

8.5 DEMOCRACY

TAA TE NUINGA I WHAKATAU AI

A young girl with brown hair tied back, wearing a white t-shirt with a colorful floral pattern, is sitting at a desk in a classroom. She has her right hand raised, holding a black pen. The background is blurred, showing other students and a teacher. The text 'speak up' is overlaid in white, lowercase letters, with 'speak' on the top line and 'up' on the bottom line.

speak
up

■ 8.5 DEMOCRACY

The participation of citizens in decision-making processes at community, local government and national levels is a critical component of democracy. It is important that citizens exercise their right to elect representatives and that their concerns and opinions are heard. Enabling democratic local decision-making is one of the key purposes of local government and is also important in promoting the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of the community.

The Mayor of Hamilton and the City Councillors have been elected by the community and given responsibility for the overall governance of the city. This includes setting Hamilton's long-term direction and ensuring that Council acts in the best interests of Hamilton residents.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi/The Treaty of Waitangi underpins relationships between tangata whenua¹ and central and local government. This relationship is of great importance to effective governance and the enactment of democracy in Aotearoa/New Zealand. Council is committed to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi/The Treaty of Waitangi and its partnership relationship with Maaori. Council also recognises the importance of Kingitanga² in the Waikato.

With Hamilton's population becoming increasingly diverse and the city embracing people from different ethnic groups and cultural backgrounds, it is even more important that residents are provided with a range of different ways to participate in local decision-making and that they are encouraged to have an active role in the city's development.

1 Tangata whenua: Indigenous people of the land.
2 Kingitanga: The Maaori King movement.

Council's Democracy Activity Group includes the following activities:

Partnership with Maaori

Council maintains a relationship with the Waikato Raupatu Trustee Company (Tainui) as the iwi authority representing the views of Waikato-Tainui across the Waikato and King Country region. Council recognises Tainui's guardianship role over the Waikato River and acknowledges Tainui as a significant player in the future development of the city. The Guardian Establishment Committee has created a vision for the Waikato River, which is shared by Hamilton City Council. The vision is for a future where a healthy Waikato River sustains abundant life and prosperous communities who, in turn, are all responsible for restoring and protecting the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River. Council is continuing to work with Waikato-Tainui to consider ways in which together we can realise this vision.

Council also has partnerships and service contracts with Ngaa Mana Toopu o Kirikiriroa (NaMTOK) and Te Runanga o Kirikiriroa (TeROK), who assist Council in ensuring Hamilton is a city where people from different cultures work together and respect each other's views, heritages, culture and strengths. These partnerships and agreements ensure mana whenua³ perspectives and maataa waka⁴ (urban Maaori/Pacific) views are represented in decisions about the city; its community capacity and natural and physical resources.

Council currently recognises NaMTOK as the representative of iwi and hapuu (mana whenua) for the Kirikiriroa/Hamilton area. NaMTOK works with Council on natural and physical resource management issues under the Resource Management Act 1991 and contributes significantly to resource consent and planning processes.

Council's service partnership with TeROK embodies a commitment by both parties to work towards a stronger community for all people. TeROK provide services, support, advice and technical expertise to assist Council to better meet the needs of the Maaori community in Hamilton. TeROK also administer Council's Maaori and Pacific Project Fund, which is used to support community initiatives that specifically seek to improve the social well-being in Maaori and Pacific Island communities in line with the Hamilton Social Well-being Strategy.

3 Mana whenua: Maaori who are tied to the area/land by whakapapa (genealogy) whose ancestors have lived and died there. As a result they are kaitiaki (guardians) of that area of land.
4 Maataa waka: Maaori of different tribal affiliations who are living within the area/land of the mana whenua group, i.e. Maaori living outside their own tribal boundaries.

Representation and Civic Affairs

Representation and Civic Affairs ensures that the people of Hamilton are provided with opportunities to be involved in democratic and decision-making processes. This activity provides for the costs of elected members' remuneration, meetings, public consultation and communication and civic functions. Funding provision is also made for conducting elections and maintaining the electoral roll.

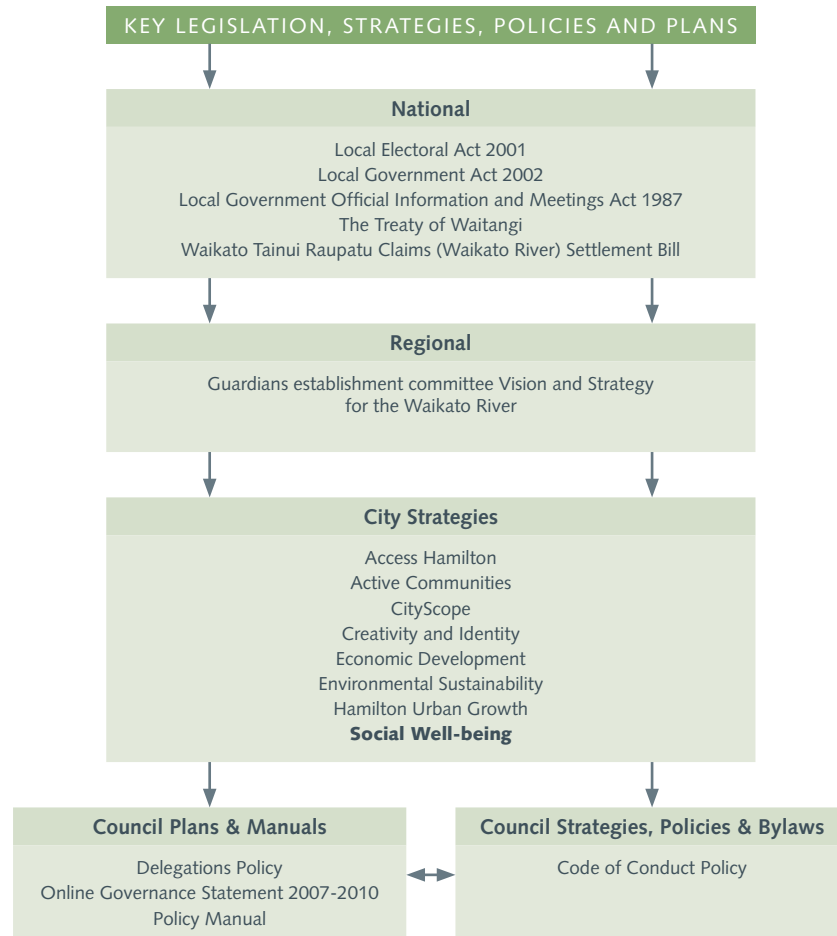
Hamilton's Council of Elders and Youth Council are both key representative partners. The Council of Elders act as an advisory/kaumatua to Hamilton City Council. Comprising 15 people aged over 60, they are elected by Hamilton residents and are a voice for both young and old on current issues and future objectives. Their aim is to help shape positive outcomes for the city.

The Youth Council is made up of 15 young people aged between 15 and 25 years of age. Their role is to be the link between youth and Council to ensure the youth voice is heard. Their focus is promoting and representing Hamilton youth in a positive way to make Hamilton more youth friendly.

“residents are encouraged to have an active role in the city's development”

■ POLICY AND PLANNING CONTEXT

Council's planning and operating environments are shaped by a wider context of national, regional and city wide priorities and objectives. This diagram identifies the key legislation, strategies, policies and plans that link to and provide direction for the Democracy Activities.



■ REASON FOR PROVIDING THIS ACTIVITY GROUP

The Local Government Act (LGA) 2002 states that the purpose of local government is to enable democratic decision-making and action by, and on behalf of communities and to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of communities, in the present and for the future. In providing this activity group, Council ensures that Hamilton residents are able to be involved in transparent and democratic decision-making processes and can express their views on matters that will affect them.

Council has an important role in supporting its local communities, including working to improve the opportunities for Maaori to contribute to and play an active role in the city's development. The LGA 2002 reinforces the importance of continuing to foster such relationships, the necessity of good communication and the importance of Maaori heritage and values in the development of the country. The LGA 2002 acknowledges Te Tiriti o Waitangi/The Treaty of Waitangi as the foundation of relationships between government and tangata whenua. The

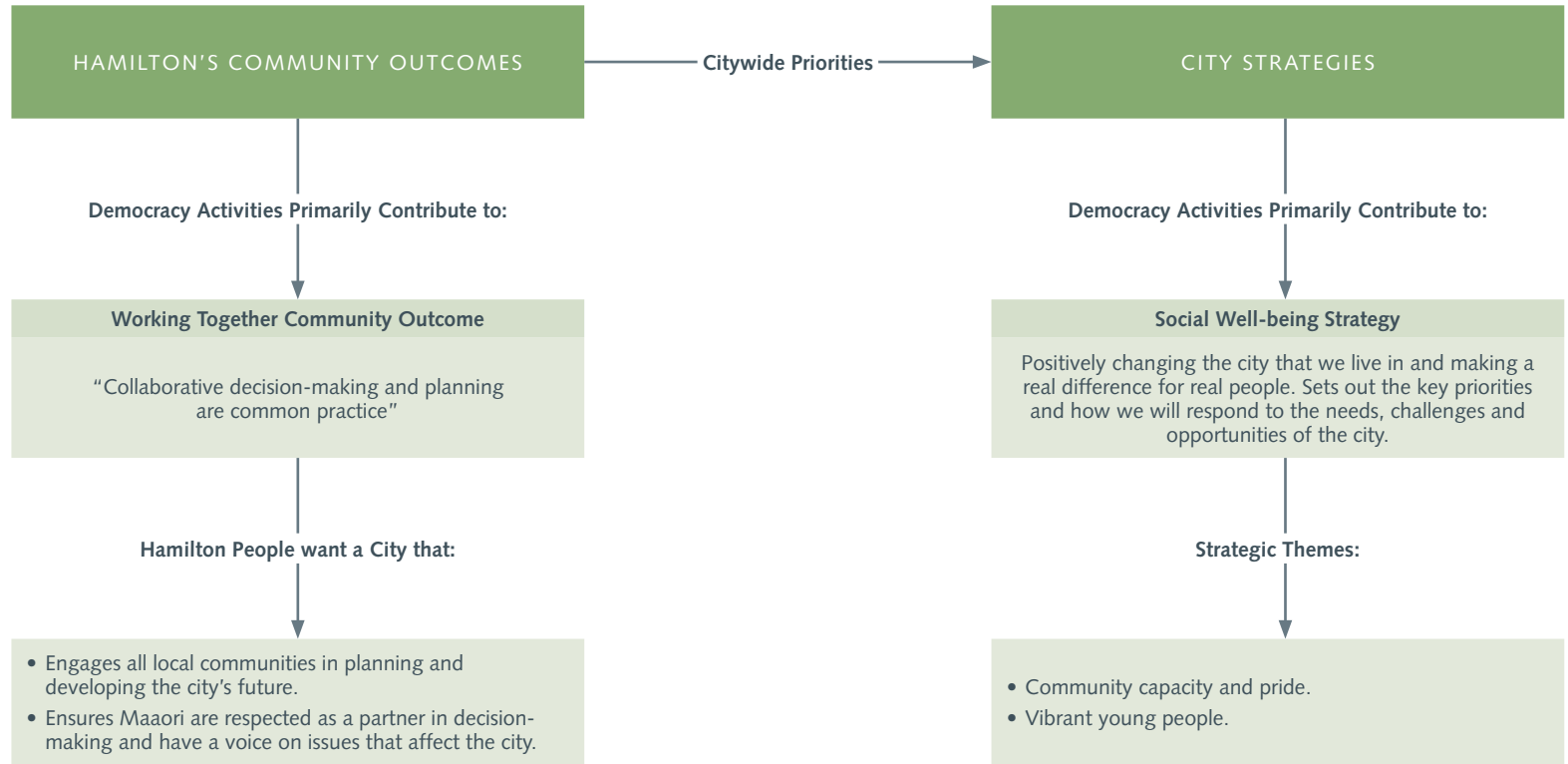
Resource Management Act 1991 also protects Maaori interests in natural and physical resources and Council consults specifically with Maaori to ensure their views are incorporated in order to protect these resources.

Council recognises that Maaori constitute a significant part of the community within Hamilton and seeks to uphold the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi/The Treaty of Waitangi. Council is of the view that its partnerships with Maaori organisations add value to the quality of life of all residents in the city. It is expected that the relationships Council has with Maaori representative groups will evolve over time. Council is constantly exploring how those relationships can be improved through discussion with our partner organisations.

This Activity Group primarily contributes to the 'Working Together' Community Outcome, which identifies the value of collaborative decision-making and planning. The Activities also support principles and goals of the Social Well-being Strategy.

“Council is committed to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi/The Treaty of Waitangi and its partnership relationship with Maaori”

■ CONTRIBUTION TO HAMILTON'S COMMUNITY OUTCOMES AND THE CITY STRATEGIES



HOW THE DEMOCRACY ACTIVITIES CONTRIBUTE TO HAMILTON'S COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

The Democracy Activities work to ensure the city is represented through Council's decisions, by providing opportunities for residents to be involved in local decision-making processes.

All local communities have the opportunity to express their views on Council decision-making through the variety of consultation processes used.

Council ensures that Maaori are respected as a partner in decision-making and that their views are sought in relation to all major Council decisions to ensure Maaori have a voice on issues that affect the city.

Council works towards increasing awareness of democratic processes in order to encourage the community to participate in decision-making. A range of different techniques are used to communicate Council's ideas and plans to those affected, including city expo's, open days, information leaflets and website information.

Council encourages a range of different groups to get involved including young people through the schools voting programme.

All Council processes are transparent and culturally appropriate.

“providing opportunities for residents to be involved”

MEASURING PROGRESS TOWARDS HAMILTON'S COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

Progress towards Hamilton's Community Outcomes is monitored through a selection of indicators. Indicators provide ways in which we can measure, directly or indirectly, changes to social, environmental, economic and cultural well-being over time. They provide a picture of what is going on around us that we can use to guide our future planning. Indicators can assist in identifying areas where progress is being made towards the Community Outcomes and alert us to areas that require action.

Council is one of numerous organisations whose actions and direction assist in progressing the outcomes and overall community well-being. The following Community Outcomes Progress Indicators (drawn from the full outcome set – refer Section 3.4) will assist in demonstrating the effect that the Democracy Activity Group has on progressing Hamilton's Community Outcomes. The monitoring undertaken for these indicators will be reported each year in Council's Annual Report.

Key:

- M = Moderate Contribution
- S = Significant Contribution
- O = Council is the only Provider

Community Outcomes Progress Indicators:

- O Community satisfaction with Council's provisions of opportunity for community involvement in decision-making.
- S Residents' rating of the extent of public influence on Council decision-making.
- O Residents' rating of agreement that decisions made by their council are in the best interest of the city.
- M Percentage of voter turnout at general/local authority elections.
- O Maaori residents' satisfaction with Council's provision of opportunity for community involvement in decision-making.
- S Maaori residents' rating of the extent of public influence on Council decision-making.
- O Maaori residents' rating of agreement that decisions made by Council are in the best interest of the city.
- O Number of organisations working collaboratively on Council-led city wide strategies.

■ MEASURING SERVICE DELIVERY PERFORMANCE

This section includes the intended levels of service for the Democracy Activity Group and the performance measures and targets that Council will use to monitor service delivery performance. The levels of service, performance measures and targets represent Council's service commitments to the community and outline what the community can expect to receive from this Activity Group over the 10 year period of the LTCCP.

The levels of service focus on the key service delivery attributes of this Activity Group. They draw on a number of factors including the aspirations and goals of Hamilton's Community Outcomes and the City Strategies, legislative requirements and national objectives, national and industry standards and community expectations.

This Activity Group primarily contributes to the 'Working Together' Community Outcome. The levels of service that specifically contribute towards progressing the goals of these outcomes are identified by the following key.

Working Together Community Outcome	
"Collaborative decision-making and planning are common place"	
1	Engages all local communities in planning and developing the city's future.
2	Ensures Maaori are respected as a partner in decision-making and have a voice on issues that affect the city.

Performance information is provided in detail for the first three years of the LTCCP and in outline for the remaining seven, through a projected target for year 10 (2018/19). Unless otherwise stated, all performance measures will be completed on or before 30 June for each financial year.

A number of performance measures and targets are from Council's Residents Survey and Customer Surveys. The Introduction to the Activity Groups (Section 8.1) provides information on these surveys, including explanations of the performance scores and categories.

KEY SERVICE ATTRIBUTES	LEVELS OF SERVICE	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	TARGETS					ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
			BASELINE	YEAR 1 2009/10	YEAR 2 2010/11	YEAR 3 2011/12	PROJECTED YEAR 10 2018/19	
Quality	Robust and transparent decision-making processes are used. 1 2	Residents' satisfaction with processes used for Council decision-making.	2007/08 result: Fair: needs improvement (score of 67.2)	68 – 72	68 – 72	68 – 72	68 – 72	Measured through Council's Residents Survey. A score of 68-72 indicates Good Performance for a 'no customer choice' service. The results for this measure fluctuate and can be influenced by factors outside Council's control.
	Legislative requirements are met.	Legislative requirements for the LTCCP, Annual Plan and Annual Report are met and Council receives unqualified audits.	2007/08 result: Unqualified audits received.	Unqualified audits received.	Unqualified audits received.	Unqualified audits received.	Unqualified audits received.	An unqualified audit means that audit requirements have been met. Note: audit requirements do not relate to all legislation governing Council's business.
		Council committee and subcommittee meetings are held in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.	2007/08 result: No successful challenges on committee and subcommittee meeting records.	No successful challenges.	No successful challenges.	No successful challenges.	No successful challenges.	All meeting minutes are confirmed by Council and signed by the Chairperson of the committee.

KEY SERVICE ATTRIBUTES	LEVELS OF SERVICE	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	TARGETS					ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
			BASELINE	YEAR 1 2009/10	YEAR 2 2010/11	YEAR 3 2011/12	PROJECTED YEAR 10 2018/19	
Accessibility	Opportunities are provided for community involvement in Council decision-making. 1 2	Residents' satisfaction with opportunities Council provides for community involvement in decision-making.	2007/08 result: Fair: needs improvement (score of 65.4).	62 – 67	62 – 67	62 – 67	62 – 67	Measured through Council's Residents Survey. A score of 62-67 indicates Fair: Needs Improvement for a 'no customer choice' service. The results for this measure fluctuate and can be influenced by factors outside Council's control.
		Advice is sought from tangata whenua on all notified resource consent applications.	2007/08 result: Advice received and incorporated into 100% of notified resource consent applications.	100%	100%	100%	100%	
		Representation of Maaori organisations on City Strategy leadership forums.	No baseline, new measure.	Minimum of 1 Maaori organisation represented on each leadership forum.	Minimum of 1 Maaori organisation represented on each leadership forum.	Minimum of 1 Maaori organisation represented on each leadership forum.	Minimum of 1 Maaori organisation represented on each leadership forum.	
	Access to funding is provided through the Maaori/Pacific Projects Fund. 2	Percentage of projects allocated Maaori/Pacific project funding that align with the principles and objectives of the Social Well-being Strategy.	No baseline, new measure.	100%	100%	100%	100%	

KEY SERVICE ATTRIBUTES	LEVELS OF SERVICE	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	TARGETS					ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
			BASELINE	YEAR 1 2009/10	YEAR 2 2010/11	YEAR 3 2011/12	PROJECTED YEAR 10 2018/19	
Responsiveness/Reliability	Official information requests are responded to in a timely manner with accurate information.	All Official Information requests are responded to within the statutory timeframe (20 working days).	2007/08 result: 100% of requests responded to within 20 working days.	All requests responded to within 20 working days.	All requests responded to within 20 working days.	All requests responded to within 20 working days.	All requests responded to within 20 working days.	
		No complaints are upheld that are received under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.	2007/08 result: No complaints upheld.	No complaints upheld.	No complaints upheld.	No complaints upheld.	No complaints upheld.	
	The community are informed about triennial election results in a timely manner. ①	Timeframes for confirmation of triennial election results.	October 2007 Elections: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Preliminary results declared on polling night (13 October 2007).Final results (including special votes) declared one week later (20 October 2007)		Preliminary results declared on polling night.			

■ SIGNIFICANT NEGATIVE EFFECTS

Effects on the current and future well-being of the community are an important consideration for Council when planning and carrying out its activities. As well as having positive effects, some activities can have either existing or potential negative effects on social, economic, environmental or cultural well-being that need to be managed or mitigated.

Negative effects often occur when there are competing priorities or objective and high demand for resources. For example, construction of new roads provide for growth in the city, but will inevitably have environmental consequences. Council aims to find a balance that is acceptable to the community and provides for the well-being of current and future generations and the city's ongoing sustainable development.

The following table identifies the *significant* existing or potential negative effects for the Democracy Activities. The significance of an effect is determined through its likely impact on and consequences for:

- a) The current and future social, economic, environmental, or cultural well-being of the city.
- b) The extent to which communities are likely to be affected
- c) The capacity of Council to perform its role, including financial and other costs.

SIGNIFICANT NEGATIVE EFFECTS		HOW COUNCIL MITIGATES OR MANAGES THE EFFECTS
Potential Effect on Well-being	Decisions made through the democratic process have the potential to impact negatively across all four well-beings.	In addition to using formal and informal consultation, Council relies on a range of information and inputs to inform decision-making. The Local Government Act 2002 guides Council on how to conduct consultation in an open and transparent manner. Council's Consultation Policy also outlines processes that ensure that consultation with the community is meaningful, transparent, fair and honest. Council seeks to make sound, balanced decisions that maximise the community's well-being and minimise negative effects.

■ CURRENT AND FUTURE ASSET CAPACITY

There are no significant assets associated with this Activity Group.

■ COST OF SERVICE FOR THE YEARS ENDED 30 JUNE 2010 – 2019

The following table identifies the forecast expenditure and the revenue sources associated with providing the Democracy Activities for the 10 year period of the LTCCP.

The table also includes:

- 1 Capital expenditure by type i.e. growth, renewal and increased level of service.
- 2 Funding source (i.e. loans, subsidies, reserves or rates) for significant assets associated with the Democracy Activities.

FORECAST COST OF SERVICE FOR THE TEN YEARS ENDING 30 JUNE 2010 – 2019

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
GROUP OF ACTIVITY – OPERATING STATEMENT										
OPERATING REVENUE										
Activity revenue – User charges and fees	34	229	34	36	248	38	39	269	41	43
General rates	4,806	5,519	5,488	5,759	6,138	6,047	6,480	6,857	6,928	7,246
Other general sources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total operating revenue	4,840	5,748	5,522	5,795	6,386	6,085	6,519	7,126	6,969	7,289
OPERATING EXPENDITURE										
Representation and Civic Affairs	4,984	5,486	5,268	5,411	5,929	5,667	5,767	6,373	6,129	6,284
Partnership with Maaori	265	265	265	265	265	265	265	265	265	265
Total operating expenditure	5,249	5,751	5,533	5,676	6,194	5,932	6,032	6,638	6,394	6,549
Operating surplus/(deficit)	(409)	(3)	(11)	119	192	153	487	488	575	740

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
GROUP OF ACTIVITY – CAPITAL AND RESERVES FUNDING STATEMENT										
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE										
Growth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Increased level of service	168	181	177	153	80	37	134	28	15	24
Renewal	242	224	212	211	243	229	296	296	285	298
Total capital expenditure	410	405	389	364	323	266	430	324	300	322
Loan repayments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers to reserves	74	80	77	156	187	204	239	275	357	423
Operating deficit	409	3	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total funding required	893	488	477	520	510	470	669	599	657	745
Funded by:										
Operating surplus	0	0	0	119	192	153	487	488	575	740
Funding from non-cash expenses	8	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Loans raised	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers from reserves	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Total funding applied	10	13	2	121	194	155	489	490	577	742
Funding surplus/(deficit)	(883)	(475)	(475)	(399)	(316)	(315)	(180)	(109)	(80)	(3)

Group of activity expenditure is not fully funded. See section 2.2 of the Revenue and Financing Policy in Volume Two of this LTCCP for an explanation of the funding shortfall. 'General rates' funding above includes rates from all sources excluding Access Hamilton and water rates which are shown separately where applicable.

