

Achievement of community outcomes

Planning processes

The Council operates within the following planning framework:

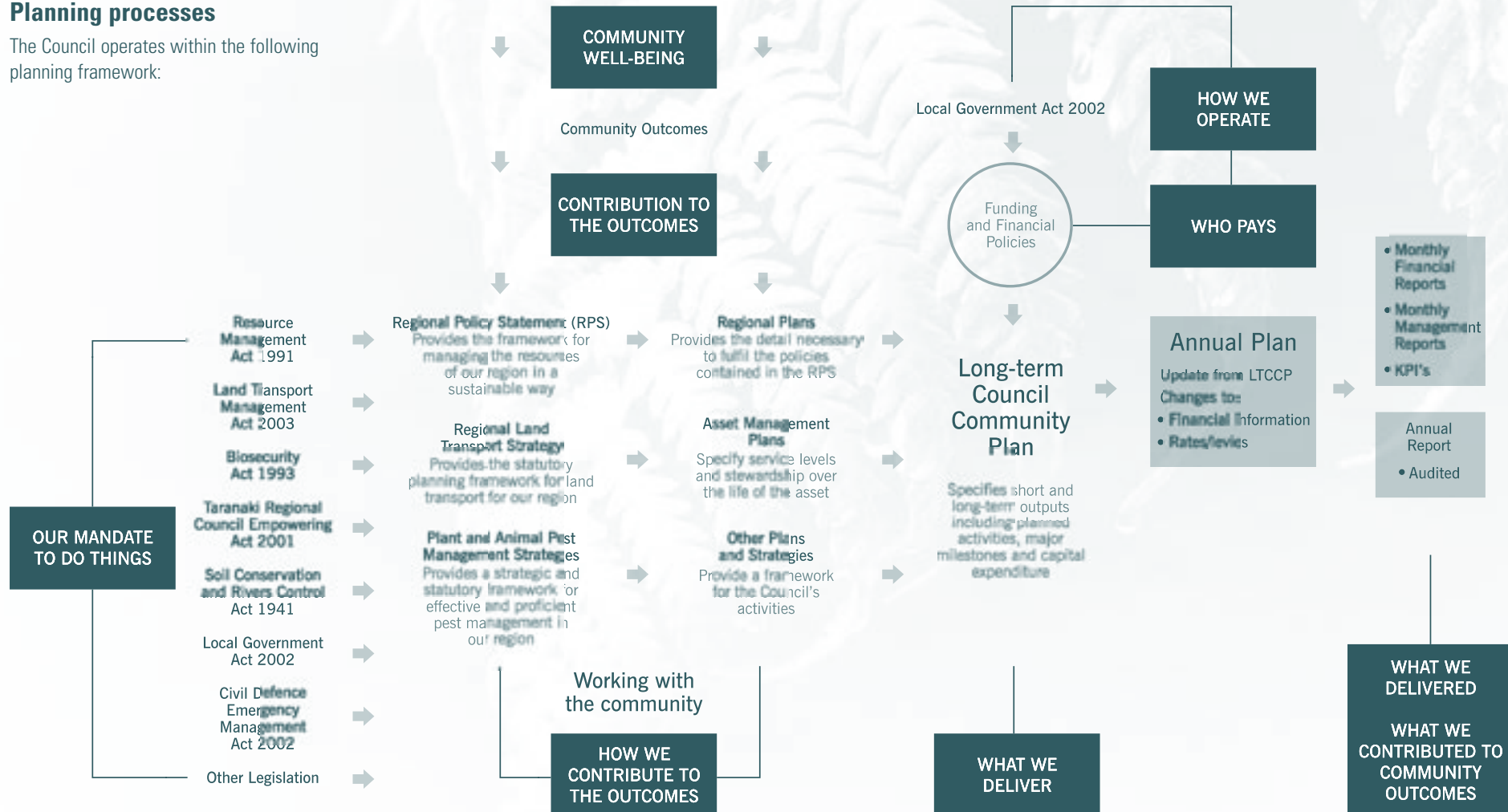


Figure 3: The Council's planning process.

Achievement of community outcomes

Community outcomes for the Taranaki region

From May 2003 to February 2004, the four councils within the Taranaki region worked together to consult with people of Taranaki to identify the things that the community thinks are *important for its well-being*. As a result the Taranaki community identified seven broad community outcomes for the region as follows:

Connected Taranaki

A region that delivers accessible and integrated infrastructure, transport and communications systems, which meet the needs of residents, business and visitors.

Prosperous Taranaki

A region that boasts a sustainable, resilient and innovative economy that prospers within the natural and social environment.

Secure and Healthy Taranaki

A region that provides a safe, healthy and friendly place to live, work or visit.

Skilled Taranaki

A region that values and supports learning so that all people can play a full and active role in its social, cultural and economic life.

Sustainable Taranaki

A region that appreciates its natural environment and its physical and human resources in planning, delivery and protection.

Together Taranaki

A region that is caring and inclusive, works together, and enables people to have a strong and distinctive sense of identity.

Vibrant Taranaki

A region that provides high quality and diverse cultural and recreational experiences, and encourages independence and creativity.

The Council's mission statement reflects its core statutory responsibilities and activities in resource management and environmental protection, pest management and hazard and

emergency management. It also reflects the Council's role in representing and advocating Taranaki's regional interests including recreation, culture and heritage activities at the regional level.

Figure 4 shows the way in which the Council will contribute to community outcomes through its mission and the actual activities the Council carries out.

The activities shown in Figure 4 are groups of activities. The groups of activities and the more specific individual activities within them form the basis of reporting on the details of the 10-year programmes contained in the *Long-Term Council Community Plan*. However, it is the contribution of these activities to the achievement of the community outcomes that lies at the heart of the *Long-Term Council Community Plan*.



Figure 4: Relationship between the Council's mission and activities and community outcomes.

Achievement of community outcomes

Figure 4 shows how each of the groups of Council activities is linked to the relevant key community outcomes that it contributes to. The diagram shows that most of the Council's activities will contribute to furthering the community outcomes of a Sustainable Taranaki and a Prosperous Taranaki. Some activities will contribute to a Secure and Healthy Taranaki while others contribute to the outcomes of a Connected, Together and Vibrant Taranaki.

Monitoring framework and programmes

The previous sections have outlined the Council's planning processes and shown how each of the groups of Council activities is linked to the relevant community outcomes. However, the Council needs to know if its planning processes and what it delivers each year contribute to the achievement of community outcomes.

The Local Government Act 2002 requires the Council to report the results of any measurement undertaken during the year of progress towards the achievement of community outcomes. It also requires the Council to describe any identified effects that any activity within the group of activities has had on the social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being of the community.

The Council has a comprehensive monitoring framework in place with many varied and wide-ranging programmes to monitor and to report on the outcomes of its activities. The main components of this framework and their connection to the Council's planning processes are shown diagrammatically in Figure 5.

The Council's monitoring framework is complex and multitiered. It covers a range of monitoring programmes from broad regional level monitoring of community outcomes and wellbeing, to overall state of the environment monitoring, monitoring of specific activity areas (such as pest management, land transport and emergency management) and monitoring of individual resource consents for compliance with consent conditions and Council policies. It also covers different time scales (from quarter-hourly, to daily, quarterly, annually, three yearly or five yearly or longer) according to different needs or requirements.

Monitoring is also undertaken at different geographical scales (region-wide, catchment, eco-regions, property-based or site-specific) and may involve different types of information.

In developing its monitoring programmes, the Council has sought to establish an integrated monitoring framework that recognises the need for consistency, coordination and integration of monitoring activities:

- within the Council – to generate information that is timely, relevant and useful to the Council across a number of activities;
- with other agencies – to avoid duplication and to make use of other sources of information where appropriate;
- across issues and media – to recognise the inter-connected nature of the biophysical economic, social and cultural environments.

Underpinning all aspects of the Council's monitoring programmes is effective data collection and management. This involves careful selection and maintenance of monitoring sites (having regard to the purpose, location, type and number of sites), proper sampling, surveying and analysis being undertaken according to recognised quality assurance programme by suitably qualified staff, and the maintenance of effective databases and data management systems. A wide range of parameters is used in monitoring and these form the foundations of the Council's monitoring framework. The key components of these programmes are outlined in Appendix 1.

The collection of information of high quality and integrity is fundamental to good decision-making. The timely analysis, interpretation and reporting of this information maintains accountability to the community and enables the Council to track its progress towards the achievement of the community outcomes that it has decided it will contribute to.

As previously indicated the Council undertakes many measurements during the year of the progress it is making towards the achievement of community outcomes. The Council considers that it is too simplistic to select and report on only one or two parameters to show progress on community outcomes. The Council's analysis, interpretation and reporting on the results of measurements undertaken is thorough and inevitably complex. Many reports are produced annually and the detailed results are set out in those reports. In 2004/2005, the Council completed 6 state of the environment reports, 83 compliance monitoring reports, 13 annual activity reports and various other reports on the results of Council activities. The results of these reports cannot be effectively and efficiently summarised in this report. Accordingly readers are referred to the more detailed reports on Council activities which are available on request from the Council. Collectively, these reports indicate the progress that is being made towards the achievement of community outcomes and describe the effects that Council activities have had on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of the community.

The Council is confident that the effects of its activities have progressed the well-being of the Taranaki community in those community outcome areas in which it has decided it will contribute.

Achievement of community outcomes

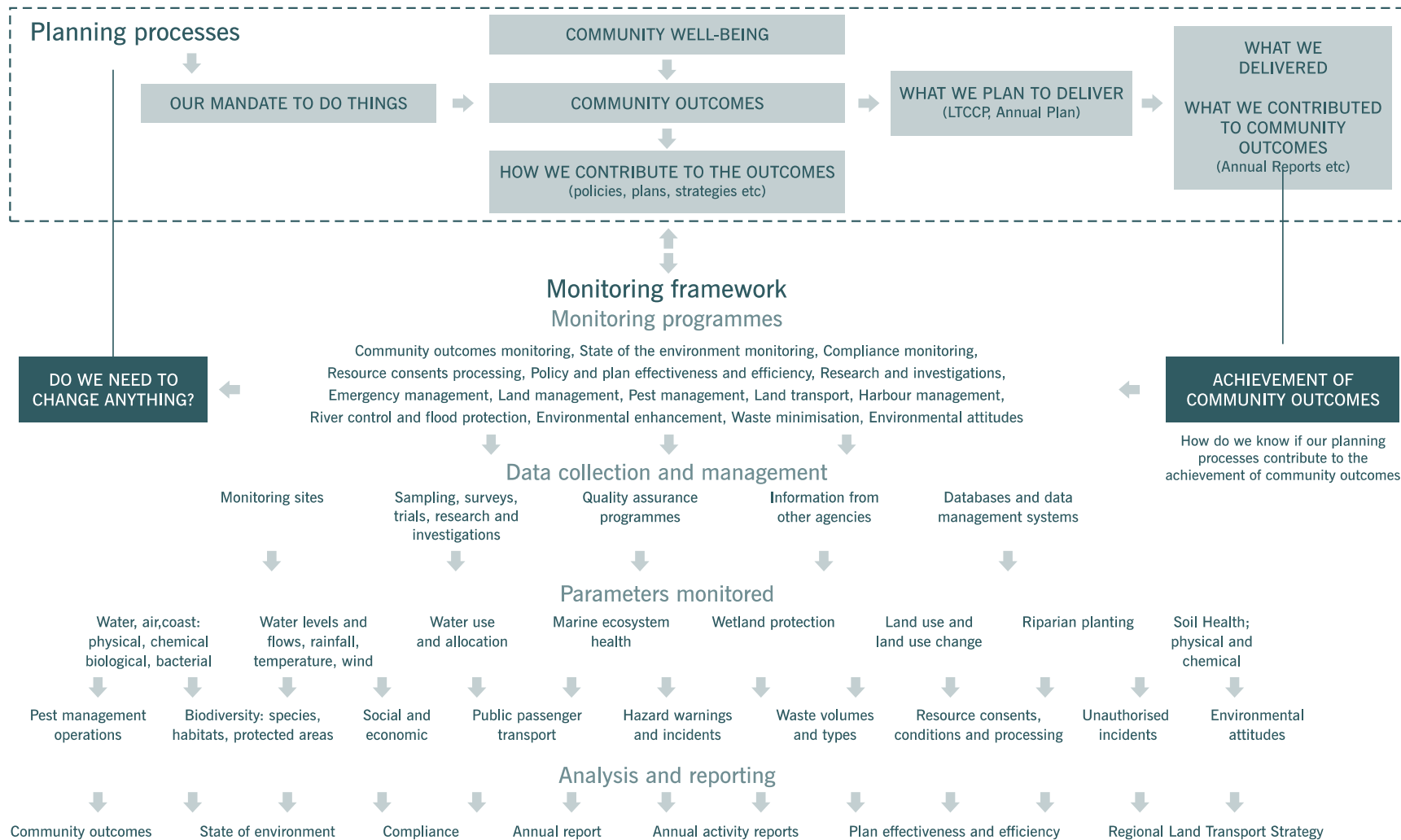


Figure 5: The Council's monitoring framework

Performance information

The following pages explain in detail how the Council performed in achieving the objectives and performance targets established in the *2004/05 Long-Term Council Community Plan*. Financial information on the net cost of services delivered is also provided in conjunction with the budget established in the *2004/05 Long-Term Council Community Plan* and last year's actual net cost of services.

The most important measure by which performance may be judged is that of whether defined tasks have been performed or not.

The Council also intends that its performance be measured in terms of:

Timeliness – in all cases, unless stated otherwise, the target was to complete the task by 30 June 2005.

Cost – in all cases the target was to complete the tasks defined for each significant activity within the budgeted expenditure and/or within any additionally stated, specific expenditure targets.

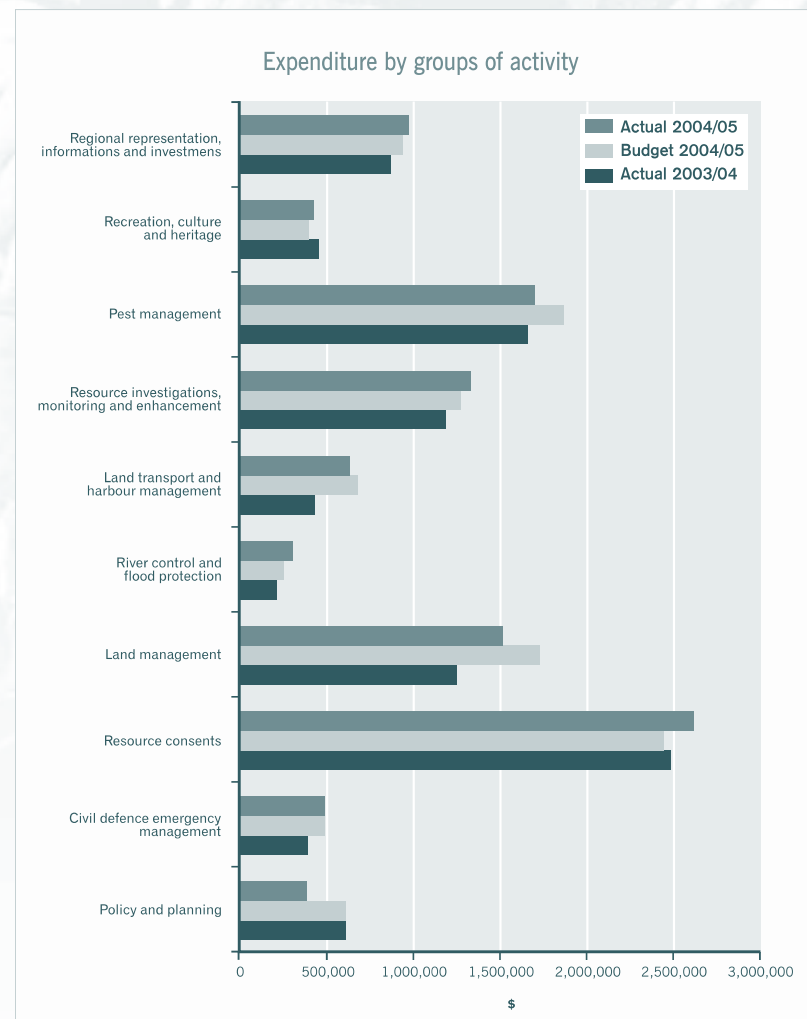
Quantity – in all cases where a quantity measure was specified, the target was to meet that specified quantity.

Quality – in all cases the target was to meet the quality expectations of the elected Councillors. The Council has extensive quality control procedures in place to ensure a high level of quality is present in the undertaking of activities.

Location – in all cases where a location was specified, the target is to deliver the service in that location.

The actual and estimated levels of expenditure are in accordance with the Council's adopted *Revenue and Financing Policy*.

Principal legislation and policy references for each significant activity are included in the *2004/2005 Long-Term Council Community Plan*.



Policy and planning

Description

Policy and planning comprises the analysis, development and dissemination of policy associated with all Council functions and response to the policy initiatives of other agencies where there are implications for the Taranaki region.

Contribution to community outcomes

Policy and planning activities ensure that the policy frameworks that the Council works within across all its activities – remain relevant, up-to-date, and appropriate to the region, and fulfil their purpose. These activities contribute to the following community outcomes:

- Prosperous Taranaki
- Sustainable Taranaki
- Secure and Healthy Taranaki
- Connected Taranaki
- Together Taranaki.

The Council completed a review of and developed policies for protecting indigenous biological diversity in Taranaki; released a discussion document as part of the review of the Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki and began the task of preparing a draft regional policy statement. These initiatives will provide policy frameworks within which the natural and physical resources of the region can be sustainably used, developed and protected, contributing to the overall social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of the Taranaki community.

A draft water allocation guide was also prepared. This guide will provide greater certainty on where water resources may be available for use and where water is not available thereby contributing to community outcomes for a prosperous and environmentally sustainable Taranaki.

A process for monitoring and reporting on community outcomes was agreed and good progress made towards developing indicators to measure their achievement.

The Council was active in the area of advocacy and response making 32 submissions to policy initiatives of other agencies (17 in 2003/04). This activity sought to have the social, economic,

environmental and cultural interests of the Taranaki community recognised in other policy settings. In a number of cases the Council's submissions were successful contributing to the community outcomes of a Prosperous and Sustainable Taranaki and a Connected and Together Taranaki.

Statutory policies, plans and strategies

Objective

The objective of this activity is to prepare, adopt and maintain comprehensive and publicly considered policies, plans and strategies that will deliver to the Taranaki community, efficient and effective management of the Council's functions.

Programme

Implement a programme of policy, plan and strategy development and review, including:

- reviewing and developing policies for protecting indigenous biological diversity in Taranaki
- releasing a discussion document as part of the review of the *Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki* and commencing the preparation of a draft regional policy statement
- preparing guidelines on water allocation policies
- developing indicators and a process for the monitoring and reporting of community outcomes.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Reviewed and developed policies for protecting biological diversity in Taranaki.

Released a discussion document as part of the review of the *Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki*.

Prepared *A Guide to Surface Water Availability and Allocation in Taranaki*.

Agreed on process for the monitoring and reporting of community outcomes. Development of indicators in progress.

Policy and planning

Advocacy and response

Objective

The objective of this activity is to advocate and respond, on behalf of the Taranaki community, to initiatives proposed by other agencies, when those initiatives affect the statutory responsibilities of the Council or relate to matters of regional significance, which are of interest or concern to the people of Taranaki.

Programme

Assess the implications of the policy initiatives proposed by other agencies including discussion documents, proposed policies, strategies, plans and draft legislation, and responding within required timeframes.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Assessed the implications of the policy initiatives proposed by other agencies resulting in the preparation of 32 submissions (17 – 2003/04).

Costs and sources of funds

	2004/05 Actual \$	2004/05 Budget \$	2003/04 Actual \$	2002/03 Actual \$
Expenditure				
Statutory policies, plans and strategies	327,091	512,746	516,782	434,689
Advocacy and response	66,610	105,667	103,650	76,977
Total expenditure	393,701	618,413	620,432	511,666
Revenue				
Direct charges	765	1,450	109,322	60
Total revenue	765	1,450	109,322	60
Net cost of service	392,936	616,963	511,110	511,606
Funded by:				
General funds	392,936	616,963	511,110	511,606
Total funding	392,936	616,963	511,110	511,606

Asset acquisitions and replacements

There were no significant asset acquisitions planned for or undertaken within this group of activities.

Civil defence emergency management

Description

Civil defence emergency management comprises planning and preparing for civil emergencies and for response and recovery in the event of an emergency to protect people and property.

Contribution to community outcomes

Further strengthening of civil defence emergency management structures and processes introduced in 2002 will ensure that the risks to people, property and the environment from all hazards are managed to acceptable levels. These activities contribute to the following community outcomes:

- Prosperous Taranaki
- Sustainable Taranaki
- Secure and Healthy Taranaki.

The 2004/2005 Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management Business Plan was implemented. A new Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan for Taranaki was prepared and adopted during the year, providing a single planning and response capability across the region. Throughout the year Civil Defence Emergency Management staff responded to a number of severe weather warnings and other alerts and undertook public awareness and training exercises. The results of a survey of public awareness of significant hazards carried out in January 2005 led to a decision by the Civil Defence Emergency Management Group to prepare a Public Education Strategy for the region and work on this commenced during the year.

These activities contributed to a Secure and Healthy Taranaki and a Prosperous and Sustainable Taranaki.

Civil defence emergency management

Objective

The objective of this activity is to promote and enhance, within the Taranaki community, an integrated comprehensive emergency management system.

Programme

Provide and maintain a civil defence emergency management service capable of fulfilling its responsibilities across the areas of reduction, readiness, response and recovery, including:

- implementing the *2004/2005 Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management Business Plan*
- assisting in preparing and adopting the *Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan for Taranaki*.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Implemented the *2004/2005 Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management Business Plan* as described above

Prepared the *Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan for Taranaki* and adopted it on 23 November 2004.

Costs and sources of funds

	2004/05 Actual \$	2004/05 Budget \$	2003/04 Actual \$	2002/03 Actual \$
Expenditure				
Civil defence emergency management	504,126	492,587	401,533	452,408
Total expenditure	504,126	492,587	401,533	452,408
Revenue				
Direct charges	230,700	229,794	207,158	187,158
Government grants	29,594	33,000	33,058	34,738
Total revenue	260,294	262,793	240,216	221,896
Net cost of service	243,832	229,793	161,317	230,512
Funded by:				
General funds	243,832	229,793	161,317	230,512
Total funding	243,832	229,793	161,317	230,512

Asset acquisitions and replacements

There were no significant asset acquisitions planned for or undertaken within this group of activities.



Resource consents

Description

Resource consents comprises three key activities. First is the processing of applications made under the Resource Management Act 1991 for water, coastal and discharge permits, and land use consents. Second is monitoring and reporting on compliance with the policies established by the Council as well as the conditions of specific resource consents issued. Third is responding to pollution and unauthorised incidents and follow-up action and enforcement.

Contribution to community outcomes

The Council will continue its policy of efficiency and timeliness in the processing and administration of resource consents while ensuring that the environmental effects of resource use on our land, water, air and coastal resources are thoroughly assessed and closely monitored and enforcement action undertaken where necessary. These activities contribute to the following community outcomes:

- Prosperous Taranaki
- Sustainable Taranaki.

The Council processed 622 resource consent applications during the year comprising 35 notified, 2 limited notified and 585 non-notified applications, in accordance with the Resource Management Act. Again, 100% of these applications were processed within the timeframes specified in the Resource Management Act. Furthermore, some 25% of applications that attracted submissions were resolved through the pre-hearing process without recourse to a formal hearing. Only 4 resource consent hearings were held during the year.

The efficient and timely processing of resource consents reduces costs to the community and enables use and development of resources to proceed thereby contributing to a Prosperous Taranaki. Ensuring that the environmental effects of resource use are thoroughly assessed and conditions imposed to avoid, remedy or mitigate those effects contributes to a Sustainable Taranaki.

The Council continued to design and implement appropriate compliance monitoring programmes to ensure compliance with resource consents and/or regional plans, and to take enforcement actions where necessary. Some 188 compliance monitoring programmes for major consents

were implemented with a high rate of compliance reported. Over 2,100 agricultural inspections were carried out with a reinspection rate of 4.2%. In addition, more than 922 inspections of minor industrial operations were undertaken to ensure good environmental practices were being achieved. Only 27 reinspections were required to ensure unacceptable practices had been addressed. The effects of these results are that the social, environmental and cultural well-being of the community is being maintained as part of the achievement of a Prosperous and Sustainable Taranaki.

The Council responded to 552 pollution incidents and instigated control and clean-up where required. Over 149 abatement notices and 8 infringement notices were issued. One prosecution was pursued as a result of unauthorised incidents.

Providing advice and undertaking strong enforcement action contributes to both a Sustainable and Prosperous Taranaki. It promotes within the community, greater awareness of and responsibility for good environmental practices including early attention to problems before they become difficult or too costly to correct.



Resource consents

Consent processing and administration

Objective

The objective of this activity is to process all applications for resource consents and administer resource consents in an efficient and effective manner that places the Council at the forefront of national best practice.

Programme

Provide appropriate and timely information in response to all requests for assistance in undertaking or complying with the consents process under the Resource Management Act 1991.

Process approximately 500 applications for resource consent.

Process and administer not less than 98% of accepted resource consent applications in compliance with statutory timeframes prescribed in the Resource Management Act 1991 and the Council's *Resource Consents Procedures* document.

Resolve, through the pre-hearing process, at least 50% of all submissions received on resource consent applications and successfully defending all consent decisions appealed to the Environment Court.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Provided information, which assisted the processing of 622 (568 – 2003/04) resource consent applications, comprising 35 (29) notified, 2 (0) limited notified and 585 (562) non-notified applications, in accordance with the requirements of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Processed 622 (568 – 2003/04) applications for resource consent.

Processed 100% of the 622 (100%) applications within the specified timeframe outlined in the Resource Management Act 1991. All resource consents were processed in accordance with the statutory procedures of the Act, and the Council's *Resource Consents Procedures* document.

Resolved 25% (83%) of resource consent applications attracting submissions without recourse to a formal hearing. The Council held 4 (1) resource consent hearings. There were 0 (0) successful references (appeals) against Council decisions. There is one outstanding appeal.

Compliance monitoring programmes

Objective

The objective of this activity is to undertake effective and efficient monitoring of resource consents and, where necessary, undertake successful enforcement action.

Programme

Design and implement approximately 120 compliance monitoring programmes for major consents according to the individual budgets negotiated with consent holders, and publicly reporting on all programmes by 31 March each year or within nine months of the end of the monitoring period.

Implement annual programmes for compliance inspections of agricultural discharges and minor industrial operations involving approximately 3,300 inspections, providing advice to resource users and, where necessary, enforcement actions to ensure compliance with resource consents and/or regional plans.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Implemented 188 (168 – 2003/04) programmes as specified. Reported publicly 2 programmes for the 2004 year, 73 programmes for the 2003/04 year and 8 programmes for the 2002 – 2004 period within nine months of the end of the respective monitoring periods. Designed and negotiated agreement on 201 (183) programmes for 2005/06.

Completed the annual inspection round of discharges of agricultural waste, including dairy, poultry and piggery farms – 2,109 inspections (2,196). The reinspection rate for failure to meet Council policy, consents and conditions was 4.2% (5.1%).

Undertook 922 (862) inspections of minor industrial operations ensuring good environmental practices were being achieved. Only 27 (25) reinspections were required to ensure unacceptable practices had been addressed.

Resource consents

Pollution incidents and response

Objective

The objective of this activity is to respond effectively to pollution incidents, reduce the occurrence and effects of pollution and other unauthorised incidents and, where necessary, undertake successful enforcement action.

Programme

Maintain and publicly report the Council's *Unauthorised Incidents Register*.

Respond to all pollution and other complaints within four hours of receipt, instigating control, clean up and enforcement procedures where appropriate.

Administer and implement the *Taranaki Regional Oil Spill Response Plan* as agreed with the Maritime Safety Authority.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Maintained the *Unauthorised Incidents Register* and publicly reported on 552 (558 – 2003/04) incidents.

Responded to 552 (558) incidents within the required timeframe. Instigated control and clean-up where required. Issued 149 (146) abatement notices and 8 (9) infringement notices. One (1) prosecution was pursued as a result of unauthorised incidents.

Administered the *Taranaki Regional Oil Spill Response Plan* in accordance with the programme agreed with the Maritime Safety Authority. Two (3) significant marine oil spills occurred that warranted actioning the plan.

Costs and sources of funds

	2004/05 Actual \$	2004/05 Budget \$	2003/04 Actual \$	2002/03 Actual \$
Expenditure				
Consent processing and administration	749,929	577,728	612,994	724,376
Compliance monitoring programmes	1,489,731	1,402,252	1,524,150	1,394,567
Pollution incidents and response	388,985	478,056	363,105	359,852
Total expenditure	2,628,645	2,458,036	2,500,249	2,478,795
Revenue				
Direct charges	1,902,479	1,446,598	1,634,388	1,655,169
Total revenue	1,902,479	1,446,598	1,634,388	1,655,169
Net cost of service	726,166	1,011,438	865,861	823,626
Funded by:				
General funds	726,166	1,011,438	865,861	823,626
Total funding	726,166	1,011,438	865,861	823,626

Asset acquisitions and replacements

There were no significant asset acquisitions planned for or undertaken within this group of activities.



Land management

Description

Land management comprises promoting sustainable land use, soil conservation and appropriate riparian management through the provision of site and property specific planning services. It also involves providing general advisory and extension services to land users to promote sustainable land use practices.

Contribution to community outcomes

The Council's land management activities are aimed at protecting water quality in our rivers and streams and ensuring that our land and soil resources are sustainably used in the long-term. They will provide a major boost to biodiversity protection and enhancement in Taranaki as well as ensuring that our most highly valued and productive natural resources are maintained. These activities contribute to the following community outcomes:

- Prosperous Taranaki
- Sustainable Taranaki.

The Council continued to achieve good results in this activity area with 51 comprehensive and agroforestry plans being prepared covering an additional 25,827 hectares of farmland. Some 381 riparian plans were also prepared during the year. The riparian plans cover an additional 1,363 kilometres of riparian margins. Over 219,000 plants were grown on contract and provided to landowners at cost. The results show a significant step towards the Council's long-term goal of riparian plans in place for over 90% of dairy farms and active comprehensive farm plans in place for over 80% of sheep and beef farms. By promoting the use of land in line with its physical sustainability, these activities contribute to both Prosperous and Sustainable Taranaki outcomes. Soil erosion and losses in the productive capability of Taranaki's land resources is reduced and water quality and aquatic habitats are improved. In the long-term land managements costs are reduced and profitability enhanced adding to the social and economic as well as environmental well-being of the community.

Sustainable land management plans

Objective

The objective of this activity is to promote sustainable land and riparian management by providing property-planning services that identify actions for land use and management on an individual property basis.

Programme

Provide property planning services to land holders including:

- comprehensive, agroforestry and conservation farm plans covering not less than an additional 15,000 hectares from an estimated 45 properties
- riparian management plans covering not less than an additional 1,000 kilometres from an estimated 300 properties.

Liaise with and provide supplementary advice to the 800 landholders with existing plans.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Fifty-one (52 – 2003/04) comprehensive, agroforestry and conservation farm plans covering 25,827 (16,884) hectares of farmland were prepared for landholders throughout the region.

Three hundred and eighty-one (299) riparian plans were prepared covering 1,363 (1,544) kilometres of proposed works from 2,239 kilometres of stream bank surveyed.

One thousand five hundred and seventy-four (1,564) follow-up contacts were made with land occupiers for whom plans have been previously prepared.

Land management

General advice and facilitation

Objective

The objective of this activity is to promote sustainable land and riparian management to the regional community through advocacy and facilitation.

Programme

Respond to all requests for general advice and assistance on sustainable land management, soil conservation and riparian management practices within ten working days.

Provide servicing and support to the Taranaki Tree Trust and assistance to other organisations involved in promoting sustainable land management.

Provide, on a cost-recovery basis, an estimated 200,000 plants for soil and water protection.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

A total of 594 (455 – 2003/04) inquiries were received with all of them being actioned within 10 days.

Administrative and treasury services were provided, as required, to the Taranaki Tree Trust.

In total, 12,700 (9,500) items of poplar and willow planting material were distributed to 93 (113) landholders in 2004/05. A total of 219,000 (95,000) plants were provided at cost to 530 (240) landholders, to plant approximately 120 (63) kms of stream margins.

Costs and sources of funds

	2004/05 Actual \$	2004/05 Budget \$	2003/04 Actual \$	2002/03 Actual \$
Expenditure				
Sustainable land management plans	775,213	879,710	743,721	676,839
General advice and facilitation	750,525	859,934	512,194	516,197
Total expenditure	1,525,738	1,739,644	1,255,915	1,193,036
Revenue				
Direct charges	477,975	713,250	280,826	262,436
Total revenue	477,975	713,250	280,826	262,436
Net cost of service	1,047,763	1,026,394	975,089	930,600
Funded by:				
General funds	1,047,763	1,026,394	975,089	930,600
Total funding	1,047,763	1,026,934	975,089	930,600

Asset acquisitions and replacements

There were no significant asset acquisitions planned for or undertaken within this group of activities.



River control and flood protection

Description

River control and flood protection comprises the Council, acting as a catchment authority in the exercise of its duties and functions under the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Act 1941, which requires the Council to minimise and prevent damage by floods and erosion. Specifically, this involves providing advice and assistance to landholders on matters relating to the control of rivers and flooding. Flood protection schemes are constructed and maintained as necessary. These infrastructure assets are maintained according to the Council's policy, in *as new* condition. In addition, a regional flood event operating procedure is practised.

Contribution to community outcomes

The Council's river and flood control activities will ensure that the risks and associated costs of damage by rivers and floods are managed appropriately and to acceptable levels. These activities contribute to the following community outcomes:

- Prosperous Taranaki
- Sustainable Taranaki
- Secure and Healthy Taranaki.

The Council's lower Waitara and lower Waiwhakaiho flood control schemes were maintained to design standards. Work was undertaken to bring some of the older parts of the lower Waitara scheme up to standard. Other minor river schemes were managed to agreed standards. Some 30 minor river and flood control works were undertaken and 37 requests for advice and information were investigated and reported on.

These activities contributed to the achievement of a Secure and Healthy Taranaki. By protecting property and productive assets, the activities also contributed to a Prosperous Taranaki and a Sustainable Taranaki.

River control schemes

Objective

The objective of this activity is to manage and maintain river control scheme works to accepted design standards to minimise and prevent damage by floods and river erosion.

Programme

Maintain the Waitara and Waiwhakaiho flood control schemes to perform to design standards.

Install continuous rock bank lining from McNaughton Street to the Estuary on the Waitara River flood protection scheme.

Manage other minor river schemes to standards as agreed with scheme participants.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

The flood protection schemes performed to design standards during the year. Work has been undertaken to bring some of the older parts of the scheme works up to standard. Routine maintenance was undertaken where required.

Benched bank lining has been constructed adjacent to Queen Street and will be progressed downstream.

Works required in the minor schemes were undertaken and managed by Council, in association with landholders.

River control and flood protection

Advice, minor works and flood response

Objective

Provide flood warnings, flood control advice and undertake minor works and associated actions to minimise and prevent damage by floods and river erosion.

Programme

Monitor rainfall and river levels and issue flood warnings when necessary in accordance with the *Flood Event Standard Operating Procedure*.

Undertake minor emergency river and flood control works when necessary.

Respond to requests for drainage, river and flood control advice and assistance within ten working days.

Facilitate river control projects for the environmental enhancement of the region's waterways.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Thirty-eight (32 – 2003/04) special weather watches and warnings were received from the MetService. In all instances, flood monitoring was undertaken.

Thirty (20 – 2003/04) minor river and flood control projects were undertaken during 2004/05 including 4 kilometres of channel clearing in the Waitotara River.

Investigated and reported on 37 (59) requests for advice and information on river control and flood protection.

No (0) projects were undertaken.

Costs and sources of funds

	2004/05 Actual \$	2004/05 Budget \$	2003/04 Actual \$	2002/03 Actual \$
Expenditure				
River control schemes	123,398	136,000	69,733	146,706
Advice, minor works and flood response	186,529	122,344	153,387	84,518
Total expenditure	309,927	258,344	223,120	231,224
Revenue				
Targeted rates	178,500	178,500	178,500	178,500
Direct charges	50,500	-	7,080	-
Total revenue	229,000	178,500	185,580	178,500
Net cost of service	80,927	79,844	37,540	52,724
Funded by:				
Transfer from reserves	-	1,000	-	-
Transfer to reserves	(14,293)	(6,797)	(64,875)	(6,439)
General funds	95,220	85,641	102,415	59,163
Total funding	80,927	79,844	37,540	52,724

Asset acquisitions and replacements

There were no significant asset acquisitions planned for or undertaken within this group of activities.



Land transport and harbour management

Description

Land transport planning entails promoting the attainment of an integrated, safe, responsive and sustainable land transport system for the region. This involves a range of activities including the registering of public transport operators, providing for the reasonable needs of the transport disadvantaged and regional land transport planning. Harbour management involves promoting safe navigation in Port Taranaki.

Contribution to community outcomes

Through its land transport activities, the Council will work with other funders and providers to ensure that the needs of the transport disadvantaged are met. This will ensure that all members of the community have reasonable access to transport for those social, health, educational, recreational or employment opportunities important to an acceptable quality of life. The Council's harbour management activities provide for safe navigation and use of the waters of Port Taranaki for all users. These activities contribute to the following community outcomes:

- Prosperous Taranaki
- Sustainable Taranaki
- Secure and Healthy Taranaki
- Connected Taranaki.

The Council commenced a review of its *Regional Land Transport Strategy* and implemented the regional component of the *Strategy*. Implementation including continued funding of concession fares on urban bus services in New Plymouth and on taxi-based total mobility services in New Plymouth, Waitara, Inglewood, Stratford and Hawera. Over 90,000 passenger trips were made under the total mobility scheme. The Council's passenger service activities focus on the needs of the transport disadvantaged such as people with disabilities and the elderly. By ensuring that these sections of the community can access transport services for domestic, medical, social, recreational, employment or other reasons, these services contribute to the community outcomes of a Secure and Healthy, Connected, Prosperous and Sustainable Taranaki. The review of the Council's *Regional Land Transport Strategy* and *Regional Passenger Transport Plan* commenced during the year, may lead to further developments of the Council's policies and programmes.

Harbour management activities focus on promoting safe navigation for all users of Port Taranaki. No significant incidents involving unsafe navigation within Port Taranaki were reported during the

year. The Council's activities in this area, provided by way of external contract for harbourmaster services, contribute to a Secure and Healthy and Connected Taranaki. This activity also contributes to a Prosperous and Sustainable Taranaki.

Regional land transport planning

Objective

The objective of this activity is to promote an integrated, safe, responsive and sustainable land transport system within the region.

Programme

Review the *Regional Land Transport Strategy for Taranaki* in accordance with the Land Transport Act 1998.

Implement the regional component of the *Strategy*.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Complete review of the *Strategy* is being undertaken to meet new statutory requirements.

The regional component of the *Strategy* was implemented and reported on.

Passenger transport

Objective

Promote the provision of community passenger transport in Taranaki on a fully commercial basis and assist the special transport needs of people with permanent disabilities, the elderly and students by providing fare concessions.

Programme

Provide subsidy assistance, through the Transfund supported Total Mobility Scheme, for people with permanent disabilities who are unable to use public bus services and who need taxi passenger transport services in New Plymouth, Waitara, Inglewood, Stratford and Hawera and for people with disabilities and the elderly using public bus services in the greater New Plymouth area.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Total mobility services were provided to the targeted areas. Continued growth in usage was experienced. Central Government agencies have been involved in a number of national reviews of total mobility.

Land transport and harbour management

Programme

Receive and register, within fourteen days, appropriate applications to operate a passenger transport service.

Maintain an overview of passenger transport requirements and facilitate the provision of appropriate services.

Harbour management

Objective

Promote safe navigation for all users of the waters of Port Taranaki.

Programme

Provide harbourmaster and harbour warden services for Port Taranaki to implement relevant harbour bylaws and regulations.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Two (0 – 2003/04) new registrations were received.

General oversight of passenger transport was maintained. A comprehensive review of passenger services provided within the region, was completed. A new regional passenger transport plan is under preparation.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

External contract placed for the provision of Harbourmaster services. No significant incidents involving unsafe navigation practices were reported within Port Taranaki.

Completed *Port and Harbour Safety Management System Manual* for approval by Maritime New Zealand.

Costs and sources of funds

	2004/05 Actual \$	2004/05 Budget \$	2003/04 Actual \$	2002/03 Actual \$
Expenditure				
Regional land transport planning	145,967	61,151	35,890	240,826
Passenger transport	461,963	592,918	388,508	345,950
Harbour management	32,218	36,203	18,500	16,332
Total expenditure	640,148	690,272	442,898	603,108
Revenue				
Targeted rates	54,995	55,000	50,000	50,000
Direct charges	-	25,000	10,000	1,500
Government grants	200,857	295,769	157,557	279,999
Total revenue	255,852	375,769	217,557	331,499
Net cost of service	384,296	314,503	225,341	271,609
Funded by:				
General funds	384,296	314,503	225,341	271,609
Total funding	384,296	314,503	225,341	271,609

Asset acquisitions and replacements

There were no significant asset acquisitions planned for or undertaken within this group of activities.



Resource investigations, monitoring and enhancement

Description

Resource investigations comprise investigations and analyses of physical resources to allow the Council to develop and review policy and to promote sustainable resource management. Monitoring is conducted to provide long-term information on the state of the region's environment. Such information is fundamental for assessing the effectiveness of resource management policies and plans within medium and long-term timeframes consistent with the Council's statutory duties. Enhancement grants are used to promote the sustainable development of the environment. The waste minimisation programme involves encouraging and implementing waste minimisation and cleaner production initiatives.

Contribution to community outcomes

Resource investigations and monitoring activities will ensure that the Council keeps abreast of resource management issues and is in the best possible position to anticipate trends in the environment and to take action ahead of time rather than be reactive. Practical assistance for environmental protection through the environmental enhancement grants scheme will contribute to protecting and enhancing the region's biodiversity while initiatives in the area of waste minimization will produce environmental benefits as well as better efficiencies and reduced costs for industry. These activities contribute to the following community outcomes:

- Prosperous Taranaki
- Sustainable Taranaki.

Several resource investigations projects were continued during the year, some in conjunction with external research providers. This activity is providing relevant and quality information on which to review policy and promote sustainable resource management. The Council continued its extensive state of the environment monitoring programmes comprising monitoring of fresh water quantity, levels and flows, fresh water quality, groundwater quantity and quality, coastal waters, air quality and land use. Over 1500 inspections, sampling runs and surveys were undertaken at more than 300 monitoring sites. Such information is vital for assessing the effectiveness of the Council's policies, plans and programmes and the need for change. The results of this monitoring are analysed and reported on a regular basis.

Waste minimisation activities promoted waste reduction and energy efficiency and an enhanced understanding of rural wastes.

The combined effect of these activities is to provide the Council and the community with high quality information on which to make sound decisions thereby contributing to a Prosperous and Sustainable Taranaki.

Environmental enhancement grants promote a Sustainable Taranaki through the protection of the environment by way of a programme of enhancement grants. In 2004-2005 physical works and legal arrangements were put in place to protect 13 wetlands at a cost of \$77,888.

State of the environment monitoring

Objective

The objective of this activity is to monitor the state of the environment in Taranaki to enable periodic evaluation of trends in the state of the environment and of the effects of the implementation of the Council's policies and plans.

Programme

Implement the Council's *State of the Environment Monitoring Programme* comprising monitoring of surface fresh water quantity, levels and flows, fresh water quality, groundwater quantity and quality, coastal waters, air quality and land use sustainability according to the documented individual programmes.

Monitor, review and where appropriate, further develop the programme for the 2005/06 year before 30 June 2005.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Implemented all specified programmes for freshwater, air quality and coastal waters as described in *State of the Environment Monitoring Programme 2004/05*.

Reviewed and amended where appropriate the air, coast, and soil programmes for the *State of the Environment Monitoring Programme 2004/05* by 30 June 2004. Review of water programme underway, to be completed 2005/06.



Resource investigations, monitoring and enhancement

Programme

Maintain quality assurance programmes and information databases for hydrometric, air quality, physicochemical freshwater, freshwater biological and marine biological data.

Maintain public access to on-line live regional data on rainfall and bathing beach water quality, and add access to regional data on soil moisture levels.

Resource investigations and projects

Objective

The objective of this activity is to provide relevant and quality information for resource management purposes.

Programme

Undertake a range of resource investigations and applied research projects, normally in partnership with science providers, other councils or resource users, including:

- investigating the performance characteristics of farm dairy oxidation ponds and their effects on surface water quality

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Maintained the quality assurance programmes and associated databases for hydrometric, air quality, fresh water physicochemical, fresh water biology and marine biology data. Retained IANZ registration for chemical analysis.

Maintained public access to live on-line regional data on rainfall, river levels, and wind speed and direction. Maintained public access to up to date information on marine and freshwater bathing site water quality. On-line telemetered data from four soil moisture sites maintained on internal Council web pages – public access to be set up in 2005/2006.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Assessment of data commissioned and first draft report received and reviewed. Significance of proper sizing of ponds and riparian management for maintenance of in-stream water quality demonstrated.

Programme

- implementing an investigation programme for assessing the water quality characteristics of the Maketawa Stream
- implementing a monitoring regime to assess the effectiveness of riparian planting programmes
- supporting studies on the effects and consequences of high density stocking rates in association with Dexcel and others
- supporting the dairying catchment water quality study being conducted by AgResearch and NIWA in the Waiokura Stream catchment.

In addition to the planned programme the Council also undertook the following activities:

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Investigations now incorporated within ongoing SEM freshwater programme. Maketawa catchment shows high water quality and significant implementation of riparian plans.

Programme underway. Implemented biological and physicochemical monitoring in four catchments. Designed 2005/2006 programme.

Presentation of first two years' results to Council by Dexcel, indicating resilience of soils in Taranaki.

Interim report presented to Council by NIWA. Results indicate most relevant guidelines are satisfied by median if not maximum levels of analytes.

During the year the Council confirmed the details on its *Register of Selected Land Uses* with site owners. Preparations were made to provide on-line access to the *Register*.

The Council received the final report on research into the effect of high stocking rates at the Waimate West demonstration farm, indicating comparable soil quality between conventional and high stocking rates.

The Council participated in and supported fieldwork for a sub-tidal benthic ecology study on the North Taranaki coastline.

The Council completed contractual requirements for the first year of a two-year pilot project delivering HSNO inspection and compliance functions in Taranaki.



Resource investigations, monitoring and enhancement

Environmental enhancement grants

Objective

The objective of this activity is to promote the protection of the environment through a programme of enhancement grants.

Programme

Implement a programme using environmental enhancement grants for the protection of wetlands identified as significant in the Council's wetlands inventory and in the *Regional Fresh Water Plan for Taranaki*.

Use environmental enhancement grants for the protection of regionally significant environmental resources.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Protection by physical works and legal arrangements has continued in order to secure:

- 13 of the 20 wetlands classed as regionally significant
- 4 of the 18 wetlands over 5 hectares
- 6 of the 11 wetlands with rare or uncommon indigenous species.

One (0) additional wetland was secured during 2004/05.

No environmental enhancement grants used for the protection of regionally significant environmental resources.

Waste minimisation

Objective

The objective of this activity is to encourage and implement waste management and cleaner production initiatives in Taranaki consistent with the *Regional Waste Strategy for Taranaki*.

Programme

In conjunction with the region's district councils, implement a programme promoting waste minimisation, including:

- employing a waste minimisation officer to assist sector leaders in six activity areas in exploring and implementing waste minimisation
- maintaining an in-house waste minimisation programme
- working with the petrochemical and dairy industries to investigate waste minimisation opportunities
- devising and implementing measurements of construction and demolition works going to cleanfill.

In addition the Council:

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Conducted waste minimisation pilot studies in publishing, energy production, school (primary and tertiary), sports club, retail outlet, and boat building sectors to characterize sector minimization and recovery opportunities as a basis for subsequent waste minimization programmes

Continued to employ a Regional Waste Minimisation Officer and implemented a programme promoting waste minimization.

Continued promotion of 'switch-off' policy with regard to power. Initiated purchase and trial use of 100% recycled paper. Continued the in-house recycling programme.

Successfully applied to the Sustainable Farming Fund to conduct a rural wastes survey in Taranaki.

Carried out a Solid Waste Analysis Protocol (SWAP) at Colson Road Landfill with particular emphasis on timber and construction and demolition waste

Participated in a review of waste disposal practices of schools in the Taranaki region.

Investigated and promoted computer recycling in the region.

Resource investigations, monitoring and enhancement

Costs and sources of funds

	2004/05 Actual \$	2004/05 Budget \$	2003/04 Actual \$	2002/03 Actual \$
Expenditure				
State of the environment monitoring	792,988	715,120	670,374	683,970
Resource investigations and projects	399,104	312,609	325,989	410,394
Environmental enhancement grants	41,863	151,993	102,942	121,093
Waste minimisation	108,235	107,475	98,006	-
Total expenditure	1,342,190	1,287,197	1,197,311	1,215,457
Revenue				
Direct charges	124,655	50,000	87,426	-
Total revenue	124,655	50,000	87,426	-
Net cost of service	1,217,535	1,237,197	1,109,885	1,215,457
Funded by:				
General funds	1,217,535	1,237,197	1,109,885	1,215,457
Total funding	1,217,535	1,237,197	1,109,885	1,215,457

Asset acquisitions and replacements

There were no significant asset acquisitions planned for or undertaken within this group of activities.



Pest management

Description

Pest management comprises first, the implementation of the Council's *Pest Management Strategy for Taranaki: Animals*, with its major focus on possum control. The key methodology for the control of possums is the Council's *self-help possum control programme*. Second is the implementation of the Council's *Pest Management Strategy for Taranaki: Plants*. This involves the application of a range of methods for the effective management of pest plants. There is also the delivery of general functions under the Biosecurity Act 1993. These may include activities which focus on advice and education on unwanted organisms and, if necessary, the small-scale control of unwanted plant or animal organisms.

Contribution to community outcomes

The Council's pest management activities – both pest animals and plants – will continue to make a significant contribution to the protection of animal health and agricultural production as well as the protection and enhancement of regional biodiversity. These activities contribute to the following community outcomes:

- Prosperous Taranaki
- Sustainable Taranaki.

The Council's pest management activities – both pest animals and plants – are to protect agricultural production and/or conservation values by reducing or controlling pests, preventing the spread of pests or in some cases eradicating all known infestations of pests.

In 2004/2005 the Council added a further 12,029 hectares on 267 properties to the self-help possum control programme, bringing the total number of properties in the programme to 3,193 on 205,200 hectares. This was a further step in the Council's goal to extend the self-help possum control programme within the period of the current *Long-Term Council Community Plan* to cover greater than 90% of the Taranaki ring plain and northern and southern terraces.

Over 1,178 property inspections for pest plants took place with 83 notices of direction issued and complied with. The Council carried out direct control on 100% of known infestations of *Climbing Spindleberry* and *Giant Reed* and initiated control on other eradication pest plants.

The combined effect of the Council's pest management activities has made a significant contribution to a Prosperous and Sustainable Taranaki through the protection of animal health and agricultural production as well as the protection and enhancement of regional biodiversity.

Pest animal management

Objective

The objective of this activity is to control pest animals to minimise their adverse effects on biodiversity, primary production and the regional economy and environment.

Programme

Implement the Council's *Pest Management Strategy for Taranaki: Animals* which, in brief, comprises:

- extending the *self-help possum control programme* on the Taranaki ring plain by undertaking initial control operations on not less 12,000 hectares primarily in the eastern Inglewood area
- supporting the *self-help possum control programme* by ensuring that landholders maintain possum populations within acceptable limits on land already included (185,000 hectares)
- facilitating control of rabbit infestations
- undertaking monitoring, surveillance and, where necessary, control of other pest animals, including rabbits, feral goats, deer and magpies

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Implemented the Strategy which comprised:

- adding a further 267 (159 – 2003/04) properties to the *self-help programme* with control being undertaken on 12,029 (10,850) hectares. The total area now included in the self-help programme is 205,202 ha involving 3,193 properties.
- maintaining 2,790 (2,706) properties over an area of 177,493 (152,938) hectares.
- undertaking control works on rabbit infestations on 33 (26) occasions.
- receiving 99 (60) notifications of animal pests and, where appropriate, undertaking control action.



Pest management

Programme

- undertaking direct control and eradication of rooks.

Monitor, provide advice on, and, if necessary, implement small-scale control of unwanted animal organisms.

Respond to enquiries and information requests within ten working days.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

- undertaking control works on rook infestations on 8 (8) occasions.

Thirty-four (53) requests for advice and information were actioned.

A total of 218 (223) requests for information were received with all of them being actioned within 10 working days.

Pest plant management

Objective

The objective of this activity is to control or eradicate pest plants to minimise their adverse effects on biodiversity, primary production and the regional economy and environment.

Programme

Implement the Council's *Pest Management Strategy for Taranaki: Plants* which, in brief, comprises:

- confining the spread of and, where appropriate, reducing the extent of 'eradication' and 'containment' pest plants through a programme of inspections and, where necessary, enforcement on all Category C properties at least three times per year, on all Category B properties at least once a year, and on Category A properties as time permits

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Implemented the Strategy which comprised:

- completing the annual inspection round for *total* and *boundary* plant pests, inspecting 72 (127 – 2003/04) category C properties on at least three occasions, 1,106 (815) category B properties at least once including urban properties. In total, 83 (169) notices of direction were issued and complied with, with 0 (0) prosecutions resulting.

Programme

- undertaking the direct control and eradicating all known infestations of *Senegal Tea*, *Climbing Spindleberry*, *Mignonette Vine*, *Giant Reed* and *Darwin's Barberry* in the region

- responding to and taking necessary actions on all pest plants complaints within five days of receipt

- inspecting all plant nurseries and retail outlets to promote and, where necessary, enforcing the prohibition from propagation, sale or distribution of all pest plants

- facilitating the development of effective biological control programmes for pest plants particularly *Old Man's Beard* and *Giant Buttercup*

- undertaking a publicity and education programme in relation to the control of *Mignonette Vine*, *Darwin's Barberry* and *Chilean Rhubarb*.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

- carrying out direct control on 100% of known infestations of *Climbing Spindleberry* and *Giant Reed*. Also initiated 86% control for *Mignonette Vine*, 30% for *Darwin's Barberry* and 100% for *Senegal Tea*.

- receiving and responding to 74 (103) complaints, investigating all complaints within five working days and taking action where necessary. Thirty-eight (68) notices of direction were issued and complied with.

- inspecting 44 (28) nurseries and retail outlets. No (2) requirement to remove plant pests from sale was made. Distributing information to all nurseries and retail outlets for identification of *National Pest Plant Accord* pest plants.

- making 0 (0) releases of control agents from local stock and 2 (8) releases from Landcare Research. There were also 10 releases to trial sites of *Giant Buttercup Fungus*. Contributed to Landcare Research biological control research programme.

- undertaking a publicity and education programme in relation to the control of *Mignonette Vine*, *Darwin's Barberry*, *Chilean Rhubarb*, *Pampas* and *Climbing Spindleberry*.



Pest management

Programme

Monitor, provide advice on and, if necessary, implement small-scale control of unwanted plant organisms.

Implement the *National Pest Plant Accord*, inspecting all plant nurseries and retail outlets to promote and, where necessary, enforce the prohibition from propagation, sale or distribution of specified unwanted plant organisms.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Responded to 239 (315) requests for advice and information. In addition, advice and information was given in the field during the inspection rounds. Undertook small scale control of unwanted plant organisms on 34 (7) occasions.

Inspected 40 (28) nurseries and retail outlets. No (1) requirement to remove plant pests from sale was made. Distributed information to all nurseries and retail outlets for identification of *National Pest Plant Accord* pest plants.

Costs and sources of funds

	2004/05 Actual \$	2004/05 Budget \$	2003/04 Actual \$	2002/03 Actual \$
Expenditure				
Pest animal management	1,339,699	1,495,817	1,298,755	1,469,081
Pest plant management	373,591	385,901	373,014	346,589
Total expenditure	1,713,290	1,881,718	1,671,769	1,815,670
Revenue				
Direct charges	43,283	73,200	53,242	37,650
Government grants	6,998	8,564	7,686	8,187
Total revenue	50,281	81,764	60,928	45,837
Net cost of service	1,663,009	1,799,954	1,610,841	1,769,833
Funded by:				
General funds	1,663,009	1,799,954	1,610,841	1,769,833
Total funding	1,663,009	1,799,954	1,610,841	1,769,833

Asset acquisitions and replacements

There were no significant asset acquisitions planned for or undertaken within this group of activities.



Recreation, culture and heritage

Description

Recreation, culture and heritage has two facets. First is regional assistance for the redevelopment of Rugby Park into Yarrow Stadium. Second is maintaining and enhancing three of Taranaki's regionally significant and nationally recognised garden amenities.

Contribution to community outcomes

The Council's recreation, culture and heritage activities over the next ten years focus on the further development of three regionally significant garden assets as well as the repayment of a one-off grant for the development of Rugby Park in New Plymouth to Yarrow Stadium. These activities contribute to the following community outcomes:

- Prosperous Taranaki
- Vibrant Taranaki

The Council continued repayment from targeted rates, of a grant made for the purposes of redeveloping Rugby Park into a multi-purpose event centre. Yarrow Stadium has had a positive effect on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of the community and contributes to a Prosperous and Vibrant Taranaki.

The Council provided funding support for the Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust and continued to make progress with the development of Tupare and Hollard Gardens. These activities are also contributing to a Prosperous and Vibrant Taranaki.

Yarrow stadium

Objective

The objective of this activity is to facilitate the redevelopment of Rugby Park into Yarrow Stadium.

Programme

A one-off grant of \$9.6m was provided to the Taranaki Events Centre Trust in 2001/2002 for the purposes of redeveloping Yarrow Stadium. The only activity in this area for 2004/05 was the annual repayment of the grant from targeted rates.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Regional gardens

Objective

The objective of this activity is to ensure that the Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust gardens, Hollard Gardens and Tupare are maintained and enhanced as regionally significant recreational and heritage amenities.

Programme

Adopt asset management plans for Tupare and Hollard Gardens.

Commence the development of Tupare and Hollard Gardens to the standards established in the asset management plans.

Provide funding support to the Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Significant progress was made towards the preparation, finalisation and adoption of asset management plans. Draft asset management plans were received in November 2004. Significant stakeholder and public consultation has been undertaken. The revised asset management plans will be finalised and adopted early in the 2005/06 financial year.

The asset management plans have yet to be adopted. Regular planting, tree surgery work, woody and herbaceous husbandry and weed control undertaken as part of the on-going maintenance and upkeep of Hollard and Tupare gardens.

Specific projects undertaken during the year include:
Tupare

- Tree removal and site restoration on the south west boundary
- Soil replacement programme in the formal beds
- Staged refurbishment of the winter feature (Cliff's Cascade).

Hollard Gardens

- Removal of *Cupressocyparis leylandii* shelter belt in the north east corner of the New Garden and other similar species throughout the gardens due to canker infestations
- Path edging and alignment in the Old Garden.

Stakeholder/funding arrangements between the Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust and the Council continued.

Recreation, culture and heritage

Costs and sources of funds

	2004/05 Actual \$	2004/05 Budget \$	2003/04 Actual \$	2002/03 Actual \$
Expenditure				
Yarrow Stadium	-	-	-	-
Regional gardens	431,703	405,710	457,723	301,925
Total expenditure	431,703	405,710	457,723	301,925
Revenue				
Direct charges	1,810	1,560	19,074	29,128
Targeted rates	876,363	876,000	878,671	897,409
Total revenue	878,173	877,560	897,745	926,537
Net cost of service	(446,470)	(471,850)	(440,022)	(624,612)
Funded by:				
Transfer to retained earnings	(876,363)	(876,000)	(878,671)	(897,409)
General funds	429,893	404,150	438,649	272,797
Total funding	(446,470)	(471,850)	(440,022)	(624,612)

Asset acquisitions and replacements

There were no significant asset acquisitions planned for or undertaken within this group of activities.



Regional representation, information and investments

Description

Regional representation, information and investments comprise three key elements. First is public representation by the Council and its committees in accordance with statutory requirements. Second are the responsibilities associated with the Council's ownership of the region's port company (Westgate Transport Ltd), investment properties and treasury investments. Third is developing and implementing a programme of information transfer, responding to general information requests and providing information and advice on Council activities

Contribution to community outcomes

These activities contribute to the following community outcomes:

- Sustainable Taranaki
- Prosperous Taranaki
- Connected Taranaki
- Together Taranaki.

The Council maintained public representation through its Council and committee structures and processes which were carried out in accordance with statutory requirements. With respect to the Council-owned port company, Westgate Transport Ltd, the Council maintained processes to enable the company to operate efficiently as a successful business. The Council's property and treasury investments were efficiently managed with maximum returns sought from treasury investments in accordance with the Council's investment policy.

These activities contributed to a Sustainable, Prosperous, Connected and Together Taranaki.

The Council implemented a programme of information transfer and advice and education on the Council's activities including publishing 5 editions of the *Recount* newsletter and carrying out 121 class visits. The Council continued to develop and display presentation material at the Puke Ariki Regional Museum and Library. This activity promotes community awareness and understanding of the Council's functions and activities which contributes to a Prosperous, Sustainable and Together Taranaki.

Public information

Objective

The objective of this activity is to promote community awareness and understanding of the Council's functions and activities, and make quality and timely information publicly available.

Programme

Implement a programme of information transfer, advice and education on the Council's activities including:

- publishing and distributing regular editions of the *Recount* newsletter to over 1,000 stakeholders, maintaining the Council's website and implementing the Council's environmental awards programme
- providing an on-going resource management programme for school children and the wider community including presenting at least 150 class visits or field trips and hosting approximately 1,000 visitors to the Council
- ongoing use of display and presentation material at the Puke Ariki regional museum and library.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Published 4 editions of the external newsletter *Recount* (3 – 2003/04) and 1 special edition (0).

Distributed 4 (4 – 2003/04) issues of the *SITE* (Schools in the Environment) newsletter to schools, prepared 0 (0) units of work, sent out 101 (53) units to teachers and carried out 121 (230) class visits involving 3,833 students. Organised 5 (4) professional development days for teachers.

Continued the review of the display presentation material in the *Taranaki Naturally* gallery covering the range of the Council's functions and activities.

Regional representation, information and investments

Westgate Transport Ltd

Objective

The objective of this activity is to ensure that the Council-owned port company, Westgate Transport Ltd, is efficiently operated as a successful business.

Programme

Receive and consider Westgate Transport Ltd's statement of corporate intent and monitor performance against established targets on an annual basis.

Appoint Westgate Transport Ltd's directors as required.

Liaise with the port company directorate and management in accordance with formal and informal reporting procedures.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

The Council received and considered Westgate Transport Limited's draft Statement of Corporate Intent (SCI) on 11 August 2004. Performance against the SCI was monitored when considering the Company's half and full year results.

Mr Craig Norgate was appointed to the Board with effect from 1 July 2004. Messrs Walter and Young were re-elected to the Board at the Annual General Meeting on 24 September 2004. Messrs Falconer and Matthews retired at the AGM. Councillors Walter and MacLeod were reappointed to the Board after the local government elections.

Regular formal and informal briefings and discussions occurred between the Board and the Council throughout 2004/05.

Programmes and performance measures set in the statement of corporate intent

Return on average total assets (Target 6%)

Return on average shareholder's funds (Target 4%)

Wharf utilisation (berth occupancy):
Moturoa (Target 20 – 30%)
Newton King Tanker Terminal (Target 30 – 40%)

Blyde (Target 10 – 20%)

Health and safety. Eliminate all work-related accidents.

2004/2005 Actual Performance (2003/2004 Actual Performance)

1.70% (4.68%)

2.40% (6.87%)

17% (17%)

28% (29%)

17% (23%)

Twenty-one work related accidents, of which 4 resulted in 14 days lost time. In addition there were 67 days lost time due to an employee requiring surgery and a recovery period after a work-related accident which occurred on 14 April 2003. (31 work-related accidents resulting in 59 lost days).

Regional representation, information and investments

Land and treasury investments

Objective

The objective of this activity is to ensure that property and treasury investments owned by the Council are efficiently managed including implementing the Council's leasehold land policies and maximising returns from treasury investments.

Programme

Manage and, where appropriate, divest leasehold land in accordance with the Council's leasehold land policies.

Manage and maximise the returns from treasury investments in accordance with the Council's *Investment Policy*.

2004/2005 Actual Performance

Six leases were renewed (4 – 2003/04) in 2004/05. No leasehold land was divested during the year. Achieved a 3.06% (5.87%) return from leasehold land rentals.

All treasury investments were in accordance with the Council's *Investment Policy*. Achieved a 6.23% (5.61%) return from treasury investments.

Costs and sources of funds

	2004/05 Actual \$	2004/05 Budget \$	2003/04 Actual \$	2002/03 Actual \$
Expenditure				
Public information	282,364	298,456	273,001	272,903
Investment management	15,978	6,000	12,635	907
Representation	686,913	646,459	593,942	595,658
Net cost of service	985,255	950,915	879,578	869,468
Funded by:				
General funds	985,255	950,915	879,578	869,468
Total funding	985,255	950,915	879,578	869,468
Investment revenue				
Dividends	2,200,000	2,400,000	2,600,000	2,500,000
Interest	1,130,018	1,117,120	973,811	938,133
Property rental	479,559	430,950	399,188	395,992
Other investment revenue	56,000	30,000	70,000	100,000
Total investment revenue	3,865,577	3,978,070	4,042,999	3,934,125
Allocated to:				
Interest transferred to reserves	31,494	25,098	23,407	-
Transfer to significant activities	3,947,930	4,402,972	3,689,433	3,833,105
Retained earnings	(113,847)	(450,000)	330,159	101,020
Total allocations	3,865,577	3,978,070	4,042,999	3,934,125

Asset acquisitions and replacements

There were no significant asset acquisitions planned for or undertaken within this group of activities.