removal of the tag and restoration of the damaged area	<p>Develop a collaborative approach with owners of the city’s telecommunication, transport and rail infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - standardise responses and removal times - take advantage of economies of scale with contractors, resources and supplies - connect with community driven responses <p>Establish a process for rapid response and consistency for eradication with residents groups and private property/asset owners</p> <p>Develop opportunities and partnerships with Corrections and Police diversion schemes.</p> <p>Work with the Police to ensure graffiti eradication becomes a key objective through the apprehension of offenders and youth aid programmes.</p>
All graffiti vandalism from Council- assets will be removed promptly	<p>Offensive graffiti will be removed within 4 hours.</p> <p>Highly visible graffiti on Council assets (or adjoining Council property) will be removed within 24 hours.</p> <p>All other Council managed assets (or adjoining Council property) will be removed within 3 working days.</p> <p>Council contractors’ equipment and work sites will be free of graffiti vandalism – formalised through contracts</p>

Note:

There may be exceptions to these timeframes in the case of graffiti vandalism over murals, etching on glass, graffiti vandalism in hazardous locations, and/or where a traffic management plan is required.

Determining whether or not the graffiti vandalism is “highly visible” will be based on the volume of traffic (including pedestrian) in the area, the size of the message and the determination will be made by Council Officers

Appendix 3

Council assets include property, machinery and equipment, local legal roads (not state highways) and footpaths, parks, reserves & playgrounds, and buildings & structures.

4. Enforcement

Enforcement is reliant on effective reporting and collaborative relationships between the community, business owners, the Council, Corrections and the Police.

Initiative	Actions
Partnerships	<p>Support the Police to ensure graffiti vandalism offenders and hot spot locations are targeted.</p> <p>Utilise Police and Corrections diversion schemes</p>
Fully utilize the information and data captured through Stop Tags	<p>Record and share information and data on incidents of graffiti vandalism to include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photo of the tag and possible identification of the tagger • Location and date • Graffiti method used (medium and surface) • The approximate size of the graffiti vandalism • The message and the Tag <p>Geo-code Stop Tags information and map 'hot spots'</p> <p>Identify and share information on repeat offenders.</p> <p>Share all data information regionally and share with partners, especially the Police</p> <p>Encourage residents and businesses to report graffiti to assist in identifying and addressing frequently tagged sites and taggers.</p>
Utilizing current and new legislation	<p>Apply existing legislation where appropriate which include restrictions on the sale of spray cans</p> <p>Seek compensation and restitution from graffiti vandalism offenders through restorative justice process</p> <p>Encourage options for community work for offenders to be involved in graffiti eradication.</p> <p>Considering new graffiti vandalism bylaw legislation</p>

Note:

The Summary Offences Act 1981 (as amended in 2008) for lower levels of damage, and the Crimes Act 1961 comprise the legal framework for graffiti vandalism enforcement.

Appendix 3

The Police will take primary enforcement for Sections 11, 11A and 11B of the Summary Offences Act.

Local Authorities will take primary enforcement and compliance monitoring responsibility for Sections 14A and 14B of the Summary Offences Act.

Police and local authorities to be primarily responsible for enforcing graffiti offences, but the law do not specify a particular agency.

Graffiti enforcement action should not unnecessarily bring children and youth into the formal criminal justice system.

Our Partners

Agency	Role
Wellington City Council	<p>The Council has a primary role to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promptly remove graffiti on Council property • negotiate agreements with regional property owners • facilitate community responses to address graffiti • provide advice to property owners • manage reporting via the Stop tags database and share this information with the Police • liaise with and assist police on enforcement <p>It will also work with community groups and agencies working with at risk youth with an aim to educate and reduce graffiti vandalism.</p>
Neighbouring local authorities	<p>Those people who vandalise with graffiti do not recognise council boundaries. A consistent approach needs to be taken across closely neighbouring councils for a management plan to be effective.</p>
Retailers	<p>Retailers need to comply with legal requirements to not sell spray cans to minors.</p>
Commercial Building Owners/Occupiers	<p>Commercial buildings are a prime target for vandalism. The same levels of intervention need to be taken by building owners for the plan to be effective.</p> <p>The Council cannot enter private property to address this without the property owner's permission and it is also the property owner's role where possible to address vandalism although the Council will support this.</p> <p>Property owners need to report incidents of graffiti to increase the effectiveness of enforcement.</p>
Private Home Owners	<p>Private property in key locations including walking routes and properties bordering parks are targeted for vandalism. Fences, garages and street facing buildings in these areas are prime targets. The same levels of intervention need to be taken by different building owners for the plan to be effective.</p> <p>The Council cannot enter private property to address this without the property owner's permission and it is also the property owner's role where possible to address vandalism although the</p>

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	<p>Council will support action. Property owners need to report incidents of graffiti to increase the effectiveness of enforcement.</p>
KiwiRail/ WRC	<p>The rail corridor, railway stations, subway/underpasses and trains are prime targets for vandalism.</p>
Utility Providers (Power/Gas, phone, Water)	<p>Utility equipment and facilities are convenient spots for vandalism as they are usually unstaffed, in accessible locations and have clear faces to tag.</p>
Schools and Agencies working with at-risk youth	<p>Schools provide an opportunity for early intervention and education with youth that are or are likely to undertake this practice. Support for agencies working with at risk youth can assist by providing alternative creative opportunities.</p>
NZ Police	<p>The Police have the enforcement role, but can only be effective with robust reporting from property owners.</p>