

# *Environmental Sustainability*

**Te Pūtaiao**



*Resource Management - Consents,  
Resource Management - Policy*

## WHAT THIS GROUP OF ACTIVITIES INCLUDES

Within this group the Council develops Planning Policy and implements it primarily through the administration of the District Plan. This activity processes resource consent applications to use, develop and subdivide land and monitors compliance with the conditions of consent. The Council also develops and monitors the District Plan, associated strategies and policy, as well as assessing the state of the environment.

## GROUP OF ACTIVITY COST OF SERVICE

The table below provides an overview of what this Group of Activities cost and how it was funded. Costs for specific activities can be found on the following pages.

Annual Plan 2010/11 \$000		LTCCP 2011/12 \$000	Annual Plan 2011/12 \$000	Variance 2011/12 \$000
<b>OPERATIONAL</b>				
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
0	Depreciation	0	0	0
53	Interest Paid	64	89	25
2,218	Operations	2,443	2,212	(231)
<b>2,271</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>2,507</b>	<b>2,301</b>	<b>(206)</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>				
0	Development Contributions	0	0	0
699	User Fees & Charges	1,072	422	650
747	General Rates	677	1,188	(511)
0	Interest Income	0	0	0
153	Sundry Income	109	130	(21)
0	Subsidies & Grants	0	0	0
0	Targeted Rates	0	0	0
<b>1,599</b>	<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>1,858</b>	<b>1,740</b>	<b>118</b>
<b>671</b>	<b>Net Cost (Surplus) of Operations</b>	<b>649</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>(87)</b>
<b>NON OPERATIONAL</b>				
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
671	Transfer from (surplus)/deficit	649	562	(87)
0	Capex *	0	0	0
9	Loan Repayments	801	90	(711)
0	Payments to Reserves	0	0	0
0	less Depreciation not Funded	0	0	0
<b>680</b>	<b>Total Funding Requirement</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>(798)</b>
<b>FUNDED BY</b>				
0	Depreciation Reserve	0	0	0
0	Development Contribution Reserve	0	0	0
680	Loans Raised	635	652	(17)
0	Operational Reserve	815	0	815
0	Sale of Assets	0	0	0
<b>680</b>	<b>Total Funding Applied</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>798</b>

# RESOURCE MANAGEMENT - CONSENTS

## WHAT WE DO AND WHY WE DO IT

The Council has a statutory obligation to administer the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). The RMA requires all councils to be responsible for the provisions of the Act relating to the subdivision, use and development of land. In order to meet its obligations under the RMA, the Council processes and determines resource consent applications to use, develop and subdivide land and then monitors compliance with the conditions of consent to ensure negative effects on the environment are avoided, remedied or mitigated.

## WHICH COMMUNITY OUTCOMES DOES THIS CONTRIBUTE TO



## WHAT WE ARE GOING TO DO

In the 2011/12 year the Council will continue to provide resource consent services in accordance with obligations under the RMA.

These obligations may be subject to change over the course of the year with the RMA currently under review. The Council will continue to monitor the review and respond to any legislative changes as and when necessary.

## WHAT WILL THIS ACTIVITY COST

	Annual Plan 2011/12 \$000
Expenditure	1,104
Revenue	1,104
<b>Net Cost (Surplus) of Operations</b>	<b>0</b>
Capital Expenditure	0

## WHAT ARE THE KEY DIFFERENCES FROM THE LTCCP

- Direct costs have reduced by \$87,000 in the 2011/12 year as a result of staff leaving without replacement due to reduced numbers of resource consent applications being received. This is the result of the economic recession and changes to the District Plan.
- There are a number of costs within this activity that are of public rather than private benefit. These cost items include objections and appeals, customer service, complaints monitoring, project costs and government initiatives (such as amendments to legislation). The Council has increased the proportion to a 50:50 split of these costs that is funded through general rates rather than user fees and charges.
- Expected income from user fees and charges is budgeted to decrease by \$280,000 to more accurately reflect the public benefit activities undertaken.

## WHAT ARE OUR PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR THE YEAR

**Resource Management Act (RMA) administrative services are provided to facilitate environmentally sustainable development within the Whakatane District.**

- » Satisfaction with Council's resource consent process scores 62 or higher (Fair: Needs improvement) in Council's Perception Survey.
- » 11.4 working days is the average time for processing resource consents.
- » 20 working days is the average time for processing subdivision consents.

## RESOURCE MANAGEMENT - POLICY

### WHAT WE DO AND WHY WE DO IT

The RMA requires the Council to have a District Plan setting out objectives, policies and rules with regard to the subdivision, use and development of land.

This activity involves preparing the plans and policies that implement the RMA, such as the District Plan, while also providing input to regional and national resource management frameworks. In addition there is a need to ensure that resource management planning processes are firmly supported by long term objectives and direction.

### WHICH COMMUNITY OUTCOMES DOES THIS CONTRIBUTE TO



### WHAT WE ARE GOING TO DO

**Whakatane District Plan Review:** In July 2009 the Council commenced a three year project to review the Whakatane District Plan at a total expected cost of \$1.87m. The 2011/12 year forms the third year of the project. The costs associated with this project in 2011/12 are needed to finalise the proposed District Plan.

Some of the key issues considered through the District Plan Review process include the provisions relating to indigenous biodiversity, rural subdivision and urban growth.

The Council will also be supporting the Rangitaiki River Forum by providing technical assistance.

### WHAT WILL THIS ACTIVITY COST

	Annual Plan 2011/12 \$000
Expenditure	1,198
Revenue	636
<b>Net Cost (Surplus) of Operations</b>	<b>562</b>
Capital Expenditure	0

### WHAT ARE THE KEY DIFFERENCES FROM THE LTCCP

- The District Plan review project is in its third year of a three year project. Direct costs have increased for the 2011/12 year mainly because of these reasons:
  - The Council has included provision for some expert advice when submissions are received.
  - The Council has included provision to support the Rangitaiki River Forum in the amount of \$10,000. The forum is a Joint Committee of the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, the Whakatane District Council and Iwi representation from Ngāti Manawa, Ngāti Whare, Tuwharetoa Bay of Plenty Settlement Trust and Ngāti Awa. The forum will be formed following the enactment of the recent Ngāti Manawa and Ngāti Whare Claims Settlement Bill.
  - Additional provision has been made for a Māori Policy Analyst to support this activity. This cost is shared with the Strategy and Policy activity.
- Debt servicing costs have increased as it was anticipated that the District Plan review debt was to be retired with the proceeds of the sale of Pensioner Housing.

### WHAT ARE OUR PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR THE YEAR

The Whakatane District Plan is made operative.

- » Second generation Whakatane District Plan notified