

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

part 2

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

What the region wants

“Community outcomes” describe what sort of region the community would like and show what we all value as being important for a good quality of life.

The identification of outcomes for the region is important for Greater Wellington as it allows us to have a long-term focus for our work. Clearly, Greater Wellington is not in a position to achieve the outcomes alone. Our role in furthering the achievement of outcomes varies for different outcomes. For some outcomes, Greater Wellington will have a major role. For others it will only have a small role to play, or no role at all, and it will be up to other organisations and agencies to take the lead. The identification of outcomes, therefore, allows different organisations, such as councils, government departments, business groups, iwi, community groups and others to coordinate and prioritise their use of resources.

How the community outcomes were identified

The community outcomes were developed in 2006 by drawing together the community outcomes from all the councils in the Wellington metropolitan region. The outcomes from each council were compared and aligned to create a set of eight draft outcomes that reflected both the local and regional community views.

A group of organisations (local government, central government and quasi-government organisations) that was capable of influencing the identification or promotion of community outcomes was formed to oversee the further development of these outcomes.

The Wellington Regional Strategy (WRS), a sustainable economic growth strategy, was the vehicle for initial consultation on the community outcomes. Because of the regional nature of the strategy, the intention was for the WRS community outcomes to serve as Greater Wellington’s community outcomes for its 2006-16 Long-Term Council Community Plan.

The WRS Growth Framework discussion document was sent to 4,500 organisations and individuals in the region. It included a questionnaire asking for submissions on the community outcomes. Further, a mail survey was carried out that included questions about the community outcomes.

Meetings were held with local authorities, central government agencies, Ara Tahi, iwi, Pacific Island community representatives and other groups to consult both on the WRS and the community outcomes

As a result of feedback received, the draft outcomes were slightly revised and two new outcomes (*Healthy community, Prepared community*) were added.

Community outcomes for the Wellington region

HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

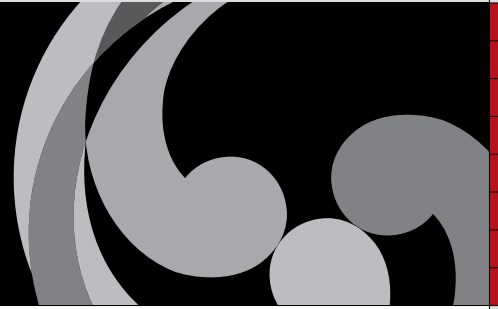
We have clean water, fresh air and healthy soils. Well-functioning and diverse ecosystems make up an environment that can support our needs. Resources are used efficiently. There is minimal waste and pollution.

QUALITY LIFESTYLE

Living in the Wellington region is enjoyable and people feel safe. A variety of lifestyles can be pursued. Our art, sport, recreation and entertainment scenes are enjoyed by all community members – and attract visitors.

SENSE OF PLACE

We have a deep sense of pride in the Wellington region. We value its unique characteristics – its rural, urban and harbour landscapes, its climate, its central location and its capital city.



PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY

All members of our community prosper from a strong and growing economy. A thriving business sector attracts and retains a skilled and productive workforce.

PREPARED COMMUNITY

We can cope with emergency events. Individuals and businesses are able to take responsibility for their own well-being. Effective emergency management systems are in place.

CONNECTED COMMUNITY

Access is quick and easy – locally, nationally and internationally. Our communication networks, air and sea ports, roads and public transport systems enable us to link well with others, both within and outside the region.

ENTREPRENEURIAL AND INNOVATIVE REGION

Innovation and new endeavours are welcomed and encouraged. Ideas are exchanged across all sectors, resulting in a creative business culture. We have excellent education and research institutions, and benefit from being the seat of government.

ESSENTIAL SERVICES

High-quality and secure infrastructure and services meet our everyday needs. These are developed and maintained to support the sustainable growth of the region, now and in the future.

HEALTHY COMMUNITY

Our physical and mental health is protected. Living and working environments are safe, and everyone has access to health care. Every opportunity is taken to recognise and provide for good health.

STRONG AND TOLERANT COMMUNITY

People are important. All members of our community are empowered to participate in decision making and to contribute to society. We celebrate diversity and welcome newcomers, while recognising the special role of tangata whenua.

How Greater Wellington will contribute to the community outcomes

This 10-Year Plan describes how Greater Wellington will contribute to the community outcomes. It specifies the outcome(s) to which each group of activities primarily contributes and also other related outcomes. It describes our work and the reasons for our activities, and specifies long-term and short-term targets, along with the people and organisations with which we will work.

It is important to note that not all the activities we undertake are a direct response to the community outcomes. Some activities are legislative requirements as opposed to community requirements or aspirations. For this reason, for each group of activities, we have included measures that we are using to assess the achievement of community outcomes and additional measures that relate to other aspects of our performance.

Greater Wellington's role in furthering community outcomes takes a number of forms, eg, leader, facilitator, funder, regulator, planner, partner, advocator, educator, service provider or monitor. In some cases we will assume more than one role to further a community outcome. In other cases we will not have any specific role because of the functions and responsibilities of other parties.

How much we do of any activity is also dependent on a number of factors. In developing this 10-Year Plan, the Council has considered the following questions very carefully when determining activities:

- What does the community need/want?
- What is the public good?
- Is it affordable?
- How will undertaking or not undertaking the activity or the extent of the activity affect relationships with the community and other organisations?
- Do we have to do it right now – or can we do it in the future?
- Is it our role or should it more appropriately be carried out by another organisation?

Figure 1 shows the relationship between Greater Wellington's activities and the community outcomes. Figure 2 shows how Greater Wellington contributes to the sustainable development of the region.

Community outcomes and sustainable development

Achievement of the community outcomes would certainly ensure social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being in the region. In practice, the way in which we carry out our activities involves balancing these four aspects of well-being – and that balance is not always clear cut. Often pragmatic decisions are required. The Council ensures that it has the correct information on social, economic, environmental and cultural impacts before exercising its political judgement on matters. In this way it contributes to the sustainable development of the region and promotes regional resilience. The latter is becoming increasingly important in a world where there is such uncertainty, given the state of the economy, climate change and the threat of natural hazards. It is a time for innovation, pragmatism, positivity and careful planning.

How the community outcomes relate to Greater Wellington's key strategic plans

Greater Wellington develops many strategic plans – either because of statutory requirements or because they help us and the community to set a direction for

our work. The format of some strategic plans, eg, the Regional Policy Statement or Regional Land Transport Strategy, is prescribed in statute.

All strategies are developed in close consultation with the community and the final documents are, in essence, an agreement with the community.

Even though the strategies are developed outside the 10-Year Plan development process, the Plan reflects these strategies and all strategies contribute to the achievement of community outcomes. The 10-Year Plan sets priorities and timeframes and allocates funding for the implementation of strategic plans. It also contains interim targets to gauge progress.

Greater Wellington monitors progress and implementation of its strategies and publishes regular monitoring reports. This monitoring provides some of the information required for the monitoring of progress with the outcomes.

Figure 3 shows Greater Wellington's key strategic plans, their contribution to community outcomes and relevant progress monitoring reports.

How Greater Wellington will work with others

Greater Wellington will work with other local and regional organisations, Maori, central government and non-government organisations, as well as the private sector, to achieve the community outcomes. The range of organisations and stakeholders that we will work with is shown in this plan. Further, see Part 7 which shows how Greater Wellington engages with the community.

How Greater Wellington will measure progress

Greater Wellington, along with interested organisations, has developed a set of indicators to assess progress with the achievement of the community outcomes. Not all the indicators relate to Greater Wellington's activities as we are required to report on progress with the outcomes, not just our role in furthering the outcomes. The indicators selected are shown in the Appendix.

FIGURE 1

Community outcomes and Greater Wellington's activities

<p>HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resource management planning Resource consent service Compliance and enforcement Pollution prevention and control State of the environment monitoring Environmental education and community engagement Water conservation programmes Environmental protection and enhancement of regional parks and forest areas Pest (animal and plant) management Biodiversity Environmental enhancement of river corridors Soil conservation Akura conservation centre Promoting public transport, and walking and cycling 	<p>PREPARED COMMUNITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Floodplain management planning Flood protection infrastructure Flood warning service Civil defence emergency management Harbour management
<p>QUALITY LIFESTYLE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional parks and forest areas – facilities, services, planning and marketing Community outdoor programmes Westpac Stadium 	<p>CONNECTED COMMUNITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional transport network planning Public transport services – planning, operations, infrastructure and information
<p>SENSE OF PLACE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional parks Westpac Stadium 	<p>ENTREPRENEURIAL AND INNOVATIVE REGION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wellington Regional Strategy Regional resilience planning
<p>PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional resilience planning Wellington Regional Strategy Pest (animal and plant) management Soil conservation Akura Conservation Centre 	<p>ESSENTIAL SERVICES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water collection, treatment and delivery Water supply infrastructure Planning for future water demand and supply
	<p>HEALTHY COMMUNITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional parks and forests Community outdoor programmes Water supply Promoting walking and cycling
	<p>STRONG AND TOLERANT COMMUNITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Democratic services Relationship with Maori

FIGURE 2

Sustainable development

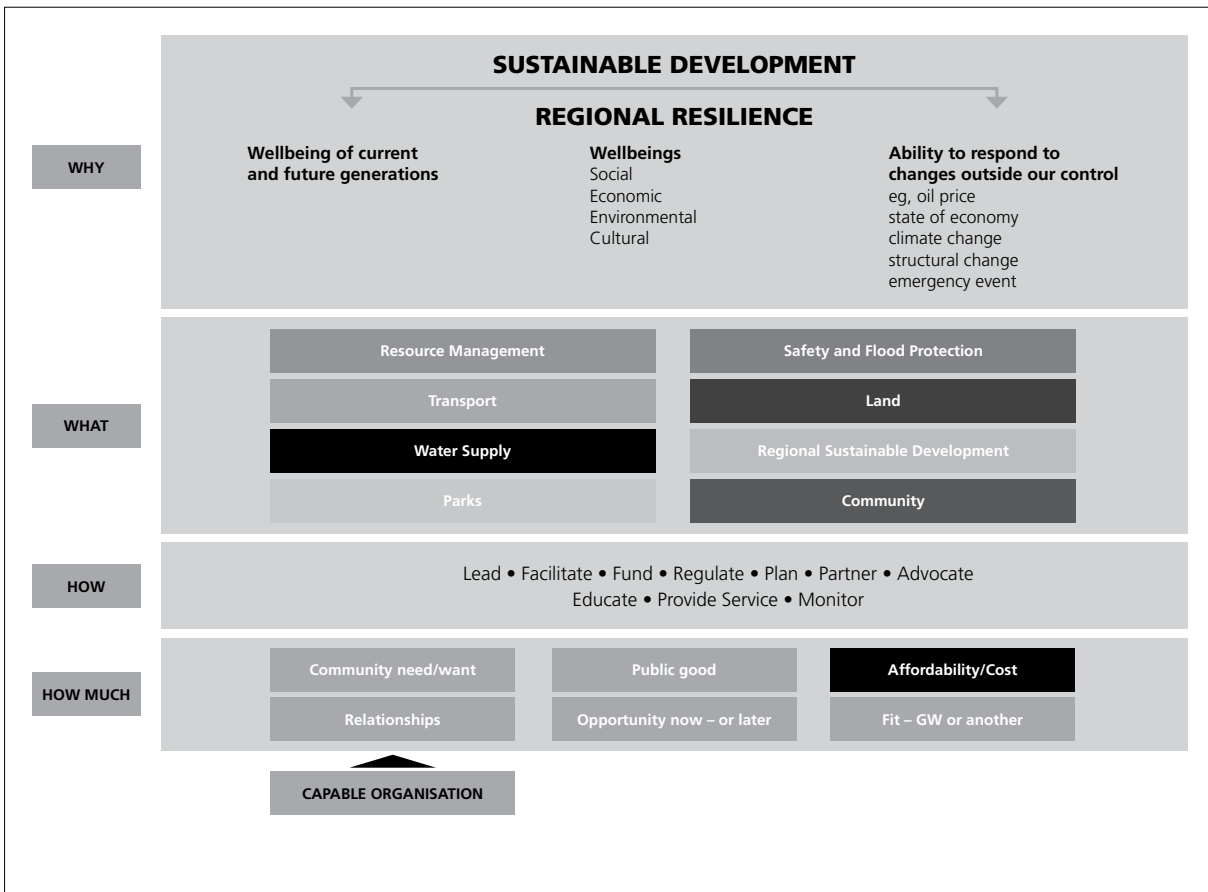


FIGURE 3

Key strategic plans

KEY STRATEGIES AND OUTCOMES TO WHICH THEY PRIMARILY CONTRIBUTE	MONITORING REPORTS FOR KEY STRATEGIES AND COMMUNITY OUTCOMES
Regional Policy Statement and regional plans HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT	State of the Environment Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual report cards • Six-year full report Annual monitoring reports for our quality, coastal, groundwater hydrology, water and soil quality Five-year Regional Policy Statement and regional plans “efficiency and effectiveness” reports
Regional Land Transport Strategy CONNECTED COMMUNITY	Annual Monitoring Report on Regional Land Transport Strategy
Regional Passenger Transport Plan CONNECTED COMMUNITY	
Regional Rail Plan CONNECTED COMMUNITY	
Regional Water Strategy (under development) HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT, ESSENTIAL SERVICES	Annual Water Supply Report
Floodplain Management Plans PREPARED COMMUNITY	10-year floodplain management plan review reports
Regional Pest Management Strategy HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT	Five-year Regional Pest Management Strategy review reports
Wellington Region Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan PREPARED COMMUNITY	
Regional Parks Network Management Plan QUALITY LIFESTYLE	Annual Regional Parks Report
Wellington Regional Strategy PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY, ENTREPRENEURIAL AND INNOVATIVE REGION	Wellington Regional Outlook
Charter of Understanding between Iwi and Greater Wellington SHARING AND TOLERANT COMMUNITY	

How Greater Wellington will monitor and report on progress

The Local Government Act 2002 requires Greater Wellington to monitor and, not less than once in every three years, report on the community's progress towards achieving community outcomes.

Greater Wellington has ongoing monitoring programmes in place for many of its activities so that it can monitor its own performance. However, it does not collect all the information required to assess performance in furthering all the community outcomes, as the activities of many other organisations contribute to the outcomes. Greater Wellington has undertaken comprehensive data collection and interpretation, in collaboration with a number of other organisations, to produce a monitoring report on progress on the community outcomes. This report, *Progress with Community Outcomes 2009*, has been produced to be read in conjunction with this 10-Year Plan.

Greater Wellington's future approach

The Local Government Act 2002 requires Greater Wellington to, not less than once every six years, carry out a process to identify community outcomes for the intermediate and long-term future of the region.

Therefore, for our next 10-Year Plan (2012-22) we will review the existing community outcomes and maybe develop new outcomes.

The existing outcomes are very high level and, therefore, do not provide adequate guidance for our activities. Also, the wisdom of Greater Wellington attempting to monitor progress for aspects of the outcomes that are either not related to our business, or where monitoring information is not available on meaningful basis, is questionable. The outcomes, in their current form, do not help Greater Wellington in setting priorities. Greater Wellington will be looking at ways it can make the community outcomes and the monitoring of progress more meaningful to our ratepayers.

Greater Wellington is currently developing, through the Wellington Regional Strategy, a genuine progress index (GPI), in conjunction with all local authorities in the region. This is a way of monitoring a range of economic, environmental and social indicators. Other regions are interested in developing a GPI and so there may be opportunities for alignment at regional and possibly central government level. It is our intention to use the GPI as a way of monitoring progress with community outcomes in the future.