



Contribution to community outcomes

Healthy environment

Develop and implement the Regional Policy Statement (RPS) and regional plans.

Sense of place

Process and monitor resource consents.

Healthy community

Investigate and clean-up pollution incidents.

Research key environmental issues and threats.

Measure the quality and quantity of our natural resources, eg, river flows, air quality and soil health.

Report to the public on the state of the environment.

Help children, businesses and the community to look after and restore the environment.



Key projects for 2008/09

Activity: Manage resources

- Progress the Regional Policy Statement (RPS) through the statutory approval process. The RPS is the principal document for managing the region's natural and physical resources
- Continue to carry out our core functions, such as consent processing, compliance monitoring and enforcement, and provide a 24-hour pollution-response service for the community
- Enhance our Take Charge business pollution-prevention programme. Using a combination of education and enforcement tools, and focusing on commercial and industrial areas, this programme manages non-compliance with regional rules and promotes best practice
- Continue to promote our Muddy Waters and urban streams programme – a set of initiatives targeted at local authorities, contractors and consultants to improve environmental performance on earthworks sites to lessen the impact of land development on urban streams

Activity: Monitor the state of the environment

- Continue to monitor the quality of the region's air, water and soil to enable us to report on the state of the region's environment
- Manage our air-monitoring programme, in compliance with the National Environmental Standard for Air Quality, which requires that we monitor and analyse air quality in the eight air sheds in our region. This year we will also be setting up a new air quality monitoring station

- Continue to expand the flood-warning systems in the Wairarapa's eastern hills as a result of reviewing our hydrological monitoring network
- Continue to investigate groundwater in the Wairarapa to ensure it is used efficiently
- Assess flows of rivers and streams to support the sustainable management of the region's surface water
- Carry out surveillance monitoring for didymo, a role recently transferred to Greater Wellington from Biosecurity New Zealand
- Gain a detailed understanding of the state of the harbour and assess the effects of discharges into the harbour

Activity: Environmental education

- Continue with our Take Care and Take Action programmes. Take Care supports community groups, businesses and landowners to restore wetlands, streams, dunes and estuaries. Take Action is our school environment-education programme
- Help businesses implement sound environmental policies and practices



Key changes from the 2006–16 Ten-Year Plan (LTCCP)

- \$50,000 has been provided to begin work with territorial authorities to develop landscape character descriptions across the region, and to identify sites of historic heritage in the coastal marine area
- \$100,000 has been transferred from our communications budget to expand the Take Charge business pollution-prevention programme. This will improve coverage for industrial and commercial businesses across the region
- Additional revenue of \$300,000 from resource consent fees has been included. The hourly charge-out rate has been increased from \$85 to \$100 (excluding GST)
- A total of \$30,000 has been included to fund the Greater Wellington Environmental Awards, and for formalising support for the Get Sustainable Challenge (business sustainability awards)
- Provision has been made for monitoring didymo at a cost of \$6,000
- The National Environmental Standard for Air Quality requires emissions inventories and projections to be developed for 'at risk' air sheds. This will be completed for the Wairarapa air shed at a cost of \$34,000
- The in-stream flow assessment work needed for the Regional Freshwater Plan review requires extra funding to meet the review timeframe of 2009. \$50,000 has been included this year to progress this work
- The Wairarapa groundwater model has highlighted the need for further understanding of the interaction between groundwater and surface water, and the need for additional surface water chemistry information, at a cost of \$35,000
- \$15,000 has been provided to review our Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines for the region to ensure that these guidelines continue to accurately reflect the type of soil and topography in the region

Under section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991, Greater Wellington is able to set administrative charges for processing and monitoring resource consents. We took the opportunity to review these charges through the Annual Plan consultation process.

As a result our hourly charge-out rate for processing and monitoring resource consents has increased from \$85 to \$100 (excluding GST). This charge-out rate takes effect from 1 July 2008. The Resource Management Charging Policy is available online – www.gw.govt.nz. The charge-out rate is in keeping with Greater Wellington's Revenue and Finance Policy (also available online – www.gw.govt.nz).



Short-term targets – by 30 June 2009

Activity: Manage resources

1 Develop and implement the Regional Policy Statement (RPS) and regional plans

Target	Performance measures
The RPS will be progressed through the statutory approval process. An implementation plan for the RPS will be prepared and approved by Council, within a budget of \$454,000	An approved RPS will be in place. An implementation plan for the RPS will be approved by Council
The following programmes and plans will be implemented and a progress report will be approved by Council, within a budget of \$841,000: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetland Action Plan • Queen Elizabeth II Trust private land-protection programme • Freshwater ecosystems programme • Kaiwharawhara Stream Plan • Waiwhetu Stream Action Plan • Pauatahanui Inlet Action Plan • Coastal and marine ecosystem programme 	Implementation of the following plans and programmes will be reported to Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetland Action Plan • Queen Elizabeth II Trust private land-protection programme • Freshwater ecosystems programme • Kaiwharawhara Stream Plan • Waiwhetu Stream Action Plan • Pauatahanui Inlet Action Plan • Coastal and marine ecosystem programme Action Plan
The Stormwater Action Plan will be implemented in association with city and district councils, within a budget of \$69,000	The Stormwater Action Plan contains milestone, progress with which will be reported to Council

2 Process and monitor resource consents

Target	Performance measures
100% of resource consents will be processed within statutory timeframes (20 working days for non-notified consents), within a budget of \$675,000	Consents processing times will be recorded in the consents database and regularly reported to Council
100% of resource consents will be monitored for compliance with resource consent conditions, within a budget of \$508,000	All resource consents will be monitored for compliance with resource consent conditions
At least two workshops will be conducted for customers on how they can obtain best value from the resource consent process, within a budget of \$61,000	Two workshops will be held



Short-term targets – by 30 June 2009

Activity: Manage resources (continued)

3 Research key environmental issues and threats

Target	Performance measures
Environmental problems will be investigated and identified to enable appropriate remedial action to be undertaken, within a budget of \$387,000	Regular progress reports will be provided to Council
Maintain a Selected Land Use Register with public enquiries responded to within one week, within a budget of \$66,000	Enquiries will be logged and response timeframes noted

4 Investigate and clean-up pollution incidents

Target	Performance measures
An annual report card providing a summary of pollution-control activities will be prepared and made publicly available within a budget of \$179,000	An annual report card will be produced within budget, reported to Council and widely distributed
All reported pollution-response incidents will be categorised and responded to in accordance with the following timeframes, and within a budget of \$167,000: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Log only – no action required • Red (serious adverse environmental effect requiring immediate attention) – 60 minutes • Yellow (serious environmental effect where no benefit will be gained by an immediate response) – 24 hours • Blue (minor environmental effect not requiring immediate response) – 7 days 	All timeframes for responses will be recorded and reported regularly to Council



Environment

Short-term targets – by 30 June 2009

Activity: Monitor the state of the environment

1 Measure the quality and quantity of our natural resources, eg, river flows, air quality, soil health

Target	Performance measures
Greater Wellington's flood managers will be notified within 30 minutes when any river or rainfall trigger levels are reached, within a budget of \$81,000	Flood warnings will be issued within 30 minutes of river rainfall trigger levels being reached
Greater Wellington's water and consents managers will be notified within one working day of low groundwater levels in the Waiwhetu aquifer, within a budget of \$169,000	Low groundwater levels in the Waiwhetu aquifer will be advised within one working day
Water samples will be taken weekly throughout the bathing season (1 November to 31 March) and tested for the presence of bacteria. The following traffic light warning framework will be implemented, within a budget of \$92,000: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – low or no public health risk • Amber – alert mode requiring follow-up monitoring • Red – action required and beach closed 	Water samples are taken weekly throughout the bathing season and tested for the presence of bacteria. The results will be posted on Greater Wellington's website
The community has access to real-time environmental data	Real-time environmental data will be available on Greater Wellington's website
An air quality monitoring station will be set up, within a budget of \$120,000	An air quality monitoring station will be set up, within budget



Short-term targets – by 30 June 2009

Activity: Monitor the state of the environment (continued)

2 Report to the public on the state of the environment

Target	Performance measures
<p>An annual report card containing summary information for the following resources will be approved by Council within a budget of \$1,455,000:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydrology • Groundwater • Freshwater quality • Coastal water quality • Recreational water quality • Air quality • Soil quality 	<p>Annual report cards for the 2007/08 year will be reported to Council and publicly distributed in both print and electronic form</p>

Activity: Environmental education

1 Help children, businesses and the community to look after and restore the environment

Target	Performance measures
<p>Through the Take Care community environmental education programme, five new care groups will be established and assisted to care for degraded local ecosystems and existing care groups will be maintained, within a budget of \$281,000</p>	<p>Five new care groups will be established</p>
<p>20 schools will establish systems for promoting change in their students' environmental behaviour or undertake revegetation projects to improve the local environment, through the Take Action Programme, within a budget of \$262,000</p>	<p>20 schools will participate in the Take Action environment education programme, within budget</p>
<p>20 small-to-medium-sized businesses will be given advice on how to take practical action to avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects on the environment, within a budget of \$245,000</p>	<p>20 small-to-medium-sized businesses will be provided with environmental advice, within budget</p>



Environment

Prospective funding impact statement

	2008/09 Plan \$000s	2008/09 LTCCP \$000s		2008/09 Plan \$000s	2008/09 LTCCP \$000s
FUNDING STATEMENT			OPERATING REVENUE		
General rate	9,333	9,830	Manage resources	5,888	5,689
Targeted rate	-	-	Monitor the state of the environment	3,965	4,476
Government subsidies	10	11	Environment education	1,246	1,053
Interest and dividends	20	19	Total operating revenue	11,099	11,218
Other operating revenue	1,736	1,358	OPERATING EXPENDITURE		
Operating revenue	11,099	11,218	Manage resources	6,067	5,612
Direct operating expenditure	11,006	10,827	Monitor the state of the environment	4,014	4,432
Finance costs	47	37	Environment education	1,211	1,015
Depreciation	239	195	Total operating expenditure	11,292	11,059
Operating expenditure	11,292	11,059	CAPITAL EXPENDITURE		
Operating surplus/(deficit)	(193)	159	Environment monitoring equipment	270	287
Less:			Capital project expenditure	270	287
Capital expenditure	590	627	Land and buildings	-	-
Proceeds from asset sales	(90)	(110)	Plant and equipment	70	74
Loan funding	(269)	(287)	Vehicles	250	266
Rates-funded capital expenditure	231	230	Total capital expenditure	590	627
Debt repayment	90	105			
Investment additions	-	-			
Operational reserve movements	(275)	19			
Working capital movements	-	-			
Non-cash items ⁽¹⁾	(239)	(195)			
Net funding required	-	-			

⁽¹⁾ Non-cash items includes depreciation