

ACHIEVEMENT OF COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

PLANNING PROCESSES

The Council operates within the following planning framework:

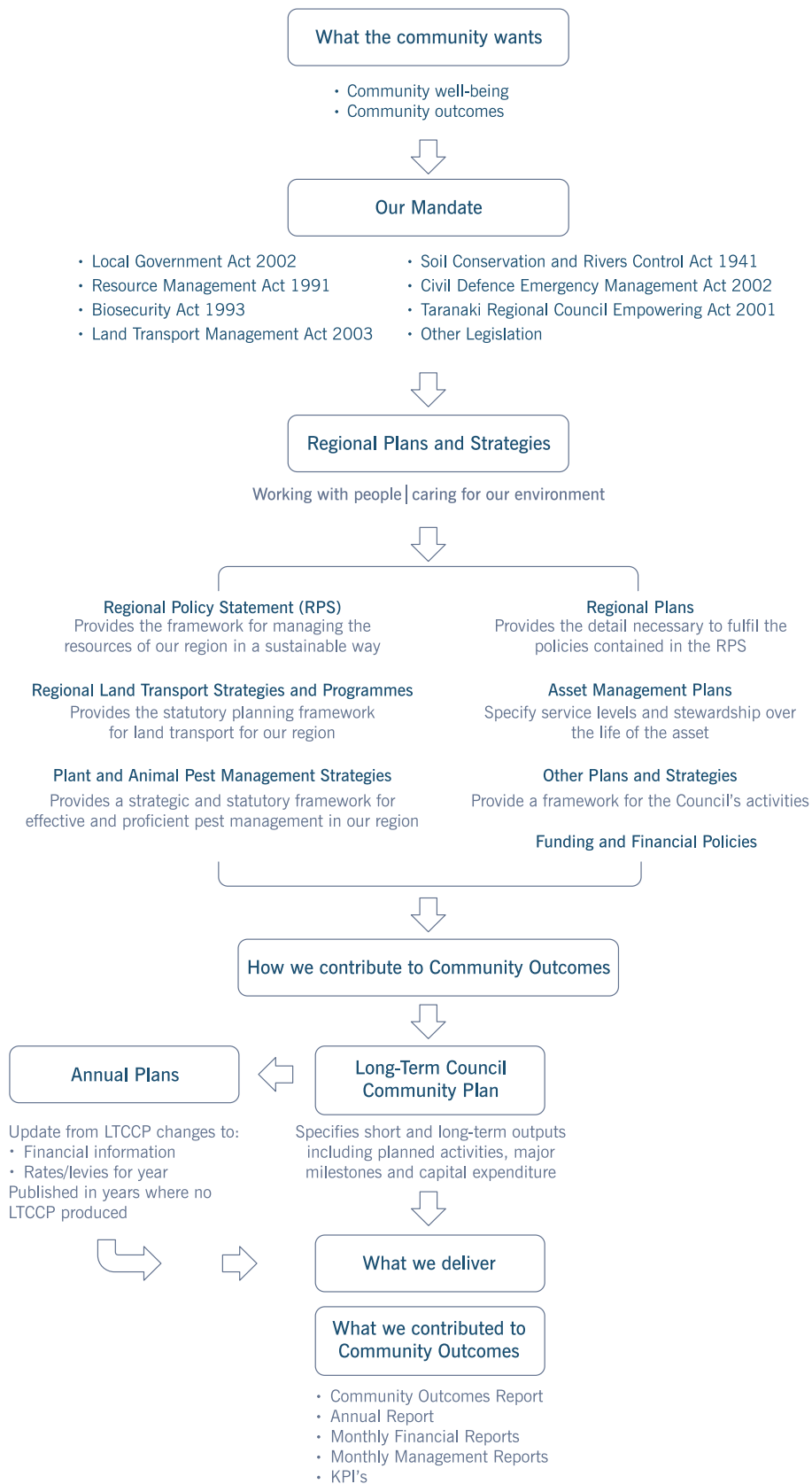


Figure 3: The Council's planning framework

ACHIEVEMENT OF COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES FOR THE TARANAKI REGION

The four councils within the Taranaki region have 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 has 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.



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

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 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-

ACHIEVEMENT OF COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

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 2008/2009, the Council completed 12 particular state of the environment reports, a five-yearly state of the environment report, 88 compliance monitoring reports, 14 annual activity reports and various other reports on the results of Council activities. In April 2009 the Council released its latest 5-yearly state of the environment report entitled "*Taranaki—Where We Stand*". This report contains comprehensive information of the state of Taranaki's environmental trends over time. 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.

On a wider front in relation to all seven community outcomes, the Council prepared during the year a three-yearly *Progress Report on Community Outcomes for Taranaki 2008*. This report uses a set of indicators to monitor trends and progress towards the achievement of the seven community outcomes identified for Taranaki. The indicators were developed by a joint working party in Taranaki.

The report is part of a series of reports that will assess Taranaki's progress towards achieving the desired outcomes of the community. The report included the results of a community survey of Taranaki residents carried out during the year. The survey sought feedback on residents' level of satisfaction with various aspects of the outcomes.

The aim of the report is to identify key issues and areas where action needs to be taken, which in turn can help with planning and decision making and coordination among key agencies. Set below is a summary of Taranaki's progress towards achieving the desired community outcomes:

- As at 30 September 2008, 180 families were recorded on the Housing New Zealand waiting list for Taranaki. This represents a decrease of 9% from February 2007
- Home affordability in Taranaki improved by 0.9% over the 12 month period to August 2008. Taranaki recorded a home affordability index of 23.79 in August 2008, compared with an index of 23.99 in August 2007 **(this compares with a national affordability index figure of 31.87 in August 2008, an improvement of 4.1% from the 33.24 recorded in August 2007)**
- Recorded crime in Taranaki decreased in 2007 by 0.8% **(this compares with a national increase of 0.5%)**
- Youth offending in Taranaki decreased in 2007 by 10.7% **(this compares with a national decrease of 3.8%)**
- In 2007, the Taranaki full-time equivalent GP ratio to population was 62 per 100,000 of population; down from the 72 per 100,000 of population recorded in 2006 **(this compares with a national GP ratio to population of 72 per 100,000; down from the 73 per 100,000 of population recorded in 2006)**
- The prevalence of adults who are current smokers in Taranaki is similar to the national figure. In 2006 Taranaki recorded a rate of 22.40% of the total population **(this compares with the national average of 20.70% in 2006)**
- Sixty eight percent of respondents surveyed as part of the Community Survey are satisfied with health services in Taranaki
- According to the Community Survey 96% of Taranaki residents surveyed feel safe in their normal day-to-day living during daylight hours, while 77% generally feel safe in their day-to-day living after dark
- In the year to September 2008, the unemployment rate in Taranaki stood at 3.2%; unchanged from that recorded in the previous year **(this compares with the national average unemployment rate of 3.8%, up 0.1% from the 3.7% recorded the year before)**
- As at September 2008, Taranaki employees earned an average of \$23.49 per hour, representing a 3.4% increase from September 2007 **(this compares with a 5.5% increase for the whole of New Zealand over the same reporting period.**

ACHIEVEMENT OF COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

The national average for New Zealand employees, as at September 2008 was \$24.37)

- As at June 2008, people in the Taranaki region had an average weekly income of \$705.0 per week, an increase of 10.7% from June 2008 **(this compares with a national average of \$684.0, up 2.5% over the same reporting period)**
- Median annual household income for the Taranaki region in 2007 was recorded at \$62,244 **(this compares with a national figure of \$62,556)**
- In terms of the New Zealand economy, the majority of Taranaki businesses (65.7%) predicted that general business conditions in New Zealand would decline
- Total business numbers in the Taranaki region in 2008 represented 3% of all businesses in New Zealand, an increase of 0.8% from the 2007 period
- In 2007, 70.2% of Taranaki's adult population had obtained an education qualification of upper secondary school level or above, a decrease of 1.4% from 2006 **(this compares with a national rate of 76%, slightly lower than the 77% recorded in 2006)**
- In Taranaki in 2007, 66.1% of all year 11 students obtained the NCEA Level 1 qualification, an increase of 4.4% from 2006 **(this compares with 62.6% nationally, an increase of 3.3% from 2006)**
- The proportion of Taranaki students leaving secondary school with no formal qualification dropped from 14.4% in 2005 to 12.3% in 2006 **(this compares with the national rate of 12.9% in 2005 and 11.1% in 2006)**
- In March 2006, 91.3% of Taranaki households recorded that they had access to a telephone in their home, down 5.1% from the rate recorded in 2001 **(this compares with a national rate of 91.6%, down 4.4% from the rate recorded in 2001)**
- In March 2006, 72.1% of Taranaki households recorded that they had access to a cell phone **(this compares with the national rate of 74.2%)**
- In March 2006, 54.5% of Taranaki households recorded that they had access to the internet, up 16.7% from the rate recorded in 2001 **(this compares with the national average of 60.5%, up 22.1% from the rate recorded in 2001)**
- Seventy percent of residents surveyed as part of the Community Survey are satisfied with the coverage and quality of communication systems in Taranaki
- A total of 11 deaths were recorded on Taranaki roads in 2007, compared with 12 in 2006. Per 100,000 of population, Taranaki recorded a rate of 10.6 road deaths in 2007 **(this compares with the national rate of 10.0)**
- Just less than three quarters (71%) of Taranaki residents surveyed as part of the Community Survey are satisfied with infrastructure in the region. 44% expressed satisfaction with public transport in the region
- Taranaki's river and streams show good to excellent water quality on most measures
- Key indicators of ambient (overall) air quality in the region have established that on the basis of national guidelines, air quality in Taranaki is 'excellent' meaning that, in terms of air quality and community health, Taranaki is one of the healthiest regions in New Zealand
- Three Taranaki beaches, Oakura, East End and Fitzroy gained and held Blue Flag accreditation over the 2007/2008 summer period
- Almost nine in ten residents surveyed (87%), as part of the Community Survey, are satisfied with the management of Taranaki's natural environment. Of those surveyed, 79% are satisfied with the management of Taranaki's built environment
- Eighty nine percent of residents surveyed as part of the Community Survey agreed that Taranaki has a strong regional identity that they can be proud of
- Taranaki is seen as an inclusive, caring and tolerant community by 82% of residents surveyed
- Voter turnout in Taranaki of the eligible population was 52% for the local body elections in 2007, down 3% from the rate recorded in 2004 **(this compares with the national rate of 44%, down 1% from the rate recorded in 2004)**
- The majority of residents surveyed as part of the Community Survey are satisfied with community facilities in the region (91%)
- Sixty nine percent of Taranaki adults aged 18 years or over were reported to be engaging in at least 2.5 hours of sport and/or leisure activities a week **this compares with a national rate of 68.3%**
- Eighty one percent of residents surveyed as part of the Community Survey who are in paid employment are satisfied with their work/life balance
- Eighty seven percent of residents surveyed as part of the Community Survey agree that Taranaki is a vibrant place to live.

Overall, good progress has been made to date towards achieving the outcomes. In particular, with the desired outcomes of a prosperous and sustainable Taranaki.

However, a number of issues still persist in Taranaki, such as the crime rate, the road injuries recorded and the number of school leavers with no formal qualifications.

This summary of the three-yearly *Progress Report on Community Outcomes for Taranaki 2008* is a snapshot of the full report. For more information on the process of monitoring the achievement of community outcomes and the full set of reported performance indicators please refer to the full *Future Taranaki: Three-Yearly Progress Report on Community Outcomes for Taranaki 2008*.

ACHIEVEMENT OF COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

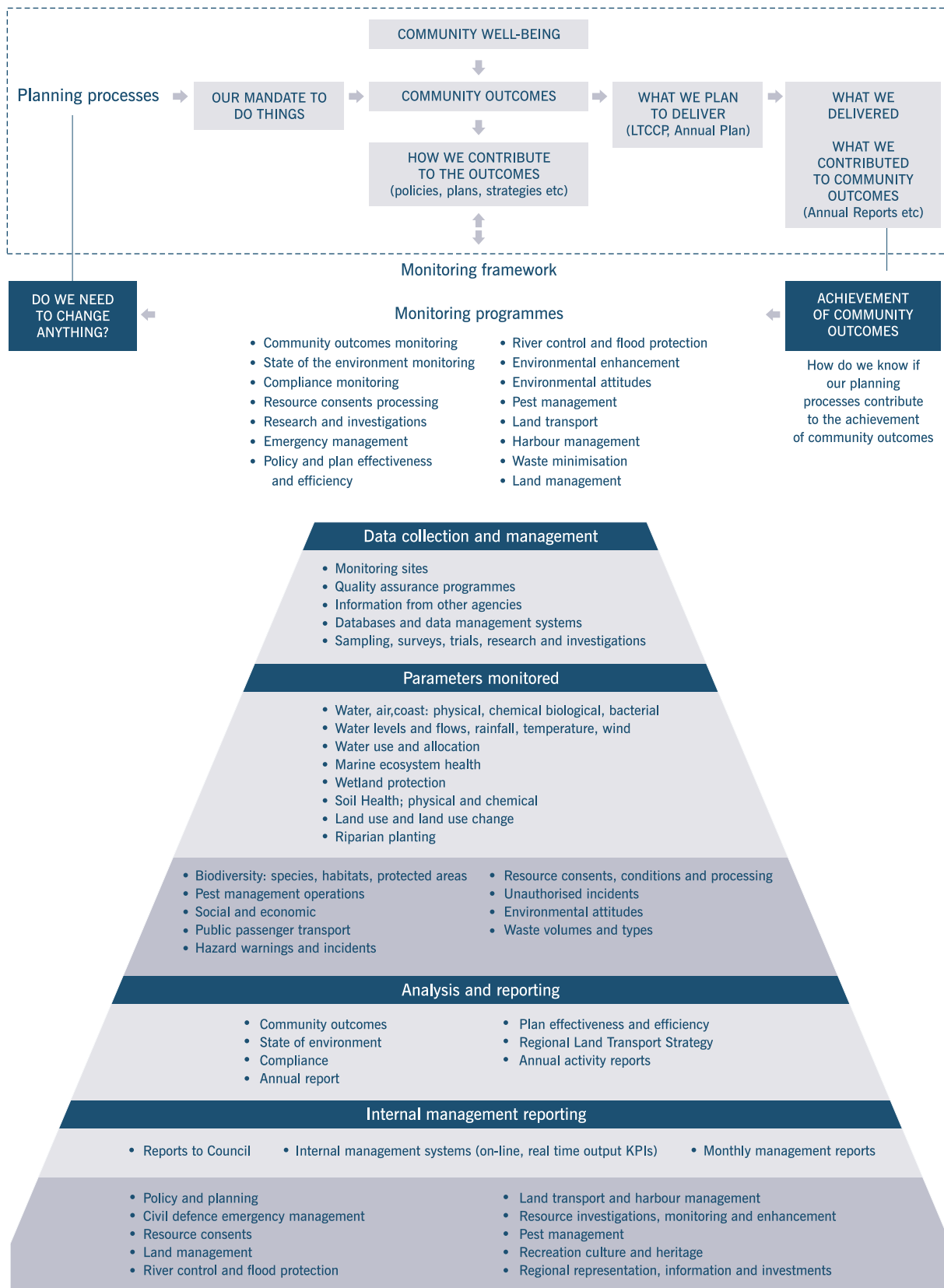


Figure 5: The Council's performance monitoring framework

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

The following pages explain in detail how the Council performed in achieving the objectives and performance targets established in the 2006/2016 Long-Term Council Community Plan and the 2008/2009 Annual Plan. Financial information on the net cost of services delivered is also provided in conjunction with the budget established in the 2008/2009 Annual 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 2009.

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 2006/2016 Long-Term Council Community Plan.

Expenditure by groups of activities

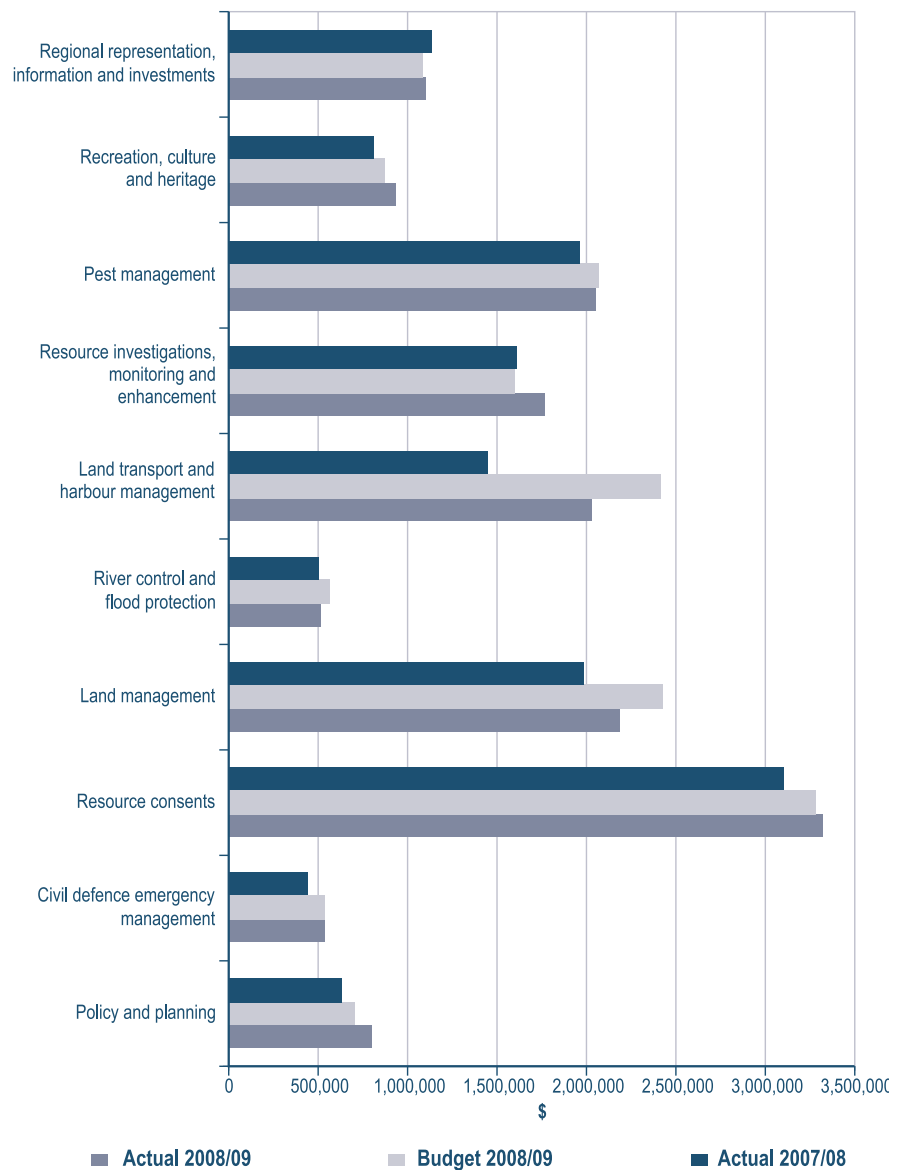


Figure 6: Expenditure by group of activities

POLICY AND PLANNING

DESCRIPTION

Policy and planning comprises the analysis, development and dissemination of policy and statutory planning instruments 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.

A major project to prepare the Council's latest five year state of the environment report was completed during the year. The 280 page report *Taranaki: Where We Stand: State of the Environment Report 2009* was officially launched by the Minister for the Environment the Hon Dr Nick Smith on 14 April 2009. The report looks at trends in the state of Taranaki's land and soil resources, fresh water, coastal and marine environment, biodiversity, atmosphere, landscape, heritage and amenity values, natural hazards, waste and energy. Putting the report together was a major effort for Council staff with large quantities of data collated and analysed for publication. Much of the data was obtained from the Council's long-running state of the environment monitoring programme. The findings of the report show very good results in many areas, for example in water and air quality and land sustainability, and identify ongoing challenges for the future. Many other organisations assisted in the preparation of the report including the New Plymouth, Stratford and South Taranaki district councils, Department of Conservation, Ministry of Fisheries and a large number of Taranaki businesses. The report provides robust information on which to base sound decisions towards promoting the community outcomes of a Sustainable and a Prosperous Taranaki.

Progress was made on the review of the Regional Coastal Plan during the year but major work on the plan was delayed to await the release of the *New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS)* being prepared by central government. The *NZCPS* will have a significant bearing on the content of the coastal plan. However, work continued on a review of the efficiency and effectiveness of the rules in the current plan with a view to identifying where change may further promote sustainable management of Taranaki's coastal marine area.

The detailed redrafting of the Council's navigation and safety bylaws was held up owing to the possibility of major developments at the port and the impending review of maritime rules administered by Maritime New Zealand. Work will continue on the bylaw review in 2009/2010 to enhance the community outcomes of a Secure and Healthy and a Sustainable Taranaki.

A review of the Council's waste strategy was deferred as a result of the enactment during the year of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 which changed roles and funding for waste management. However there will be benefits from ongoing regional cooperation on waste management issues

and the Council will therefore continue with the review of its *Regional Waste Strategy* in 2009/2010.

Work continued in other areas of policy and planning. A hearing of submissions on the *Proposed Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki* was held during the year and Council decisions released. Only one appeal against the Council's decisions was lodged. The Council will undertake mediation in an effort to reach agreement on a resolution of the appeal.

A *Proposed Regional Air Quality Plan* was publicly notified for submissions during the year. A total of 45 submissions were received. The process of reviewing the *Plan* will continue throughout 2009/2010.

The Council made 19 submissions to the policy initiatives of other agencies (30 in 2007/2008). Many of the submissions involved large or technically or legally complex documents that required thorough analysis and careful response. Examples in the 2008/2009 year included submissions on a proposed national policy statement on freshwater management and a submission on wide ranging changes proposed to the Resource Management Act through the Resource Management (Simplifying and Streamlining) Amendment Bill 2009. This activity sought to have the social, economic, environmental and cultural interests of the Taranaki community recognized in other policy settings. In many 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

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

Complete a review of the Council's navigation and safety bylaw.

Publish and launch a state of the environment report.

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

The detailed redrafting and notification of new bylaws was held up owing to the possibility of major developments at the Port that would have had significant implications for design of the bylaws, coupled with the impending review of Maritime Rule 91. This meant that the review of the bylaws was not completed in 2008/2009 as programmed. Work will continue on the bylaw review in 2009/2010.

Published and launched a state of the environment report *Taranaki: Where We Stand: State of the Environment Report 2009*.

POLICY AND PLANNING

PROGRAMME	2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE
<p>For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:</p> <p>Complete a review of the <i>Regional Coastal Plan</i> subject to appeals.</p>	<p>During 2008/2009 the Council actually:</p> <p>The review of the <i>Regional Coastal Plan</i> progressed slowly during the year. Major progress on the review was delayed to await the release of the <i>New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS)</i> being prepared by central government. The <i>NZCPS</i> will have a significant bearing on the content of the <i>Coastal Plan</i>, including details of activities classified as Restricted Coastal Activities which are to be included in coastal plans.</p> <p>The Board of Inquiry on the <i>NZCPS</i> has prepared its report and recommendations to the Minister of Conservation but the final <i>NZCPS</i> has yet to be released.</p> <p>This situation has meant that the Council was not able to meet the <i>Annual Plan</i> target to complete a review of the <i>Coastal Plan</i> in 2008/2009. However, work continued on a number of aspects of the review, including a review of the efficiency and effectiveness of the rules and other provisions of the currently operative plan.</p>
<p>Review the <i>Regional Waste Strategy</i></p>	<p>The review of the Council's <i>Regional Waste Strategy</i> programmed for 2008/2009 was deferred because of the implications for waste management planning and implementation arising out of enactment of the Waste Minimisation Act in September 2008.</p> <p>Under the new Act there is no statutory role or funding for a regional council to be engaged in waste management. Should such a role be desired in future, territorial authorities will need to create a role and provide scope for any regional council involvement through new waste management and minimisation plans that must be prepared by territorial authorities.</p>

PROGRAMME	2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE
<p>For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:</p>	<p>During 2008/2009 the Council actually:</p> <p>Under the new Act there will continue to be benefits from regional cooperation on waste management issues. The Council will therefore continue with the review of its <i>Regional Waste Strategy</i> beginning with an update of a regional waste inventory early in 2009/2010.</p>

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	2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE
<p>For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:</p> <p>Assess the implications of the policy initiatives proposed by other agencies including discussion documents, proposed policies, strategies, plans and draft legislation, and respond within required timeframes.</p>	<p>During 2008/2009 the Council actually:</p> <p>Assessed the implications of the policy initiatives proposed by other agencies resulting in the preparation of 19 submissions. (30—2007/2008).</p> <p>Nineteen submissions were made in 2008/2009 many of which involved large or technically or legally complex documents requiring thorough analysis and careful and considered response. Examples in the 2008/2009 year included submissions on a proposed national policy statement on freshwater management; proposed national environmental standards on ecological flows and water levels, and on-site wastewater systems; and a submission on wide ranging changes proposed to the Resource Management Act through the Resource Management (Simplifying and Streamlining) Amendment Bill 2009.</p>

POLICY AND PLANNING

COSTS AND SOURCES OF FUNDS

	2008/09 Actual \$	2007/08 Actual \$	2007/08 Budget \$	2006/07 Actual \$
Expenditure				
Statutory policies, plans and strategies	772,623	595,276	588,668	391,608
Advocacy and response	24,938	103,550	40,369	101,684
Total expenditure	797,561	698,826	629,037	493,292
Revenue				
Direct charges	38,500	40,000	-	-
Investment funds	379,379	279,144	247,693	107,850
General rates	379,682	379,682	381,343	385,442
Total income	797,561	698,826	629,037	493,292
Operating surplus/ (deficit)	0	0	0	0

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 (CDEM) comprises the application of knowledge, measures, and practices to enhance the safety and wellbeing of the public and protection of property from emergencies. It includes enabling the community of Taranaki to plan and prepare for emergencies, and to respond to and recover from emergency events.

CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

Civil defence emergency management structures and processes 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 2008/2009 Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management Business Plan was implemented. The Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan for Taranaki was also implemented, providing a single planning and response capability across the region. During 2008/2009 the CDEM Group also responded to the occurrence of Influenza A (H1N1) ('swine flu'), reviewed the capabilities of the Emergency Operations Centre, recruited volunteers, assisted New Plymouth District Council in developing guidance for large event contingency planning, and participated in local and inter-regional training exercises.

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

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:
Implement, monitor and report upon the *2008/2009 Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management Annual Business Plan*.

Prepare and adopt the *2009/2010 Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management Annual Business Plan*.

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:
Implemented, monitored and reported upon the *2008/2009 Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management Annual Business Plan* via Civil Defence Emergency Management Group, Co-ordinating Executive Group and advisory group meetings.
The 2009/2010 business plan was prepared and then adopted at Group meeting on 2 December 2008.

PROGRAMME

For 2007/2008 the Council intended to:
Implement, monitor and report upon the *Civil Defence Emergency Management Public Education Plan for Taranaki 2005-2010*

Implement, monitor and report upon the *Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan for Taranaki 2004*

Review the *Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan for Taranaki 2004* in preparation for next Plan (due 2009).

2007/2008 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2007/2008 the Council actually:
Implemented, monitored and reported upon the *Civil Defence Emergency Management Public Education Plan for Taranaki 2005-2010*.

In particular, the Council: delivered 19 group presentations, implemented a publicity campaign for contingency planning for community welfare groups; participated in the Disaster Awareness Week, participated in the Hawera Show and presented 16 sessions to school class groups using the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management's material *What's The Plan Stan* and other materials.

Continued to implement, monitor and oversee the *Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan for Taranaki*, reporting on implementation via the Civil Defence Emergency Management Group, the Co-ordinating Executive Group, advisory group meetings, and via the *Significant Activity Annual Report*.

In particular, the Council received a synthesis report from NIWA on climate trends, hazards, and extremes; held a public volcanic hazard awareness seminar; held an exercise (Exercise Billow) in Taranaki in November 2008 based on a scenario of eruption of Mt Taranaki affecting lifelines and utilities; participated in 2 national and inter-regional exercises, and audited the readiness of the Emergency Operations Centre and actioned matters arising.
Review process initiated at Co-ordinating Executive Group and Civil Defence Emergency Management Group meetings in May and June 2009.

CIVIL DEFENCE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

In addition the Council:

- Maintained a text message warning system in Taranaki to approx 3,000 subscribers.
- Supported the Taranaki District Health Board's response to *Influenza A*.
- Continued to support a Taranaki Response Team.
- Convened a natural hazards planning workshop.
- Assisted NPDC in developing guidance for large event contingency planning.
- Prepared a companion animal management plan.
- Presented 6 submissions to central and local government and consent applicants on CDEM issues.

COSTS AND SOURCES OF FUNDS

	2008/09 Actual \$	2007/08 Actual \$	2007/08 Budget \$	2006/07 Actual \$
Expenditure				
Civil defence emergency management	531,185	537,021	438,043	433,153
Total expenditure	531,185	537,021	438,043	433,153
Income				
Direct charges	230,490	227,490	208,882	208,461
Government grants	21,329	27,000	42,968	24,627
Investment funds	116,543	119,708	73,584	52,347
General rates	162,823	162,823	112,609	147,718
Total income	531,185	537,021	438,043	433,153
Operating surplus/ (deficit)	0	0	0	0

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 355 resource consent applications during the year comprising 9 notified, 7 limited notified and 339 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. Some 25% of applications that attracted submissions were resolved through the pre-hearing process without recourse to a formal hearing. One resource consent hearing was 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 211 tailored compliance monitoring programmes for major consents were implemented with a high rate of compliance reported. Approximately 1,919 agricultural inspections were carried out including inspections of effluent treatment systems on all 1,848 dairy farms in the region. The reinspection rate of 4.3% was higher than last year. In addition, 1,015 inspections of minor industrial operations were undertaken to ensure good environmental practices were being achieved. Only 18 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 517 pollution incidents and instigated control and clean-up where required. A total of 120 abatement notices and 26 infringement notices were issued. Seven prosecutions were 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.

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

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

Provide appropriate and timely information in response to 100% of requests for assistance in undertaking or complying with the consents process under the Resource Management Act 1991.

Process, issue and report upon 100% of accepted resource consent applications in compliance with the Resource Management Act 1991 and the Council's *Resource Consents Procedures* document. The expected number for 2008/2009 is 400 applications for resource consents.

Successfully defend all consent decisions appealed to the Environment Court.

Process and administer not less than 99% 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.

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

Provided information, which assisted the processing of 355 (401—2007/2008) resource consent applications, comprising 9 (6) notified, 7 (8) limited notified and 339 (387) non-notified applications, in accordance with the requirements of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Processed 355-100% (401-100%) applications for resource consent in compliance with the Resource Management Act 1991 and the Council's *Resource Consents Procedures* document.

There was 1 (1) successful appeal (references) against a Council decision. Minor changes to consent conditions have been agreed and the appeal will be resolved by consent order.

Processed 100% of the (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.

RESOURCE CONSENTS

PROGRAMME	2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE
For 2008/2009 the Council intended to: Resolve, through the pre-hearing process, at least 50% of all submissions received on resource consent applications.	During 2008/2009 the Council actually: Resolved, through the pre-hearing process, 3 - 25% (11-92%) of resource consent applications attracting submissions without recourse to a formal hearing. The Council held 1 (2) resource consent hearings. 9 (14) out of 81 (17) submissions were resolved – 11% (82%).

PROGRAMME	2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE
For 2008/2009 the Council intended to: Implement annual programmes for compliance inspections of agricultural discharges and minor industrial operations (all other non-major resource consents) providing advice to resource users. The target for 2008/2009 is 3,300 inspections.	During 2008/2009 the Council actually: Undertook 1,015 (775) inspections of minor industrial operations ensuring good environmental practices were being achieved. Only 18 (23) reinspections were required to ensure unacceptable practices had been addressed. Completed the annual inspection round of discharges of agricultural waste, including dairy, poultry and piggery farms – 1919 inspections (1970 -2007/2008). The reinspection rate for failure to meet consent conditions was 4.3% (4.1%). At the time of reinspection, there was 100% compliance. Total inspections and reinspections were 3,035 (2,768).

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	2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE
For 2008/2009 the Council intended to: Design and implement appropriate compliance monitoring programmes for all major consents within the individual budgets negotiated with consent holders, and publicly report on all programmes by 31 March each year or within nine months of the end of the monitoring period. The estimated number for 2008/2009 is 210 compliance monitoring programmes.	During 2008/2009 the Council actually: Implemented 211 (214-2007/2008) programmes within agreed budgets. Publicly reported 1 programme for the 2003/2006 period, 1 for 2003/2007, 2 for 2004/2007, 3 for 2005/2007, 10 for 2006/2007, 4 for 2007, 2 for 2005/2008, 12 for 2006/2008, and 57 for the 2007/2008 period within nine months of the end of the monitoring period (92 reports covering 121 annual programmes), and a further 20 reports covering 22 programmes by the end of the year. Designed and negotiated agreement on 208 (197) programmes for 2009/2010.
Monitor and report upon the implementation of recommendations from prior year's monitoring programmes within annual reports.	Within each annual report, recommendations from previous reports are set out and their implementation, via monitoring programme design and consent reviews, reported. Implementation of every recommendation was reported.

In all cases, where necessary, implement appropriate advisory and enforcement actions to require 100% compliance with resource consents and/or regional plans.

Undertook appropriate monitoring and enforcement actions to require 100% compliance with resource consents and/or regional plans including serving 120 (104) abatement notices and 26 (30) infringement notices. Seven (4) prosecutions were initiated as a result of unauthorised incidents and were determined during the year by the Court. The Court determined three prosecutions initiated in 2007/2008.

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	2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE
For 2008/2009 the Council intended to: Maintain and publicly report on 100% of pollution incidents in the Council's <i>Unauthorised Incidents Register</i> .	During 2008/2009 the Council actually: Maintained the <i>Unauthorised Incidents Register</i> and publicly reported on 517 (540—2007/2008) incidents.

RESOURCE CONSENTS

PROGRAMME

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

Respond to 100% of 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 Maritime New Zealand.

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

Responded to 100% of incidents 517 (540) within the required timeframe. Instigated control and clean-up where required. Issued 120 (104) abatement notices and 26 (30) infringement notices. Seven (4) prosecutions were pursued as a result of unauthorised incidents and were determined during the year by the Court. The Court determined three prosecutions initiated in 2007/2008.

Administered the *Tier II Taranaki Regional Oil Spill Response Plan* in accordance with the programme agreed with Maritime New Zealand. No (1) significant marine oil spills occurred that warranted actioning the plan.

COSTS AND SOURCES OF FUNDS

	2008/09 Actual \$	2007/08 Actual \$	2007/08 Budget \$	2006/07 Actual \$
Expenditure				
Consent processing and administration	837,139	838,086	927,405	650,367
Compliance monitoring programmes	1,998,568	1,971,586	1,754,391	1,812,087
Pollution incidents and response	485,183	473,981	413,680	330,184
Total expenditure	3,320,890	3,283,653	3,095,476	2,792,638
Income				
Direct charges	2,572,648	2,212,702	1,956,393	1,865,472
Investment funds	131,051	453,761	530,503	314,497
General rates	617,191	617,190	608,580	612,669
Total income	3,320,890	3,283,653	3,095,476	2,792,638
Operating surplus/ (deficit)	0	0	0	0

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 ensure that our most highly valued and productive natural resources are maintained as well as provide a major boost to biodiversity protection and enhancement in Taranaki. These activities contribute to the following community outcomes

- Prosperous Taranaki
- Sustainable Taranaki.

The Council continued to achieve good results in this activity area with 16 comprehensive plans, 5 conservation plans and 3 agroforestry plans being prepared covering an additional 12,180 hectares of farmland. This is a significant step towards achieving active comprehensive farm plans in place for over 80% of sheep and beef farms. Some 266 riparian plans were also prepared during the year. The riparian plans cover an additional 1,292 kilometres of riparian margins. 254,038 riparian plants were grown on contract and provided to landowners at cost. Council has achieved its long-term goal of riparian plans in place for 90% of dairy farms.

Having achieved its riparian planning target, Council can now increase the emphasis on face to face contact with plan holders and increase the rate of riparian planting. This has been complemented by working with farming leaders and the industry to increase the implementation rate for riparian fencing and planting.

In addition to its property planning service, the Council undertook a range of advisory, educational and extension activities promoting sustainable land management. A major emphasis was the potential business opportunities that exist for land holders through climate change initiatives such as the proposed *Forestry Emissions Trading Scheme*, the *Permanent Forest Sink Initiative* and the *Afforestation Grant Scheme*. In 2008/2009 the Council, on behalf of interested land holders, obtained funding for 320 hectares of new plantings from the *Afforestation Grant Scheme*. Council has also applied for and been successful in securing \$1,063,000 over four years from the government's *Sustainable Land Management Hill Country Erosion Fund*. This funding will be used for soil conservation measures, such as planting and retirement fencing on erosion-prone land in the Waitotara catchment and other similar areas in the eastern Taranaki hill country.

By promoting the use of land in line with its physical sustainability, these activities contribute to both the 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

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

Provide property planning services to landholders, comprising comprehensive farm plans, agroforestry plans and conservation plans. The target for 2008/2009 is for plans covering not less than an additional 12,000 hectares from an estimated 30 properties.

Provide riparian management plans to landholders. The target for 2008/2009 is for plans covering not less than an additional 1,200 kilometres from an estimated 250 properties.

Liaise with and provide supplementary advice to approximately 2,100 property owners for whom plans have been prepared.

Monitor and report on progress on implementation of all sustainable land management plans.

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

Prepared 16 (21—2007/2008) comprehensive farm plans and 3 (1) agroforestry plan covering 12,180 (15,355) hectares of farmland and 5 (7) conservation plans covering 19.2 (510) hectares, for landholders throughout the region.

Prepared 266 (301) riparian plans covering 1,292 (1,584) kilometres of stream bank. 517 (764) kilometres of riparian management was proposed with the balance of 774 kilometres (820) being adequately protected.

Contacted land occupiers for whom plans have been previously prepared on 4,482 (2,487) occasions. Supplementary advice and information was provided as necessary.

One thousand and fourteen km (1,014) of fencing and 613 (426) km of planting has been implemented over 2,255 (2,007) riparian plans since plan inception.

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

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

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

Provided administrative and treasury services to the Taranaki Tree Trust.

Provide, on a cost-recovery basis, suitable plants for land stabilisation, soil conservation and water protection programmes. The target for 2008/2009 is to provide an estimated 300,000 plants for these purposes.

Distributed, 3,497 (12,569) items of poplar and willow planting material to 68 (73) landholders. Provided 254,038 (243,869) plants at cost to 702 (597) landholders, to plant approx 190 (123) kms of stream margins.

In addition:

The Council began the establishment of a poplar and willow nursery at Lepperton. This will ultimately supply the Council's poplar and willow plant material needed for soil conservation purposes.

Respond to 100% of requests (approximately 600 per annum) for general advice and assistance on sustainable land management, soil conservation and riparian management practices within ten working days.

Received and actioned within 10 days, 403 (554—2007/2008) inquiries. Advice and assistance on sustainable land management, soil conservation and riparian management was provided.

COSTS AND SOURCES OF FUNDS

	2008/09 Actual \$	2007/08 Actual \$	2007/08 Budget \$	2006/07 Actual \$
Expenditure				
Sustainable land management plans	1,106,758	1,031,985	1,025,806	954,532
General advice and facilitation	1,077,487	1,394,920	963,936	799,107
Total expenditure	2,184,245	2,426,905	1,989,742	1,753,639
Income				
Direct charges	669,926	1,037,700	547,379	445,186
Investment funds	713,718	588,605	660,198	580,410
General rates	800,601	800,600	782,165	728,043
Total income	2,184,245	2,426,905	1,989,742	1,753,639
Operating surplus/ (deficit)	0	0	0	0

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 maintained and actioned as necessary.

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. Preliminary investigations were completed to facilitate a more detailed study of a scheme upgrade of the Lower Waiwhakaiho to provide a higher level of protection of the increasing assets within the Waiwhakaiho Scheme area. Channel clearance works have continued in the Waitotara River. Nine minor river control projects were undertaken during the year and work was undertaken in the Stony River to address the aggradation of gravels immediately downstream of the SH45 bridge. During the year the Council responded to 46 requests for advice and assistance.

The provision of these services provides protection to the community (people and property) and thereby, contribute to a Prosperous, Sustainable and Secure and Healthy 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

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

Maintain the Waitara and Waiwhakaiho flood control schemes to perform to design standards. Specifically for 2008/2009 the target is to develop a works programme to maintain and upgrade works on the right bank of the Lower Waitara and to complete a proposal to upgrade the Waiwhakaiho Flood Control Scheme.

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

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

Maintained the flood protection schemes to perform to design standards during the year and a continued programme of upgrading scheme works at Waitara was progressed.

Council completed preliminary investigations into upgrading the Waiwhakaiho flood control scheme.

On the Waitara River bank lining has been extended 110 metres on the right bank downstream of Richmond Street and further armouring has been provided as part of developing a high flow channel around Mangaroa Island.

Routine maintenance was undertaken on both schemes where required.

Undertook and managed works as required in the minor schemes, in association with landholders.

RIVER CONTROL AND FLOOD PROTECTION

ADVICE, MINOR WORKS AND FLOOD RESPONSE

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this activity is to provide accurate and timely flood warnings, flood control advice and undertake minor works and associated actions to minimise and prevent damage by floods and river erosion.

PROGRAMME

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

Monitor rainfall and river levels and issue timely flood warnings in 100% of cases, where necessary, in accordance with the *Flood Event Standard Operating Procedure*.

Received 49 (31—2007/2008) special weather watches and warnings from the MetService. In all instances, flood monitoring was undertaken in accordance with the *Flood Event Standard Operating Procedure*.

Undertake minor emergency river and flood control works when necessary.

Undertook 9 (2) minor river and flood control projects.

Respond to 100% of requests for drainage, river and flood control advice and assistance within ten working days.

Investigated and responded to 100% of requests, 46 (70), for advice and information on river control and flood protection. All requests were responded to within ten working days.

Undertake channel clearing work in the Waitotara catchment.

Cleared 2.4 (3.5—2007/2008) kms of channel in the Waitotara River in partnership with the South Taranaki District Council and the New Zealand Transport Agency. A total of 18.5 (16) km of clearing has now been completed.

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

Nil activity (0).

COSTS AND SOURCES OF FUNDS

	2008/09 Actual \$	2007/08 Actual \$	2007/08 Budget \$	2006/07 Actual \$
Expenditure				
River control schemes	236,254	318,364	232,399	95,547
Advice, minor works and flood response	274,304	244,024	265,697	356,729
Total expenditure	510,558	562,388	498,096	452,276
Income				
Direct charges	45,880	50,000	49,039	45,129
Targeted rates	308,572	308,572	178,500	178,500
Investment funds	60,766	86,356	105,991	104,519
General rates	117,459	117,460	116,657	116,457
Total income	532,677	562,388	450,187	444,605
Operating surplus/ (deficit)	(22,119)	0	(47,909)	(7,671)
Funded by:				
Transfer from reserves	(22,119)	-	(75,793)	(93,999)
Transfer to reserves	-	-	27,884	86,328
Total funding	(22,119)	0	(47,909)	(7,671)

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 promotes the attainment of an affordable integrated, safe, responsive and sustainable land transport system for the region. This involves a range of activities including regional land transport planning and programme preparation, the registering of public transport operators and providing for the reasonable needs of the public transport users with a particular focus on the needs of the transport disadvantaged. Harbour management involves promoting safe navigation in Port Taranaki.

CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

Through its regional land transport planning and programming activities, the Council works closely with a wide range of organisations to ensure that Taranaki's land transport systems and services continue to meet the needs of our community. Safe, efficient and reliable roading networks and other land transport infrastructure are essential for our economic and social wellbeing. At an operational level the Council works with other public transport funders and provides to ensure that reasonable and affordable services are provided and 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 and 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 2008/2009 year saw many changes to land transport planning introduced by amendments made to the Land Transport Management Act 2003. A new Regional Transport Committee was constituted and a Regional Transport Advisory Group established. The Committee includes representatives of Taranaki's three territorial authorities as well as representatives of the five transport objectives of the NZ Transport Strategy and a cultural representative.

The Council prepared the first *Regional Land Transport Programme for Taranaki (RLTP)* as required by legislation. This involved considerable input from district councils, the New Zealand Transport Agency and other organisations and a public consultation process to identify land transport activities and funding requirements over the next three years and to prioritise major capital works and new land transport activities. The *RLTP* was approved by the Council on 16 June 2009 on the recommendation of the Regional Transport Committee.

Implementation of the *Regional Land Transport Strategy for Taranaki* continued on many fronts and was supported by strong advocacy by the Council and continuing membership and support of working parties such as the State Highway 3 Working Party and the Stratford to Okahukura Working Party.

Major changes occurred during the year in the Council's public transport operations. On 1 July 2008, the Council introduced a contracted urban bus service for New Plymouth, Oakura and Waitara, replacing the

Concessionary Fare Scheme previously operated by the Council. The Council has worked hard with the new provider, Transit Coachlines Ltd, to ensure a smooth transition and improved services. A comprehensive independent review of the New Plymouth bus services was commissioned by the Council to provide a platform for possible improvements to the service in future. Trials of the three once-a-week services in South Taranaki proved successful leading the council to seek tenders for contracted services. New five-year contracts were awarded during the year with effect from 1 July 2009.

The Council's passenger transport activities also included continued funding of taxi-based total mobility services in New Plymouth, Waitara, Stratford and Hawera. Over 79,000 passenger trips were made under the total mobility scheme.

The Council's land transport activities contribute to the community outcomes of a Secure and Health, Connected, Prosperous and Sustainable Taranaki.

Harbour management activities focus on promoting safe navigation for all users of Port Taranaki. The Council's activities in this area are provided by way of external contract for harbourmaster services. No significant incidents involving unsafe navigation within Port Taranaki were reported during the year. The Council's harbour management activities contributed to the achievement of a Secure and Health Taranaki. By protecting property and productive assets, the activities also contributed to a Prosperous Taranaki and a 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

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

Implement the regional component of the *Regional Land Transport Strategy for Taranaki* as identified in each annual land transport programme.

Prepare a regional land transport programme in accordance with existing or proposed new legislation (subject to legislative changes).

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

Implemented and reported on the regional component of the *Strategy*.

Prepared and approved the *Regional Land Transport Programme for Taranaki*, as required by legislation

PASSENGER TRANSPORT

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this activity is to promote the provision of community passenger transport in Taranaki and assist the special transport needs of the transport disadvantaged.

LAND TRANSPORT AND HARBOUR MANAGEMENT

PROGRAMME

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

Provide total mobility subsidy assistance, to qualifying persons through the Land Transport New Zealand supported Total Mobility Scheme, for people with a serious mobility constraint which prevents them from using public passenger transport services who need access to taxi services in New Plymouth, Waitara, Inglewood, Stratford and Hawera.

Operate passenger transport services in the New Plymouth urban areas and regional Taranaki consistent with the *Passenger Transport Plan* subject to funding approval from Land Transport New Zealand.

Subject to the aforementioned trials, implement longer term service arrangements for passenger transport in the region consistent with the *Passenger Transport Plan* subject to funding approval from Land Transport New Zealand.

Provide financial assistance to the Ironside Vehicle Society subject to eligibility criteria being met.

Receive and register within 14 days, appropriate applications to operate a passenger transport service.

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

Provided total mobility services to the targeted areas—79,099 (87,692—2007/2008) passenger trips were made under the total mobility scheme.

Passenger transport services in New Plymouth urban areas (see below) and regional Taranaki (see below) were operated consistent with the *Passenger Transport Plan*. 349,607 passenger trips were made on these services.

Implemented a new contracted bus service in New Plymouth urban areas operated by Transit Coachlines Ltd. Completed a successful trial of three services in South Taranaki. The trial service between Inglewood and New Plymouth continued.

Provided funding assistance to the Ironside Vehicle Society for the carriage of disabled persons in restricted areas.

Received and registered 1 registration for a new bus service, one variation two withdrawal notices and one abandonment (5—2007/2008 new applications and 2 variations). All applications were processed within 14 days.

HARBOUR MANAGEMENT

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this activity is to promote safe navigation for all users of the waters of Port Taranaki.

PROGRAMME

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

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

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

External contract placed for the provision of Harbourmaster services. No (0) significant incidents involving unsafe navigation practices were reported within Port Taranaki.

PROGRAMME

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

Review the *Navigation Bylaw for Port Taranaki and Approaches (2003)*.

Comply with the requirements of the *New Zealand Port and Maritime Safety Code*.

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

The detailed redrafting and notification of new bylaws was held up owing to the possibility of major developments at the Port that would have had significant implications for design of the bylaws, coupled with the impending review of Maritime Rule 91. This meant that the review of the bylaws was not completed in 2008/2009 as programmed. Work will continue on the bylaw review in 2009/2010.

The *Port and Harbour Safety Management System* was granted full approval by Maritime New Zealand and is valid for a period of three years from 11 July 2007. This is the main requirement of the *New Zealand Port and Maritime Safety Code*.

COSTS AND SOURCES OF FUNDS

	2008/09 Actual \$	2007/08 Actual \$	2007/08 Budget \$	2006/07 Actual \$
Expenditure				
Regional land transport planning	199,008	209,369	276,176	94,507
Passenger transport	1,803,206	2,179,595	1,151,646	952,730
Harbour management	26,793	30,304	25,631	24,178
Total expenditure	2,029,007	2,419,268	1,453,453	1,071,415
Income				
Direct charges	518,787	513,550	19,444	8,000
Government grants	822,815	996,942	655,884	518,297
Targeted rates	387,725	387,725	240,250	208,000
Investment funds	(602)	220,769	233,079	93,211
General rates	300,282	300,282	304,796	243,907
Total income	2,029,007	2,419,268	1,453,453	1,071,415
Operating surplus/ (deficit)	0	0	0	0

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 comprises 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 within industrial, rural, commercial, and municipal sectors, promoting inter-district and regional co-ordination and pursuing more efficient and effective management, and advocating on behalf of the regional community.

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.

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 1,100 inspections, sampling runs and surveys were undertaken at more than 290 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.

Undertook 12 research investigations and applied research projects. Projects undertaken during the year or designed during the year for implementation in 2009/2010 included further exploration of the extent of physicochemical and biological effects of dairy effluent discharges on streams, on-going studies in the Waiokura Stream catchment of opportunities for good farming practices to improve stream quality, further data and reports examining trends in the robustness of Taranaki soils under pastoral land use, examining the biodiversity of our pastures and riparian margins, partnering studies into the performance of nitrification inhibitors under Taranaki conditions, following up a site assessment of the former Patea freezing works by collaborating in the development of a site remediation plan, and collaborating in a study of littoral sand drift on the north Taranaki coast.

This activity is providing relevant and quality information on which to review policy and promote sustainable resource management.

The waste minimisation programme focused on the promotion and implementation of waste minimisation activities within the region. Waste minimisation projects including waste minimisation studies in selected

priority sectors in consultation with the three Taranaki district councils were undertaken. The major project was a waste inventory and waste management study for the region.

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.

In conjunction with land owners and community groups, Council prepared biodiversity plans for 14 key native ecosystems covering 404 hectares, with the objective of protecting and enhancing biodiversity values of those sites. In addition the Council prepared additional biodiversity plans for the Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust and the Eastern Taranaki Environment Trust kiwi, which were incorporated into their own biodiversity plans. The Council also provided support to Ngati Tama.

Environmental enhancement grants promote a Sustainable Taranaki through the protection of the environment by way of a programme of enhancement grants. In 2008/2009 work was undertaken on securing protection or undertaking maintenance or enhancement on 8 regionally significant wetlands.

In addition environmental enhancement grants were used to support the implementation of 11 biodiversity plans by undertaking invasive weed and animal control work and wetland fencing/planting work.

The combined effect of the Council's various 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

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

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

Implement 100% of the Council's state of the environment monitoring programmes comprising monitoring of surface fresh water quantity, levels and flows, fresh water quality, groundwater quantity and quality, coastal waters, biodiversity, air quality and land use sustainability using recognised and reputable methods of data collection, analysis and reporting in accordance with the Council's *State of the Environment Monitoring Procedures* document and *State of the Environment Monitoring Programme*.

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

Implemented and reported on all specified programmes for water, air, and land comprising monitoring of surface fresh water quantity, levels and flows, fresh water quality, groundwater quantity and quality, coastal waters, biodiversity, air quality and land use sustainability in accordance with the Council's *State of the Environment Monitoring Programme 2008/2009* document and *State of the Environment Monitoring Programme*. Reported 12 programmes individually and all programmes in summary.

RESOURCE INVESTIGATIONS, MONITORING AND ENHANCEMENT

PROGRAMME	2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE	RESOURCE INVESTIGATIONS AND PROJECTS	
		OBJECTIVE	
For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:	During 2008/2009 the Council actually:	The objective of this activity is to provide relevant and quality information for resource management purposes.	
Monitor, review and where appropriate, further develop the programmes. Specifically, monitor, review and where appropriate, further develop the programmes for the 2009/2010 year before 30 June 2009.	Reviewed and amended, where appropriate, air and water programmes for the <i>State of the Environment Monitoring Programme 2009/2010</i> by 30 June 2009.	PROGRAMME	2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE
Maintain all quality assurance programmes and information databases for hydrometric, air quality, physicochemical freshwater, terrestrial biodiversity, fresh water biological and marine biological data.	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.	For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:	During 2008/2009 the Council actually:
Complete the five-yearly comprehensive report to the Taranaki community in 2008/2009 on the state of the Taranaki environment focusing on all resource management issues of significance in the region. The report provides information on the current state of the environment including trends and the effectiveness of the Council's policies and programmes.	Completed and launched <i>Taranaki: Where We Stand: State of the Environment Report 2009</i> in April 2009. This report provided information on the state of environment, and commented on trends and the effectiveness of the Council's policies and programmes.	Investigate point source and diffuse discharges from pastoral activities and their effects on surface water quality (including nutrient accumulation and attenuation, copper and zinc sources and effects).	Reported on assimilation and dilution of discharges from dairy effluent treatment ponds. Reported on significance of cumulative (multiple) pond discharges. Surveyed copper and zinc levels in surface waters throughout summer. Report in preparation.
Conclude the review and report on biological data trends in Taranaki's freshwater ecosystems in conjunction with the Cawthron Institute.	Received report on the correlation of MCI values, site altitude, and stream quality	Conclude an investigation at the former Patea freezing works.	Investigation concluded within 2007/2008 year. Consequently assisted the development of a site remediation action plan.
Maintain 100% public access to on-line live regional data on hydrology, meteorology, soil moisture and bathing beach water quality.	Maintained 100% public access to live on-line regional data on rainfall, soil moisture, river levels, and wind speed and direction. Maintained 100% public access to up to date information on marine and freshwater bathing site water quality.	Support studies into effects upon soil structure and quality from on-farm fodder cropping.	Supported studies into effects from cropping upon soil structure and quality. Interim report received.
		Support littoral sand drift study on north Taranaki coast.	Project continuing.
		Investigate ecological significance of first order streams, and consequences of stream modification.	Draft report prepared for internal review
		Consider study into water use optimisation on dairy farms.	No further action.
		Report on biodiversity value of riparian margin planting study.	Supported studies including field work. Report received and under internal review at end of year.

RESOURCE INVESTIGATIONS, MONITORING AND ENHANCEMENT

PROGRAMME

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

Support studies on the performance, effects and consequences of nitrification inhibitors in association with Dexcel and others.

Support the dairying catchment water quality study being conducted by AgResearch and NIWA in the Waiokura Stream catchment.

Consider supporting studies calibrating nutrient management models for Taranaki conditions.

Identify and review projects for the next year.

In addition the Council:

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

Continuing support for study. Study initiated and interim report received (3+ years study proposed).

Continued to support Waiokura catchment study. Study progress and findings to date were reported to Council, in scientific papers, and by the Ministry for the Environment.

Supporting calibration of nutrient and life cycle assessment models at Stratford Demonstration farm (3 year study).

Commissioned a study developing macroinvertebrate indices for wetlands.

Supported a proposed river sedimentation transport monitoring study for Mt Taranaki.

Supported a proposed review of geohydrology information and data for South Taranaki area.

Scoped a study quantifying improvements in stream MCI with riparian development.

Developed a site assessment plan for Marfell Park, a former dump in New Plymouth. Investigated soil profiles for cadmium, fluoride, copper and zinc.

ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT GRANTS

OBJECTIVE

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

PROGRAMME

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

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

Use environmental enhancement grants for the protection of aspects of the environment identified as regionally significant.

Prepare 15 biodiversity plans for properties containing key native ecosystems.

Monitor and report on progress on the implementation of 15 biodiversity plans.

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009:

Ongoing fencing and planting as well as some maintenance has been undertaken to secure the protection of wetlands. This included work on 8 regionally significant wetlands out of a total of 76.

One (1—2007/2008) environmental enhancement grant was used for the protection of regionally significant environmental resources.

14 biodiversity plans were completed. As well, an additional 2 plans were completed and due to subsequent development of management plans by the community groups involved, were incorporated into their biodiversity plans.

All plans were monitored with 11 of the plans undertaking work.

RESOURCE INVESTIGATIONS, MONITORING AND ENHANCEMENT

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 and the waste management plans of the districts.

PROGRAMME

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:
Assist sector leaders in six activity areas in exploring and implementing energy efficiency and waste minimisation, including enhancing recycling in schools.

Maintain an in-house waste minimisation programme.

Work with the dairy industry to implement waste minimisation opportunities.

Explore promotion of glass recovery and re-use.

Explore alternatives to landfill disposal for organic wastes.

Promote AgRecovery programme.

Monitor the quantity of recyclables collected from schools in the South Taranaki and New Plymouth districts

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:
Employed a waste minimisation officer and implemented programmes of waste minimisation and energy efficiency in restaurants and cafés, retail centres, public events, construction (glass), utilities administration, industry (cable manufacture).

Maintained an in-house waste minimisation programme, including organic and paper recycling, printing management, energy monitoring, a waste audit, and recycling of obsolete computer hardware.

Financial support and logistical co-ordination for Agpac and independent silage/haylage wrap recovery- 6 sites established in Taranaki.

Dimensions of glass recovery and current and future recycling options explored as part of waste inventory work.

Assisted South Taranaki District Council in municipal-private composting proposal. Resource consent application received, considered and approved.

Financial support and logistical co-ordination for AgRecovery agrichemical container recycling programme –2 sites established in Taranaki.

It is not possible to report upon this measure as recyclable materials from schools are collected with commercial recycling and thus not separately recorded.

PROGRAMME

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:
Participate in regional waste management fora.

In addition the Council:

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:
Participated in Regional Solid Wastes Working Party (RSWWP) and waste officers' forum meetings. In particular re-structuring of RSWWP in light of Waste Minimisation Act underway.
Participated in national E-Day electronic wastes collection; researched and drafted a report on regional wastes inventory; Concrete wastes recovery and re-use at in-region facility identified and promoted.
Promoted the Paper4trees scheme in schools. This is a scheme where schools record how much paper they recycle and are then rewarded with trees.

COSTS AND SOURCES OF FUNDS

	2008/09 Actual \$	2007/08 Actual \$	2007/08 Budget \$	2006/07 Actual \$
Expenditure				
State of the environment monitoring	799,798	917,247	940,689	895,576
Resource investigations and projects	547,071	319,316	396,500	247,216
Environmental enhancement grants	287,550	242,332	146,621	112,663
Waste minimisation	128,815	113,049	120,433	118,671
Total expenditure	1,763,234	1,591,944	1,604,243	1,374,126
Income				
Direct charges	110,224	50,000	114,571	53,265
Investment funds	764,385	653,320	622,017	475,389
General rates	888,625	888,624	867,655	845,472
Total income	1,763,234	1,591,944	1,604,243	1,374,126
Operating surplus/ (deficit)	0	0	0	0

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.

During 2008/2009 no additional areas were added to the self help possum control programme due to Council's commitment to control areas adjacent to Egmont National Park, (ENP) to complement the Department of Conservation's control operation within the ENP. The total number of properties in the self help possum control programme is 3,753, covering 228,418 ha.

Monitoring confirms that occupiers in the *Self-Help Possum Control Programme* have been very effective in maintaining reduced possum numbers in areas treated by the Council. The mean residual trap catch for properties monitored was 6.9% (below the Council's target of 10%).

The initial planning for a joint Council/Department of Conservation possum control operation for Egmont National Park and its boundaries has been completed.

The Council also provided technical, financial and logistical support to the Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust (including the provision of funding) for the animal pest control eradication operation carried out in the spring of 2008.

Over 8,400 property inspections for pest plants took place with 436 notices of direction issued and complied with. In relation to "eradication pest plants" the Council treated 71 properties and directed land occupiers to treat a further 4 infestations. This control has addressed the control of all "eradication pest plant" infestations that were known as of 2001 (when the previous *Pest Plant Strategy* became operative), the control of most infestations subsequently discovered after that time, and as appropriate, and the re-treatment of those sites.

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

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

Implement the Council's *Pest Management Strategy for Taranaki: Animals 2006*:

Undertake control of areas within the programme adjacent to the Egmont National Park in conjunction with the Department of Conservation.

Support the *Self-Help Possum Control Programme* by ensuring that landholders maintain possum populations within acceptable limits (10% residual trap catch) on land already included (228,000 hectares).

Commence pest control in selected key natural areas for biodiversity protection.

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

Undertake surveillance and, where necessary, control of other pest animals, including feral goats, deer, cats, hares, mustelids, pest fish and magpies.

Advise, monitor and where necessary enforce or undertake control of rabbits and ants

Undertake direct control and eradication of rooks.

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

Implemented the *Strategy*:

Planning has commenced and is well advanced. Commencement of control has been deferred until August 2009 at the request of the Department of Conservation to align with their timeframes for control in Egmont National Park and to ensure the best overall result.

Landholders maintained possum populations to acceptable levels: 6.9% residual trap catch rate – (7.5%—2007/2008) on 3,762 (3,437) properties.

Pest control was planned and undertaken in 9 (12) key native ecosystems.

Provided advice and education on unwanted animal organisms on 42 (46—2007/2008) occasions.

Received 134 (136) notifications of animal pests and, where appropriate, undertook control action.

Provided advice and education on control of argentine ants on 215 (186) occasions rabbits on 29 (24) occasions.

Undertook control action on rook infestations on 4 (1) occasions

PEST MANAGEMENT

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

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

Implement and regularly review the *Pest Management Strategy for Taranaki: Plants 2006* which, in brief, comprises:

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.

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.

Developing and implementing biological control programmes for Old Man's Beard, Giant Buttercup, Ragwort, Gorse, Nodding and Plumeless Thistles.

Responding to and taking necessary actions on all pest plants complaints within five days of receipt.

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

Implemented the *Strategy*:

Undertook direct control on 100% (62%—2007/2008) of known infestations of Climbing Spindleberry and 100% (43%) of Giant Reed. Also initiated 100% (69%) control for Mignonette Vine, 100% (50%) for Darwin's Barberry and 100% (100%) for Senegal Tea discovered during the year.

Completed the annual inspection round for total and boundary plant pests, inspecting 389 (456—2007/2008) category C properties on at least three occasions, 2,417 (937) category B properties at least once including urban properties and 5,968 (4,267) category A properties. In total, 436 (274) notices of direction were issued and complied with, with no (0) prosecutions resulting.

Made 1 (1) releases of control agents from local stock, no (0) releases from Landcare Research and 2 releases from Horizons MW stock. Contributed to Landcare Research biological control research programme.

Received and responded to 123 (116) complaints, investigating all complaints within five working days and taking action where necessary. Forty-six (46) notices of direction were issued and complied with following public complaint.

PROGRAMME

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

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

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, enforcing the prohibition from propagation, sale or distribution of specified unwanted plant organisms.

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

Undertook a publicity and education programme in relation to the control of all pest plants in the Strategy. Particular attention was given to Pampas.

Responded to 395 (285) 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 10 (10) occasions.

Inspected 36 (46) 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

	2008/09 Actual \$	2007/08 Actual \$	2007/08 Budget \$	2006/07 Actual \$
Expenditure				
Pest animal management	1,581,538	1,671,473	1,597,601	1,434,995
Pest plant management	466,812	403,604	368,393	414,352
Total expenditure	2,048,350	2,075,077	1,965,994	1,849,347
Income				
Direct charges	131,361	83,800	101,532	85,612
Government grants	-	-	-	-
Investment funds	769,413	843,702	756,996	665,301
General rates	1,147,576	1,147,575	1,107,466	1,098,434
Total income	2,048,350	2,075,077	1,965,994	1,849,347
Operating surplus/ (deficit)	0	0	0	0

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. 2008/2009 was the seventh year of the 10 year life of the targeted rate. 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.

HOLLARD GARDENS

The redevelopment of Hollard Gardens was completed in 2008/2009. The redevelopment included refurbishment of the carpark and entrance, redevelopment of the pond at the north end of the carpark, construction of a new Gatehouse at the entrance of the garden, construction of two new shelters and the placement of appropriately designed seats, reopening of a path closed for over 20 years, construction of an events pavilion, construction of a children's play area, extension of the office/workshop, construction of a new service route from the south-end of the carpark and completion of installation of new signage/interpretation.

The re-launched Hollard Gardens has proved very popular with visitor numbers increasing from approximately 2,500 per annum to 11,600 in 2008/2009.

TUPARE

A major refurbishment has extended Tupare's appeal beyond being known as an attractive garden with beautiful vistas. Development works completed as outlined in the asset management plan for Tupare included restoration of the James Chapman-Taylor house, completion of a new 33 space carpark and entrance gatehouse, conversion of the cottage into an Interpretation Centre, creation of a new sunken lawn and glasshouse, installation of way-finding (path routes) and information panels and placement of garden furniture designed in the 'arts and crafts' style of the property.

Again, the re-launched Tupare has proved popular with visitor numbers increasing from approximately 4,000 per annum to 21,100 in 2008/2009.

Regular planting, tree surgery and other maintenance work was undertaken. Both Tupare and Hollard Gardens have benefited from the increased operational and capital commitment from the Council over the last few years and are starting to reach the visions outlined in the asset management plans. The Council continued its stakeholder funding arrangements with the Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust.

The redevelopment of these two properties has made a contribution to a Vibrant Taranaki.

YARROW STADIUM

OBJECTIVE

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

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 2008/2009 was the annual repayment of the grant from targeted rates.

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

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

Provide two regional gardens (Tupare and Hollard Gardens) for free use by the regional community.

Encourage the increased use of the regional gardens by the community for recreational purposes and for specific events.

Maintain the regional gardens to the levels of service established in the asset management plans for the two properties.

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

Tupare and Hollard Gardens were open seven days a week from 9:00am to 5:00pm during 2008/2009.

Tupare attracted approximately 21,100 visitors (4,000—2007/2008) with Hollard Gardens attracting approximately 11,600 (2,500). There were 15 (9) events at Tupare and 10 (1) at Hollard Gardens. Both properties were part of the Taranaki Rhododendron and Garden Festival.

The properties are maintained to the standards established in the asset management plans. This standard was maintained during 2008/2009.

RECREATION, CULTURE AND HERITAGE

PROGRAMME

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

Undertake a plant labelling programme in accordance with the collection management plan.

Provide financial support (\$50,000) to the Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust.

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

In accordance with the collection management plans, branded plant labels were installed at both properties. For 2008/2009 this involved 16 labels at Tupare and 36 at Hollard Gardens. This is a work-in-progress.

Provided financial support of \$50,000 to the Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust.

ASSET ACQUISITIONS AND REPLACEMENTS

There were significant asset acquisitions planned for and undertaken within this group of activities with the completion of the implementation of the asset management plans.

In accordance with the asset management plans, the *2005/2006 Annual Plan* and the *2006/2016 Long-Term Council Community Plan* the Council undertook a significant programme of garden enhancement that included:

HOLLARD GARDENS:

- Refurbishment of the carpark and gatehouse entrance
- Construction of shelters and garden structures
- Construction of an events pavilion and design of a children's playground
- Enhancement of signage, interpretation, plant database and way-finding material
- Extension of the service area and facilities.

TUPARE:

- Restoration of the Chapman-Taylor house
- Construction of a new carpark, entrance way and gatehouse
- Replacement of the glasshouse
- Restoration of the gardener's cottage
- Enhancement of signage, interpretation, plant database and way-finding material
- Construction of garden structures and features.

COSTS AND SOURCES OF FUNDS

	2008/09 Actual \$	2007/08 Actual \$	2007/08 Budget \$	2006/07 Actual \$
Expenditure				
Yarrow Stadium	-	-	-	-
Regional gardens	932,593	872,835	807,705	773,694
Total expenditure	932,593	872,835	807,705	773,694
Income				
Direct charges	12,309	10,500	11,547	10,395
Targeted rates	346,042	346,042	353,764	361,300
Investment funds	423,320	365,370	284,338	245,858
General rates	496,965	496,965	511,820	517,441
Total income	1,278,636	1,218,877	1,161,469	1,134,994
Operating surplus/ (deficit)	346,043	346,042	353,764	361,300

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 (Port Taranaki 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, Port Taranaki 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, working with 156 classes involving 4,657 students and hosting visitors to the Council's display areas. The Council held three teacher workshops and distributed additional resources to teachers. Other activities included the development and launch of the 60 Springs environmental education programme as part of the annual project for the Puke Ariki partnership and the presentation of eighteen environmental awards. 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

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

Publish and distribute regular editions of the *Recount* newsletter (4) to over 1,000 stakeholders, maintain the Council's website and implement the Council's environmental awards programme.

Provide 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.

Maintain an ongoing partnership relationship with the Puke Ariki regional museum and library including the ongoing use of display and presentation material within an annual project.

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

Published 5 editions of the external newsletter *Recount* (5—2007/2008) to over 1,000 key stakeholders.

Twenty-three (38) requests for information were received and responded to.

Eighteen (17) environmental awards were presented during the year.

Distributed 4 (4) issues of the *SITE (Schools in the Environment)* newsletter to 96 (96) schools, sent out 75 (35) units to teachers and carried out 156 (210) class visits involving 4,657 (5,585) students. Three (5) teacher workshops were facilitated by the Council including *A Pond as an Example of a Wetland and Biodiversity*.

The Council's partnership with Puke Ariki included the *Amazing Backyard Adventures* exhibition, a water publication project and the *60 Springs* environmental education project.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATION, INFORMATION AND INVESTMENTS

PORT TARANAKI LTD

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this activity is to ensure that the Council-owned port company, Port Taranaki Ltd, is efficiently operated as a successful business for the benefit of the Taranaki region.

PROGRAMME

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to:

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

Consider Port Taranaki Ltd's annual statement of corporate intent and monitor performance against established targets on an annual basis.

The Council received and considered Port Taranaki Ltd's draft Statement of Corporate Intent (SCI) on 12 August 2008. Performance against the SCI was monitored when considering the Company's half (7 April 2009) and full year results (23 September 2008).

Appoint Port Taranaki Ltd's directors as required.

Mr MacLeod was reappointed by rotation at Port Taranaki Ltd's AGM on 26 September 2008.

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

Regular formal and informal briefings and discussions occurred between the Board and the Council throughout 2008/2009.

PROGRAMMES AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES SET IN THE STATEMENT OF CORPORATE INTENT

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE (2007/2008 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE)

Return on average total assets (Target 5%)

8.05% (9.17%)

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

6.02% (5.92%)

Wharf utilisation (berth occupancy):

Moturoa (Target 40—50%)

26% (53%)

Newton King Tanker Terminal (Target 25—35%)

19% (19%)

Blyde 1 & 2 (Target 20—25%)

26% (48%)

Main Breakwater (Target 40—50%)

39% (40%)

Health and safety. Eliminate all work-related accidents.

Thirty-eight work related accidents, of which 5 resulted in 31.5 days lost time (23 work-related accidents, of which 6 resulted in 98 lost days).

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

2008/2009 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE

For 2008/2009 the Council intended to seek to attain at least a 6% return on land and treasury investments and specifically:

During 2008/2009 the Council actually:

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

Renewed 0 leases (2—2007/2008). No leasehold land was divested during the year. Achieved a 2.92% (2.79%) return from leasehold land rentals.

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

All treasury investments were in accordance with the Council's Investment Policy. Achieved a 7.19% (7.41%) return from treasury investments.

COSTS AND SOURCES OF FUNDS

	2008/09 Actual \$	2007/08 Actual \$	2007/08 Budget \$	2006/07 Actual \$
Expenditure				
Public information	312,169	311,639	323,641	298,603
Investment management	8,626	6,000	3,846	108,124
Representation	778,156	766,204	801,875	691,089
Total expenditure	1,098,951	1,083,843	1,129,362	1,097,816
Income				
Direct charges	4,026	450	915	950
Investment funds	470,564	459,032	515,714	488,538
General rates	624,361	624,361	612,733	608,328
Total income	1,098,951	1,083,843	1,129,362	1,097,816
Operating surplus/ (deficit)	0	0	0	0

ASSET ACQUISITIONS AND REPLACEMENTS

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