

Our work in detail

THIS SECTION CONTAINS OUR STATEMENTS OF SERVICE PERFORMANCE AND DETAILED COMMENTARY ABOUT WHAT WE DID IN EACH OF OUR SEVEN STRATEGY AREAS.

Our reporting is comprehensive. For each area you'll find:

- what we did
- what it cost
- whether we met budget
- whether we met our performance targets.

We keep all of this information together, which means that for each strategy you will get the full picture about how we are performing.

All of our work aims to contribute to the long-term goals or "outcomes" we want for the city. Each chapter is arranged so you can clearly see what those outcomes are, what the current state of the city is in relation to meeting those outcomes, and how our work contributes.

The performance measures you will see here were signed off by the Council as part of the 2006-16 long-term plan. We get performance information from a wide variety of sources, including an annual survey of Wellington residents.

Our measures and financial results are independently scrutinised by Audit New Zealand.

Resident Satisfaction Survey

We commission a resident satisfaction survey to find out what Wellingtonians think of the city and our services and facilities. This report uses information from our February 2007 survey, conducted by independent research company ACNielsen. The sample, of 500 residents aged over 15, was representative of the Wellington population in terms of ward, age and gender. The maximum margin of error is +/-4.4 percent.

Financial reporting

The net costs referred to in the 'what it cost' tables include both direct and indirect costs. Direct costs can be directly attributed to the activity. Indirect costs include things like staff time, office space and information technology costs which relate to the overall costs of running the organisation. These indirect costs are allocated as overheads across all activities.

What's new about this section.

We've always worked hard to make our reports as clear and easy to understand as possible. That's part of being accountable.

This year we've made some improvements to this section of our report by grouping some activities together that we'd separated in the past. This change means you can more clearly see our work in its full context – for example, we're describing all of our work relating to the transport network in one place, instead of considering separate parts of the network (footpaths, cycleways, roads, etc) over separate pages.

We're also providing greater levels of disclosure than previously by including capex carry forward budgets at the activity level, for projects that are not complete and where budget will be carried over to the next financial year.

These changes don't reduce the level of formal detail that's available about our finances and service performance – it's just presented in a simpler, clearer way here.