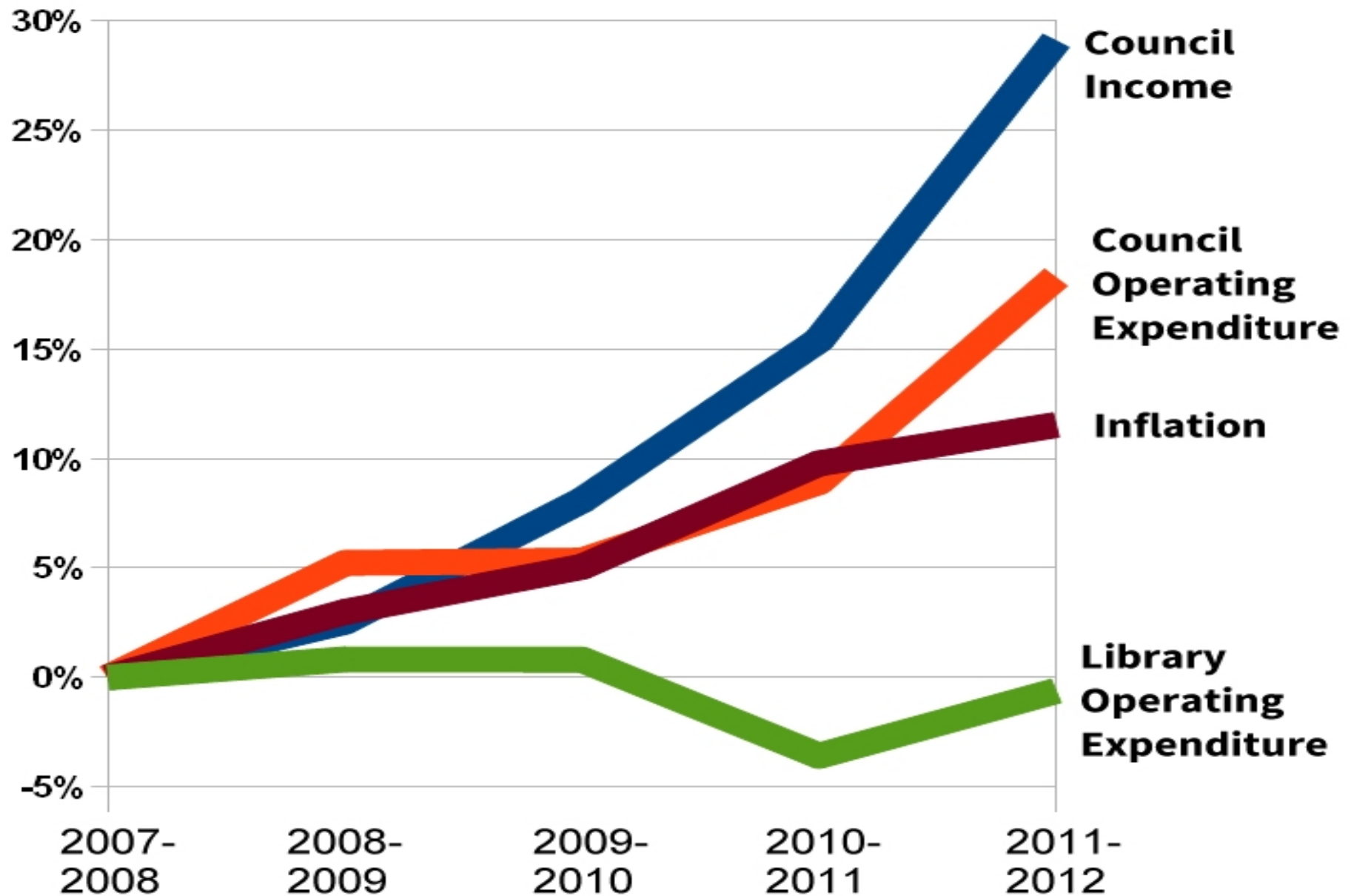
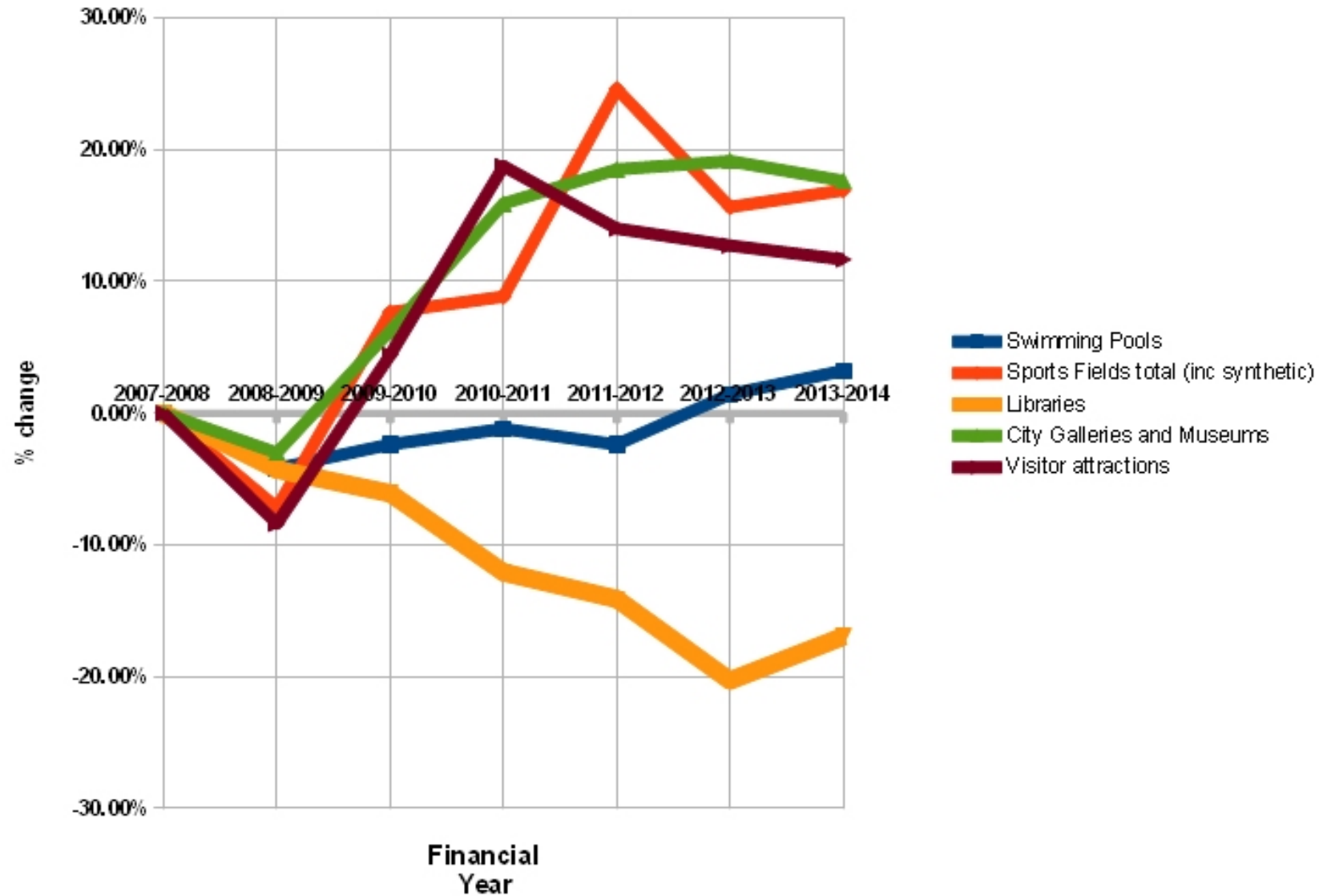


Loss of funding: Wellington libraries



Libraries have been specifically targeted

Operating expenditure (inflation adjusted)



Services cut

Cuts to library services

Stock rotation ceased in 2011.

No reference magazines are now held at the central library.

Children's book clubs have been cancelled and replaced with an on-line version. Whilst this suits some library users, many have now stopped using this service.

Holiday programmes run for children have been reduced. Not all library branches now run holiday programmes, whereas in the past all did.

Weekly preschool story times have been reduced significantly.

There have been changes to housebound loan periods from 4 to 6 weeks.

Customer service desks at the central library have been reduced, especially at night.

Reduction of customer service points of contact at Karori library.

Services cut

Cuts to library staff

Libraries lost 12.025 full time equivalent (FTE) staff members in mid-2012.

There has been a reduction of professional level staff in the libraries. Prior to 2011 WCC employed more qualified librarians in specialist positions.

WCC libraries now employ fewer customer service staff.

The Council latest budget, approved in the 2013-2014 annual plan, will result in a further loss of eight FTE staff.

Percentage of operational funding spent on libraries:
comparison with other Wellington region authorities

	2008	2009	2010	2011	Change
Kapiti	6.6%	6.9%	6.9%	6.7%	+0.1%
Porirua	4.7%	5.0%	4.6%	4.7%	0.0%
Upper Hutt	6.3%	6.9%	6.5%	6.2%	-0.1%
Lower Hutt	6.5%	6.4%	6.2%	6.5%	0.0%
Wellington City	6.4%	6.4%	5.9%	5.6%	-0.8%

Library survey answers

Q. WCC can't afford to maintain current library staff / service levels

Celia Wade-Brown	Disagree
Ray Ahipene-Mercer	Did not respond
Jo Coughlan	Neutral
Paul Eagle	Disagree
Andy Foster	Don't know
Sarah Free	Disagree
David Lee	Disagree
Justin Lester	Did not respond
Simon Marsh	Did not respond
Iona Pannett	Disagree
Mark Peck	Disagree
Helene Ritchie	Disagree
Malcolm Sparrow	Don't know
Simon Woolf	Did not respond
Nicola Young	Neutral

Library survey answers

Q. Further cuts to library staff and services are necessary

Celia Wade-Brown	Disagree
Ray Ahipene-Mercer	Did not respond
Jo Coughlan	Neutral
Paul Eagle	Disagree
Andy Foster	Disagree
Sarah Free	Disagree
David Lee	Disagree
Justin Lester	Disagree
Simon Marsh	Did not respond
Iona Pannett	Disagree
Mark Peck	Disagree
Helene Ritchie	Disagree
Malcolm Sparrow	Disagree
Simon Woolf	Did not respond
Nicola Young	Neutral

Candidate meetings

Simon Marsh	Did not respond	Stated that he didn't believe libraries should be targeted when putting together a long term plan.
Simon Woolf	Did not respond	Called libraries a vital community service and stated that he wanted to see the funding cuts reversed.
Nicola Young	Neutral	<p>When asked if she would continue reducing the library budget during the next council term, responded with a resounding NO.</p> <p>Answered yes when asked if she would vote to increase Council funding for libraries so that it at least kept up with inflation.</p>

Meetings with management

Kevin Lavery

stated that there was no intention to further reduce funding to libraries.

He thought any increases in library funding are only possible if the amount in rates from the business sector also increases.

WLC expects

Library funding will be maintained in the forthcoming budget

Our 'recommendations for Wellington City Council'

Restore services cut in the last two terms of Council
Robust community consultation on library services