

# Wellington's vision for biodiversity

Wellingtonians identified a vision for Wellington's landscape and ecosystems through the development of the Long Term Council Community Plan (2006/07 – 2015/16).

## Community outcomes for the environment included:

- Wellington will promote the **sustainable management** of the environment, and support increased opportunities for the exercise of kaitiakitanga or environmental guardianship
- Wellington **protects** and showcases its natural landforms and indigenous ecosystems
- Pest animals and plants are eliminated as methods become available, and no new pests will become established
- Wellington will **preserve and improve** its parks, trees and open spaces
- Wellingtonians will **protect** and have access to public green open spaces and the coast.

## This can be translated into an overall vision for Wellington's biodiversity:

**Wellington is a city that protects and restores biodiversity and proudly showcases its natural areas. It is a city renowned for its kaitiakitanga, its environmental guardianship**

There are four themes and 13 objectives that have been developed to cover the actions needed to achieve this vision and the ongoing conservation of our indigenous biodiversity.

## The Council will **identify** the state of Wellington's biodiversity by:

- Having confidence in our knowledge of Wellington's biodiversity
- Recognising the relationships and interactions between species and environments
- Recognising the relationships and interactions between people and biodiversity.

## The Council will **protect** Wellington's biodiversity from further fragmentation and loss by:

- Conserving Wellington's biodiversity values
- Actively protecting sites that collectively represent the full range of Wellington's biodiversity
- Providing RMA and policy protection (eg through District Plan and input into regional plans) for sites with ecological significance
- Motivating, inspiring and educating landowners to protect biodiversity on their own land
- Motivating, inspiring and educating communities to get involved in conserving biodiversity.

## The Council will strive to **restore** Wellington's biodiversity by:

- Restoring Wellington's indigenous ecosystems to a healthy state
- Ensuring that biodiversity is a common experience for all Wellingtonians.

## The Council will undertake **research** to enable the continuing successful management of Wellington's biodiversity by:

- Ensuring a consistent city-wide approach to biodiversity aims and priorities
- Implementing a city-wide monitoring system consistent with regional and national monitoring
- Building our capacity to protect and restore Wellington's biodiversity.