

## 2.5. CENTRES

Wellington's Centres are the focal points of economic and social life in our communities. They have multiple functions and activities, but their core is providing localised shopping and services that complement the Central Area. Not only do they play a vital role in ensuring suburban communities have convenient services nearby, Centres may also contribute to a community identity and have distinctive characteristics that often determine why people choose to make a certain part of the city their home.

Centres range from large shopping centres to small clusters of shops. To help manage the range of Centres, they have been categorised within a Centres hierarchy (see diagram).

The District Plan encourages the intensification of residential and commercial activities in the Centres to allow for more efficient use of existing infrastructure and resources. It is considered that the majority of new residential and commercial developments in Wellington should take place in either the Central Area or an appropriate Centre.

Key issues managed by the District Plan include:

- promoting quality urban design which contributes to attractive Centres
- ensuring new developments are consistent with the character of Centres
- promoting new developments in appropriate Centres
- ensuring Centres are managed in a manner consistent with the hierarchy
- managing borders with Residential Areas.

