

GROUPS OF ACTIVITIES

part 5

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

1 COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

The Resource Management group of activities primarily contributes to the following community outcome

HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

A healthy environment is one with 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.

by promoting the sustainable use, development and protection of the Wellington region's natural and physical resources – water, air, coast, soil and biodiversity.

This group of activities also contributes to the following outcome:

Healthy Community by helping to provide a clean and healthy environment in which to live.

2 WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

The table opposite sets out our objectives and long-term targets, along with some baseline information. It also shows the corresponding community outcome measures. Additional measures are also included for assessing other aspects of our performance.

3 WHAT WE DO AND WHY

3.1 Resource management planning

Resource management planning is a core activity of regional councils.

Under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), Greater Wellington must prepare a Regional Policy Statement (RPS) and a Regional Coastal Plan, and may prepare other regional plans. The purpose of the RPS is to provide an overview of the resource management issues of the region and policies and methods to

achieve the integrated management of the natural and physical resources of the whole region. Regional plans are to assist Greater Wellington to carry out its functions to achieve the purpose of the RMA – to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources. They contain rules that both permit and control resource use through the resource consent process. The RPS and regional plans are developed using statutory and non-statutory public consultation processes. "Efficiency and effectiveness" evaluation reports for regional plans are prepared every five years.

Greater Wellington adopted its first RPS in 1995 and thereafter developed five regional plans – coastal, air quality management, discharges to land, soil and freshwater.

Councils must review the RPS and its regional plans every 10 years. Greater Wellington is in the process of developing its second RPS and expects it to be formally adopted and operational in 2011. It will commence the review of its regional plans in mid-2009.

3.2 Resource consents service

Consideration of applications for resource consents is another core activity of Greater Wellington. The RMA requires Greater Wellington to process all applications to use natural resources, eg, abstracting water, discharging into water, discharging into air, and certain types of land and coastal use. Consents must be obtained for resource use unless an activity is "permitted" by a regional plan or directly by the RMA. The Act provides detailed procedures to be followed in processing resource consents. In recent years, Greater Wellington has typically processed 700-800 consent applications per year. Of these applications, about 5-10% were processed as notified consents. Notification means that affected parties may make a submission and the decision on the consent may go through a formal hearing process. The remainder of consents were processed on a non-notified basis. Non-notified consents should be completed within 20 working days.



WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

OBJECTIVES	HOW WE MEASURE PROGRESS WITH COMMUNITY OUTCOMES	ADDITIONAL MEASURES	LONG-TERM TARGETS	BASELINE
Achieve a high level of satisfaction with Greater Wellington's resource consents processes		Proportion of applicants and consent holders rating services as good or better	Customer satisfaction surveys will show that 60% of recent applicants and existing consent holders rate their level of satisfaction with our resource consents as excellent or very good	1997 – 35% 2000 – 47% 2002 – 32% 2004 – 42% 2008 – 36%
Maintain a high standard of ambient air quality	Compliance with National Environmental Standards for Air Quality HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT		There will be no recorded instances where air quality breaches the national environmental standards	Since 2006, the national standard of 50 ug/m ³ has been exceeded three times in the Wairarapa air shed and once in the Wainuiomata air shed
Maintain or enhance water quality in all streams, rivers and aquifers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality at recreational bathing sites Nitrate concentration in groundwater Water quality in streams, rivers and lakes HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All bathing sites (coastal and freshwater) will comply with the national recreational water-quality guidelines Nitrate-nitrogen concentration in groundwater will not exceed 50% of the New Zealand Drinking Water Standard Water quality in key streams, rivers and lakes will be maintained or enhanced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2007/08 – 43 of 77 coastal sites and 16 of the freshwater sites monitored exceeded the “action” guideline at least once, generally after rainfall 2007/08 – None of 70 sites monitored exceeded standard but 6 sites exceeded 50% of the standard 2007/08 – 29 of the 56 river and stream sites monitored had excellent or good water quality
Maintain sustainable flows in our rivers and sustainable water levels in our significant aquifers		Number of times river flows and ground water levels fall below minimum levels	River flows and ground water levels will be maintained above the minimum levels	2008 – 14 rivers have flow and allocation limits and six rivers have allocation limits only. 68 aquifers have sustainable yield limits. Minimum flows and aquifer levels have generally been maintained
Protect our productive soils	Extent to which seven indicators of the chemical, physical and biological properties of soil properties meet target levels HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT		No decline in soil quality	2007/08 – 15 of 23 sites sampled had at least one indicator outside the target range
Reduce the number of pollution incidents	Number of reported pollution incidents HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT		The number of reported pollution incidents will decrease on an annual basis	2005/06 – 1,579 2006/07 – 1,264 2007/08 – 1,376

Applicants for resource consents are charged in accordance with Greater Wellington's Resource Management Charging Policy 2008.

Greater Wellington also has other relatively minor miscellaneous consenting responsibilities under other statutes, eg, Building Act 2004.

3.3 Compliance and enforcement

Monitoring compliance and taking enforcement action are critical elements of resource management and essential to the efficacy of Greater Wellington's planning and consenting responsibilities, as well as of the RMA in general.

Greater Wellington carries out compliance monitoring in accordance with established policies and procedures. These vary according to the nature of the consented activity and range from a detailed compliance monitoring schedule by Greater Wellington staff to the consent holder undertaking self-monitoring and preparing a report for audit by Greater Wellington. Consent holders receive compliance reports. These serve two purposes. They provide consent holders feedback on their performance and give the community confidence that the consent holder's environmental performance is being monitored and recorded. Greater Wellington has carried out an average of 1,200 compliance inspections per year over the past eight years (ranging from 833 in 2002/03 to 1,647 in 2007/08). We expect this activity to increase in the future (see below).

Greater Wellington's approach to enforcement also varies depending on the circumstances of the non-compliance, the compliance history, and the willingness and capacity of the party to take timely remedial action. Greater Wellington will invariably provide advice about prevention and remediation of damage, irrespective of whether it is embarking on enforcement action.

3.4 Pollution prevention and control

For both environmental and public health purposes, Greater Wellington investigates all reported environmental pollution incidents and cleans up whenever possible. Pollution incidents include contaminated waterways, dust, sediment and, most commonly, odour.

Although Greater Wellington always responds to pollution reports, it is trying to take a more proactive approach to pollution prevention. It runs the Take Charge programme (a pollution-prevention

programme for businesses) and the Muddy Waters programme (a programme to prevent pollution from developers' earthworks activities).

Greater Wellington operates a 24-hour pollution response service which has a strict protocol for response times.

3.5 State of the environment monitoring

3.5.1 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING AND REPORTING

The RMA directs Greater Wellington to gather information necessary to carry out its functions, monitor the state of the environment, measure the effectiveness of policy statements and plans, and make information available to the public.

We monitor rainfall, river flows, groundwater levels and quality, freshwater and coastal water quality, air quality and soil quality. Results of the monitoring are produced by way of annual report cards, a six-yearly comprehensive state of the environment monitoring report for the region and through real-time or up-to-date data on our website.

The monitoring information allows us and the public to have a sound understanding of the state of the environment. The information is fundamental to all our resource management work. It shows our successes, failures and gaps in knowledge. Such information is essential for robust, defensible and strategic resource management planning and actions.

Greater Wellington's monitoring data is also used extensively by government departments, city and district councils, and a variety of other external clients and organisations.

3.5.2 TARGETED ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATIONS

We conduct targeted studies to investigate significant resource issues. These issues are invariably identified through our general monitoring programmes, eg, the state of the Wellington and Porirua harbours.

3.6 Environmental education and community engagement

Greater Wellington considers that its long-term environmental objectives are best achieved through a combination of regulatory (RPS, regional plans and resource consents) and non-regulatory measures. We cannot achieve our objectives alone. Therefore, we work with communities to help them take action and live in a way that ensures our ecosystems can meet our present and future needs. Greater Wellington:

- Runs Take Action – a programme for school children which is run through schools that shows children what they can do to make a positive contribution to the environment and how to solve environmental problems
- Runs Take Care – a programme to assist community groups to restore degraded ecosystems. Greater Wellington provides administrative and technical advice, as well as finance and materials for practical work
- Helps businesses to improve their environmental performance by developing sustainable business initiatives
- Promotes business compliance with the RMA through a business sustainability programme and the E-mission carbon-reduction programme

4 FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information on the specific legislation, policies and plans relevant to this group of activities can be found from the following sources:

Legislation and government policy

Resource Management Act 1991

Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Act 1941

Local Government Act 2002

National Policy Statement and Environmental Standards – NZ Coastal Policy Statement and national environmental standards for air quality, sources of human drinking water and telecommunications

Greater Wellington Policy Statements and Plans

Regional Policy Statement for Greater Wellington 1995

Draft Regional Policy Statement for

Greater Wellington 2008

Regional Coastal Plan 2000

Regional Freshwater Plan 1999

Regional Soil Plan 2000

Regional Air Quality Management Plan 2000

Regional Plan for Discharge to Land 1999

Greater Wellington Monitoring reports

Measuring Up: the state of the environment report for the Wellington region 2005

Annual monitoring report cards

Greater Wellington Administrative Policy

Resource Consent Charging Policy 2008

Consent Compliance and Enforcement

Procedure Manual

5 ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS

- Recently proposed changes to the RMA will impact on Greater Wellington's policies and procedures, on the volume of consent activity and monitoring requirements, and potentially on Greater Wellington's charging policy.
- The charge-out rate for consent processing will increase by \$5 per hour in 2009/10. It remains constant thereafter. However, it is highly probable that the charging policy will be reviewed within the timeframe of this 10-Year Plan so as to provide for changes in consent volumes or processes.
- If the current global financial crisis results in prolonged or deep recession, our planning assumptions may be challenged. Volumes of development activity may decrease in the short to medium term, thus affecting the volume and nature of resource consent applications. Further, developers and other resource users may seek to avoid costs of compliance with environmental regulations, thus increasing the volume of compliance and enforcement activities.
- Budgeted expenditure for enforcement action has been kept at the same level as past years. However, enforcement action has been increasing and Greater Wellington has made the decision to become more vigilant about non-compliance. It is possible that the budget will be exceeded, although this is unlikely to be significant.

6 THE ISSUES WE ARE FACING

INCREASING DEMAND FOR RESOURCES

It is likely there will be continuing demand for some resources, particularly water (surface and groundwater) and land for urban development, as well as coastal space and resources. This will place pressure on the environment.

INCREASED PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The public has become increasingly aware of environmental issues and their rights under the Resource Management Act 1991. This means that Greater Wellington must ensure that its planning and resource consents processes continue to be informed, defensible and legally robust.

ROBUST INFORMATION FOR PLANNING

Greater Wellington regional plans are due for review, starting in 2009. There is a considerable need for ongoing investment in quality science to support our plan development, especially in the area of water allocation. This 10-Year Plan provides for some increased resources for scientific investigations required for the review of our regional plans.

COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

Greater Wellington is keen to put more emphasis on compliance and enforcement. In New Zealand as a whole there has been a move to increase both compliance monitoring (either with resource consents or the RMA) and to take enforcement action where there have been significant breaches.

Enforcement can be expensive and contentious. However, it is an appropriate and at times essential step in managing our environment, and giving credibility to our resource planning and resource consenting processes.

AFFORDABILITY OF IMPROVED INFRASTRUCTURE

The community is becoming more environmentally aware and demanding higher environmental standards. But meeting higher standards comes at a cost – and people generally are not keen pay – especially given the current and future impacts of the global economic crisis. For example, resource consents for the discharge of community waste water will soon be coming up for renewal. Greater Wellington will be faced with balancing the community aspirations for improved disposal methods against the affordability of wastewater infrastructure.

IMPACT OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

Central government initiatives tend to impose an increased workload on regional councils, often without ensuring that increased costs are fully recoverable. It is expected that this will continue and perhaps be heightened by the 2008 change of government in the short term.

At the least, it is expected that the Government will continue to develop new environmental standards over the next few years that will impact on regional council work.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Over the 10-year life of this plan, the nature, extent and timing of climate change impacts are likely to become clearer. It will be important to review our Regional Policy Statement and regional plans to incorporate robust science and opinion on climate change.

BALANCE OF APPROACHES

Proactively managing the interrelationships between our Regional Policy Statement planning, monitoring and investigations, consenting and educational work is critical to ensuring that we get the best results in terms of environmental outcomes and in ensuring the right balance between “planning”, “monitoring” and “doing”. Greater Wellington wants to achieve results and not just get bogged down in process.

7 WHO WE WILL WORK WITH

City and district councils
 Department of Conservation
 Ministry for the Environment
 Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
 Ministry of Economic Development
 Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority
 Federated Farmers
 Iwi
 Non-government organisations,
 eg, Fish and Game Council
 Private landowners
 Queen Elizabeth II National Trust
 Resource consent applicants and submitters
 Schools, business and community groups
 Sustainable Business Network

8 WHAT WE ARE GOING TO DO

ACTIVITY 1

Resource management planning

For a description of this activity see 3.1.

OUR SERVICES

Develop and maintain regional resource management policies and plans to guide decision making in the region and meet requirements of the Resource Management Act 1991.

HOW WE MEASURE OUR PERFORMANCE

Operative Regional Policy Statement and regional plans in place.

WHERE WE ARE NOW

Greater Wellington has an operative Regional Policy Statement (RPS) and five operative regional plans. It is reviewing the RPS and expects to have a Proposed RPS approved by the Council in 2009 and a new RPS operative in 2011. It will begin to review its regional plans in 2009.

WHAT WE PLAN TO DO AND BUDGETS

2009/10 – BY 30 JUNE 2010

TARGET	BUDGET
Formal hearings on the Proposed RPS will be initiated by 30 December 2009, following Council approval of the Proposed RPS	\$455,000

A report detailing the approach and process for reviewing the regional plans will be prepared to the satisfaction of the Council

2010/11 – BY 30 JUNE 2011

TARGET	BUDGET
The RPS will be approved by the Council and become operative	\$548,000

2011/12 – BY 30 JUNE 2012

TARGET	BUDGET
A Proposed Regional Plan(s) for the management of the region's soils, freshwater, air, coasts and land will be approved by the Council for public consultation	\$481,000

2012 – 2019

Continue with the specified services by taking the proposed plan(s) through the statutory consultation and approval process – calling for public submissions and holding hearings

ACTIVITY 2

Resource consent service

For a description of this activity see 3.2.

OUR SERVICES

- Provide a resource consents processing service which meets statutory requirements and customer needs
- Conduct workshops for customers about the resource consent process, managing resource use, and complying with consents and regional plans

HOW WE MEASURE OUR PERFORMANCE

- Percentage of resource consents processed within statutory timeframes
- Percentage of challenges to resource consent decisions that were successfully defended
- Number of customer workshops provided
- Customer satisfaction with consent process

WHERE WE ARE NOW

- In 2007/08 we received 669 non-notified consent applications and 34 notified or limited notified applications. This compares with 635 non-notified and 28 notified on limited notified in 2006/07, and 712 non-notified and 51 notified on limited notified in 2005/06.
- Greater Wellington has historically processed around 99% of non-notified consents within statutory timeframes.
- In 2007/08 four appeals on Greater Wellington's resource consent decisions were resolved in the Environment Court. These appeals resulted in three original decisions being overturned. One appeal was withdrawn.
- Over the past three years Greater Wellington has held at least two workshops for customers, such as consultants, contractors and consent holders, to discuss issues such as silt and sediment control from bulk earthworks sites, and how to prepare effective submissions on notified consent.
- Greater Wellington has conducted five customer satisfaction surveys dating back to 1997. The level of satisfaction with our resource consent processing service has varied over time. In 1996/97 and 2001/02, 35% and 32% respectively of our customers rated our resource consent processing service as excellent or very good. Alternatively, the best service performance was in 1999/2000 when the rating was 47%. Our 2007/08 rating was 36%.

WHAT WE PLAN TO DO AND BUDGETS**2009/10 – BY 30 JUNE 2010**

TARGET	BUDGET
100% of resource consents will be processed within statutory timeframes	\$663,000
100% consent decisions appealed to the Environment Court will be successfully defended	\$35,000
Two workshops on specific issues will be held for consent customers	\$58,000

2010/11 – BY 30 JUNE 2011

TARGET	BUDGET
100% of resource consents are processed within statutory timeframes and in compliance with Resource Management Act	\$680,000
100% consent decisions appealed to the Environment Court will be successfully defended	\$36,000
Two workshops on specific issues will be held for consent customers	\$59,000

2011/12 – BY 30 JUNE 2012

TARGET	BUDGET
100% of resource consents will be processed within statutory timeframes and in compliance with Resource Management Act	\$696,000
100% consent decisions appealed to the Environment Court will be successfully defended	\$37,000
Two workshops on specific issues will be held for consent customers	\$61,000

2012 – 2019

- Continue to deliver services specified in "our services"
- Continue to process resource consents in accordance with statutory requirements
- Conduct a survey of recent applicants for resource consents and existing consent holders in 2012/13 and 2016/7 to ascertain satisfaction with services

ACTIVITY 3

Compliance and enforcement

For a description of this activity see 3.3.

OUR SERVICES

- Monitor resource consents for compliance by
 - Inspecting consent holders with individual monitoring programmes
 - Carrying out a systematic scheduled process of inspections for consents not subject to individual monitoring programmes so that at least 1 in 15 are inspected per annum
- Take enforcement action when necessary

HOW WE MEASURE OUR PERFORMANCE

- Percentage of resource consents with individual compliance monitoring programmes that are monitored and for which a report is generated
- Percentage of consents not subject to an individual compliance monitoring programme that are monitored for compliance
- Percentage of enforcement actions taken that are successful

WHERE WE ARE NOW

- In 2007/08 Greater Wellington undertook compliance inspection on 1,647 of the 1,670 consents that formally required a compliance visit. The number of compliance inspections undertaken has steadily risen over the years. For instance, in 2000/01, 1,030 inspections were undertaken, and in 2006/07 there were 1,418 inspections.
- In 2007/08 Greater Wellington issued 34 abatement notices, 36 infringement notices, three enforcement orders and initiated five prosecution proceedings. All but one of the enforcement orders issued were successful. As with compliance, enforcement has steadily increased over the years. In 2000/01, 12 abatements and nine infringement notices were issues, and one prosecution was undertaken.

WHAT WE PLAN TO DO AND BUDGETS**2009/10 – BY 30 JUNE 2010**

TARGET	BUDGET
100% of compliance inspections for all major consents with an individual monitoring programme will be completed	\$478,000
6.7% (1 in 15) of all consents not subject to an individual monitoring programme will be subject to a monitoring inspection	\$34,000
100% enforcement actions taken will be successful	\$64,000

2010/11 – BY 30 JUNE 2011

TARGET	BUDGET
100% of compliance inspections for all major consents with an individual monitoring programme will be completed	\$490,000
6.7% (1 in 15) of all consents not subject to an individual monitoring programme will be subject to a monitoring inspection	\$35,000
100% enforcement actions taken will be successful	\$66,000

2011/12 – BY 30 JUNE 2012

TARGET	BUDGET
100% of compliance inspections for all major consents with an individual monitoring programme will be completed	\$502,000
6.7% (1 in 15) of all consents not subject to an individual monitoring programme will be subject to a monitoring inspection	\$36,000
100% enforcement actions taken will be successful	\$68,000

2012 – 2019

Continue deliver services specified in “our services”

ACTIVITY 4

Pollution prevention and control

For a description of this activity see 3.4.

OUR SERVICES

- Respond to pollution incidents in a timely fashion, according to the following established criteria that relate to severity of incidents:
 - Serious adverse environmental effect which requires immediate attention: 60 minutes
 - Serious environmental effect where no benefit will be gained by an immediate response: 24 hours
 - Minor environmental effect not requiring immediate response: seven days
- Promote pollution prevention by carrying out 20 audits of businesses per annum through the Take Charge business pollution prevention programme

HOW WE MEASURE OUR PERFORMANCE

- Response times to pollution reports
- Number of businesses audited for compliance with the RMA and regional plans

WHERE WE ARE NOW

In 2007/08 Greater Wellington responded to 1,376 pollution incidents throughout the region. This compares to 1,264 in 2006/07 and 1,579 incidents in 2005/06. All incidents were responded to in accordance with specified timeframes.

To date, an average of 20 audits of businesses have been carried out per annum.

WHAT WE PLAN TO DO AND BUDGETS**2009/10 – BY 30 JUNE 2010**

TARGET	BUDGET
100% of environmental pollution incidents will be responded to according to the following timeframes :	\$345,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Log only: no action required • Red (serious adverse environmental effect which requires immediate attention): 60 minutes • Yellow (serious environmental effect where no benefit will be gained by an immediate response): 24 hours • Blue (minor environmental effect not requiring immediate response): 7 days 	
20 businesses will be audited for compliance with the RMA and regional plans	\$86,000

2010/11 – BY 30 JUNE 2011

TARGET	BUDGET
100% of environmental pollution incidents will be responded to according to the following timeframes:	\$354,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Log only: no action required • Red (serious adverse environmental effect which requires immediate attention): 60 minutes • Yellow (serious environmental effect where no benefit will be gained by an immediate response): 24 hours • Blue (minor environmental effect not requiring immediate response): 7 days 	
20 businesses will be audited for compliance with the RMA and regional plans	\$88,000

2011/12 – BY 30 JUNE 2012

TARGET	BUDGET
100% of environmental pollution incidents will be responded to according to the following timeframes :	\$362,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Log only: no action required • Red (serious adverse environmental effect which requires immediate attention): 60 minutes • Yellow (serious environmental effect where no benefit will be gained by an immediate response): 24 hours • Blue (minor environmental effect not requiring immediate response): 7 days 	
20 businesses will be audited for compliance with the RMA and regional plans	\$91,000

2012 – 2019

Continue to deliver services specified in "our services"

ACTIVITY 5

State of the Environment Monitoring

For a description of this activity see 3.5.

1 Environmental monitoring and reporting

OUR SERVICES

- Conduct an annual programme of monitoring as follows:

Air quality monitoring	Continuously monitor PM10 concentrations in the Wellington, Karori, Porirua, Wainuiomata, Lower Hutt, Upper Hutt and Wairarapa airsheds
Water quantity monitoring (hydrological monitoring)	Maintain and operate 46 rainfall, 39 river and 60 groundwater level monitoring sites and provide real-time data on Greater Wellington's website
Water quantity investigations	Complete two instream flow investigations on two different streams and rivers
Water quality monitoring	Sample and test water quality on a monthly basis at 56 river and stream sites Sample and test water quality on a quarterly basis at 70 groundwater sites
Recreational water quality	Between November and March, sample and test water at 77 marine and 23 freshwater bathing sites weekly to assess suitability for contact recreation. Display the results of this testing on Greater Wellington's website within one day of the results being received
Soil quality	Collect and test 20 soil samples for a range of indicator parameters
Register	Maintain the Selected Land Use Register (SLUR) so all information in it is up to date. Respond to information requests within five working days

- Report findings regularly to city and district councils and the public as follows:
 - Annual reports and summary cards (hydrology, groundwater, freshwater quality, coastal water quality, recreational water quality, air quality and soil quality)
 - Comprehensive state of the environment report every six years
 - "Efficiency and effectiveness" evaluation of regional plans report every five years
 - Through real-time and up-to-date data on the Greater Wellington website (river flows and levels, rainfall, groundwater levels, air quality, soil moisture, wind speed and direction, bathing water quality, lake levels and tide levels)

HOW WE MEASURE OUR PERFORMANCE

- Compliance with annual monitoring programme specified above
- Number of monitoring reports distributed

WHERE WE ARE NOW

Monitoring has been conducted according to an agreed monitoring programme. The latest comprehensive state of the environment report was published in December 2005 and the latest evaluations of regional plans were published in 2008/09. Report cards have been published annually since 2001 and are available on Greater Wellington's website. A wide range of monitoring information is also available online, including real-time information about river levels and flows, rainfall and soil moisture.

2 Targeted environmental investigations

OUR SERVICES

Research and investigate key environmental issues and threats identified by environmental monitoring, and make information available to city and district councils and the public.

HOW WE MEASURE OUR PERFORMANCE

Number of targeted investigations completed.

WHERE WE ARE NOW

Recently we have carried out targeted investigations into nitrate contamination in groundwater in the Wairarapa. We have also investigated water allocation, mostly in the Wairarapa area. Greater Wellington generally has two to three targeted investigations underway at any one time.

WHAT WE PLAN TO DO AND BUDGETS

2009/10 – BY 30 JUNE 2010		2011/12 – BY 30 JUNE 2012	
TARGET	BUDGET	TARGET	BUDGET
Greater Wellington's managers with responsibility for water supply and consents will be notified within one working day of low groundwater levels in the Waiwhetu aquifer	\$52,000	A comprehensive state of the environment report will be completed to the satisfaction of the Council and thereafter publicly distributed	\$1,978,000
Water samples will be taken weekly throughout the bathing season (1 November – 31 March) and tested for the presence of bacteria. A traffic light warning framework (see below) will be used at the sites and on Greater Wellington's website to inform the public	\$61,000	Greater Wellington's managers with responsibility for water supply and consents will be notified within one working day of low groundwater levels in the Waiwhetu aquifer	\$55,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – low or no public health risk • Amber – alert mode requiring follow-up monitoring • Red – action required and beach closed 		Water samples will be taken weekly throughout the bathing season (1 November – 31 March) and tested for the presence of bacteria. A traffic light warning framework (see below) will be used at the sites and on Greater Wellington's website to inform the public	\$64,000
Real-time environmental data will be available on Greater Wellington's website throughout the year	\$41,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – low or no public health risk • Amber – alert mode requiring follow-up monitoring • Red – action required and beach closed 	
Annual report cards containing summary information for key resources will be prepared to the satisfaction of the Council	\$1,804,000	Real-time environmental data will be available on Greater Wellington's website throughout the year	\$43,000
Targeted investigations will be completed in a timely manner and to the satisfaction of the Council	\$568,000	Targeted investigations will be completed in a timely manner and to the satisfaction of the Council	\$599,000
2010/11 – BY 30 JUNE 2011		2012 – 2019	
TARGET	BUDGET		
Greater Wellington's managers with responsibility for water supply and consents will be notified within one working day of low groundwater levels in the Waiwhetu aquifer	\$56,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to deliver services as specified in "our services" • Publish a comprehensive state of the environment report in 2017 • Complete efficiency and effectiveness reports for regional plans within five years of the regional plan(s) becoming operative 	
Water samples will be taken weekly throughout the bathing season (1 November – 31 March) and tested for the presence of bacteria. A traffic light warning framework (see below) will be used at the sites and on Greater Wellington's website to inform the public	\$63,000		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – low or no public health risk • Amber – alert mode requiring follow-up monitoring • Red – action required and beach closed 			
Real-time environmental data will be available on Greater Wellington's website throughout the year	\$42,000		
Annual report cards containing summary information for key resources will be prepared to the satisfaction of the Council	\$1,855,000		
Targeted investigations will be completed in a timely manner and to the satisfaction of the Council	\$586,000		

ACTIVITY 6

Environmental education and community engagement

For a description of this activity see 3.6.

OUR SERVICES

- Deliver Take Action – an environmental education programme to primary schools across the region so that students acquire the knowledge and skills to look after the environment
- Deliver Take Care – a community environmental restoration programme and work with community groups across the region on environmental restoration projects
- Work with businesses across the region (often in partnership with other organisations) to help them improve their environmental performance

HOW WE MEASURE OUR PERFORMANCE

- Number of schools students participating in Greater Wellington's schools' Take Action programme
- Number of community care groups operating
- Number of businesses taking action to improve their environmental performance.

WHERE WE ARE NOW

Since 2001, 115 schools have taken part in 161 programmes for Take Action for Water and Take Action for Air. 52% of all schools in the region have participated, with 14,655 students having participated in total.

In 2008/09, 35 Community Care groups were in action. In 2006/07 and 2007/08, 31 and 36 groups participated respectively.

In 2007/08 more than 40 businesses were involved in Greater Wellington's business programme.

WHAT WE PLAN TO DO AND BUDGETS

2009/10 – BY 30 JUNE 2010

TARGET	BUDGET
2,000 primary school students will participate in a Take Action environmental education programme	\$276,000
Community groups will work on restoration of 30 degraded ecosystems through the Take Care programme	\$284,000
25 businesses will be assisted to improve their environmental performance through the business sustainability programme and the E-mission carbon reduction programme	\$39,000

2010/11 – BY 30 JUNE 2011

TARGET	BUDGET
2,000 primary school students will participate in a Take Action environmental education programme	\$283,000
Community groups will work on restoration of 30 degraded ecosystems through the Take Care programme	\$296,000
25 businesses will be assisted to improve their environmental performance through the business sustainability programme and the E-mission carbon reduction programme	\$40,000

2011/12 – BY 30 JUNE 2012

TARGET	BUDGET
2,000 primary school students will participate in a Take Action environmental education programme	\$290,000
Community groups will work on restoration of 30 degraded ecosystems through the Take Care programme	\$305,000
25 businesses will be assisted to improve their environmental performance through the business sustainability programme and the E-mission carbon reduction programme	\$41,000

2012 – 2019

- Continue to deliver services as specified in "our services"
- On average, 2,000 students per year will participate in the Take Action environment education programme
- On average, 20 degraded ecosystems per year will be under active restoration by community groups through the Take Care programme
- 25 businesses per year will be provided with advice and assistance to improve their environmental performance

9 KEY PROJECTS FOR 2009/10

- Receive submissions and hold hearings in relation to the Proposed RPS
- Commence the review of the regional plans
- Finalise the Wairarapa groundwater model
- Implement the E-mission business sustainability programme
- Establish minimum flows for major rivers and sustainable yields for key aquifers. This work will inform the development of policy and plans and will take place from 2009-12.

Under section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991, Greater Wellington is able to set administrative charges for processing and monitoring resource consents. We undertake an annual review of these charges.

As a result of the consultation process on the 10-Year Plan, Greater Wellington has decided to increase the hourly charge-out rates for processing and monitoring resource consents from \$100 to \$105 (excluding GST). This charge-out rate will take effect from 1 July 2009. We have also reviewed a number of our State of the Environment Monitoring charges for activities undertaken in catchments under stress. Examples of this include groundwater and surface water catchments which are either close to, or already, full allocation. We will also be reducing the number of compliance inspections for smaller consents, such as small bridges and culverts. In these cases, the charges will be reduced from previous levels. The Resource Management Charging Policy, is available online – www.gw.govt.nz. The charge-out rate is in keeping with Greater Wellington's Revenue and Finance Policy (also available online – www.gw.govt.nz).

10 ASSETS

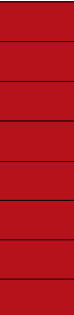
Compared with some other Greater Wellington activities, the Resource Management group of activities uses few assets, principally vehicles, and environmental monitoring and flood-warning equipment.

Large-cost asset items are generally loan funded while small cost items are funded entirely from rates. The size of the latter does not warrant additional debt.

All assets are subject to routine maintenance to ensure that they function as required.

11 NEGATIVE EFFECTS ON WELL-BEINGS

There are no negative effects on well-being with this activity, although its nature requires a balancing of cultural, economic and environmental well-beings.



12 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROSPECTIVE FUNDING IMPACT STATEMENT

	2009/10 \$0005	2010/11 \$0005	2011/12 \$0005
FUNDING STATEMENT			
General rate	9,787	10,095	10,340
Targeted rate	-	-	-
Government subsidies	10	10	11
Interest and dividends	12	-	-
Other operating revenue	1,587	1,742	1,783
Operating revenue	11,396	11,847	12,134
Direct operating expenditure	11,504	11,473	11,783
Finance costs	55	54	46
Depreciation	312	243	223
Operating expenditure	11,871	11,770	12,051
Operating surplus/(deficit)	(475)	77	83
Less/(add):			
Capital expenditure	318	189	149
Proceeds from asset sales	(10)	(39)	(24)
Loan funding	(220)	-	1
Rates-funded capital expenditure	88	150	126
Debt repayment	146	170	180
Investment additions	-	-	-
Operational reserve movements	(397)	-	-
Working capital movements	-	-	-
Non-cash items ¹	(312)	(243)	(223)
Net funding required	-	-	-

	2009/10 \$0005	2010/11 \$0005	2011/12 \$0005
OPERATING REVENUE			
Resource management planning	2,303	2,439	2,503
Resource consent and compliance service	3,229	3,289	3,400
Pollution control	466	478	489
State of the environment monitoring	4,111	4,315	4,378
Environment education and engagement	1,287	1,326	1,364
Total operating revenue	11,396	11,847	12,134
OPERATING EXPENDITURE			
Resource management planning	2,707	2,445	2,508
Resource consent and compliance service	3,251	3,306	3,397
Pollution control	466	478	489
State of the environment monitoring	4,124	4,187	4,269
Environment education and engagement	1,323	1,354	1,388
Total operating expenditure	11,871	11,770	12,051
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE			
Environment monitoring equipment	220	-	-
Capital project expenditure	220	-	-
Land and buildings	-	-	-
Plant and equipment	70	72	74
Vehicles	28	117	75
Total capital expenditure	318	189	149

¹ Non-cash items includes depreciation

For more information on the revenue and financing mechanisms applicable to this group of activities, please refer to the Revenue and Financing Policy in the *Policies Document*.

Please note that all figures on this page exclude GST.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

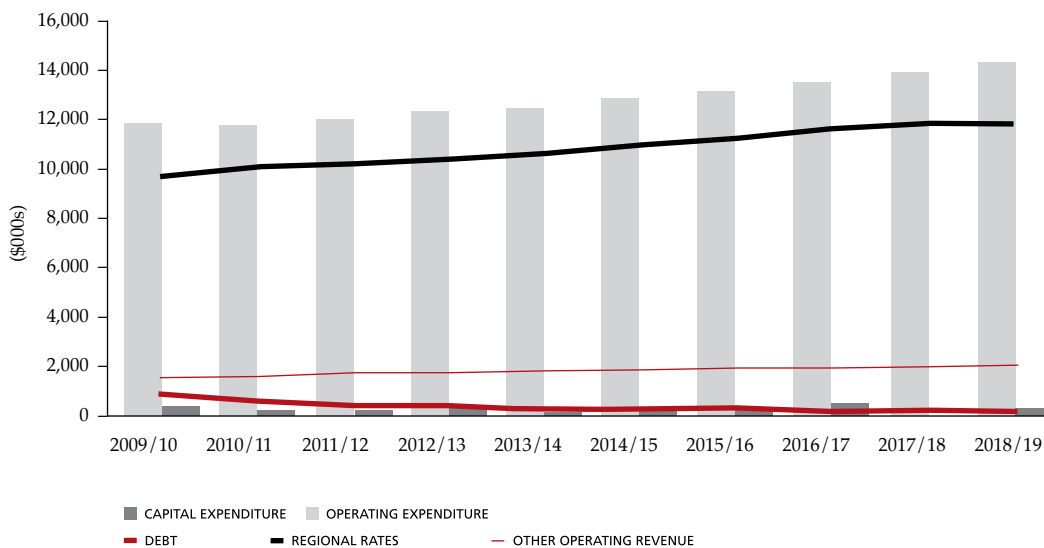
10-YEAR FINANCIAL FORECAST

This graph places the prospective funding impact statement for the next year in the context of the 10-year planning horizon.

Key point to note is:

- All key financial indicators are expected to remain relatively constant over the 10-year period after allowing for inflation

Please note that these figures exclude GST.



(\$000s)	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Operating expenditure	11,871	11,770	12,051	12,240	12,535	12,844	13,161	13,498	13,952	14,270
Capital expenditure	318	189	149	347	109	208	164	381	120	229
Debt	781	611	431	313	231	163	89	54	32	16
Regional rates	9,787	10,095	10,340	10,569	10,607	10,934	11,172	11,598	11,784	12,127
Other operating revenue	1,609	1,752	1,794	1,838	1,881	1,927	1,974	2,023	2,076	2,130