

Annual Report

2023-24

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Year three of the 2021-31 Long-Term Plan



**SOUTH WAIRARAPA
DISTRICT COUNCIL**
Kia Reretahi Tātau

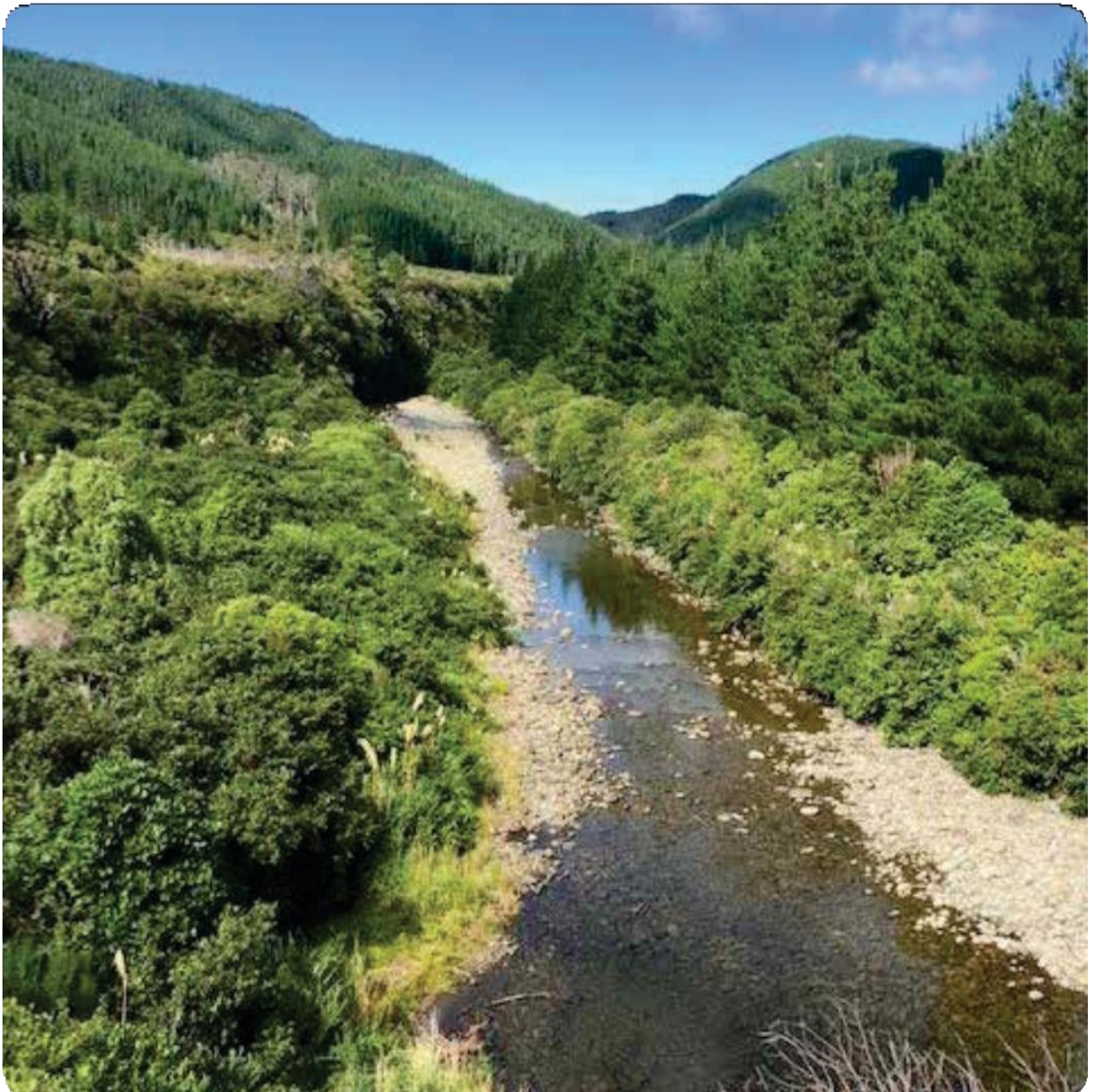
Whakatauki

Mei te tatū o ngā whakaaro ki ngā āhuatanga o te hinengaro, Mei te ngāwari ake o te ahunga ki nāianeī,

Kua tū nei te tūranga ki runga i ngā pakahiwi o te nehenehe.

If I am confident with where we'll be in the future, Composed with how we are at present

It is merely because I am standing on the shoulders of the past.



Contents Ngā Rārangi Take

Purpose of this Annual Report	4
Structure of this Annual Report	4
Directory Te Pukapuka Taki	6
Office locations	7
Business Partners	7
A message from the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer	8
Statement of Compliance and Responsibility	13
Independent Auditor's Report	14
Financial Statements	20
Notes to the Financial Statements	25
Other Legislative Disclosures	53
Financial Prudence Benchmarks	57
Governance	65
Finance and Corporate Support	75
Planning and Regulatory Services	79
Community Facilities and Services	85
Land Transport (roading and footpaths)	94
Water Supply	103
Wastewater	112
Stormwater drainage	120
Notes to Service Performance Reporting	123

Purpose of this Annual Report

The purpose of this Annual Report is to compare our actual performance for the year from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2023 against what was forecast in year three of the 2021–2031 Long-Term Plan.

An Annual Report is required by section 98(1) of the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act).

Structure of this Annual Report

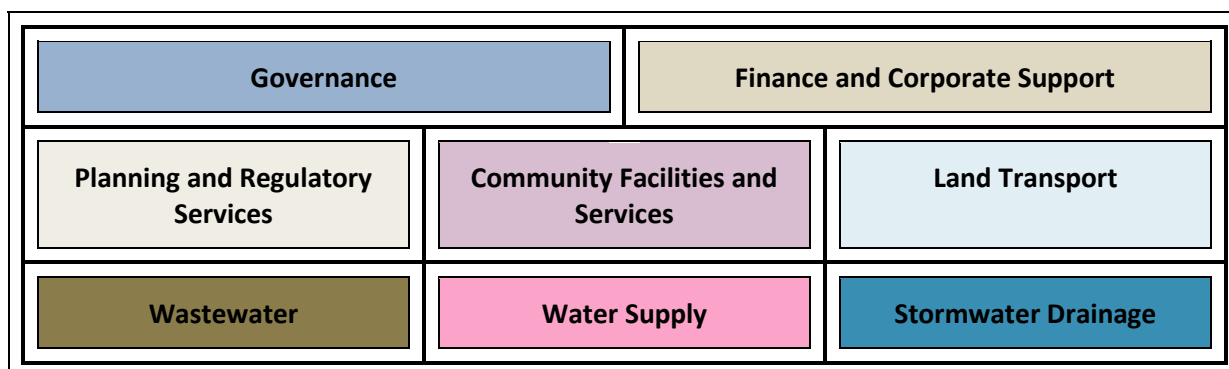
This report is in three key sections.

1. An introduction that includes the Council Directory of our representatives and wards, and a message from the Mayor and Chief Executive.
2. Financial Statements where we detail the Council’s financial performance against the 2023-24 budget outlined in year three of the 2021–31 Long Term Plan
3. Council’s Significant Activities, which show the work done and money spent on each Significant Activity, and reports on our performance against the targets set in the Long-Term Plan.

Each significant activity is comprised of a number of sub-activities. The scope and cost of providing each significant activity was determined in the agreed levels of service in the 2021–31 Long-Term Plan. In several cases, the minimum levels of service relate to statutory and regulatory compliance requirements.

The community outcomes define the future shape and form of social, cultural, economic and environmental wellbeing for the District. Council, along with other key stakeholders, has a role in promoting the sustainable wellbeing of the community.

Council implements its strategic direction – and achieves its vision for the community – through the delivery of services.



INTRODUCTION

He Whakatakinga



Directory | Te Pukapuka Taki

Our representatives and wards

South Wairarapa District Council is made up of the Mayor and nine Councillors, with three representing each of the Featherston, Greytown and Martinborough Wards. Despite being elected by their Wards, Councillors must remain focused on the interests of the entire District.

In addition, the three Community Boards represent and advocate for the interests of each Ward.

His Worship, The Mayor

Martin Connelly

Councillors

Featherston Ward

Cr Melissa Sadler-Futter (Deputy Mayor)

Cr Rebecca Gray

Cr Colin Olds

Greytown Ward

Cr Martin Bosley

Cr Alistair Plimmer

Cr Aaron Woodcock

Martinborough Ward

Cr Aidan Ellims

Cr Pip Maynard

Cr Kaye McAulay

Community Board Members

Featherston Ward

Tui Rutherford (Chair)

John Dennison (Deputy Chair)

Warren Maxwell

Annelise Schroeder

Cr Rebecca Gray

Cr Melissa Sadler-Futter

Greytown Ward

Louise Brown (Chair)

Warren Woodgyer (Deputy Chair)

Jo Woodcock

Neil Morison

Cr Aaron Woodcock

Cr Martin Bosley

Martinborough Ward

Storm Robertson (Chair)

Angela Brown (Deputy Chair)

Mel Maynard

Karen Krogh

Cr Aidan Ellims

Cr Pip Maynard

Senior Staff

Chief Executive Officer

Interim Chief Executive Officer

Group Manager Corporate Services

Group Manager Infrastructure & Community Operations

Group Manager Planning and Environment

Janice Smith *from Nov 2023*

Paul Gardner *to Nov 2023*

Paul Gardner

Stefan Corbett

Russell O'Leary

Office locations

Martinborough

19 Kitchener Street
PO Box 6, Martinborough
www.swdc.govt.nz
06 306 9611
enquiries@swdc.govt.nz

Featherston Service Centre

The Library
Fitzherbert Street, Featherston
06 308 9030
featherston@swdc.govt.nz

Greytown Service Centre

Greytown Town Hall
Main Street, Greytown
06 304 9061
greytown@swdc.govt.nz

Business Partners

Auditors

Karen Young
On behalf of the Auditor-General

Insurance Brokers

Marsh Limited
Matthew Meacham

Bankers

Bank of New Zealand

Solicitors

Gawith Burrige Masterton
Adam Parker – Partner

Key Lender

Local Government Funding Agency



A message from the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer

**Kia Reretahi Tātou
Ko te kōtuitui i ētahi āhuatanga e rua,
nui ake rānei,
kia ngātahi ai te mahi**

**It is the interlinking
of two or more things
to work together**

Annual Report 2023-24

From the Mayor and Chief Executive's offices

Mayor Martin Connelly and Chief Executive Officer Janice Smith

Nau mai, haere mai

Welcome

This year's Annual Report sets out the performance of your council for the 2023-24 year. It compares our actual performance and spending with what we planned to do. This report forms a key part of our accountability to you, the residents, of South Wairarapa.

This year was made easier due to the absence of cyclones and other disasters that caused a perfect storm for many in the community over the previous two years and prevented us from achieving goals for roading and water.

As a result of the better weather, this year we have made improvements to our water network and to our roads. There were no major interruptions to water supplies, and we continue to work on our water treatment plants to ensure compliance with the regulations.

We carried out planned erosion prevention work on coastal roads. We were also extremely grateful to have reopened Hinekura Road, a significant goal for the community there, who were cut off following a landslide in 2022, which destroyed a portion of their road and their connectivity. Easy travel has been reestablished for Hinekura residents travelling to Martinborough.

While water infrastructure and roads are key aspects of our work, councils are also required to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of their communities. In the past year we added a new recreation trail along Underhill Road in Featherston, which is being enjoyed by runners, walkers, and cyclists. We also leased the land used by the Greytown Rugby Club from the Greytown Lands Trust, thus securing the use of that land for the community for the next 99 years.

Economic activity in tough times

We know that the 2023-24 year has been a difficult one economically for many. We are very aware of the need to promote economic activity in our district and the wider region through our investment and participation in: Destination Wairarapa; the Wairarapa Economic Development Strategy; Wairarapa Skills Leadership Group; and Business Wairarapa (the regional Chamber of Commerce).

Mayors' Taskforce for Jobs

As economic times have got tougher, so too has life become more difficult for young people and others looking for work. In 2023-24 the Mayors' Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ) secured sustainable outcomes in work; which means 30 hours or more for 91 days or more.

- People in sustainable employment 62
- A further 28 were placed in employment
- These figures apply across the entire Wairarapa region

Volunteers officially recognised

We are a big district with a small population and this year we paid tribute to the volunteers who help to our district work. The invaluable role they play is much appreciated and often goes unacknowledged. We said a warm thank you to volunteers in our district over morning tea at the Waihinga Centre in Martinborough this year. Nearly 100 people came and each received a certificate from the council for their hard work, their smiling faces, their time and resources, all of which so often fly under the radar.

Significant achievements in 2023-24

- Hinekura Road was reopened
- Lake Ferry and Pirinoa wastewater treatment plants were improved
- A Māori Ward was established
- A new recreation trail on Underhill Road was completed
- Social housing units in Featherston, Greytown and Martinborough were upgraded
- A new Waste Management Minimisation Plan adopted in February 2024
- We won the Waka Kotahi SuperIdea Award at the 2023 LGNZ Conference – for the sustainable Dog Pound in Featherston
- Greytown Rugby Grounds secured for 99 years for sports use
- More work completed on the Ecoreef to prevent coastal erosion on Cape Palliser Road
- Donald Street Pump Station in Featherston - wastewater pipes completely upgraded
- We appointed a new Chief Executive Officer
- Lighting in the Martinborough Square was repaired upgraded
- Our offices opened for longer to make it easier for the community to use council services
- 173 out of 198 recorded Official Requests of Information (LGOIMAs) were completed within the statutory timeframe. The volume of requests increased from a recorded 124 requests the previous year.
- We thanked our local volunteers as part of Volunteer Month; and
- A Community Wellbeing Fund was formed of \$500,000

We recognise Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Councils are required to provide opportunities for Māori to contribute to the decision making processes of the local authority. After much deliberation, the council agreed to establish a Māori Ward as one way to fulfil this requirement.

The Council continues to engage positively with Mana Whenua. We play an active role on the Moana Statutory Board which is tasked with governing the Wairarapa Moana Wetlands and surrounding reserves.

Another aspect of our work has been to identify and protect all areas of historic and cultural significance to Māori, as part of the update of the Combined Wairarapa District Plan.

Climate change work

Climate change continues to be an ongoing concern. The South Wairarapa is represented through the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee on climate change projects, which includes the Regional Emissions Reduction Plan. In February, we adopted a new Waste Minimisation Plan, along with the other regional councils. This six year plan encourages less waste across the entire Greater Wellington Region. Two important aspects of this plan include finding better ways to manage waste from construction and building sites and providing organic waste processing by 2029.

Business as usual

We have brought greater resilience to our infrastructure during 2023-24. A significant part of this is the water upgrade work at the Donald Street Pump Station in Featherston, which was completed in September 2023. This includes pipework (known as a rising main) and an underground storage tank, which significantly increases the amount of wastewater (sewage) transported to the treatment facilities. Significant improvements have been noticed with no overflows since the installation.

Water

We are working towards desludging both the Martinborough and Greytown wastewater treatment plants. This work will take place in two parts. Firstly, the construction of the laydown areas, which is currently planned to be done before the end of 2024. Secondly, the actual desludging (removal of sludge from settling ponds), which is scheduled to begin from early 2025, firstly in Martinborough followed by Greytown. We expect the work to be complete by around June 2025.

- 1,623 million litres of safe, healthy drinking water supplied to South Wairarapa residents and businesses
- 966,000,000 litres of wastewater (sewage) treated at South Wairarapa wastewater treatment plants
- 178 metres water pipes constructed

Roading

The South Wairarapa has 635km of roads. Our work over the past year included:

- Potholes filled: 414
- Roads inspected (more than once): 3171km
- Roads resealed: 13.6km (or 116211m²)
- Sealed road rehabilitation: 1.0km (or 6636m²)
- Unsealed roads graded (more than once): 1445km
- Unsealed roads maintenance metal applied: 9071m³
- Culverts inspected: 1072
- Culverts flushed: 199 metres
- Culverts replaced: 170.7 metres
- Kerb and Channel replaced: 289 metres
- Signs inspected: 1095
- New signs installed: 414
- New sign posts installed: 468
- Footpaths resurfaced: 1132 metres

Wairarapa Library Service

- New members joined 809
- Books (print items) loaned 119,274
- Digital use loaned: ebooks 15,441; audio books 13,292; emagazines issued via Libby app 11,248
- New print books purchased 6,539
- WLS members borrowed 14,944 items from SMART partners

Building work

- Building consent applications issued: 415 (average processing 14 days)
- Code compliance certificates issued: 409
- Building inspections carried out: 4118
- Swimming Pool audit inspections: 137

Funds and grants

During the 2023-24 year the Council, three Community Boards (Featherston, Greytown and Martinborough) and Māori Standing Committee gave grants to organisations in our community. Income from Pain Estate generated funds, which were given to sports in the community.

Community Boards and Māori Standing Committee

- 34 applicants received \$107,000, including, among others:
- Hau Ariki Marae received \$9000 to replace mattresses
- Featherston Football & Netball Club received \$5,000 for uniforms and equipment

Community and Youth Grant

- 22 applicants received \$120,000, including, among others:
- Cobblestone's Museum in Greytown \$10,000
- Featherston Booktown Karukatea Festival \$25,000
- Martinborough WaiWaste and Foodbox \$15,000
- Wellington Free Ambulance \$11,750

Pain Estate

Gave up to \$50,000 to the community with money generated from the estate. Funds given to:

- Martinborough Golf Club \$10,000
- Martinborough Junior Cricket Club \$8000
- Martinborough School \$1249
- Martinborough Squash Club \$5000
- Martinborough Youth Trust, \$25,000

External funding

We also gave funding to the South Wairarapa community from external sources:

- Creative Communities NZ fund gave \$28,220 to the community
- The Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund gave \$11,060 to the community

Venues

Venue use grew throughout the district in 2023-24 in Featherston, Greytown and Martinborough, all of which tracked up on the previous 12 months.

- Featherston venues (ANZAC Hall, Kiwi Hall & Card Reserve Sports Stadium) booking days 222
Up to 65% from 63%
- Greytown venues (Town Centre Forum & WBS meeting rooms) booking days 272
Up to 80% from 77%
- Martinborough venues (Waihinga Centre/Martinborough Town Hall & Supper Room) booking days 238
Up to 70% from 67%

New Chief Executive Officer Janice Smith

In November 2023, the Council welcomed its new Chief Executive, Janice Smith.

Janice came to us from the Far North with an extensive background in local government management and expertise in financial management. In a short time Janice has made her mark, particularly in four developments, which show the value she is adding to both the Council and to our district.

- After a detailed examination of our accounting practices, Janice noticed an unusual long standing practice that we have since amended, which reduced our collective rates by 10%. This means that our rates could have been 10% higher, had we continued as we had been.
- She has been instrumental in discovering some historic overcharging of residents, sometimes going back a long time. These have rapidly been corrected and compensated.
- Since she has arrived, we have seen a steady improvement in customer service. Residents' concerns are taken seriously and responded to fairly and quickly. I can cite many examples.

At the Council table, Janice provides crisp and accurate information alongside sensible options and advice on which we can base our decisions.

This year we are looking forward to putting together a Long-Term Plan that will set out a blueprint and direction for the next ten years.

We sincerely hope you will take every chance to get involved.

Ngā mihi



Martin Connelly
The Mayor



Janice Smith
Chief Executive

Statement of Compliance and Responsibility

Te Pūrongo Tūtohu me te Takohanga

Compliance

The Council and management of the South Wairarapa District Council confirm that all statutory requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 and Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014, in relation to the Annual Report have been complied with, other than those areas of non-compliance highlighted in this Annual Report.

The legislative deadline for adoption of this Annual Report by 31 October 2024 was not met.

Responsibility

The Council and management of the South Wairarapa District Council accept responsibility for the preparation of the Annual Report and judgements used in it.

They also accept responsibility for establishing and maintaining a system of internal control designed to provide reasonable assurance as to the integrity and reliability of financial and service performance reporting.

In the opinion of the Council and management of the South Wairarapa District Council, the Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2024 fairly reflect the financial position, operations, and service performance of the South Wairarapa District Council.

Martin Connelly
Mayor



Date: 20 November 2024

Janice Smith
Chief Executive



Date: 20 November 2024

Independent Auditor's Report

To the readers of South Wairarapa District Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2024

The Auditor-General is the auditor of South Wairarapa District Council (the District Council). The Auditor-General has appointed me, Karen Young, using the staff and resources of Audit New Zealand, to report on the information in the District Council's annual report that we are required to audit under the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act). We refer to this information as "the audited information" in our report.

We are also required to report on:

- whether the District Council has complied with the requirements of Schedule 10 of the Act that apply to the annual report; and
- the completeness and accuracy of the District Council's disclosures about its performance against benchmarks that are required by the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014.

We refer to this information as "the disclosure requirements" in our report.

Our audit was completed late

Our audit was completed on 20 November 2024. This is the date at which our opinion is expressed. We acknowledge that our audit was completed later than required by section 98(3) of the Local Government Act 2002. This was due to Audit New Zealand capacity issues and was not due to late delivery by South Wairarapa District Council.

Opinion on the audited information

Unmodified opinion on the audited information, excluding the statement of service provision

In our opinion:

- the financial statements on pages 20 to 52:
 - present fairly, in all material respects:
 - the District Council's financial position as at 30 June 2024;
 - the results of its operations and cash flows for the year ended on that date; and
 - comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Reporting Standards;

- the funding impact statement on page 24, presents fairly, in all material respects, the amount of funds produced from each source of funding and how the funds were applied as compared to the information included in the District Council's annual plan;
- the statement about capital expenditure for each group of activities on page 68, 77, 83, 89, 99, 108, 116 and 122 presents fairly, in all material respects, actual capital expenditure as compared to the budgeted capital expenditure included in the District Council's Long-term plan; and
- the funding impact statement for each group of activities on pages 68, 77, 83, 89, 99, 108, 116, and 122 presents fairly, in all material respects, the amount of funds produced from each source of funding and how the funds were applied as compared to the information included in the District Council's Long-term plan.

Qualified opinion on the statement of service provision

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matters described in the *Basis for our opinion on the audited information* section of our report, the statement of service provision on pages 64 to 124 (included within the 'Council's Significant Activities' section):

- presents fairly, in all material respects, the levels of service for each group of activities for the year ended 30 June 2024, including:
 - the levels of service achieved compared with the intended levels of service and whether any intended changes to levels of service were achieved;
 - the reasons for any significant variation between the levels of service achieved and the intended levels of service; and
- complies with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.

Report on the disclosure requirements

We report that the District Council has:

- complied with the requirements of Schedule 10 of the Act that apply to the annual report; and
- made the disclosures about performance against benchmarks as required by the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 on pages 57 to 59, which represent a complete list of required disclosures and accurately reflects the information drawn from the District Council's audited information and, where applicable, the District Council's long-term plan.

The basis for our opinion is explained below. In addition, we outline the responsibilities of the Council and our responsibilities relating to the audited information, we comment on other information, and we explain our independence.

Basis for our opinion on the audited information

Statement of service provision: Our work was limited in relation to the performance measure: The average quality of ride on the sealed local road network, measured by smooth travel exposure

The District Council is required to report against the performance measures set out in the Non-Financial Performance Measure Rules 2013 (the Rules) made by the Secretary for Local Government. These mandatory performance measures include the average quality of ride on the sealed local road network measured by smooth travel exposure. This performance measure is important because road smoothness is indicative of the quality of service provided to the community.

We were unable to obtain assurance over the accuracy of estimated traffic volumes used in the calculation of this performance measure. This is because these estimates are not sufficiently up to date, as described on page 96 of the annual report. The actual average quality of ride on the sealed local road network may therefore differ materially from the result reported.

As a result, our work was limited and there were no practicable audit procedures we could apply to obtain assurance over the accuracy of reported performance for this measure.

We carried out our audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. We describe our responsibilities under those standards further in the "Responsibilities of the auditor for the audited information" section of this report.

We have fulfilled our responsibilities in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on the audited information.

Responsibilities of the Council for the audited information

The Council is responsible for meeting all legal requirements that apply to its annual report.

The Council's responsibilities arise under the Local Government Act 2002 and the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014.

The Council is responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable it to prepare the information we audit that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the information we audit, the Council is responsible for assessing its ability to continue as a going concern. The Council is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless there is an intention to amalgamate or cease all of the functions of the District Council or there is no realistic alternative but to do so.

Responsibilities of the auditor for the audited information

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the audited information, as a whole, is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an audit report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit carried out in accordance with the Auditor General's Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts or disclosures, and can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of readers taken on the basis of this audited information.

For the budget information reported in the audited information, our procedures were limited to checking that the budget information agreed to the District Council's Long-term and annual plans.

We did not evaluate the security and controls over the electronic publication of the audited information.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. Also:

- We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the audited information, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- We obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District Council's internal control.
- We evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Council.
- We determine the appropriateness of the reported intended levels of service in the statement of service provision, as a reasonable basis for assessing the levels of service achieved and reported by the District Council.
- We conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Council and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast a significant doubt on the District Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our audit report to the related disclosures in the audited information or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the District Council to cease to continue as a going concern.

- We evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the audited information, including the disclosures, and whether the audited information represents, where applicable, the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Council regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Our responsibilities arise from the Public Audit Act 2001.

Other Information

The Council is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the information included on pages 3 to 125, but does not include the audited information and the disclosure requirements, and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the audited information and our report on the disclosure requirements do not cover the other information, and we do not express any form of audit opinion or assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information. In doing so, we consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the audited information and the disclosure requirements, or our knowledge obtained during our work, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on our work, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independence

We are independent of the District Council in accordance with the independence requirements of the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the independence requirements of Professional and Ethical Standard 1: International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards) (New Zealand) (PES 1) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

In addition to our audit and our report on the disclosure requirements, we perform a limited assurance engagement related to the District Council's debenture trust deed.

Other than these engagements, we have no relationship with, or interests in, the District Council.

Karen Young

Karen Young

Audit New Zealand

On behalf of the Auditor-General

Wellington, New Zealand

Financial Statements

NGĀ PŪRONGO PŪTEA

Financial Statements

Ngā Pūrongo Pūtea

Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense for the Year Ended 30 June 2024

The accompanying notes and accounting policies form part of these financial statements. Explanations of major variances against budget are provided in Note 29.

Actual 2022/2023 \$000		Note	Actual 2023/2024 \$000	Budget 2023/2024 \$000
Operating Revenue				
21,507	Rates	2	25,966	25,693
988	Grants, subsidies, and donations	4	786	808
5,770	Waka Kotahi subsidy		6,148	3,294
2,483	Fees, licences, charges		2,355	2,531
2,618	Development, and financial contributions		1,502	1,483
757	Rental income	13	811	784
368	Miscellaneous revenue	5	835	369
422	Finance revenue	3	618	431
34,912	Total operating revenue		39,022	35,392
Operating Costs				
10,422	Land transport		9,414	7,235
8,746	Community facilities and services		9,168	9,069
4,472	Water supply		4,732	4,920
3,720	Wastewater		3,846	4,860
3,327	Planning and regulatory services		4,594	3,762
2,154	Governance		2,203	2,718
662	Stormwater drainage		637	714
52	Bad debts		28	25
-	Loss on disposal of assets		6	-
33,555	Total operating costs		34,629	33,303
1,357	Total Operating Surplus/(Deficit)		4,393	2,089
1,719	Assets vesting in Council	4	1,192	-
(1,567)	Other gains and (losses)	6	461	485
1,509	Total Surplus/(Deficit)		6,046	2,574
Comprehensive Revenue and Expense				
(495)	Increase/(decrease) in revaluation reserves	6	48,888	32,864
1,014	Total Other Comprehensive Revenue and Expense		54,933	35,438
Note: Operating costs include the following expenses:				
6,754	Personnel costs	7	6,615	6,884
5,597	Depreciation and amortisation	8	5,938	5,805
854	Finance costs	3	941	945

Note: Exchange revenue is rental income, finance revenue and profit on sales, the other operating revenue is non-exchange.

Statement of Changes in Net Assets/Equity for the Year Ended 30 June 2024

The accompanying notes and accounting policies form part of these financial statements.

Actual 2022/2023 \$000		Actual 2023/2024 \$000	Budget 2023/2024 \$000
565,046	Equity at 1 July	566,061	568,156
1,014	Total comprehensive revenue and expense	54,933	35,438
566,061	Balance at 30 June	620,994	603,594

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2024

Actual 2022/2023 \$000		Note	Actual 2023/2024 \$000	Budget 2023/2024 \$000
ASSETS				
Current assets				
6,722	Cash and cash equivalents	9	3,912	1,070
6,169	Investments	11	5,891	11,460
4,007	Debtors and other receivables	10	3,183	2,614
46	Inventories		26	42
-	Non-current assets held for sale	12	-	-
16,943	Total current assets		13,012	15,186
Non-current assets				
637	Investments	11	297	678
	Other financial assets:			
131	Investments in CCOs and other similar entities	11	131	131
126	Investments in other entities	11	153	126
258	Total other financial assets		284	258
14,249	Investment properties	13	14,711	16,655
109	Intangible assets	14	346	292
570,581	Property, plant, and equipment	15	625,631	608,100
585,834	Total non-current assets		641,269	625,981
602,777	TOTAL ASSETS		654,281	641,167
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY				
Current liabilities				
6,857	Creditors and other payables	16	5,385	4,029
625	Employee entitlements	17	669	519
33	Provisions - current portion	18	33	34
2,000	Borrowings - current portion	19	15,400	2,471
9,515	Total current liabilities		21,487	7,052
Non-current liabilities				
300	Provisions - non-current portion	18	299	315
26,900	Borrowings - non-current portion	19	11,500	30,206
27,200	Total non-current liabilities		11,799	30,521
Equity				
166,683	Public equity	20	174,249	169,321
31,000	Restricted reserves and trust funds	20	29,480	32,536
368,378	Asset revaluation reserve	20	417,266	401,737
566,061	Total equity		620,994	603,594
602,777	TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		654,281	641,167

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 30 June 2024

Actual 2022/2023 \$000		Actual 2023/2024 \$000	Budget 2023/2024 \$000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Cash was received from:			
21,146	Receipts from rates revenue	26,172	25,566
7,090	Government grants and subsidies	6,853	4,102
81	Petrol tax	79	101
5,943	Other revenue	5,060	5,192
5,306	Regional Council rates	6,617	5,565
296	Interest on investments	547	431
39,863		45,328	40,957
Cash was applied to:			
26,336	Payments to suppliers and employees	30,112	26,528
5,306	Regional Council rates	6,617	5,565
707	Interest paid	854	945
32,349		37,583	33,038
7,514	Net cash flow from operating activities	7,746	7,918
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Cash was received from:			
96	Sale of property, plant and equipment	-	-
12,815	Term investments, deposits, shares and advances	8,843	354
12,911		8,843	354
Cash was applied to:			
9,944	Purchase of property, plant and equipment	11,173	11,077
10,387	Term investments, deposits, shares and advances	6,226	679
20,331		17,398	11,756
(7,421)	Net cash flow from investing activities	(8,556)	(11,402)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Cash was received from:			
5,800	Drawdown of public debt	-	1,967
5,800		-	1,967
Cash was applied to:			
3,300	Repayment of public debt	2,000	-
3,300		2,000	-
2,500	Net cash flow from financing activities	(2,000)	1,967
2,594	Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	(2,810)	(1,516)
4,128	Add cash at start of year (1 July)	6,722	13,732
6,722	Balance at end of year (30 June)	3,912	12,216
REPRESENTED BY:			
1,722	Cash and cash equivalents	3,912	1,070
5,000	Short-term investments	-	11,145
6,722		3,912	12,216

Reconciliation of Net Surplus/(Deficit) to Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities

	Actual 2023/2024 \$000	Actual 2022/2023 \$000
Total surplus/(deficit)	6,046	1,509
Add/(remove) non-cash items		
Depreciation and ammortisation expense	5,938	5,597
Vested assets revenue	(1,192)	(1,719)
(Gains)/losses in fair value of carbon credits	(26)	(125)
(Gains)/losses in fair value of investment property	(435)	1,562
Total non-cash items	4,285	5,315
Add/(less) movements in working capital items		
(Increase)/decrease in receivables	873	(1,190)
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	(48)	(203)
(Increase)/decrease in inventory	19	(4)
Increase/(decrease) in payables	(3,472)	1,996
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	(1)	(15)
Increase/(decrease) in employee entitlements	44	106
Net movement in working capital items	(2,585)	690
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	7,746	7,514

Funding Impact Statement for the year ending 30 June 2024 (Whole of Council)

	30 June 2023 Annual Plan \$000	30 June 2023 Annual Report \$000	30 June 2024 Annual Plan \$000	30 June 2024 Annual Report \$000
Sources of operating funding				
General rates, Uniform Annual General charges, rates penalties	13,483	10,944	13,497	13,809
Targeted rates	7,831	10,563	12,047	12,070
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	1,540	4,927	2,191	4,020
Fees and charges	2,641	2,483	2,473	2,238
Interest and dividends from investments	252	422	431	618
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	1,280	1,125	1,336	1,824
Total operating funding (A)	27,027	30,464	31,975	34,580
Applications of operating funding				
Payments to staff and suppliers	21,332	27,052	26,523	27,716
Finance costs	722	854	945	941
Total applications of operating funding (B)	22,054	27,906	27,468	28,658
Surplus /(deficit) of operating funding (A - B)	4,973	2,558	4,507	5,922
Sources of capital funding				
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	1,604	1,831	1,911	2,914
Development and financial contributions	951	1,869	1,013	1,101
Increase/(decrease) in debt	5,329	2,500	1,967	(2,000)
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	96	-	-
Lump sum contributions	427	749	470	401
Total capital funding (C)	8,311	7,044	5,360	2,416
Applications of capital funding				
- to meet additional demand	2,607	1,700	555	111
- to improve the level of service	5,120	3,970	5,264	4,393
- to replace existing assets	3,588	5,125	5,386	6,676
Increase/(decrease) in reserves	1,970	(1,193)	(1,337)	(2,841)
Total applications of capital funding (D)	13,284	9,602	9,868	8,339
Surplus/(deficit) of capital (C - D)	(4,973)	(2,558)	(4,507)	(5,922)
Funding balance (A - B) + (C - D)	-	-	-	-

Notes to the Financial Statements

He Kōrero mō ngā Pūrongo Pūtea

Note 1: Statement of Accounting Policies for the Year Ended 30 June 2024

Reporting Entity

South Wairarapa District Council (referred to as SWDC or Council) is a territorial local body established by the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) and is domiciled and operates in New Zealand. The relevant legislation governing the Council's operations includes the LGA and the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

SWDC is a separate legal entity and does not have any subsidiaries.

SWDC has designated itself as a public benefit entity for financial reporting purposes.

On 26 September 2019, SWDC became a shareholder of Wellington Water Limited (WWL).

WWL issued 150 Class A Shares and 25 Class B Shares to SWDC for a total consideration of \$50,000.00, being a 12.50% shareholding. As this is a minority shareholding, the financial results of WWL are not consolidated into the accounts. Instead, the shareholding is held as an investment (included in Note 11). SWDC works with WWL to carry out the maintenance and development of the Three Waters infrastructure on its behalf.

The financial statements of SWDC are for the year ended 30 June 2024. The financial statements were authorised for issue by Council on 20 November 2024.

Basis of Preparation

The financial reports have been prepared on a going concern basis and accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the period.

Statement of Compliance

The financial statements of SWDC have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002, which includes the requirement to comply with New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (NZ GAAP) in New Zealand.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with, and comply with, Public Benefit Entity (PBE) Accounting Standards.

Measurement Base

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis, except for adjustments made through revaluation of land and buildings, certain infrastructure assets, investment property, playgrounds, and certain financial instruments.

Functional and Presentation Currency

The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$000) unless stated otherwise. The functional currency of SWDC is New Zealand dollars.

Changes in Accounting Policies and Standards

There were no changes in accounting policies this year due to changes in accounting standards.

The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements.

Significant Accounting Policies

Revenue

Revenue is measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable. Specific accounting policies applied to significant revenue types are as follows.

Rates Revenue

Rates are set annually by Council resolution, following the requirements of the Local Government Act and the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002. Rates apply to a specific financial year, and all ratepayers receive their invoices within that same year. Rates revenue is recognised when rates instalment notices are sent to ratepayers.

Rates are a tax, as they are payable under the Local Government Ratings Act 2002, and therefore meet the definition of non-exchange transactions.

Rates arising from late payment penalties are recognised as revenue when rates become overdue.

Rates remissions are recognised as a reduction of rates revenue when the Council has received an application that satisfies its rates remission policy.

Revenue from water-by-meter rates is recognised on an accrual basis. Unbilled usage, as a result of unread meters at year end, is accrued on an average usage basis.

Rates collected on behalf of the Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) are not recognised in the financial statements, apart from the Statement of Cash Flows, as SWDC is acting as an agent for GWRC.

Other Revenue

SWDC receives government grants from the New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi, which subsidises part of SWDC's costs in maintaining the local roading infrastructure. The subsidies are recognised as revenue upon entitlement as conditions pertaining to eligible expenditure have been fulfilled.

Other grants are recognised as revenue when they are received unless there is an obligation in substance to return the funds if conditions of the grant are not met. If there is such an obligation, the grants are initially recorded as grants received in advance and recognised as revenue when conditions of the grants are satisfied.

Revenue from the rendering of services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the transaction at balance date, based on the actual service provided as a percentage of the total services to be provided.

Sales of goods are recognised when a product is sold to the customer. Sales are in cash. The recorded revenue is the gross amount of the sale.

Where revenue is derived by acting as an agent for another party, the revenue that is recognised is the commission or fee on the transaction.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method.

Development Contributions

Development contributions and financial contributions are recognised as revenue when the council provides, or is able to provide, the service for which the contribution was charged. Otherwise, development contributions and financial contributions are recognised as liabilities until such time as SWDC provides, or is able to provide, the service.

Borrowing Costs

Borrowing costs are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

Grant Expenditure

Non-discretionary grants are those grants that are awarded if the grant application meets the specified criteria and are recognised as expenditure when an application that meets the specified criteria for the grant has been received.

Discretionary grants are those grants where SWDC has no obligation to award on receipt of the grant application and are recognised as expenditure when a successful applicant has been notified of SWDC's decision.

Leases

Finance Leases

A finance lease is a lease that transfers to the lessee substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an asset, whether or not title is eventually transferred.

At the commencement of the lease term, SWDC recognises finance leases as assets and liabilities in the statement of financial position at the lower of the fair value of the leased item or the present value of the minimum lease payments.

The finance charge is charged to the statement of financial performance over the lease period so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability.

The amount recognised as an asset is depreciated over its useful life. If there is no certainty as to whether SWDC will obtain ownership at the end of the lease term, the asset is fully depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and its useful life.

Operating Leases

An operating lease is a lease that does not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an asset. Lease payments under an operating lease are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Assets

Financial Assets

Financial assets (other than shares in subsidiaries) are initially recognised at fair value. They are then classified as, and subsequently measured under, the following categories:

1. Amortised Cost
2. Fair value through surplus or deficit (FVTSD), or
3. Fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expenses (FVTOCRE).

Transaction costs are included in the value of the financial asset at initial recognition unless it has been designated at FVTSD, in which case it is recognised in surplus or deficit.

The classification of a financial asset depends on its cash flow characteristics and the Council's management model for managing them.

A financial asset is classified and subsequently measured at FVTOCRE if it gives rise to cash flows that are SPPI and held within a management model whose objective is achieved by both collecting contractual cash flows and selling financial assets.

A financial asset is classified and subsequently measured at amortised cost if it gives rise to cash flows that are 'solely payments of principal and interest (SPPI)' on the principal outstanding and is held within a management model whose objective is to collect the contractual cash flows of the asset.

Financial assets that do not meet the criteria to be measured at amortised cost or FVTOCRE are subsequently measured at FVTSD. However, the Council may elect at initial recognition to designate an equity investment not held for trading as subsequently measured at FVTOCRE.

Subsequent measurement of financial assets at FVTOCRE

Unlisted Shares and Listed Bonds

Financial assets in this category that are debt instruments are subsequently measured at fair value with fair value gains and losses recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense, there is no assessment for impairment when fair value falls below the cost of the investment. When sold, the cumulative gain or loss previously recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense is reclassified to surplus and deficit.

Financial Assets in this category that are equity instruments designated as FVTOCRE are subsequently measured at fair value with fair value gains and losses recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense. There is no assessment for impairment when fair value falls below the cost of the investment. When sold, the cumulative gain or loss previously recognised in the other comprehensive revalue and expense is transferred to accumulated funds within equity.

Expected credit loss allowance (ECL)

The Council recognises an allowance for ECLs for all debt instruments not classified as FVTSD. ECLs are the probability weighted estimate of credit losses, measured at the present value of cash shortfalls, which is the difference between the cash flows due to Council in accordance with the contract and the cash flows it expects to receive. ECLs are discounted at the effective interest rate of the financial asset.

ECL's are recognised in two stages. ECLs are provided for credit losses that result from default events that are possible within the next 12 months (a 12-month ECL). However, if there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, the loss allowance is based on losses possible for the remaining life of the financial asset (Lifetime ECL). When determining whether the credit risk of a financial asset has increased significantly since initial recognition, the Council considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on the Council's historical experience and informed credit assessment and included forward-looking information. The Council consider a financial asset to be in default when the financial asset is more than 90 days past due. The Council may determine a default occurs prior to this if internal or external information indicates the entity is unlikely to pay its credit obligations in full.

Non-Current Assets Held for Sale

Non-current Assets held for sale are classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered through a sale transaction, rather than through continuing use. Non-current Assets held for sale are measured at the lower of their carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell.

Any impairment losses for write-downs of Non-current Assets held for sale are recognised in the statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense.

Any increases in fair value (less costs to sell) are recognised up to the level of any impairment losses that have previously been recognised.

Assets (including those that are part of a disposal group) are not depreciated or amortised while they are classified as held for sale. Interest and other expenses attributable to the liabilities of a disposal group classified as held for sale continue to be recognised.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment consist of:

Operational Assets

Operational assets include land, buildings, landfill post closure, library books, plant and equipment, and motor vehicles.

Restricted Assets

Restricted assets are parks and reserves owned by SWDC which provide a benefit or service to the community and cannot be disposed of because of legal or other restrictions.

Infrastructure Assets

Infrastructure assets are the fixed utility systems owned by SWDC. Each asset class includes all items that are required for the network to function, for example, wastewater reticulation includes reticulation piping and sewer pump stations.

Heritage Assets

Heritage assets are assets owned by SWDC which are of cultural or historical significance to the community and cannot be replaced due to the nature of the assets. Buildings recorded under the Historic Places Act 1993 have been recorded as heritage assets.

Property, plant and equipment is shown at cost or valuation, less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Additions

The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised as an asset if, and only if, it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to SWDC and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Work in progress is recognised at cost less impairment and is not depreciated.

In most instances, an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised at cost. Where an asset is acquired at no

cost, or for nominal cost, it is recognised at fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Disposals

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount of the asset. Gains and losses on disposals are included in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense. When revalued assets are sold, the amounts included in asset revaluation reserves in respect of those assets are transferred to retained earnings.

Subsequent Costs

Costs incurred subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised only when it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to SWDC and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

The costs of day-to-day servicing of property, plant, and equipment are recognised in the surplus or deficit as they are incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis on all property, plant and equipment other than land (which also includes the landfill and water races), at rates which will write off the cost (or valuation) of the assets to their estimated residual values over their useful lives. The estimated useful economic lives of major classes of assets have been estimated as shown in Table 6.

Table 6 Depreciation

Asset	Estimated Life	Percentage
Buildings and Improvements*	20 to 100 years	1% to 5%
Heritage assets	50 to 120 years	0.80% to 3.0%
Furniture and equipment	5 to 22 years	4.5% to 20%
Motor vehicles	5 years	20%
Library collections	7 years	14.3%
Roading*	1 to 100 years	1% to 100%
Bridges*	30 to 100 years	1% to 3.3%
Water infrastructure*	15 to 103 years	0.97% to 3.3%
Sewer infrastructure*	14 to 123 years	0.81% to 10%
Stormwater infrastructure*	25 to 100 years	1.0% to 6.0%
Parks and reserves	10 to 32 years	3.1% to 13.5%
Playground equipment*	5 to 20 Years	5% to 20%

In relation to infrastructural assets marked * (above), depreciation has been calculated at a componentry level based on the estimated remaining useful lives as assessed by Council's engineers and independent registered valuers.

Land under roads and formation is not depreciated. A summary of these lives is detailed above.

The residual value and useful life of an asset is reviewed, and adjusted if applicable, at each financial year-end.

Revaluation

Land, buildings (operational and restricted), heritage assets, library books, and infrastructural assets (except land under roads) are revalued with sufficient regularity, and at least every three years, to ensure that their carrying amount does not differ materially from fair value. All other assets are carried at depreciated historical cost.

SWDC assesses the carrying values of its revalued assets annually to ensure that they do not differ materially from the assets' fair values. If there is a material difference, then the off-cycle asset classes are revalued.

SWDC accounts for revaluations of property, plant and equipment on a class of asset basis.

The results of revaluing are credited or debited to an asset revaluation reserve for that class of asset. Where this results in a debit balance in the asset revaluation reserve, this balance is expensed in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense. Any subsequent increase on revaluation that off-sets a previous decrease in value recognised in the statement of financial performance will be recognised first in the statement of financial performance up to the amount previously expensed, and then credited to the revaluation reserve for that class of asset.

Those asset classes that are revalued are valued on a three-yearly cycle on the basis described below. All other asset classes are carried at depreciated historical cost. The carrying values of revalued items are reviewed at each balance date to ensure that those values are not materially different to fair value.

Land and Buildings

An independent valuation is carried out to ascertain fair value as determined from market-based evidence. The most recent valuation was performed by Jaime Benoit (B.App Sci (VFM, AG), MPINZ) of QV Asset and Advisory, and the valuation is effective as at 30 June 2022.

Heritage assets are also included in this category.

In the years where a full revaluation is not conducted, SWDC carries out an assessment of the fair value of land and operational building assets using indexed movements in asset classes. Where the change in fair value is considered material, an adjustment will be made to reflect the change. In the 2023-24 year there was no adjustment made to fair value of land and operational building assets as value changes are not considered material enough to require changes.

Infrastructure Assets

Infrastructure asset classes are roads, bridges and footpaths, water systems, wastewater (sewerage) systems, stormwater systems.

At fair value determined on a depreciated replacement cost basis by an independent valuer. At balance date SWDC assesses the carrying values of its infrastructure assets to ensure that they do not differ materially from the assets' fair values. If there is a material difference, then the off-cycle asset classes are revalued. The most recent valuation was performed by Jaimie Cable (B App Econ, Dip of Engineering (Civil), AMPINZ) of WSP New Zealand on 30 June 2024.

In the years where a full revaluation is not conducted, SWDC carries out an assessment of the fair value of infrastructure assets using indexed movements in asset classes. Where the change in fair value is considered material an adjustment will be made to reflect the change.

Playground Equipment

At fair value determined on a depreciated replacement costs basis by an independent valuer.

At balance date SWDC assesses the carrying values of its playground equipment to ensure that they do not differ materially from the assets' fair values. If there is a material difference, then the off-cycle asset classes are revalued. The most recent valuation was performed by Jaimie Cable (B App Econ, Dip of Engineering (Civil), AMPINZ) of WSP New Zealand on 30 June 2024.

Vested Assets

Original recognition is at the actual cost or the current cost of providing identical services. Following revaluations of vested infrastructure assets are conducted as part of the overall infrastructure asset process above.

Assets Held for Sale

Assets held for sale are valued annually at the lower of carrying value and fair value less costs to sell and the valuation is effective as at 30 June 2024. Assets held for sale are valued at the agreed sale price.

Intangible Assets

Acquired computer software licenses are capitalised on the basis of the costs incurred to acquire and bring to use the specific software. Costs associated with maintaining computer software are recognised as an expense when incurred. Costs that are directly associated with the development of software for internal use are recognised as an intangible asset. Direct costs include the software development employee costs and an appropriate portion of relevant overheads.

Staff training costs are recognised as an expense when incurred.

The carrying value of an intangible asset with a finite life is amortised on a straight-line basis over its useful life. Amortisation begins when an asset is available for use and ceases at the date that the asset is derecognised. The amortisation charge for each period is recognised in the statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense.

The useful lives and associated amortisation rates of major classes of intangible assets have been estimated as follows:

TANGIBLE ASSET	ASSET LIFE	AMORTISATION RATE
Computer Software	5 to 10 years	13.5% to 30%

Investment Properties

Properties leased to third parties under operating leases are classified as investment property unless the property is held to meet service delivery objectives, rather than to earn rentals or for capital appreciation.

Investment property is measured initially at cost, including transaction costs.

After initial recognition, SWDC measures all investment property at fair value as determined annually by an independent valuer.

Investment properties are valued annually at fair value as determined from market-based evidence by an independent valuer. The most recent valuation was performed by Jaime Benoit (B.App Sci (VFM, AG), MPINZ) of QV Asset and Advisory, and the valuation is effective as at 30 June 2024.

Gains and losses arising from a change in the fair value of investment property are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Impairment of Property, Plant, Equipment and Intangible Assets

Assets that have an indefinite useful life or not yet available for use, are not subject to amortisation and are tested annually for impairment. Assets that have a finite useful life are reviewed for impairment wherever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recovered. When there is an indicator of impairment, the asset recoverable amount is estimated. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

Value in use is the depreciated replacement cost for an asset where the future economic benefits or service potential of the asset are not primarily dependent on the assets ability to generate net cash flows and where the entity would, if deprived of the asset, replace its remaining future economic benefits or service potential.

The value in use for cash-generating assets is the present value of expected future cash flows.

Cash generating assets are those assets that are held with the primary objective of generating a commercial return.

If an asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount the asset is impaired and the carrying amount is written down to the recoverable amount. For revalued assets the impairment loss is recognised against the revaluation reserve for that class of asset. Where that results in a debit balance in the revaluation reserve, the balance is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense.

For assets not carried at a revalued amount, the total impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense.

The reversal of an impairment loss on a revalued asset is credited to the revaluation reserve. However, to the extent that an impairment loss for that class of asset was previously recognised in the statement of financial performance, a reversal of the impairment loss is also recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense.

For assets not carried at a revalued amount, the reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense.

Liabilities

Creditors and Other Payables

Creditors and other payables are recorded at their face value.

Employee Entitlements

Short-term Employee Entitlements

Employee benefits that SWDC expects to be settled within twelve months of balance date are measured at nominal values based on accrued entitlements at current rates of pay.

These include salaries and wages accrued up to balance date, annual leave earned to, but not yet taken at balance date, long service leave entitlements expected to be settled within twelve months, and sick leave.

SWDC recognises a liability for sick leave to the extent that absences in the coming year are expected to be greater than the sick leave entitlements earning in the coming year. The amount is calculated based on the unused sick leave entitlement that can be carried forward at balance date, to the extent that SWDC anticipates it will be used by staff to cover those future absences.

SWDC recognises a liability and an expense for bonuses where contractually obliged or where there is a past practice that has created a constructive obligation.

Long-term Employee Entitlements

Obligations for contributions to Kiwi Saver are accounted for as defined contribution superannuation schemes and are recognised as an expense in the statement of financial performance as incurred.

Presentation of Employee Entitlements

Sick leave, annual leave, vested long service leave, and non-vested long service leave and retirement gratuities expected to be settled within 12 months of balance date, are classified as a current liability. All other employee entitlements are classified as a non-current liability.

Provisions

SWDC recognises a provision for future expenditure of uncertain amount or timing when there is a present obligation (either legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that expenditures will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses.

Provisions are measured at the present value of the expenditures expected to be required to settle the obligation using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the obligation. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as a finance cost expense.

Landfill Aftercare Provision

Note 18 discloses an analysis of the exposure of SWDC in relation to the estimates and uncertainties surrounding the landfill aftercare provision.

Borrowings

Borrowings are initially recognised at their fair value net of transaction costs incurred. After initial recognition, all borrowings are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless SWDC has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the balance date or if the borrowings are expected to be settled after 12 months of balance date.

Equity

Equity is the community's interest in SWDC and is measured as the difference between total assets and total liabilities. Equity is disaggregated and classified into a number of reserves.

The components of equity are:

- Public equity – accumulated funds
- Special reserves and trust funds
- Asset revaluation reserves

Restricted and Council Created Reserves

Restricted reserves are a component of equity generally representing a particular use to which various parts of equity have been assigned. Reserves may be legally restricted or created by SWDC.

Restricted reserves are those subject to specific conditions accepted as binding by SWDC and which may not be revised by SWDC without reference to the Courts or a third party. Transfers from these reserves may be made only for certain specified purposes or when certain specified conditions are met.

Also included in restricted reserves are reserves restricted by a Council decision. The Council may alter them without references to any third party or the Courts. Transfers to and from these reserves are at the discretion of the Council.

The asset revaluation reserve relates to the revaluation of property, plant and equipment to fair value.

Fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense reserves comprises the net cumulative change in the fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense instruments.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

All items in the financial statements are stated exclusive of GST, except for receivables and payables, which are stated on a GST inclusive basis. Where GST is not recoverable as input tax then it is recognised as part of the related asset or expense.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) is included as part of receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

The net GST paid to, or received from, the IRD, including the GST relating to investing and financing activities, are classified as an operating cash flow in the statement of cash flows. Commitments and contingencies are disclosed exclusive of GST.

Budget Figures

The budget figures are those approved by SWDC in its 2023/24 Annual Plan. The budget figures have been prepared in accordance with NZ GAAP, using accounting policies that are consistent with those adopted by SWDC for the preparation of the financial statements. Please refer to Note 29 for an explanation of significant variances to budget.

Cost Allocation

SWDC has derived the cost of service for each of SWDC's significant activities using the cost allocation system outlined below.

- Direct costs are those costs directly attributable to a significant activity. Indirect costs are those costs which cannot be identified with a significant activity in an economically feasible manner.
- Direct costs are charged directly to significant activities. Indirect costs are charged to significant activities using appropriate cost drivers such as actual usage, staff numbers and floor area.

Critical Accounting Estimates and Assumptions

In preparing these financial statements, SWDC has made estimates and assumptions concerning the future. These estimates and assumptions may differ from the subsequent actual results. Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations or future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

Infrastructural Assets

There are a number of assumptions and estimates used when performing the Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) valuations over infrastructural assets.

These include:

- The physical deterioration and condition of an asset. For example, SWDC could be carrying an asset at an amount that does not reflect its actual condition. This is particularly so for those assets, which are not visible, for example stormwater, wastewater and water supply pipes that are underground. This risk is minimized by SWDC performing a combination of physical inspections and condition modelling assessments of underground assets.
- Estimating any obsolescence or surplus capacity of an asset.
- Estimates are made when determining the remaining useful lives over which the assets will be depreciated. These estimates can be impacted by the local conditions, for example weather patterns and traffic growth. If useful lives do not reflect the actual consumption of the benefits of the asset, then SWDC could be over- and under-estimating the annual depreciation charge recognised as an expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense.
- To minimise this risk, SWDC's infrastructural assets' useful lives have been determined with reference to the NZ Infrastructural Asset Valuation and Depreciation Guidelines published by the National Asset Management Steering Group, and have been adjusted for local conditions based on past experience. Asset inspections, deterioration and condition modelling are also carried out regularly as part of SWDC asset management planning activities, which gives SWDC further assurance over its useful life estimates.
- Experienced independent valuers perform the Council's infrastructural asset revaluations.

Critical Judgments in Applying SWDC's Accounting Policies

Management has exercised the following critical judgments in applying SWDC's accounting policies for the year ended 30 June 2024.

Classification of Property

SWDC owns a number of properties, which are maintained primarily to provide housing to pensioners. The receipt of market-based rental from these properties is incidental to holding these properties. These properties are held for service delivery objectives as part of SWDC's social housing policy. These properties are accounted for as property, plant, and equipment.

Statement of Cash Flows

Cash means cash balances on hand, held in bank accounts, demand deposits and other highly liquid investments in which SWDC invests as part of its day-to-day cash management. GST is disclosed net as disclosing gross amounts does not provide any further meaningful information.

Operating activities include cash received from all revenue sources and cash payments made for the supply of goods and services. Agency transactions (the collection of Regional Council rates) are recognised as receipts and payments in the statement of cash flows because they flow through SWDC's main bank account.

Investing activities are those activities relating to the acquisition and disposal of non-current assets.

Financing activities comprise the change in equity and debt structure.

Note 2: Rates Revenue

	30 June 2024 \$000	30 June 2023 \$000
General Rates	13,662	10,807
Targeted Rates Attributable to Activities		
Water	4,220	3,646
Wastewater	3,790	3,094
Amenities	2,785	2,668
Refuse	1,122	859
Water races	153	174
Total Targeted Rates	12,070	10,440
Total Rates, Excluding Targeted Rates for Water by Meter	25,733	21,247
Targeted Rates for Water By Meter	61	123
Rates penalties	173	136
Total Revenue from Rates and Penalties	25,966	21,507

Rates Remission

Rates revenue is shown net of rates remissions. Under the Council's rate remission policies, the Council allowed remissions of \$25,811 (2023 \$22,883).

	30 June 2024 \$000	30 June 2023 \$000
Rates Revenue Before Remissions	25,992	21,530
Council policy remissions:		
Total Remissions	26	23
Total Revenue from Rates and Penalties	25,966	21,507

Non-rateable Land

In accordance with the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 certain properties are non-rateable. This includes schools, places of religious worship, public gardens and certain land vested in the Crown. These non-rateable properties, where applicable, may be subject to targeted rates in respect of wastewater, water, and refuse. Non-rateable land does not constitute a remission under Council's rates remission and postponement policies.

Note 3: Finance Revenue and Costs

	30 June 2024 \$000	30 June 2023 \$000
FINANCE REVENUE		
Interest revenue:		
Term deposits	618	422
Total Finance Revenue	618	422
FINANCE COSTS		
Interest expense:		
Interest on borrowings	941	854
Total Finance Costs	941	854

Note 4: Grants, Subsidies and Donations

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
Grants and Subsidies		
Libraries	-	80
Community Buildings	3	2
Welcoming Communities	50	-
Community Development	66	12
Mayor's Task Force for Jobs	54	229
Provincial Growth Fund – Infrastructure	250	151
Water Reform Transition Support	183	247
Wairarapa Moana	-	137
Waste Minimisation Levy	62	104
Miscellaneous	118	25
Donations		
Miscellaneous	-	-
Total Grants, Subsidies, and Donations	786	988

There are no unfulfilled conditions and other contingencies attached to subsidies and grants recognised \$Nil (2023: \$Nil).

Assets Vesting in Council

Vested Infrastructure from property development is valued at \$94,631 (2023: \$1,716,435).

Other vested assets are valued at \$1,097,122 for the Tauwharenikau Cycle Bridge (2023: \$2,704 for shared cost of fencing between Council and private property).

Note 5: Miscellaneous Revenue

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
Commissions	79	82
Other recoveries	676	109
Petrol tax	79	81
Gain on sale of assets	0	96
Total Miscellaneous Revenue	835	368

Note 6: Other Gains and Losses

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
Gain/(loss) in fair value of investment property	435	(1,562)
Gain/(loss) in fair value of carbon credits	26	(101)
Gain/(loss) in asset disposal	0	96
Gain/(loss) in fair value of plant, property & equipment	48,888	(495)
Total Gains/(Losses)	49,349	(2,062)

Note 7: Personnel Costs

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
Salaries and wages	6,409	6,481
Defined contribution plan employer contributions	162	166
Increase/(decrease) in employee entitlements/liabilities	44	106
Total Personnel Costs	6,615	6,754

In 2023-24 \$207,409 of salaries and wages were funded from grants and recoveries from other local and central government entities (2022-23: \$292,850).

Further detail on salaries and staff numbers is provided in Note 24.

Contributions to KiwiSaver are recorded net of any rebate provided by the Government.

Employee entitlements represents the outstanding leave balances at year end.

Note 8: Other Expenses

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
EXPENDITURE		
Depreciation		
Roads	1,995	1,913
Water systems	1,041	989
Wastewater systems	719	660
Bridges	588	566
Furniture & equipment	368	347
Stormwater systems	325	315
Buildings	321	280
Heritage assets	208	208
Library collections	191	174
Parks & reserves	94	79
Motor vehicles	68	55
Amortisation	20	11
Total Depreciation & Amortisation Expense	5,938	5,597
Works Costs	11,687	12,755
Consultants & legal	1,151	935
Insurance premiums	616	465
Audit fees (audit of annual financial & performance information)	122	106
Audit fees (audit of Debenture Trust Deed)	5	5
Audit disbursements	27	23
ACC Levies	14	13
Other operating expenses	7,401	5,828
Total Other Expenses	27,074	25,726

Note 9: Cash and Cash Equivalents

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
Cash at bank and in hand	3,912	1,722
Term deposits with maturities of less than 90 days at acquisition	-	5,000
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	3,912	6,722

Cash and cash equivalents include the above for the purposes of the cash flow statement.

Maturity Analysis and Effective Interest Rates

The maturity analysis for all other financial assets except for equity investments are as follows:

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
Short term deposits (\$000)	-	5,000
Weighted average effective interest rate (%)	N/A	3.27%

Note 10: Debtors and Other Receivables

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
Rates receivables	703	683
Other receivables	1,755	2,537
Goods and services tax	528	640
Prepayments	291	243
	3,278	4,103
Less allowance for Credit Losses	(95)	(95)
Total Debtors and Other Receivables	3,183	4,007

Debtors and Other Receivables

Debtors and other receivables are recorded at amount due, less an allowance for Expected Credit Losses (ECL). The Council applies the simplified model of recognising lifetime ECL's for receivables.

In measuring ECL's short-term receivables have been assessed on a collective basis as they possess shared credit risk characteristics.

Short-term receivables are written off when there is no reasonable expectation of recovery, i.e. when the debtor is uncontactable, and debt recovery and legal action has been exhausted.

In practice Council currently has very low write-offs due to a history of high recovery of receivables.

The Council does not provide for ECL on rates receivables, as it has various powers under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 to recover any outstanding debts.

Fair Value

Debtors and other receivables are non-interest bearing and receipt is normally on 30-day terms, therefore the carrying value of debtors and other receivables approximates their fair value.

Impairment and Expected Credit Losses

The Council has assessed the value of expected credit losses (ECL) in accordance with PBE IPSAS 41. Council intends on assessing data on historical averages for credit loss averages and apply these as impairments in future years. This data currently does not exist for prior years; therefore, the Council has allocated a nominal sum of \$95,000 for impairment of receivables, excluding rates receivable. Expected credit losses are not considered material for the Council, for the reasons outlined below.

Non-exchange Transactions

Receivables from non-exchange transactions includes outstanding amounts for rates, grants, infringements, & fees and charges that are partly subsidised by rates.

With respect to Rates Receivable, including metered water, the Council has not allowed for any impairment, as the Local Govt (Rating) Act 2002 provides a range of powers to recover outstanding debts, including approaching mortgage holders and legal proceedings which can lead to sale of the property to recover the rates. Ratepayers can apply for payment plan options to allow them to catchup. The extent of those debts is not considered significant enough to calculate any provision for credit losses.

Exchange Transactions

The level of ECL for exchange transactions at Council is minimal, as services/goods are not provided for most transactions until payment has been made. For example, building consents are not issued until they have been paid, water tanks and rubbish bags are paid for when they are issued, and rents are invoiced fortnightly in advance, with a four-week bond held by MBIE.

Note 11: Investments

	30 June 2024 \$000	30 June 2023 \$000
Current Portion		
Term deposits	5,551	6,137
LGFA borrower notes	340	32
Total Current Portion	5,891	6,169
Non-Current Portion		
Held to maturity		
Term deposits	-	-
LGFA borrower notes	288	628
Other investments	9	9
Total Non-Current Portion	297	637

There were no impairment provisions for other financial assets.

Maturity Analysis and Effective Interest Rates

The maturity analysis for all other financial assets except for equity investments are as follows:

Weighted average effective interest rates (%)	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
Term deposits	6.19%	5.01%
LGFA borrower notes	3.14%	3.04%

Other Financial Assets

	30 June 2024 \$000	30 June 2023 \$000
Investment in CCOs and Other Similar Entities		
Civic Financial Services Limited (53,930 shares)	81	81
Wellington Water (25 shares)	50	50
Total Investment in CCOs and Other Similar Entities	131	131
Investment in Other Entities		
Carbon Credits	151	125
Farmlands Trading Society Ltd (699 shares)	1	1
Total Investment in Other Entities	153	126
Total Other Financial Assets	284	258

Unlisted Shares – Valuation

The fair value of the unlisted shares of Farmlands Trading Limited and Wellington Water Limited have been revalued to market value based on advice supplied by the respective companies as there is no active market to determine the value of the shares.

The Civic Financial Services Limited (formerly New Zealand Local Government Insurance Corporation Limited) shares have been revalued to market value on an annual basis using the net asset backing per share value as at 30 June 2024.

Carbon credits have been revalued to market value on an annual basis using the per unit value as at 30 June 2024.

Impairment

There were no impairment provisions for other financial assets. None of the financial assets are either past due or impaired.

Note 12: Non-Current Assets Held for Sale

At 30 June 2024 SWDC does not currently hold any properties with the intention of sale (2023: Nil).

Note 13: Investment Properties

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
Balance at 1 July	14,249	15,757
Additions	27	57
Depreciation	-	(3)
Fair value gains/(losses) on valuation	435	(1,562)
Balance at 30 June	14,711	14,249

SWDC's investment properties are valued at fair value with the latest valuation effective 30 June 2024. Of the valuation, \$12,337k is based on open market evidence, with the remaining \$2,374k determined via optimised depreciated replacement cost method. The valuation was performed by Jaime Benoit (B.App Sci (VFM, AG), MPINZ) of QV Asset and Advisory.

Contractual obligations in relation to investment properties at balance date but not recognised in the financial statements are nil. There are no capital commitments on 30 June 2024 (2023: Nil).

Rental income specifically from investment properties in 2024 was \$345,433 (2023: \$337,460).

Council receives rental income from other properties, such as Senior Housing, and pasture rent on land held for strategic and operational purposes. These properties are not considered to be held for investment purposes.

Note 14: Intangible Assets

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
Cost		
Balance at 1 July	437	401
Additions	257	36
Disposals	-	-
Balance at 30 June	694	437
Accumulated amortisation and impairment		
Balance at 1 July	328	317
Amortisation charge	20	11
Disposals	-	-
Balance at 30 June	348	328
Carrying amount		
Balance at 30 June	346	109

There are no restrictions over the title of SWDC's intangible assets, nor are any intangible assets pledged as security for liabilities.

Note 15: Property, Plant and Equipment 2023-2024

Current Year 30 June 2024	Cost/ Revaluation 30 June 2023 \$000	Accumulated Depreciation 30 June 2023 \$000	Carrying Amount 30 June 2023 \$000	Current Year Additions \$000	Current Year Disposals \$000	Current Year Transfers \$000	Current Year Gain/(Loss) on Sale \$000	Current Year Depreciation \$000	Revaluation, Impairment, Depreciation Recovered \$000	Cost Revaluation 30 June 2024 \$000	Accumulated Depreciation 30 June 2024 \$000	Carrying Amount 30 June 2024 \$000
Infrastructural Assets												
Roads	347,544	(1,918)	345,626	3,789	-	-	-	(1,995)	14,968	362,401	(13)	362,388
Bridges	20,946	(566)	20,380	1,324	-	-	-	(588)	1,962	23,098	(20)	23,078
Water systems	44,224	(989)	43,235	722	-	-	-	(1,041)	6,215	49,132	-	49,132
Wastewater systems	28,091	(680)	27,412	3,503	-	-	-	(719)	20,397	50,593	-	50,593
Stormwater systems	22,179	(315)	21,863	60	-	-	-	(325)	5,198	26,797	(1)	26,796
Total Infrastructural Assets	462,984	(4,467)	458,516	9,398	-	-	-	(4,668)	48,740	512,020	(34)	511,987
Operational Assets												
Land	69,367	(14)	69,353	1,324	-	(276)	-	-	-	70,415	-	70,415
Buildings	11,991	(487)	11,503	421	-	-	-	(321)	-	12,411	(808)	11,603
Furniture & equipment	3,872	(2,604)	1,268	324	(6)	(0)	(6)	(368)	0	4,182	(2,964)	1,217
Library collections	1,191	(425)	766	98	-	-	-	(191)	-	1,289	(616)	674
Motor vehicles	634	(405)	230	-	-	-	-	(68)	-	634	(473)	161
Parks and reserves	498	(308)	189	-	-	276	-	(31)	-	774	(353)	421
Playgrounds	770	(121)	648	35	-	-	-	(63)	148	768	-	768
Total operational Assets	88,322	(4,364)	83,958	2,201	(6)	(0)	(6)	(1,041)	148	90,473	(5,214)	85,259
Other Assets												
Heritage Assets	17,679	(211)	17,468	98	-	0	-	(208)	-	17,777	(419)	17,358
Work in progress	10,639	-	10,639	389	-	-	-	-	-	11,028	-	11,028
Total other Assets	28,318	(211)	28,107	487	-	0	-	(208)	-	28,805	(419)	28,386
Total Assets	579,623	(9,043)	570,581	12,087	(6)	-	(6)	(5,918)	48,888	631,298	(5,667)	625,631

There are no restrictions over the title of SWDC’s property, plant and equipment assets, nor are any of these assets pledged as security for liabilities.

Note 15: Property, Plant and Equipment 2022-2023

Previous Year 30 June 2023	Cost/ Revaluation 30 June 2022 \$000	Accumulate d Depreciatio n 30 June 2022 \$000	Carrying Amount 30 June 2022 \$000	Current Year Additions \$000	Current Year Disposals \$000	Current Year Transfer s \$000	Current Year Gain/(Loss) on Sale \$000	Current Year Depreciation \$000	Revaluation, Impairment, Depreciation Recovered \$000	Cost Revaluation 30 June 2023 \$000	Accumulated Depreciation 30 June 2023 \$000	Carrying Amount 30 June 2023 \$000
Infrastructural Assets												
Roads	344,178	(5)	344,173	3,366	-	-	-	(1,914)	-	347,544	(1,918)	345,626
Bridges	20,946	-	20,946	-	-	-	-	(566)	-	20,946	(566)	20,380
Water systems	43,134	-	43,134	1,584	-	-	-	(989)	(495)	44,224	(989)	43,235
Wastewater systems	28,052	(19)	28,033	39	-	-	-	(660)	-	28,091	(680)	27,412
Stormwater systems	21,915	-	21,915	264	-	-	-	(315)	-	22,179	(315)	21,863
Total Infrastructural Assets	458,225	(24)	458,201	5,254	-	-	-	(4,444)	(495)	462,984	(4,467)	458,516
Operational Assets												
Land	69,367	-	69,367	-	-	-	-	(14)	-	69,367	(14)	69,353
Buildings	11,262	(224)	11,038	728	-	-	-	(263)	-	11,991	(487)	11,503
Furniture & equipment	3,601	(2,257)	1,327	297	-	(10)	-	(347)	0	3,872	(2,604)	1,268
Library collections	1,085	(251)	834	106	-	-	-	(174)	-	1,191	(425)	766
Motor vehicles	462	(350)	112	172	-	-	-	(55)	-	634	(405)	230
Parks and reserves	498	(291)	206	-	-	-	-	(17)	-	498	(308)	189
Playgrounds	749	(59)	690	21	-	-	-	(62)	-	770	(121)	648
Total Operational Assets	87,024	(3,433)	83,574	1,325	-	(10)	-	(931)	0	88,322	(4,364)	83,958
Other Assets												
Heritage Assets	17,653	(3)	17,650	16	-	10	-	(208)	-	17,679	(211)	17,468
Work in progress	4,843	-	4,843	5,796	-	-	-	-	-	10,639	-	10,639
Total Other Assets	22,496	(3)	22,493	5,812	-	10	-	(208)	-	28,318	(211)	28,107
Total Assets	567,744	(3,460)	564,268	12,390	-	-	-	(5,583)	(495)	579,623	(9,043)	570,581

Depreciation and Amortisation Expense by Group of Activity

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
Attributable Depreciation and Amortisation Expense by Activity		
Land Transport	2,596	2,494
Water supply	1,042	990
Community facilities and services	946	879
Wastewater	744	686
Stormwater drainage	324	315
Planning and regulatory services	103	60
Governance	1	3
Total Directly Attributable Depreciation and Amortisation Expense	5,757	5,427
Depreciation and amortisation not directly related to group of activities	181	170
Total Other Expenses	5,938	5,597

Note 16: Creditors and Other Payables

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
Trade payables	3,607	6,235
Accrued expenses	878	265
Revenue in advance	468	78
Rates in advance	432	280
Total Creditors and Other Payables	5,385	6,857

Except for rates in advance, all creditors and payables are assessed as exchange as these balances are from Transactions carried at normal business terms.

Note 17: Employee Entitlements

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
Accrued pay	199	203
Annual leave	470	422
Total Employee Entitlements	669	625
Comprising:		
Current portion	669	625
Non-current portion	-	-
Total Employee Entitlements	669	625

Note 18: Provisions

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
Landfill aftercare provision		
Balance at 1 July	348	415
Provision expensed for the year	(35)	(35)
Adjustment to NPV	34	20
Total Provisions	347	348
Comprising:		
Current portion	33	33
Non-current portion	299	300
Total Provisions	333	348

Provision for Landfill Aftercare Costs

SWDC gained resource consent to operate the landfill. SWDC has responsibility under the resource consent to provide on-going maintenance and monitoring of the landfill after the site has closed until February 2035.

The cash outflows for landfill post-closure are not expected to occur until 2035. The long-term nature of the liability means there are inherent uncertainties in estimating the costs that will be incurred. The provision has been estimated taking into account existing technology and using a discount rate of 4.82% (2023: 4.75%).

Note 19: Borrowings

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
Current		
Secured loans	15,400	2,000
Total Current Borrowings	15,400	2,000
Non-Current		
Secured loans	11,500	26,900
Total Non-Current Borrowings	11,500	26,900
Total Borrowings	26,900	28,900

Fixed-Rate Debt

SWDC's secured debt of \$26,900,000 (2023: \$28,900,000) is issued at fixed rates of interest.

The weighted average interest rate of SWDC's debt is 3.40% (2023: 3.27%)

Security

SWDC's loans are secured over either separate or general rates of the district, and no assets have borrowings secured against them.

SWDC manages its borrowings in accordance with its funding and financial policies, which includes a Liability Management Policy. These policies have been adopted as part of SWDC's Long Term Plan.

Note 20: Equity

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
Public Equity		
Balance at 1 July	166,683	167,906
Net transfer (to)/from reserves	1,521	(2,733)
Total surplus / (deficit) for the year	6,046	1,509
Balance at 30 June	174,249	166,683
Restricted Reserves and Trust Funds		
Balance at 1 July	31,000	28,268
Transfers to fund	11,693	11,855
Transfers from fund	(13,213)	(9,122)
Balance at 30 June	29,480	31,000
Restricted Reserves and Trust Funds consists of:		
Discretionary reserves	445	544
Community board reserves	113	133
Restricted reserves	3,345	3,176
Water race reserves	385	365
Council loan redemption reserves	9,533	10,854
Other reserves	15,232	15,765
Trusts	426	162
Total Restricted Reserves and Trust Funds	29,480	31,000
Asset Revaluation Reserve		
Balance at 1 July	368,378	368,873
Transfers to fund	48,888	-
Transfers from fund	-	(495)
Balance at 30 June	417,266	368,378
Asset Revaluation Reserve consists of:		
Land	55,316	55,316
Buildings	6,855	6,855
Heritage assets	8,858	8,858
Library collections	1,429	1,429
Bridges	19,547	17,585
Roading	226,037	211,069
Water	40,489	34,274
Wastewater	31,255	10,858
Stormwater	27,096	21,898
Playground equipment	376	229
Other equipment	8	8
Total Asset Revaluation Reserve	417,266	368,378

Note 21: Statement of Capital Commitments and Operating Leases

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
Capital Commitments		
Roading	-	1,201
Parks & Reserves	801	-
Total Capital Commitments	801	1,201

Refer to Note 13 for capital commitments for investments properties.

Operating Leases as Lessor

Investment property is leased under operating leases. The leases have remaining non-cancellable terms ranging from 3 months to 334 months. The future aggregate minimum lease payments to be collected under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows.

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
Operating Leases as Lessor		
Not later than one year	220	288
Later than one year and not later than five years	461	408
Later than five years	68	152
Total Non-Cancellable Operating Leases	749	848

Operating Leases as Lessee

Council leases buildings and plant and equipment in the normal course of its business. The leases have remaining non-cancellable terms ranging from 8 months to 60 months. The future aggregate minimum lease payments payable under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows.

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
Operating Leases as Lessee		
Not later than one year	52	67
Later than one year and not later than five years	21	74
Later than five years	-	-
Total Non-Cancellable Operating Leases	73	141

Note 22: Contingencies

Contingent liabilities for 2024 total between \$30,000 and \$80,000 (2023: \$Nil). These relate to open legal cases.

There are no contingent assets for 2024 (2023: \$Nil).

No contingent rents have been recognised during the period.

There are no unfulfilled conditions and other contingencies attached to New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi subsidies recognised.

New Zealand Mutual Liability Riskpool Scheme

Council was previously a member of the New Zealand Mutual Liability Riskpool scheme ('Riskpool'). The Scheme is in wind down; however, the Council has an ongoing obligation to contribute to the scheme should a call be made in respect of any historical claims (to the extent those claims are not covered by reinsurance), and to fund the ongoing operation of the scheme.

The likelihood of any historical claim call reduces with each year that passes since access to new cover was closed in July 2017. At publishing date Council have not been informed of any specific upcoming calls.

Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)

The Council is a guarantor of the LGFA. The LGFA was incorporated in December 2011 with the purpose of providing debt funding to local authorities in New Zealand. It has a current credit rating from Standard and Poor's of AA+.

As at 30 June 2024, the Council is one of several local authority borrowers and guarantors of the LGFA. The LGFA's loans to local authorities are \$23.9 billion (2023: \$18.6 billion), of which the Council have borrowed \$0.027 billion (2023: \$0.029 billion). As a result, the Council's cross guarantee on the LGFA's loans to other local authorities is \$23.8 billion (2023: \$18.6 billion).

Public Benefit Entity (PBE) Accounting Standards require the Council to recognise the guaranteed liability at fair value. However, the Council have been unable to determine a sufficiently reliable fair value for the guarantee, and therefore, has not recognised a liability. The Council considers the risk of the LGFA defaulting on repayment of interest or capital to be very low on the basis that:

- the Council is not aware of any local authority debt default events in New Zealand; and,
- Local government legislation would enable local authorities to levy a rate to recover sufficient funds to meet any debt obligations if further funds were required.

Note 23: Related Party Transactions

During the year councillors and key management, as part of a normal customer relationship, were involved in minor transactions with Council (such as payment of rates and purchase of rubbish bags etc.). All payments were made on a cash basis and no payments were delayed. No interest was charged and there are no outstanding balances at 30 June 2024. No provision has been required, nor any expense recognised for impairment of receivables for any loans or other receivables to related parties (2023: \$Nil).

Note 24: Remuneration

Key Management Personnel Compensation

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
Councillors		
Remuneration	\$ 346,101	\$ 368,879
Number of members	10.0	10.0
Senior Management Team, including Chief Executive		
Remuneration	\$ 1,033,259	\$ 1,303,214
Full-time equivalent members	5.1	7.0
Total key management personnel compensation	\$ 1,379,360	\$ 1,672,093

Due to the difficulty in determining the full-time equivalent for Councillors, the full-time equivalent figure is taken as the number of Councillors. Key management personnel include the Mayor, Councillors and Senior Management Team, including the Chief Executive.

Chief Executive

The Chief Executive of SWDC is appointed under section 42 of the Local Government Act 2002. Janice Smith was appointed as Chief Executive on the 13th of November 2023, with Paul Gardner acting as Interim Chief Executive from Harry Wilson’s resignation in May 2023 until Mrs Smith’s appointment.

Mrs Smith’s remuneration during the year was \$173,401 and Mr Gardner’s remuneration for the period acting as Interim Chief Executive was \$126,739. (2023: Harry Wilson \$325,416 to May 2023).

Council Employees	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
<\$60,000	20	18
\$60,000 to \$79,999	24	25
\$80,000 to \$119,999	19	17
>\$120,000	11	8
Total Employees	74	68
Full-time employees	58	51
Full-time equivalent employees	11	9

Total remuneration includes non-financial benefits provided to employees. A full-time employee is determined based on a 37.5-hour working week.

Council employee numbers include members of senior leadership team but not elected members.

As per reporting standards the numbers of staff are a snapshot of those employed on 30th of June, not a reflection of averages throughout the year.

Severance Payments

One severance payment was made in 2024 totalling \$14,500 (2023: \$27,765).

The term severance payment includes non-monetary benefits but excludes salary, holiday pay, superannuation contributions and any other contractual entitlements to which the employee was entitled.

Elected Representatives

Council	30 June 2024	
	\$	30 June 2023
Councillors		
A Beijen**	-	25,263
A Plimmer	26,259	35,210
B Jephson**	-	6,987
B West**	-	6,964
G Emms**	-	10,161
L Hay**	-	8,168
P Colenso**	-	7,757
P Maynard	26,259	28,015
R Fox**	-	8,284
C Olds	26,259	26,306
M Bosley*	26,259	20,603
M Connelly (Mayor)*	90,224	77,106
A Ellims*	26,259	20,603
R Gray*	26,259	20,603
K McAulay*	26,259	20,603
M Sadler-Futter*	45,805	25,643
A Woodcock*	26,259	20,603
Total Councillors' Remuneration	346,101	368,879

Community Boards	30 June 2024		30 June 2023	
	\$		\$	
Featherston Community Board				
C Bleakley **	-		1,105	
M Shepherd (Chair) **	-		2,063	
M Gray **	-		1,105	
T Tahinurua **	-		1,105	
P Dennison*	3,426		2,961	
W Maxwell*	3,482		2,961	
T Rutherford (Chair)*	6,965		5,456	
A Schroeder*	3,482		2,965	
Greytown Community Board				
G Gray **	-		1,105	
A Rainford (Chair) **	-		2,063	
S Symes **	-		1,105	
S Baker **	-		1,105	
L Brown (Chair)*	6,965		5,457	
N Morrison*	3,482		1,375	
J Woodcock*	3,482		2,961	
W Woodgyer*	3,482		2,961	
Martinborough Community Board				
A Ellims **	-		1,105	
N Fenwick **	-		1,105	
M Honey **	-		1,105	
M Maynard***	3,482		5,412	
A Brown*	3,482		2,961	
K Krogh*	3,482		2,961	
S Roberston (Chair)*	6,965		5,456	
Total Community Board Members' Remuneration	52,177		57,955	

* Newly elected October 2022

** Not re-elected/did not stand for re-election October 2022

*** Stood down as chairperson in October 2022

Note 25: Events After Balance Date - Water Services Reform

In October 2023, a new Government was elected, resulting in the Water Services Acts Repeal Act 2024 in February 2024, which removed the previous Government's legislation and reform programme. Since February 2024 legislative changes have been made to New Zealand's water management framework under the "Local Water Done Well" legislation which will have implications for how local councils manage and finance water services in future years. In August 2024, the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Bill was passed to enable councils to develop their Water Services Delivery Plans during the 2024-25 year.

Key aspects of the new legislative model are:

- Councils are required to adopt a Water Services Delivery Plan (WSDP) by 3 September 2025 to set out how water services will be delivered, financed, and implemented. The WSDP will also outline when new arrangements will take effect.
- The legislative framework encourages councils to establish Water Council-Controlled Organisations (CCOs) to manage water services. These CCOs are permitted to borrow up to 500% of their operating revenues, subject to prudent credit criteria, from the New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA), facilitating significant infrastructure investments. Subject to the form of any CCO, and delivery arrangement selected by Council, SWDC may be required to provide a debt guarantee.
- Implementation of a new economic regulation regime, overseen by the Commerce Commission. This regime ensures that revenues collected for water services are ring-fenced and used solely for water-related projects, preventing use for other council priorities.
- Increased regulatory flexibility for Taumata Arowai, providing greater flexibility in water quality compliance, allowing exemptions for smaller water supplies, and introducing a single national standard for wastewater performance.

As part of the preparation for Local Waters Done Well reform, SWDC officers and elected members had been evaluating two joint delivery options—one involving the Wairarapa region and Tararua District (Wai+T), and another with a Wellington regional working group. On the 13th of November 2024 Council voted unanimously to exit the Wellington regional WSDP and focus on developing the Wai+T model. The collaborative Wairarapa and Tararua multi-council water services council-controlled organisation (CCO) model will be presented to the community for formal consultation in 2025.

Whilst these changes do not impact the financial or service performance information in this report, there will be potential impacts in future years. None of these impacts directly challenge the viability of Council, or its assumption of maintaining going concern status.

- **Financial Management:** The increased borrowing capacity through LGFA loans allows Councils and Water CCOs to invest in critical water infrastructure without immediate price increases.
- **Regulatory Compliance:** Councils and their CCOs will need to adhere to new economic regulations, ensuring that all water service revenues are transparently managed and invested solely in water services. This may require adjustments to existing financial and operational practices.
- **Strategic Planning:** The council must develop and submit Water Services Delivery Plans that outline how water services will be managed and financed under the new framework. This includes exploring partnerships with other councils via CCOs to leverage resources and reduce costs.

Note 26: Events After Balance Date - Other

There have been no other events after balance date.

Note 27: Financial Assets

PBE IPSAS 41 requires debt instruments to be subsequently measured at FVTSD, amortised cost, or FVTOCRE. This classification is based on the business model for managing the debt instruments, and whether the payment are solely payments of principal or interest or interest on the principal amount outstanding.

Council assessed the business model for its classes of financial assets at the date of initial application. Debt instruments are held mainly to collect except for the Council's listed portfolio which are held to collect and sell in accordance with the Council's Treasury Management Policy to meet capital requirements.

Council's debt instruments are solely comprised of contractual cash flows solely for payments of principal and interest, in line with basic lending arrangements. This assessment was based on the facts and circumstances as at the initial recognition of the assets.

PBE IPSAS 41 requires equity instruments to be classified at FVTSD. However, it permits entities to make an irrevocable election on transition to PBE IPSAS 41 to subsequently measure at FVTOCRE if the shares are not held for trading.

The accounting policies for financial instruments have been applied to the line items below:

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
Financial Assets	\$000	\$000
Amortised Cost		
Cash and cash equivalents	3,912	6,722
Debtors and other receivables	3,183	4,007
Investments	5,551	6,137
Total and Amortised Cost	12,646	16,866
FVTOCRE		
Investments	628	660
Unlisted shares	284	258
Total measured at FVTOCRE	912	917

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
Financial Liabilities	\$000	\$000
Amortised Cost		
Creditors	5,385	6,857
Secured loans	26,900	28,900
Total financial liabilities at Amortised Cost	32,285	35,757

Financial Instrument Risks

The Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial instrument risks, including market risk, credit risk, and liquidity risk. Council's Treasury Management Policy outlines strategies to manage the risks associated with financial instruments, and seeks to minimise exposure from its treasury activities, and does not allow any transactions of a speculative nature.

Treasury reports are submitted quarterly to Council's Assurance, Risk and Finance Committee to ensure transparency and oversight of related risks.

Price Risk

Price risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Equity securities price risk arises on listed share investments, which are classified as financial assets held at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense. This price risk arises due to market movements in listed shares. Council does not manage price risk as its unlisted shares are held for strategic reasons.

Currency Risk

The Council has limited foreign exchange risk through the occasional purchase of foreign exchange denominated plant and equipment. All foreign exchange exposures greater than NZD50,000 must be hedged using forward exchange contracts. The Council does not borrow or enter into incidental arrangements within or outside New Zealand in any foreign currency, other than New Zealand dollars.

Interest Rate Risk

Fair value interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Investments issued at fixed rates of interest expose the Council to fair value interest rate risk. Council does not actively manage interest rate risk as investments are short-term in nature and used for management of cash-flow rather than for the purpose of gaining revenue.

Council also seeks to have a diversified maturity profile for external borrowing but, in any case, no more than \$30.0 million or 50% of outstanding debt (whichever is the greater, can mature over the next 12-months or any subsequent 12-month period, on a rolling basis.

Liquidity Risk

A key factor in the management of funding risk is to spread and control the risk to reduce the concentration of risk at any point so that the overall borrowing cost is not increased unnecessarily and / or the desired maturity profile compromised due to market conditions. Council's ability to readily attract cost effective borrowing is largely driven by its ability to maintain a strong balance sheet, levy rates and manage its relationships with the LGFA and the banking sector.

To manage liquidity risk, the Council will ensure that external debt plus committed but unutilised loan facilities, and / or available liquid investments will be maintained at an amount of 110% of projected external debt over the ensuing 12-month period.

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the potential for a person or organisation to fail to pay amounts due to Council, leading to Council being out of pocket for the services provided. As referred to in Note 10 of this report, the risk of credit losses for Council are minimal, due to the legislative tools for collection of rates and funds for infringements. Additionally, the majority of services are only delivered once payment has been received, further reducing exposure to credit risk. These measures provide strong assurance of the authority's financial stability and its ability to manage outstanding receivables effectively.

Note 28: Internal Borrowing

As at 30 June 2024 there were no internal borrowings (2023: Nil)

Note 29: Explanation of Major Variances against Budget

Explanations for major variations from SWDC's estimated figures in the 2023/24 Annual Plan are as follows.

Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense

The operating surplus for the year was \$2.3 million more than expected because revenues were \$3.6 million higher than planned. This was partly offset by expenses that were \$1.3 million higher than planned.

The increase in revenue is due to:

- Subsidy from Waka Kotahi, which was \$2.8 million higher than budgeted. However, this was offset by \$2.1 million in higher expenses for Land Transport, due to emergency work caused by weather events.
- Higher interest revenue of \$0.2 million, thanks to increased interest rates on term investments.

The revenue for the year also includes grant funds from central government initiatives, which were matched by increases in expenses in the related activities:

- \$0.2 million for Water Reform Transition Support across the three water activities.
- \$0.2 million for the Infrastructure Reference Group, specifically for the Tauwharenikau Cycle Bridge under Community Facilities and Services.
- A total of \$0.5 million for the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs, Rangatahi Strategy, Welcoming Communities, and Freedom Camping, also under Community Facilities and Services.

There is also an increase in expenses for Planning and Regulatory Services (\$1.0m) because spending on the Spatial Plan and Combined District Plan was reclassified from capital costs to operating costs.

Infrastructure and investment property assets were revalued based on market conditions, which increased the total surplus by \$48.9 million and \$0.4 million respectively. These are unrealised gains, meaning the market value went up, but the properties haven't been sold.

Statement of Financial Position

The overall position shows Council can meet its commitments, having sufficient means to cover current liabilities. Assets held to support the delivery of Council services increased in value due to positive cyclical revaluations and increased capital expenditure and assets vested council. Public debt decreased this financial year, in line with updated treasury policy guidelines.

Closing investments were \$6.0 million less than budgeted position, due to variance in opening position, and a change in treasury policy that directs term investments held for loan redemption to be used to reduce borrowings.

Overall, equity has increased, mainly due to market revaluation of infrastructure and investment property assets. Transfers to and from special and restricted reserves balances reflect increasing development within the district and the use of accumulated funds to repay loans.

Statement of Cashflows

Net cash flow from operating activities closely aligns with the budget, as revenues and expenses were close to expectations.

Net cash flow from investing activities was unfavourable but better than budgeted (by \$2.8 million) due to delays in capital projects for the three water activities.

Net cash flow from financing activities was \$4.0 million lower than budget because the Council used available funds to pay down debt, and some capital projects were delayed.

Note 30: Non-compliance with Statutory Deadline

Due to resourcing issues, Audit New Zealand has been unable to complete the necessary work to enable the issuance of the audit opinion. This has meant that Council has been unable to adopt the Annual Report within the statutory deadline of 31 October 2024.

Other Legislative Disclosures

Local Government Act 2002 – Financial Disclosures

The Local Government Act 2002 sets out disclosure requirements for Councils over and above the generally accepted accounting practice (GAPP) information. New disclosures were added in legislative changes and additions to the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014.

Insurance of Assets

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
	\$000	\$000
Total value of property, plant, and equipment (excluding land)	555,217	501,228
Value of assets covered by risk share arrangements	511,975	87,753
Value of assets covered by insurance contracts	117,699	114,678

The value of assets covered by insurance excludes land and land under roads.

In addition to Council’s insurance, in the event of natural disaster it is assumed that Central Government will contribute 60% towards the restoration of Council owned underground drainage, waste and water assets and the New Zealand Transport Agency will contribute between 49-59% towards the restoration of Roothing assets.

Reporting Format

These financial statements incorporate applicable amendments to legislation governing financial reporting requirements.

Rating Base Information

The Local Government Act (Amendment No. 3) includes a clause 30A in Schedule 10. The information below satisfies the disclosure requirements of that clause and adds comparative information for this current financial year.

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
Rating Base Information		
Number of rating units	7,404	7,274
	\$Million	\$Million
Capital Value of rating units	6,598	6,582
Land value of rating units	3,910	3,966

Network Assets

Current Year 30 June 2024	Acquisitions/ Constructed by SWDC \$000	Transferred to SWDC \$000	Closing Book Value \$000	Replacement Cost \$000
Water Supply				
Treatment plants and facilities	665	-	20,937	20,937
Land	-	-	2,307	2,307
Other Assets	41	16	28,195	28,195
Wastewater				
Treatment plants and facilities	100	-	883	883
Land	-	-	18,058	18,058
Other Assets	3,389	14	49,710	49,710
Stormwater Drainage				
Stormwater systems	47	13	26,796	26,796
Land Transport				
Roads and Footpaths	5,060	52	385,466	385,466

Previous Year 30 June 2023	Acquisitions/ Constructed by SWDC \$000	Transferred to SWDC \$000	Closing Book Value \$000	Replacement Cost \$000
Water Supply				
Treatment plants and facilities	949	-	10,847	10,847
Land	-	-	2,307	2,307
Other Assets	347	288	32,388	32,388
Wastewater				
Treatment plants and facilities	-	-	360	360
Land	-	-	18,058	18,058
Other Assets	(306)	345	27,052	27,052
Stormwater Drainage				
Stormwater systems	57	206	21,863	21,863
Land Transport				
Roads and Footpaths	3,369	877	345,626	345,626

Statement of Special and Separate Funds for Year Ended 30 June 2024

Current Year	Activities to which reserve relates	Opening Balance \$'000	Transfers In \$'000	Transfers Out \$'000	Closing Balance \$'000
District Property					
To be used for Town Centre Development	All activities	236	238	(304)	170
Asset Realisation					
Realised capital gains from sale of Council Assets.	All activities	298	-	-	298
Plantation Reserve					
For road protection schemes and seal extensions in the future.	All activities	(147)	-	(43)	(190)
Disaster Recovery Reserve					
To be used for strengthening Council's business continuity	All activities	20	10	-	30
Wairarapa Moana Reserve					
To be used to establish and support the board that will lead guardianship and management of the moana and its surrounds	All activities	137	-	-	137
Community Board Reserves					
Community Board funds carried over:					
Featherston	Governance	29	16	(17)	28
Greytown	Governance	38	16	(19)	35
Martinborough	Governance	27	16	(32)	11
Te Māngai O Ngā Hapori Māori (Māori Standing Committee)	Governance	25	21	(22)	24
Martinborough Swimming Pool	Governance	15	-	-	15
Restricted Reserves					
To provide for the acquisition and development of reserves and open spaces in response to the needs arising from subdivision and development, to protect conservation values. To provide opportunities for public access to and along water bodies, to provide recreational opportunities near water bodies	All activities	3,176	383	(213)	3,345
Water Race Reserves					
Longwood	Water	52	73	(69)	56
Moroa	Water	314	80	(64)	329
Trusts					
Campground Memorial:	Amenities	7	-	-	7
Pain Farm - Maintaining and improving the Borough's parks, sports grounds, camping ground, swimming baths, providing and maintaining sports facilities and a children's playground.	Amenities	155	432	(168)	419
Infrastructure Contributions					
To provide a potable water supply, to safeguard the health of inhabitants and protect the natural environment for inappropriate disposal of sewage, to prevent damage to property or amenity from the indiscriminate and uncontrolled runoff of Stormwater, to ensure sufficient water is available for firefighting purposes.	All activities	3,598	1,120	(1,346)	3,371
To provide for the safe and convenient movement on roads of vehicular, bicycles and pedestrians within and through the Wairarapa.					
Planning Reserves					
To spread the costs of the Combined District Plan over the life of the plan	Resource Management	(338)	60	(274)	(552)
To spread the costs of the Spatial Plan over the life of the plan	Management	11	133	(93)	52
Loan Redemption Reserve					
To cover loan principal repayments	All activities	10,854	679	(2,000)	9,533
Depreciation Reserves					
To fund new capital projects	All activities	11,492	7,093	(6,842)	11,742
Martinborough Town Hall Reserve					
Waiinga Centre Project	Amenities	10	-	-	10
Rural Roding Reserve					
Rural Roding	Roding	1,268	300	(1,039)	529
Housing Reserve					
Housing	Amenities	(287)	295	(392)	(384)
Maintenance Reserve					
To cover maintenance to buildings	Amenities	12	33	(125)	(80)
Wellington Water Unexpected Events					
Water Supply	Water Supply	-	98	-	98
Wastewater	Wastewater	-	11	-	11
Stormwater	Stormwater	-	86	-	86
Wastewater Desludging					
Cost and funding for desludging wastewater treatment ponds	Wastewater	-	500	(149)	351
Total Special and Separate Funds		31,000	11,693	(13,213)	29,480

Statement of Special and Separate Funds for Year Ended 30 June 2023

Previous Year	Activities to which reserve relates	Opening Balance \$000	Transfers In \$000	Transfers Out \$000	Closing Balance \$000
District Property					
To be used for Town Centre Development	All activities	134	315	(213)	236
Asset Realisation					
Capital gains from the sale of Council Assets that have been realised over time.	All activities	298	-	-	298
Plantation Reserve					
For road protection schemes and seal extensions in the future.	All activities	(117)	-	(30)	(147)
Disaster Recovery Reserve					
To be used for strengthening Council's business continuity	All activities	10	10	-	20
Wairarapa Moana Reserve					
To be used to establish and support the board that will lead guardianship and management of the moana and its surrounds	All activities	-	137	-	137
Community Board Reserves					
Community Board funds carried over:					
Featherston	Governance	5	5	(7)	3
Greytown	Governance	10	5	(1)	14
Martinborough	Governance	5	5	(7)	3
Te Māngai O Ngā Hapori Māori (Māori Standing Committee)	Governance	31	-	(6)	25
Featherston Community Development Fund	Governance	26	12	(12)	26
Greytown Community Development Fund	Governance	17	12	(5)	24
Martinborough Community Development Fund	Governance	13	12	(1)	24
Martinborough Swimming Pool	Governance	15	-	-	15
Restricted Reserves					
To provide for the acquisition and development of reserves and open spaces in response to the needs arising from subdivision and development, to protect conservation values.	All activities	2,754	862	(440)	3,176
To provide opportunities for public access to and along water bodies, to provide recreational opportunities near water bodies					
Water Race Reserves					
Featherston/Longwood Water race	Water	9	83	(41)	52
Moroa	Water	284	90	(60)	314
Trusts					
Campground Memorial: Pain Farm	Amenities	7	-	-	7
Maintaining and improving the Borough's parks, sports grounds, camping ground, swimming baths, providing and maintaining sports facilities and a children's playground.	Amenities	116	155	(116)	155
Infrastructure Contributions					
To provide a potable water supply, to safeguard the health of inhabitants and protect the natural environment for inappropriate disposal of sewage, to prevent damage to property or amenity from the indiscriminate and uncontrolled runoff of Stormwater, to ensure sufficient water is available for firefighting purposes.	All activities	3,423	1,756	(1,580)	3,598
To provide for the safe and convenient movement on roads of vehicular, bicycles and pedestrians within and through the Wairarapa.					
Planning Reserves					
To spread the costs of the Combined District Plan over the life of the plan	Resource	(118)	60	(280)	(338)
To spread the costs of the Spatial Plan over the life of the plan	Management	13	133	(135)	11
Loan Redemption Reserve					
To cover loan principal repayments	All activities	8,513	2,342	-	10,854
Depreciation Reserves					
To fund new capital projects	All activities	11,591	5,251	(5,350)	11,492
Martinborough Town Hall Reserve					
Waiinga Centre Project	Amenities	22	-	(12)	10
Rural Roading Reserve					
Rural Roading	Rooding	1,453	300	(485)	1,268
Housing Reserve					
Housing	Amenities	(226)	281	(342)	(287)
Maintenance Reserve					
To cover maintenance to buildings	Amenities	(21)	33	-	12
Total Special and Separate Funds		28,268	11,855	(9,122)	31,000

Financial Prudence Benchmarks

Ngā Paerewa Pūtea

Financial Prudence Disclosure Statement

What is the purpose of this statement?

The purpose of this statement is to disclose the Council’s financial performance in relation to various benchmarks to enable the assessment of whether the Council is prudently managing its revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities, and general financial dealings.

The Council is required to include this statement in its annual report in accordance with the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 (the Regulations). Refer to the Regulations for more information, including definitions of some of the terms used in this statement.

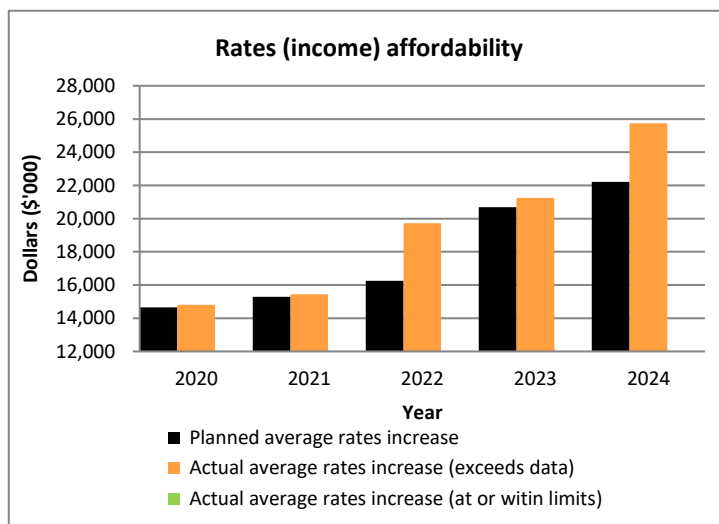
Rates affordability benchmark

The Council meets the rates affordability benchmark if:

- Its actual rates income equals, or is less than, each quantified limit on rates; and
- Its actual rates increase equal, or are less than, each quantified limit on rates increases.

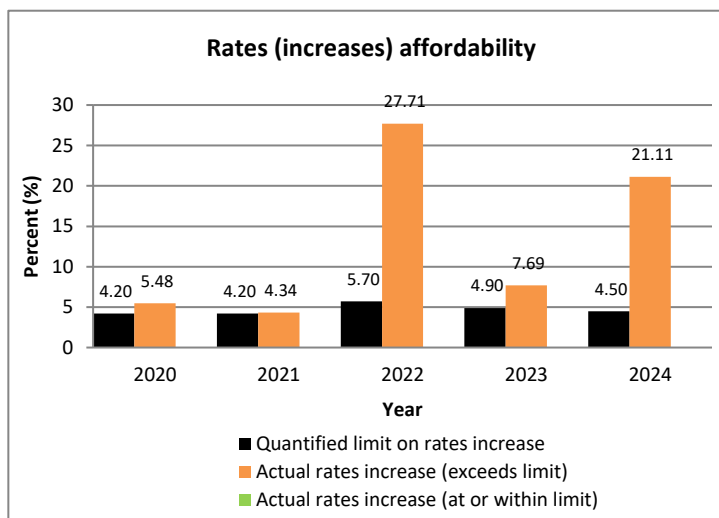
Rates (income) affordability

This graph compares the Council’s actual rates income with the quantified limit on rates set in the financial strategy included in the Council’s long-term plan. Actual rates increases were slightly above the quantified limits set.



Rates (increases) affordability

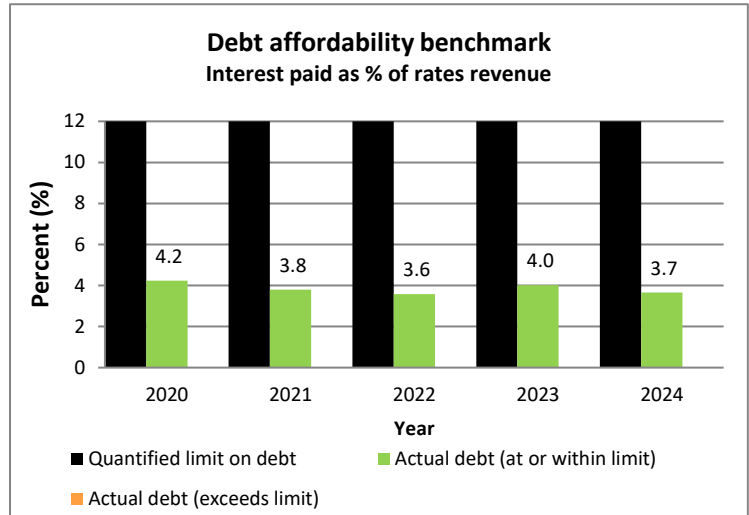
This graph compares the Council’s actual rates increases with a quantified limit on rates increases included in the financial strategy of the Council’s long-term plan. The quantified limit is the percentage change in average rates and should not exceed the increase in the opening BER local government cost index plus 2 percent. Quantified limits on rates increases were first set for the year ended 30 June 2013.



Debt affordability benchmark

The Council meets the debt affordability benchmark if its actual borrowing is within each quantified limit on borrowing.

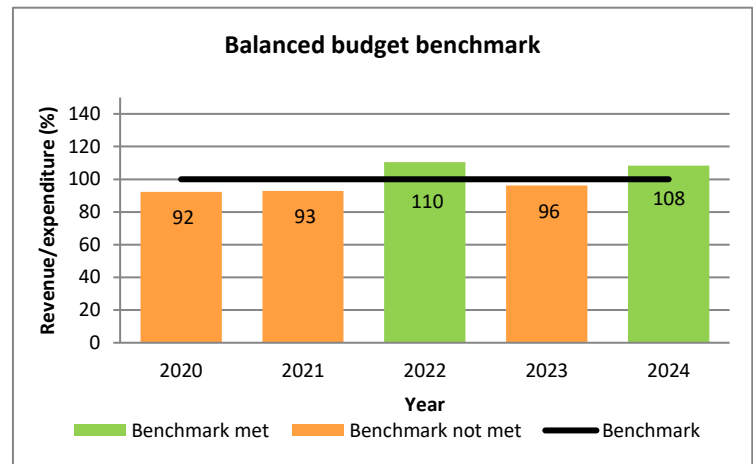
The following graph compares the Council’s actual borrowing with a quantified limit on borrowing stated in the financial strategy included in the Council’s long-term plan. The quantified limit is that gross interest paid on term debt must not exceed 12 percent of rates revenue.



Balanced budget benchmark

This graph displays the Council’s revenue (excluding development contributions, financial contributions, vested assets, gains on derivative financial instruments, and revaluations of property, plant, or equipment) as a proportion of operating expenses (excluding losses on derivative financial instruments and revaluations of property, plant, or equipment).

The Council meets this benchmark if its revenue equals or is greater than its operating expenses.

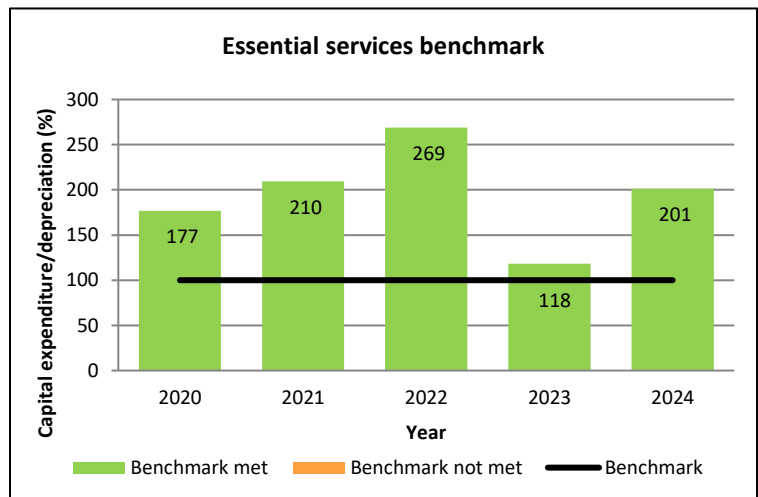


Essential services benchmark

This graph displays the Council’s capital expenditure on network services as a proportion of depreciation on network services.

The Council meets this benchmark if its capital expenditure on network services equals or is greater than depreciation on network services.

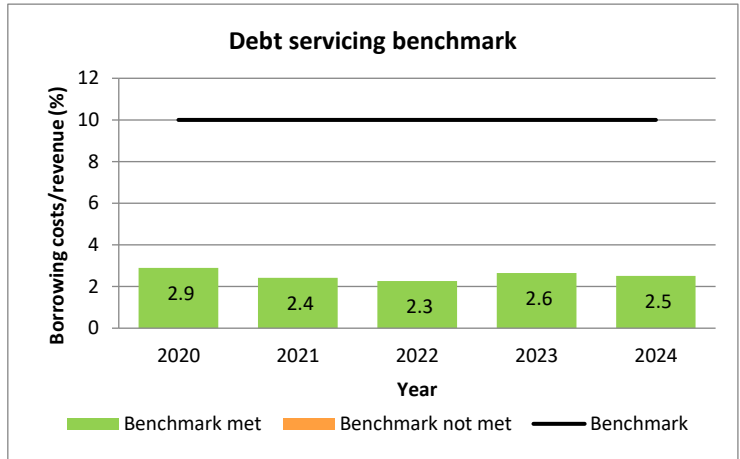
Council plans its network expenditure to ensure assets are maintained for the very long term, and on an as needed basis. Expenditure is based on maintenance need. Unspent funds are held in reserve until required.



Debt servicing benchmark

This graph displays the Council’s borrowing costs as a proportion of revenue (excluding development contributions, financial contributions, vested assets, gains on derivative financial instruments, and revaluations of property, plant, or equipment).

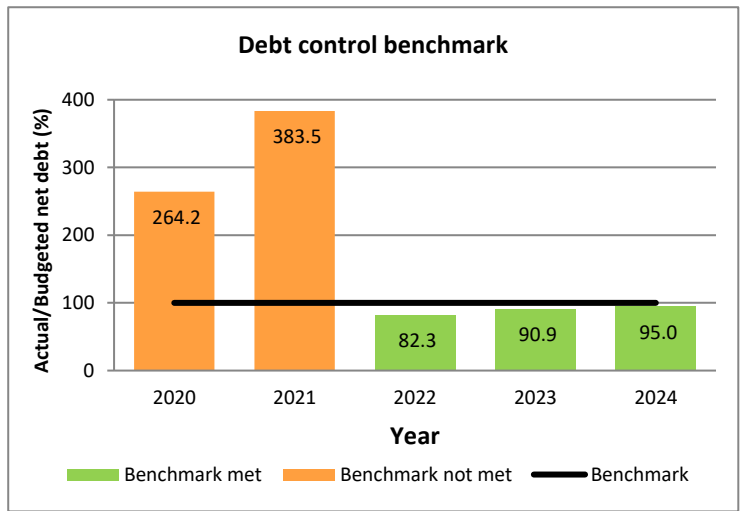
Because Statistics New Zealand projects the Council’s population will grow more slowly than the national population growth rate, it meets the debt servicing benchmark if its borrowing costs equal or are less than 10% of its revenue.



Debt control benchmark

The following graph displays the Council’s actual net debt as a proportion of planned net debt. In this statement, net debt means financial liabilities less financial assets (excluding trade and other receivables).

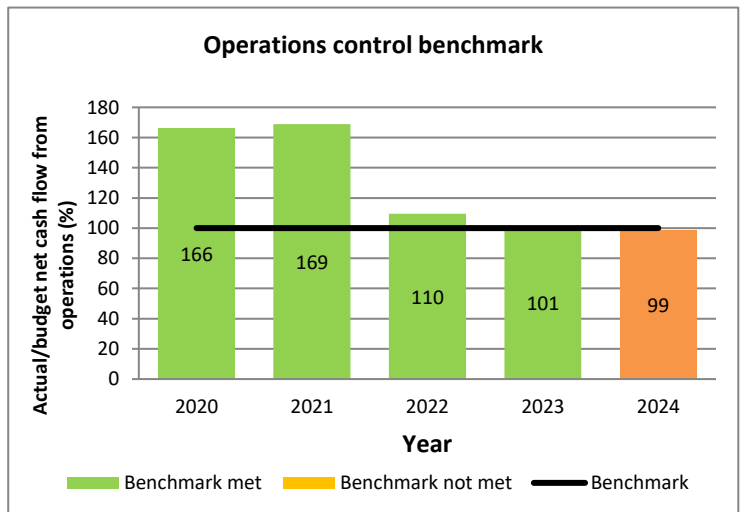
Council meets the debt control benchmark if its actual net debt equals or is less than its planned net debt.



Operations control benchmark

The following graph displays the Council’s actual net cash flow from operations as a proportion of its planned net cash flow from operations.

The Council meets the operations control benchmark if its actual net cash flow from operations equals or is greater than its planned net cash flow from operations.



COUNCIL'S Significant Activities

NGĀ MAHI
WHAKAHIRAHIRA
O TE KAUNIHERA



**SOUTH WAIRARAPA
DISTRICT COUNCIL**
Kia Reretahi Tātau

South Wairarapa Strategic Framework to 2050

Our community outcomes

SOCIAL WELLBEING

Residents are active, healthy, safe, resilient, optimistic and connected

ECONOMIC WELLBEING

A place of destination, new business and diverse employment that gives people independence and opportunity

MARA WAWATA

Strategic drivers

TAUTOKO

Creating better connections & social wellbeing

- ▶ Strengthen social connections within the community
- ▶ Encourage civic pride and participation
- ▶ Provide universally accessible, safe and diverse spaces to strengthen connection between people and place
- ▶ Advocate for better transport and technology to improve social and business opportunities

Supporting sustainable growth, employment, economic wellbeing & development

- ▶ Plan for growth that protects rural land and character
- ▶ Contain rural residential expansion
- ▶ Support quality urban development
- ▶ Limit growth in coastal and other areas subject to climate change impacts
- ▶ Support the transition to a low carbon economy
- ▶ Encourage economic diversity and local vibrancy
- ▶ Leverage partnerships with central and regional agencies to enable economic development and employment opportunities

Enhancing three waters delivery & environmental quality

- ▶ Deliver sustainable, clean, clear, safe and secure drinking water
- ▶ Design and implement innovative, sustainable, efficient and affordable wastewater and stormwater systems
- ▶ Protect and replenish our natural environment and biodiversity
- ▶ Minimise waste and provide environmentally sustainable Council services
- ▶ Take active measures to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change
- ▶ Empower and enable our community to drive behavioural change for the benefit of the environment

Nurturing & creating the district's special character, qualities and culture

- ▶ Work in partnership with mana whenua and iwi, respecting tikanga (customs), kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and taha Māori (heritage)
- ▶ Take opportunities to embrace and celebrate diversity
- ▶ Take opportunities to advance and showcase arts, culture & heritage
- ▶ Protect town and rural community character, retaining our unique look and feel
- ▶ Improve urban design and integrate what we build with natural features

Work with Treaty Partners Strong and Efficient

OUR VISION

The best of country living with the community at the heart of everything we do.

Where we are today

- Strong population growth: 2.2% average annual increase 2013-18 and an estimated 2.7% increase in 2020
- Rapid increase in house prices in 2020 resulting in Featherston median price \$484,100, Greytown \$732,800, Martinborough just over \$700,000
- 1 in 4 people over the age of 65
- Workers challenged to find affordable houses
- GDP per capita is \$27,000 compared to \$62,000 for NZ average, indicating relatively low incomes per person
- Unemployment rate of 4% which is lower than NZ of 5.8% - High employment but low GDP
- Climate change with extreme weather events, droughts, higher temperatures, coastal erosion

ENVIRONMENTAL WELLBEING

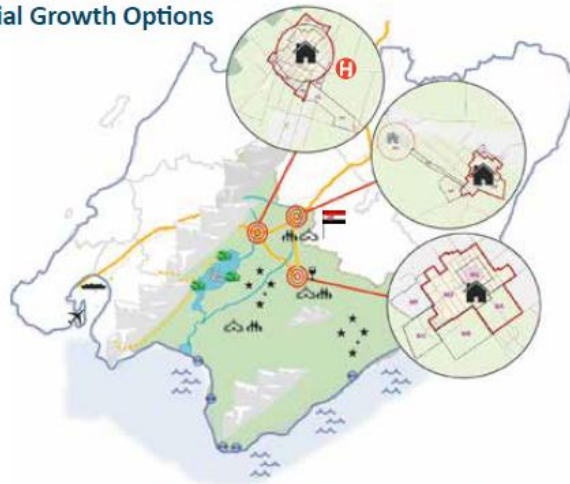
Sustainable living, safe and secure water and soils, waste minimised, biodiversity enhanced

CULTURAL WELLBEING

Strong relationships with whānau, hapū and marae, celebrating diverse cultural identity, arts and heritage

Mapping our future to 2050
Step 1: Residential Growth Options

TETAIAO



- Prominent mountains
- Hāpori
- Main towns
- Road link
- Rail link
- Cycle link
- Proposed residential growth area
- Proposed residential 20 year plus
- Marae
- Focus for kotahitanga - Māori Parliament
- Indicative Papakāinga
- Wine industry
- Dark Sky Reserve
- Lake restoration & conservation
- Biodiversity corridor & halo
- Managed coastal retreat
- Wellington Regional Growth Framework

WHAKAPAPA

ient Council Our Communities and District

WHAKATAUKI

Mei te tatū o ngā whakaaro ki ngā āhuatanga o te hinengaro,
Mei te ngāwari ake o te ahunga ki nāianei,
Kua tū nei te tūranga ki runga i ngā pakahiwi o te nehenehe.

If I am confident with where we'll be in the future,
Composed with how we are at present,
It is merely because I am standing on the shoulders of the past.

Three key roles of our district in the region & New Zealand

Roles of council:

Advocate for sustainable living and community wellbeing
Influence, facilitate, partner, provide services, plan and regulate



1
A place for agriculture, fishing, forestry, horticulture and viticulture with new and growing business and job opportunities



2
A destination highlighting diverse cultures, heritage, environmental sustainability and recreational experiences



3
A town and country lifestyle choice

Building our Mahi Tahī with Māori

All councils have a statutory obligation as determined under the Te Tiriti o Waitangi to work in partnership with Māori. For SWDC, the establishment of a Māori Standing Committee (MSC) in 1996 was our response to the then new Resource Management Act 1991.

The MSC representation is by appointment from marae trustees and consists of 2 appointees from Kohunui Marae, Hau Ariki Marae, and Papawai Marae. One iwi representative from both Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitane o Wairarapa. Much later in 2018, Pae tū Mōkai (Featherston) created a group called Pae tū Mōkai o Taurira that became an incorporated society and appointed two of its members to the MSC as a voice for māori from Pae tū Mōkai (Featherston). The role of the MSC is to advocate on behalf of, and in the best interests of tangata whenua and to ensure Council acts in a manner that is consistent with the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

In 2019, the MSC made a submission to Council requesting financial support for the three local marae, all needed repairs, facility upgrades and compliance for insurance. At the same time, the MSC also requested an operational fund. Council agreed to a one-off payment to support the three marae and a further operational fund annually that was equal to Community Board funding. MSC would also make available a portion of the operational fund to grants for community with alignment to SWDC wellbeing outcomes; Social Wellbeing (Tautoko), Economic Wellbeing (Marae Wawata), Environmental Wellbeing (Te Taiao) and Cultural Wellbeing (Whakapapa) with emphasis on kaupapa māori values, marae development, rangatahi support, and te taiao projects and wānanga.

In 2021, MSC made another submission to Council requesting the establishment of a permanent role within Council, Pou Māori. The role would be advisory and provide sound strategic and operational direction and support to Council. Our Pou Māori would work across the whole organisation of council and ensure that Council acts in a manner that is consistent with the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and provide support and guidance to elected and appointed members and to council staff. At the beginning of the triennium, Council invited the MSC members to a seat on Council committees and would include a voting right, giving MSC more opportunities for māori representation at the decision-making table, which has been welcomed by the MSC.

In October 2022, the local government elections took place which resulted in nine newly elected Councillors, nine newly elected community board members and the new mayor, Martin Connelly forming the Council for 2022-25 triennium. The ceremony of swearing in the new elected members was held for the first time at Papawai Marae, with mana whenua leading the process. Council is then invited back to Papawai Marae for an induction, where mana whenua could articulate the whakapapa of hapū in South Wairarapa and the significance of Papawai Marae and its long history with the Crown and its time as a Māori Parliament in 1897.

November 2023, Council voted in favour of the establishment of a Māori Ward for South Wairarapa District, further cementing their commitment to build strong relationships with iwi/māori, to create opportunities for representation and being a part of the decision-making process. Council is committed to improving its cultural capability and understanding of the māori world view. Council, with the support of our Pou Māori and MSC can enter engagement and consultation with iwi/māori on matters of significance to mana whenua and our wider māori community, with support and guidance. We have also initiated a journey towards improving the use of te reo across the organisation with the aim to land in a space where the use of te reo,

knowledge of local whakapapa and knowledge of local tikanga and tikanga processes across the business of council is normalised.

Resident Satisfaction Survey

Methodology - Resident Satisfaction Survey

South Wairarapa District Council (SWDC) is the local area authority responsible for the delivery of services to residents in the South Wairarapa District.

Each year SWDC conduct a survey of residents to understand residents' views on a range of SWDC services and facilities. This year, SWDC commissioned Versus to conduct the Residents Satisfaction Survey for 2024. This survey has been conducted since 2021 with any relevant data included for year-on-year comparison.

Method

The data collection for this research was undertaken via an online survey. Residents were sent an invitation to participate in the research, which included a link to the online survey and a unique survey code for them to enter.

The contact details of participants were obtained via the electoral roll, whereby a total of n=3,000 residents were randomly selected to participate. As with 2023, invitations were emailed to anyone whose contact details could be matched to the SWDC ratepayer database, while unmatched contacts received a postal invitation. Reminder emails and letters were sent to participants two weeks after the initial invitation was sent. Overall, n=429 invitations were sent via email with the remaining n=2,571 invitations sent via post.

Sample

A total of n=803 completed responses were collected from residents. The resident sample was stratified after the fieldwork was closed to achieve the most representative sample of respondents based on area, gender, ethnicity, and age. The final reported sample was comprised of n=775 responses.

Questionnaire

The Residents Satisfaction Survey questionnaire for this year is the same as that used in 2023.

Results

Margin of Error (MoE) is a statistic used to show the amount of random sampling error present in a survey's results. The MoE is particularly relevant when analysing a subset of data as a smaller sample size incurs a greater MoE. The final sample size for this study was n=775 which yields a maximum MoE of +/- 3.52%. That is, if the observed result on the total sample of n=775 is 50% (point of maximum margin of error), then there is a 95% probability that the true answer falls between 46.48% and 53.52%.

Where year on year results have been presented, significance testing has been applied to identify statistically significant differences between 2023 and 2024 findings. Significant differences are shown throughout the report with a square box on figures within the charts and an arrow within tables.

Age weights have been applied to the final data set. Weighting is a standard practice in research and is used to account for any skews in the data set, i.e., that each group is represented as it would be in the population. The weighting proportions are based on the 2023 Census (Statistics New Zealand).

Governance

Overview

The Governance activity includes governance support, advocacy and policy making activities for Council. We seek to build confidence and trust in our decisions by being as transparent as possible, clearly communicating the reasons for the things we do and encouraging public participation in the decision-making process.

We continue to schedule, run, and record Council and Committee meetings and decisions, including for our Community Boards and the Māori Standing Committee. We have made progress on our relationships with mana whenua through the work of our Pou Māori, including more actively participating in hui and engagement and consultation processes. Our policy and bylaw work has significantly increased as we review, eradicate, and update our policies and bylaws to ensure they are fit for purpose and are more future proof.

	Social wellbeing	Economic wellbeing	Environmental wellbeing	Cultural wellbeing
Community outcomes	Residents are active, healthy, safe, resilient, optimistic and connected	A place of destination, new business and diverse employment that gives people independence and opportunity	Sustainable living, safe and secure water and soils, waste minimised, biodiversity enhanced	Strong relationships with whānau, hapū and marae, celebrating diverse cultural identity, arts and heritage
Strategic drivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Creating better connections and social wellbeing ■ Encourage civic pride and participation ■ Advocate for better transport and technology to improve social and business opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supporting sustainable growth, employment, economic wellbeing and development ■ Plan for growth that protects rural land and character ■ Contain rural residential expansion ■ Support quality urban development ■ Limit growth in coastal and other areas subject to climate change impacts ■ Support the transition to a low carbon economy ■ Leverage partnerships with central and regional agencies to enable economic development and employment opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Enhancing 3 waters delivery and environmental quality ■ Take active measures to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change ■ Empower and enable our community to drive behavioural change for the benefit of the environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nurturing and creating the District’s special character, qualities and culture ■ Work in partnership with mana whenua and iwi, respecting tikanga (customs), kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and taha Māori (heritage) ■ Protect town and rural community character, retaining our unique look and feel ■ Improve urban design and integrate what we build with natural features

Assets we look after

There are no assets under this activity.

Significant negative effects

There are no identified significant negative effects.

Performance Information - Governance

Service Level	Key Performance Indicators	Performance Targets (for the Financial Year)			How it will be measured	2023-24 v 2022-23	Comment
		2022-23 Results	2023-24 Results	Target 2023-24			
Council supports and enables good decision-making resulting in decisions that are transparent, robust, fair and legally compliant	Meeting and committee agendas are made available to the public within statutory timeframes (2 working days prior to meetings)	97%	100%	100%	Council records	↑	Achieved
	Meeting and committee agendas made available to the public 3 working days prior to meetings	76%	75%	90%	Council records	↓	Not achieved. The team has undertaken a review of the production of agendas, and is putting in place systems to ensure that legislative timelines are adhered to.
	Residents who agree that there are adequate opportunities to participate in decision-making	24%	27%	80%	Customer survey	↑	Not achieved. Council has implemented a new engagement platform in readiness for LTP consultation. Furthermore, a new Rural & Coastal Advisory Group has been formed to ensure feedback & participation in those communities, who have felt underrepresented in the past. As part of the LTP a new consultation plan is being developed to harness social media opportunities.
Council provides opportunities for community engagement	Residents who agree that there are adequate opportunities to have their say in Council activities	26%	34%	80%	Customer survey	↑	Not achieved: Elected members continue to be vocal about the great value of public participation and are showing a greater presence at public engagement activities, e.g. videos, and evening rural engagement events in areas such as Ngawi, and Tukurumuri. With the results of the 2024 Representation Review increased emphasis has been placed on engagement through Community Boards.
The community has confidence in the quality of democracy and representation provided by elected members	Residents are satisfied with the accessibility of the Mayor and councillors	35%	28%	80%	Customer survey	↓	Not achieved: In addition to videos as greater presence at public engagement events, The Mayor and Councillors hold local drop-in sessions where they make themselves available for discussions on issues of interest. All contact details of the Mayor and Councillors are publicly available.
	Residents are satisfied with the advocacy and leadership of the Mayor and councillors	27%	18%	80%	Customer survey	↓	Not achieved: During the 2023-24 year the committee structure was reviewed, meaning that advocacy and strategic issues are now managed through a committee of the whole of council to ensure consistency and continuity of decision making. Appointments to cross-agency working groups are also managed through this committee, for example for issues such as water reform, CDP, Alcohol Bylaws, Gambling Policy.
	Residents who agree that the community board effectively advocates on behalf of their community	38%	43%	80%	Measured by ward via customer survey	↑	Not achieved: The 2024 Representation Review presented opportunities and development areas to ensure that the community boards represent the voice of their community. These will be taken forward and implemented as part of the overall review process. For example, exploring opportunities for devolved decision making to community boards.

Service Level	Key Performance Indicators	Performance Targets (for the Financial Year)			How it will be measured	2023-24 v 2022-23	Comment
		2022-23 Results	2023-24 Results	Target 2023-24			
Council works in partnership with Māori and mana whenua	Mana whenua are satisfied with their relationship with Council	29%	35%	80%	Customer survey	↑	Not achieved: To improve performance - Council has begun implementation of it's Māori Engagement plan, as lead by Councils Pou Māori Advisor. Council recognises kaupapa māori values of manaakitanga (respect and generosity) and kaitiakitanga (stewardship), to create authentic engagement with whānau, hapū, marae trustees and iwi entities.
	Residents who feel that Māori culture and te reo is appropriately recognised and visible in the district	43%	46%	80%	Customer survey	↑	
	Mana whenua partners agree that the use and protection of the district's resources for the future is appropriate	n/a	n/a	80%	Customer survey	-	Unknown: We currently do not have a mechanism to collect a meaningful measure of the perspective of mana whenua on the protection of the districts natural resources. In the past, this has been measured through our resident survey but we acknowledge this is not an accurate reflection of the views of mana whenua. With the Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki nui-a-Rua Claims Settlement Bill coming into force. Council has worked alongside iwi to understand it's role more clearly.
Council provides effective planning and monitoring of performance	The Annual Plan and Long-Term Plan are adopted within statutory timeframes	100%	100%	100%	Council records	-	Achieved
	The Annual Report includes an unqualified audit opinion	Yes	No	Yes	Council records	↓	Audit for the Annual Report provided Unmodified opinion on the audited information, excluding the performance information. Qualified opinion on the performance information, in particular roading smooth travel exposure performance measure, and possible effects of the matter.
	Council strategies, policies and regulatory instruments are current	48%	54%	100%	Council records	↑	Not achieved The review of policies has been reviewed around the need to make legislative requirements, e.g. around the Enhanced Annual Plan. With the Long Term Plan 2025-34 strategic documents such as the Infrastructure Strategy and Financial Strategy are now being undertaken. Review of other policies have been incorporated into an updated review process.

Funding Impact Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2024 for Governance

30 June 2023 Annual Report \$000		30 June 2023 Long Term Plan \$000	30 June 2024 Long Term Plan \$000	30 June 2024 Annual Report \$000
Sources of operating funding				
2,049	General rates, Uniform Annual General charges, rates penalties	2,416	2,356	2,624
-	- Targeted rates	-	-	-
20	Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	93
-	- Fees and charges	-	-	-
26	Interest and dividends from investments	9	16	38
-	- Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
7	Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	7	7	29
2,102	Total operating funding (A)	2,432	2,379	2,784
Applications of operating funding				
1,286	Payments to staff and suppliers	1,450	1,358	1,316
-	- Finance costs	-	-	0
864	Internal charges and overheads	773	805	885
2,151	Total applications of operating funding (B)	2,223	2,163	2,202
(49)	Surplus /(deficit) of operating funding (A - B)	209	216	582
Sources of capital funding				
-	- Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
-	- Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
-	- Increase/(decrease) in debt	-	-	(74)
6	Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
-	- Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
6	Total capital funding (C)	-	-	(74)
Applications of capital funding				
-	- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
-	- to improve the level of service	123	136	-
-	- to replace existing assets	204	209	-
(43)	Increase/(decrease) in reserves	(118)	(129)	508
(43)	Total applications of capital funding (D)	209	216	508
49	Surplus/(deficit) of capital (C - D)	(209)	(216)	(582)
-	Funding balance (A - B) + (C - D)	-	-	-

Achievements and progress – Governance

Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA)

173 out of 198 recorded Official Requests of Information were completed within the statutory timeframe for the 2023-24 year. The volume of requests has again increased significantly year on year, up from a recorded 124 requests in the previous year. To manage this increase, we continue to work on improving processes and communication internally to meet statutory timeframes.

A variety of requests were recorded during the year, including but not limited to: rating information, dog control and investigations, data requests, consents and compliance, Pain Farm, Lake Ferry and Council expenditure. Seven requests did not meet the deadline and nine met agreed extensions. There was one duplication and eight were cancelled by the requestor.

Breakdown of LGOIMAs received for the financial year 2023-24

Total requests recorded	% requests within timeframes	Requests within timeframes	Average response time in days
198	95%	173	14

Extended	Late	Cancelled by requestor	Duplication
9	7	8	1

In accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) and guidance from the Office of the Ombudsman, it is important that information that no longer needs to be excluded from the public should be released when it is possible to do so. This also includes responses to [LGOIMA](#) requests where we feel it is in the public interest to also disclose the information.

Proactive release

As part of our commitment to remaining open and accountable, we proactively release information and documents that are of interest to the public. Council approved the Proactive Release Policy in September 2023 which outlined how Council will continue to promote good governance and encourage transparency in decision-making by increasing the availability of official information in the community.

Ceremonies

ANZAC commemorations

There were ANZAC commemorations this year at Featherston, Greytown, Martinborough and Lake Ferry. Councillors attended each commemoration, laying wreaths on behalf of the Council and the South Wairarapa community.

The Featherston Incident 81st commemoration

The Featherston Incident took place on 25 February 1943 at the former Featherston Military Camp, which housed 800 prisoners of war during World War Two. This tragic incident saw 48 Japanese

prisoners of war and one guard die in a camp riot, along with a further 63 prisoners who were wounded at the time.

The council pays homage to this tragic incident every year on 25 February. This year marks the 81st since the Featherston Incident occurred. We had a remembrance of the tragedy at the Japanese Peace Garden on Messines Way near Tauwharenikau, just outside of Featherston. The event was attended by the Charge d’Affaires and Interim of the Embassy of Japan, the Wairarapa Member of Parliament, the South Wairarapa District Council Mayor and Councillors, among many others.

Citizenship ceremonies

Three citizenship ceremonies were held in 2023 and 2024. The first of these saw nine people welcomed as new citizens of New Zealand at the Martinborough Town Hall on 21 July 2023. The second ceremony took place on 28 November 2023 at the Martinborough Town Hall and 17 people received citizenship. The last citizenship ceremony took place on 9 May 2024 with 16 people welcomed as new citizens.

Positive ageing

Work continued in the implementation of te Hōkai Nuku Wairarapa Region Positive Ageing Strategy (The Strategy) Te Hōkai Nuku Wairarapa Positive Ageing Strategy - SWDC SWDC in the 2023-24 year. The Strategy was developed by the three Wairarapa district councils to prepare for our rapidly ageing community. In recognition of the strength of our community partners that work with older people, the Positive Ageing Coordinator, worked with a range of organisations, such as Age Concern, St John’s Hato Hone, Digital Seniors and Pasifika o Wairarapa. A strong highlight during year was supporting Nuku Ora to host the second Wairarapa Senior Regional Games where attendance was up 50% from the previous year.

There are six goals of the Strategy that set out the framework for the work. Some other highlights from the year include;

- Organising and hosting the quarterly Kaumatua/Kuia/Aged Focus Group (in partnership with Wairarapa Community Networks) which included Diane Turner, Director, Office for Seniors as one of the speakers
- Continuing to put all essential communications across a variety of mediums to ensure those who aren’t connected online have access to the same information. We continued to look for ways to include South Wairarapa’s older people in decision making, especially as part of the Enhanced Annual Plan consultation.
- As one of the two Wairarapa members of the Greater Wellington Regional Council’s Public Transport Advisory Group, the Positive Ageing Co-ordinator provides advice to these meetings from a Wairarapa and older persons perspective.
- The Featherston Masterplan proposed a range of housing densities across the town that will increase housing availability and affordability by maintaining areas of general residential land. Smaller lot sizes will enable older people to move to smaller properties enabling them to age in the town that they currently live in.

- The Martinborough Community Board supported the celebration of UN Day of Older Persons with the Wharekaka Group.
- Walking and Cycling opportunities were promoted across the rohe and the Wairarapa Library Service continued to provide and support services based at the Library for older people.

Climate change - how we are addressing it

South Wairarapa is represented through the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee on climate change projects, which included these initiatives during the 2023-24 year. Another important piece of work on climate change in the South Wairarapa is working with elected members to inform them of the impacts, risks and opportunities that climate change poses to this district. This was done by providing briefings to the Council about climate change matters at the Climate Change and Environment Committee and via the Joint Council Forum. Climate change workshops were also hosted for elected members.

Regional Emissions Reduction Plan (RERP)

A report was approved by the committee in March 2024. RERP tackles some ways to potentially mitigate greenhouse gases in the Wellington region. These actions cover transport and urban form, energy, circular economy, productive land use and primary industries.

Regional Climate Change Impacts Assessment (WRCCIA)

A WRCCIA report was released in June to enable effective planning for global climate change. It is important to know what impacts the South Wairarapa district will face. WRCCIA provides a comprehensive assessment of climate change in the natural environment, human, built environment and economic domains. It considers risks to governance, compounding risks (when two or more impacts accumulate to make a greater impact) and transition risks (meaning risks in transitioning to a low-emissions future).

Regional Food System Strategy (FSS)

This is an ongoing project that has delivered a Phase One report. FSS strives to achieve resilient food systems that serve the needs of local communities and supports the South Wairarapa district's small and medium sized local food producers. Phase One involved work with local food growers, manufacturers and distributors, as well as addressing food waste to determine what barriers and opportunities exist in this district.

Regional Adaptation Project (RAP)

This is a subsequent project from the Climate Change Impacts Assessment. The Adaptation Project is a new project that builds on the results of WRCCIA. This means that we know the impacts climate change is likely to have here, how communities can adapt and work towards being resilient.

Climate Change Youth Summit at Kuranui College

Rangatahi in the district are vital to address climate change. A half day event for year seven and eight students from schools in South Wairarapa and Carterton districts. Students were challenged to come up to solutions to climate change and environmental issues such as transportation, waste, water resilience, and pests.

How grants help our community

The Council's Long-Term Plan establishes the funding available for community support through grants. Our Council, Committees, and Community Boards support several one-off and ongoing activities in the district. We also administer Creative Communities and Rural Sports grants on behalf of other agencies.

Funding provides pivotal support to our communities, and we endeavour to promote best practice grant distribution and funding capability to our district. Through both external and internal grants, we can enable community groups and individuals to initiate projects, events or services that benefit local communities, encouraging participation and collaboration.

Creative Communities Scheme (CCS)

We have two rounds of CCS funding a year to provide grants to our arts community. The focus of this fund is to increase participation in arts, promote diverse artistic expression in our local communities and enable young people to participate and engage with arts.

Creative Communities Festival Fund

This fund provided a one off boost to support established festivals that celebrate life experiences, stories, cultures and regional identities of New Zealanders who continue to be impacted by the effects of Covid 19 in 2023.

Successful applicants included the Greytown Festival of Christmas, Featherston Booktown Festival (Karukatea) and the Martinborough Jazz Festival.

Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund

This fund was launched by Sport New Zealand in response to concerns raised about the lack of participation in sports by young people in rural communities. The grants are designed to help subsidise travel for rural junior teams aged between five and 18 years old, removing the barrier of travel costs so they can compete in regular sports events and competitions. We are pleased to be one of the 35 eligible Territorial Authorities across Aotearoa taking part in the grant scheme to deliver for our tamariki.

Community and Youth Grant

Community and Youth grants play a crucial role in fostering local development, empowerment and social cohesion by contributing to the overall wellbeing of youth and community success.

Investing in the potential of young people supports their development, equipping them with the skills and resources to thrive and contribute positively to society.

Some of the projects funded for the 2023-24 year include: Wellington Free Ambulance, Booktown, Martinborough WaiWaste and Food Box, Cobblestones Museum Trust and the Wairarapa Sports Artificial Surface Trust.

Community Board grants

Council established grants from our community boards to support our strategic wellbeing drivers which are: social, economic, cultural and environmental wellbeing. Community boards can grant applications for financial assistance with in-depth knowledge of their communities. Some projects they fund include: Wairarapa Mathematics Association, Te Hupenui Greytown Artists, Featherston Sports Hub and Nuku Ora.

Martinborough Community Board assessed grant applications through the Pain Farm Fund, which is specifically for the benefit of Martinborough residents in relation to improving "parks, sports grounds, camping ground, swimming baths, providing equipping and maintaining sports facilities and children's playgrounds". Some projects funded include: Martinborough School, Martinborough Golf Club and Martinborough Youth Trust.

Māori Standing Committee

Applicants for the Māori Standing Committee Fund must be able to demonstrate their connection to South Wairarapa through whakapapa or family connection or show how the activity will benefit the South Wairarapa Māori and non-Māori community. Some projects funded in the 2023-24 year include: Hau Ariki Marae, Featherston Rugby Football Club and Featherston Netball Club.

Community Wellbeing Fund

The new Community Wellbeing Fund was formed from a one off pool of \$500,000 which was earmarked in the 2023-24 year to invest in projects that 'support communities to transition to a sustainable and low emissions economy or deliver initiatives that support improvements in community wellbeing'. Individuals, organisations and community groups that meet the above while delivering outcomes that align with council's strategic wellbeing drivers can apply to the fund. These drivers are: social, cultural, economic and environmental wellbeing.

The funds come entirely from Te Tari Taiwhenua (the Department of Internal Affairs) from the Three Waters reform Better off Support Package and a subcommittee has been formed to assess applications and distribute funds back into the district's communities.

The fund was signed off by the SWDC Strategy Working Committee in February 2024, which was also when the Community Wellbeing Fund subcommittee was established. The subcommittee is made up of nine elected members; councillors from each ward; Community Board representatives; Māori standing committee representatives and the Council Chief Executive. The fund pool, eligibility and criteria were finalised in May 2024 and the first round of grant funding was opened in June 2024.

"The South Wairarapa District Council Community Wellbeing Fund (CWBF) is dedicated to fostering positive change. It is for our local communities and people who live in our district. By investing in initiatives that support social, cultural, environmental, and economic wellbeing, we can create a vibrant, resilient and inclusive district where everyone has the opportunity to thrive," said Council Chief Executive Officer Janice Smith.

Representation Review

A Representation Review is conducted every six years and will conclude in time to be implemented before the next local government election in 2025. A Representation Review addresses the total number of councillors there should be for the district or region and the way they are elected. In the case of territorial authorities, this involves deciding whether councillors are elected from wards or 'at large' across the whole district, or by a mix of both wards and 'at large'. A review also covers the boundaries of wards and constituencies, and their names.

There have been several changes to legislation that impact on the options and decisions that we have had to monitor and adjust the work programme. Over the last year the council has decided to stick with First Past the Post as the voting option and have resolved to establish one Māori Ward for South Wairarapa in 2025 and 2028. The Strategy Working Committee started working through its Initial Proposal for what representation could look like in 2025, ahead of seeking feedback from the community under the special consultative procedure. Council will then make its final decision that will then go to Local Government Commission for review in early 2025.

Consultation and public participation

The 2023-24 year saw a number of opportunities for the communities of South Wairarapa to participate in decision making at Council by providing feedback across a number of consultations. These included Control of Dogs Bylaw Review, Rating Policies Review, Freedom Camping Bylaw, Featherston Masterplan, Enhanced Annual Plan, Combined Gambling and Standalone TAB Venues Policy, Combined District Plan.

While these consultations are promoted throughout our key communication channels such as our website and print media, and offering drop-in sessions, we are working towards an approach of meeting with the communities that have a special interest in the topic/s of the particular consultation. Elected members and council officers value the personal views and feedback about how these proposals may impact our communities.

Through hearings and deliberations, all feedback received is reviewed and taken into consideration to help shape the outcomes of the decision, often having an impact on what was originally consulted on. More information about this process can be found on our website under 'Consultations'.

Finance and Corporate Support

Overview

The Finance and Corporate Support activity provides the following strategic support services to Council: human resource management and development; health, safety and wellbeing; communications and engagement; Information Communication Technology (ICT); and customer and office support services.

	Social wellbeing	Economic wellbeing	Environmental wellbeing
Community outcomes	Residents are active, healthy, safe, resilient, optimistic and connected	A place of destination, new business and diverse employment that gives people independence and opportunity	Sustainable living, safe and secure water and soils, waste minimised, biodiversity enhanced
Strategic drivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Creating better connections and social wellbeing ■ Encourage civic pride and participation ■ Provide universally accessible, safe and diverse spaces to strengthen connection between people and place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supporting sustainable growth, employment, economic wellbeing and development ■ Support the transition to a low carbon economy ■ Encourage economic diversity and local vibrancy ■ Leverage partnerships with central and regional agencies to enable economic development and employment opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Enhancing 3 waters delivery and environmental quality ■ Minimise waste and provide environmentally sustainable Council services ■ Take active measures to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change

Assets we look after

- Administration offices
- Information technology equipment
- Vehicles and plant

Significant negative effects

There are no identified significant negative effects.

Performance Information – Finance and Corporate Support

Service Level	Key Performance Indicators	Performance Targets (for the Financial Year)			How it will be measured	2023-24 v 2022-23	Comments
		2022-23 Results	2023-24 Results	Target 2023-24			
People are prepared for a civil defence emergency	Ratepayers and residents prepared for an emergency	91%	85%	75%	Customer survey	↓	Achieved
	Regional Civil Defence Emergency Annual Plan achieved	Yes	Yes	Yes	WREMO records	–	Achieved
Council’s processes & decision-making is open and transparent	Official information requests are handled within statutory timeframes	89%	90%	100%	Council records	↑	Not Achieved. We completed 173 out of 198 recorded Official Requests of Information within the timeframe for the 2023-24 year. Seven requests did not meet the deadline and nine met agreed extensions. There was one duplication and eight were cancelled by the requestor. The volume of requests has again increased significantly this year 2022/23 when we recorded 124 requests. To manage this increase, we continue to work on improving processes and communication internally to meet statutory timeframes.
	Reduction in complaints received about council communications	n/a	n/a	10% reduction	Number of upheld complaints received	–	Currently there is no mechanism to define and collect this information. The Compliments and Complaints Policy is under review which will clearly define complaints. The next step will be to review what meaningful information can be collected and reported.
Council’s website is effective in supporting self-service	Customers use the website	17%	12.6% decrease	10% increase	Website data for bounce rates and return visitors	↓	Not achieved. A review of the customer services IT infrastructure and ways of working is underway in the 2024-25 year.
	Enquires via email and phone are reduced	n/a	n/a	10% reduction	Council records	–	Currently there is no mechanism to record this impact. Anecdotally, the enquires team use the website extensively in their work and rely on referring people to information available there.
	Customer use of self-service tools	n/a	n/a	10% increase	Website data for use rates	–	The website has no specific self-service tools. We have though adopted the Antenno platform for self-subscription for Council information, including information of an emergency nature, and forthcoming engagement opportunities.

Funding Impact Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2024 for Finance and Corporate Support

30 June 2023 Annual Report \$000		30 June 2023 Long Term Plan \$000	30 June 2024 Long Term Plan \$000	30 June 2024 Annual Report \$000
Sources of operating funding				
-	General rates, Uniform Annual General charges, rates penalties	442	446	-
-	Targeted rates	-	-	-
-	Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
-	Fees and charges	-	-	-
-	Interest and dividends from investments	-	-	-
3,582	Internal charges and overheads recovered	3,074	3,330	3,803
-	Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	-	-	-
3,582	Total operating funding (A)	3,516	3,776	3,803
Applications of operating funding				
3,373	Payments to staff and suppliers	2,947	3,187	3,593
38	Finance costs	-	-	28
-	Internal charges and overheads	-	-	-
3,411	Total applications of operating funding (B)	2,947	3,187	3,622
170	Surplus /(deficit) of operating funding (A - B)	568	589	181
Sources of capital funding				
-	Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
-	Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
50	Increase/(decrease) in debt	-	-	-
-	Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
-	Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
50	Total capital funding (C)	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding				
-	- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
50	- to improve the level of service	9	-	-
333	- to replace existing assets	201	205	132
(163)	Increase/(decrease) in reserves	358	383	49
220	Total applications of capital funding (D)	568	589	220
(170)	Surplus/(deficit) of capital (C - D)	(568)	(589)	(181)
-	Funding balance (A - B) + (C - D)	-	-	-

Council's emergency recovery and resilience

The focus for Emergency Management in the 2023-24 year was recovery and community resilience.

Building on a successful public Emergency Resilience Expo in Greytown in early 2023, community engagements were held in Martinborough and Featherston this year. These events focused on the Community Emergency Hubs and the community connections needed for the hubs to succeed. The Wellington region has had Community Emergency Hubs for several years and, at one of these events, representatives from Hawke's Bay councils and FENZ attended to see one of our hubs in action as their region took on the Community Emergency Hub model.

The ongoing effects in the South Wairarapa district from the severe weather events of early 2023 continue to impact our rural and coastal communities. The Wairarapa Recovery Office, a combined function of South Wairarapa, Carterton and Masterton District Councils continued to support these communities and the partner agencies working with them. Working with East Coast Rural Support Trust, the Ministry of Social Development, the Ministry of Primary Industries, Federated Farmers, and others, support channels included a rural health programme, a hardship fund, fencing support and fencing school, and the delivery of community resiliency assets.

South Wairarapa is fortunate to have the support of our three marae, Kohunui, Papawai, and Hau Ariki. The partnership with each was reconfirmed this year for offering Emergency Assistance to members of the public should it be required in an emergency.

We continue to offer emergency rainwater collection tanks for sale at our Martinborough office.

Communications

Getting accurate information to the community and considering the feedback we receive is a very important part of council's services. Council staff have continued to add to their suite of channels to communicate and engage with residents, community groups and stakeholders, with the annual resident's survey showing an increase in the satisfaction of information received from SWDC on the previous year.

A new way of communicating that was introduced during the 2023-24 year was Antenno. Antenno is a free location-based mobile application that allows two-way engagement between councils and their communities. Those who have the app can receive council-related alerts and notifications about topics such as water outages, roadworks, meetings, events, consultations and more, all based on the locations and topics they care about. It can also be used to directly report issues or provide suggestions and ideas. We encourage those who live in the South Wairarapa to sign up to Antenno to ensure they receive timely information, which can be particularly useful for weather related events.

The quarterly rates invoice, followed by local community papers and the SWDC website continue to be the most used source of information our communities receive, and we ensure these channels are providing a variety of council information, news and alerts. We have seen the SWDC Facebook page have positive engagement through sharing the good and impactful news that Council is involved in to balance the more functional messages we share, such as road closures, weather updates, and service notices.

Planning and Regulatory Services

Overview

Planning and Regulatory Services promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources in the district through the administration of the Resource Management Act, the Wairarapa Combined District Plan, and the protection of public health, welfare, and safety.

Our planning work includes growth planning, compilation and implementation of the South Wairarapa Spatial Plan, and related master plan work, to provide for future growth via integrated land use planning.

	Social wellbeing	Economic wellbeing	Environmental wellbeing	Cultural wellbeing
Community outcomes	Residents are active, healthy, safe, resilient, optimistic and connected	A place of destination, new business and diverse employment that gives people independence and opportunity	Sustainable living, safe and secure water and soils, waste minimised, biodiversity enhanced	Strong relationships with whānau, hapū and marae, celebrating diverse cultural identity, arts and heritage
Strategic drivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Creating better connections and social wellbeing ■ Strengthen social connections within the community ■ Provide universally accessible, safe and diverse spaces to strengthen connection between people and place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supporting sustainable growth, employment, economic wellbeing and development ■ Plan for growth that protects rural land and character ■ Contain rural residential expansion ■ Support quality urban development ■ Limit growth in coastal and other areas subject to climate change impacts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Enhancing 3 waters delivery and environmental quality ■ Protect and replenish our natural environment and biodiversity ■ Take active measures to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change ■ Empower and enable our community to drive behavioural change for the benefit of the environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nurturing and creating the district's special character, qualities and culture ■ Work in partnership with mana whenua and iwi, respecting tikanga (customs), kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and taha Māori (heritage) ■ Take opportunities to advance and showcase arts, culture and heritage Protect town and rural community character, retaining our unique look and feel ■ Improve urban design and integrate what we build with natural features.

Assets we look after

- Dog pound facility at Featherston

Significant negative effects

There are no identified significant negative effects.

Performance Information - Planning and Regulatory Services

Service Level	Key Performance Indicators	Performance Targets (for the Financial Year)			How it will be measured	2023 -24 v 2022 -23	Comments
		2022- 23 Results	2023- 24 Results	Target 2023-24			
All resource consents will be processed efficiently	Consent applications completed within statutory timeframes	100%	99%	100%	Council records	↓	Not Achieved – 170 resource consent applications were processed this year. All but 1 consent were completed within statutory timeframes.
	s.223* certificates issued within 10 working days	100%	100%	100%	Council records	–	Achieved
	s.224* certificates issued within 15 working days of receiving all required information (note no statutory requirement)	100%	100%	95%	Council records	–	Achieved: 63 Section 224 applications were received. All were processed within statutory timeframes.
Council has a District Plan that provides certainty of land-use/environmental outcomes	Ratepayers and residents satisfied with the image of the closest town centre shown as “satisfied”	62%	64%	80%	Customer survey	↑	Not Achieved: In 2024, the image of the closest town was viewed positively by a majority of respondents, with 64% indicating they were either satisfied (36%) or very satisfied (28%). This represents a similar result to 2024. Satisfaction with the Image of the closest town centre is high for Greytown (87%) and near target for Martinborough (80%). However, residents from Featherston have a significantly lower perception of their area with just 29% being satisfied. Over the last two years Council has worked extensively with the Featherston community on their town masterplan, which was approved in June 2024. Aspects within the plan include betterment of main street, connection to the rail station, and improvements to zoning & growth areas. The Wairarapa Combined District Plan (WDCP) continues to be reviewed to reflect strategic elements and good zoning policy for the district for the next ten years.
	The District Plan has a monitoring programme that provides information on the achievement of its outcomes (AER’s)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Council records	–	Achieved: Consultants have established data to be recorded and stored to enable effective reporting against AER’s in WCDP. The proposed plan was notified in October 2023, hearings begin 6 August 2024.
It is easy to purchase information on any property in the district	LIMs contain all relevant accurate information (no proven complaints)	100%	100%	100%	Council records	–	Achieved
	Non-urgent LIMs are processed within 10 days	100%	100%	100%	Council records	–	Achieved

Service Level	Key Performance Indicators	Performance Targets (for the Financial Year)			How it will be measured	2023-24 v 2022-23	Comments
		2022-23 Results	2023-24 Results	Target 2023-24			
Food services used by the public are safe	Premises have appropriate FMP in place and meet the risk-based standards set out in the Plan	100%	100%	100%	Council inspection records	—	Achieved
	Premises are inspected in accord with regulatory requirements	100%	100%	100%	Council inspection records	—	Achieved
The sale and supply of alcohol is controlled and responsible drinking is promoted	Premises are inspected as part of licence renewals or applications for new licences	100%	100%	100%	Council inspection records	—	Achieved: 64 premises licences issued had an inspection undertaken by the Inspector prior to issue to assess the licensee's understanding of their obligations and responsibilities under the Act
	Premises that are high or medium risk are inspected annually, while low risk premises are audited no less than once every three years	100%	100%	100%	Council inspection records	—	Achieved: 100% of High and Low Risk Premises were inspected. Of the 38 medium risk premises 17 were inspected. Each new or renewal of licence for the financial year includes an inspection of the premises. The Inspectors undertake compliance checks throughout the year of random premises
	Compliance activities are undertaken generally in accord with the Combined Licencing Enforcement Agencies agreement	100%	0%	100%	CLEG agreement and Council records	—	Not Achieved: The result for 2023-2024 was due to the Key Performance Indicator (KPI) referring to an agreement no longer in force. Council have established tri-agency meetings as required under the act, Section 295 to improve this target going forward. Four compliance checks were conducted during the year. There were no combined agency Police compliance checks or controlled purchase operations of premises conducted. Council collaborated with partner agencies as required under the act.
The Council will respond when I need some help with noise control	% of calls received by Council that have been responded to within 1.5 hours	97%	100%	100%	Council inspection records	↑	Achieved:
Dogs don't wander freely in the street or cause menace to or harm humans or stock	Undertake public education, school and community visits to promote safe behaviour around dogs and/or responsible dog ownership	Zero due to resource levels	0	3 Visits	Council records	↑	Not Achieved: Resource levels were still half the required amount, leading to lack of public education events. However, the team is looking to implement activities such as microchipping events and annual dogs in the community events this year. Council is working on providing information to our communities through media, signage and print and will work on a programme of public education going forward.
	Complaints about roaming and nuisance dogs are responded to within 4 hours	100%	100%	100%	Council records	—	Achieved
	Complaints about dog attacks on persons or stock are responded to within one hour	100%	100%	100%	Council records	—	Achieved: All 22 complaints of dog attacks responded to within 1 hour

Service Level	Key Performance Indicators	Performance Targets (for the Financial Year)			How it will be measured	2023-24 v 2022-23	Comments
		2022-23 Results	2023-24 Results	Target 2023-24			
Stock don't wander on roads, farmers are aware of their responsibilities	Stock causing a traffic hazard is responded to within 1 hour	100%	100%	100%	Council records	—	Achieved: All 9 complaints of stock causing a traffic hazard responded to within 1 hour
The Council processes, inspects and certifies building work in my district	Council maintains its processes so that it meets BCA accreditation every 2 years	100%	Yes	Yes	Building Consent Authority	—	Achieved: IANZ accreditation review was completed in January 2024. The next assessment will be in January 2026.
	Council inspects new building works to ensure compliance with the BC issued for the work, BWOF's and Swimming Pools	100%	Yes	Yes	Building Consent Authority	—	Achieved: Building Consent Inspections - 4118 Swimming Pool audit inspections - 138 BWOF audit inspections - 11
	Earthquake prone buildings reports received and actioned	100%	100%	100%	Council records	—	Achieved: Not currently waiting on any reports. Currently there are 14 buildings with earthquake prone building notices issued that have not taken any action.
Council certifies all consented work complies with the building code – ensuring our communities are safe	Code Compliance Certificate applications are processed within 20 working days	99%	98%	100%	Council records	↓	Not achieved There were 409 Code Compliance Certificates issued, 400 of which were issued within 20 working days.
	Building consent applications are processed within 20 working days	98%	98%	100%	Council records	—	Not achieved There were 415 building consents and amendments issued, 406 of which were issued within 20 working days.

Funding Impact Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2024 for Planning and Regulatory

30 June 2023 Annual Report \$000		30 June 2023 Long Term Plan \$000	30 June 2024 Long Term Plan \$000	30 June 2024 Annual Report \$000
Sources of operating funding				
1,669	General rates, Uniform Annual General charges, rates penalties	1,599	1,572	2,108
-	- Targeted rates	-	-	-
137	Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
1,864	Fees and charges	1,722	1,773	1,590
30	Interest and dividends from investments	10	18	44
-	- Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
30	Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	42	43	93
3,730	Total operating funding (A)	3,373	3,407	3,835
Applications of operating funding				
2,676	Payments to staff and suppliers	2,825	2,812	3,825
1	Finance costs	6	6	29
591	Internal charges and overheads	425	465	636
3,268	Total applications of operating funding (B)	3,256	3,282	4,491
462	Surplus /(deficit) of operating funding (A - B)	118	125	(656)
Sources of capital funding				
-	- Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
862	Development and financial contributions	582	595	383
450	Increase/(decrease) in debt	-	-	(86)
7	Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
-	- Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
1,319	Total capital funding (C)	582	595	296
Applications of capital funding				
-	- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
591	- to improve the level of service	1	1	(233)
279	- to replace existing assets	4	4	(452)
912	Increase/(decrease) in reserves	694	715	326
1,781	Total applications of capital funding (D)	699	720	(359)
(462)	Surplus/(deficit) of capital (C - D)	(118)	(125)	656
-	Funding balance (A - B) + (C - D)	-	-	-

Featherston Masterplan

The Featherston Masterplan was adopted by Council on 5 June 2024. The Masterplan sets out a framework to enable growth to occur in a way that responds to challenges, respecting and building on what is valued by the community while allowing for growth, change and new developments. It proposes better connections among existing amenities especially parks, the railway station and Fitzherbert Street/State Highway 2. It also recommends that there be greater visual recognition of local Māori history in the town. Featherston is strategically positioned on the Wairarapa Line (rail) and State Highway 2. It is also noted regionally as a Priority Development Area (PDA) within the Wellington Regional Growth Framework. Featherston is a growing town and its population is projected to accommodate an additional 1730 people over 30 years, requiring 940 new dwellings over this timeframe.

Key features of the Masterplan include investments to upgrade water infrastructure to serve growth, enhancements to Fitzherbert Street/State Highway 2 with the development of a Mid-Town Park Hub at the junctions of Birdwood and Fox Street and Birdwood Street and State Highway 2. A safe and attractive shared path and cycleway from Fitzherbert Street to the railway station is included, along with provision for an accessway between the medical centre and Fitzherbert Street. The option to have more varied and denser housing near the town centre and Fitzherbert Street/State Highway 2 is proposed so that there is a choice of housing stock available going forward. The Masterplan has been prepared following evidence gathering, consultation and engagement with the community, Māori, central and regional government agencies.

Wairarapa Combined District Plan

Review work on the Wairarapa Combined District Plan has continued through 2023 with very careful assessment given to all chapters of the current plan. The District Plan has been reviewed and rewritten to align closely with the National Planning Standards and to also capture strategic and key land use policy and rules pertinent to the future of the Wairarapa. From the combined work of the Review Committee and advisors, the Proposed District Plan was publicly notified on the 11 October 2023, which included a nine week submission period through to 19 December 2023. Further submissions were then invited. This formal submission process ran from 22 March until 23 April 2024.

Following the notification, 241 submissions were received on the Proposed Plan, including 3741 submission points. The most topical matters among the submissions were district wide matters including plan definitions, heritage matters, urban and open space zones and rural subdivision. As part of the review, the hearings process will commence later in 2024. As part of full consideration of all chapters of the Proposed District Plan, the hearings process is expected to run until mid 2025. Following this, the Hearings Panel will deliberate and make decisions on the submissions received. These decisions will include changes to the Proposed District Plan in response to submissions and these decisions will then be publicly notified before the end of 2025.

South Wairarapa Dog Pound

The newly completed South Wairarapa dog pound was recognised at the 2023 Local Government New Zealand SuperLocal Awards, where it received first prize in the SuperIdea category for “showcasing an effective blend of innovative thinking and practicality”. The project was also awarded runner up in the Supreme Award category at the LGNZ Conference in July 2023. This is an incredible achievement for our Council.

Community Facilities and Services

Overview

The Community Facilities and Services activity brings together those areas of Council’s business that have a direct interface with the community’s wellbeing.

The services include: working collaboratively with business partners; supporting the day-to-day wellbeing of our community; supporting land and water conservation efforts; providing essential services such as rubbish and recycling management; library facilities; swimming pools, parks, reserves, and sports facilities; and advocating strongly for climate change adaptation and mitigation.

	Social wellbeing	Economic wellbeing	Environmental wellbeing	Cultural wellbeing
Community outcomes	<p>Residents are active, healthy, safe, resilient, optimistic and connected</p>	<p>A place of destination, new business and diverse employment that gives people independence and opportunity</p>	<p>Sustainable living, safe and secure water and soils, waste minimised, biodiversity enhanced</p>	<p>Strong relationships with whānau, hapū and marae, celebrating diverse cultural identity, arts and heritage</p>
Strategic drivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Creating better connections and social wellbeing ■ Strengthen social connections within the community ■ Encourage civic pride and participation ■ Provide universally accessible, safe and diverse spaces to strengthen connection between people and place ■ Advocate for better transport and technology to improve social and business opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supporting sustainable growth, employment, economic wellbeing and development ■ Support the transition to a low carbon economy ■ Encourage economic diversity and local vibrancy ■ Leverage partnerships with central and regional agencies to enable economic development and employment opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Enhancing 3 waters delivery and environmental quality ■ Minimise waste and provide environmentally sustainable Council services ■ Take active measures to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change ■ Empower and enable our community to drive behavioural change for the benefit of the environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nurturing and creating the district’s special character, qualities and culture ■ Work in partnership with mana whenua and iwi, respecting tikanga (customs), kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and taha Māori (heritage) ■ Take opportunities to embrace and celebrate diversity Take opportunities to advance and showcase arts, culture and heritage

Assets and public amenities Council own and/or maintain

Featherston

Card Reserve	War Memorial	Garden One Tree Hill
Barr Brown Reserve	Walkway Kereru Grove to Titoki Grove Walkway	Walkway Revans Street
Featherston Cemetery	Hardie Grove to Brandon Street Walkway	Housing for Seniors (Burling and Mathews)
Featherston Library	Kenward Street to Harrison Street West	Windgrass sculpture
Playground	Walkway Watt Street	Featherston Swimming Pool
Public Toilets	Walkway Brandon Street to Ludlum Street (SH2)	Dog park and skateboard park
Dorset Square	Anzac Hall complex	Daniell Street adjacent to Railway
Traffic islands and berms	Johnston Street adjacent to Railway	

Greytown

Greytown Cemetery	Kowhai Reserve	Greytown Campground
Berm along SH2	Stella Bull Park and old library building	Greytown Swimming Pool
Greytown Southern Gateway	Public toilets	Dog park
Greytown Town Centre building (includes Greytown Library)	Soldiers Memorial Park (includes a playground, car park, bush walk and sports fields)	Greytown cycle trail, and the walkway between Udy and Kuratawhiti Streets
Arbor Reserve	Collier Reserve	Housing for seniors in West Street

Martinborough

Dublin Street Cemetery	Martinborough Motor Camp	Martinborough Public Toilet
Puruatanga Road Cemetery	Martinborough Swimming Pool	Martinborough Museum
Centennial Park	Memorial Square	Council offices
Considine Park	Martinborough Town Hall	Housing for seniors on Naples Street
Huangarua Park	The Waihinga Centre (includes Martinborough Library)	Dog park
Coronation Park	Martinborough Playground	Grassed area adjacent to Fire Station
Puruatanga Park	Old Council Chambers on Cork Street	Martinborough Public Toilets
Pain Farm		

Rural

Camp Memorial and Peace Garden SH2	Te Hopi camp site off East West Access Road	Lake Ferry car park
Otaura Reserve	Ngawi surf break toilet	Coastal camping area with toilet
Lake Reserve off Lake Domain Road south of Featherston	Two large, grassed areas on either side of, and including, the Lake Ferry Motor Camp (includes toilets and playground)	Te Awaiti and Tora Farm Road toilets and sites for camping
Diversion Reserve off East West Access Road near Barrage Bridge	Cape Palliser Road litter bin sites and pit toilet	

Significant negative effects

There are no identified significant negative effects.

Performance Information – Community Facilities and Services

Service Level	Key Performance Indicators	Performance Targets (for the Financial Year)			How it will be measured	2023-24 v 2022-23	Comments
		2022-23 Results	2023-24 Results	Target 2023-24			
Council provides community facilities and spaces that encourage community use	Residents are satisfied with community buildings, parks and open spaces	79%	81%	90%	Customer survey	↑	Not Achieved: The use of community facilities such as parks, libraries, and swimming pools remained high, with satisfaction levels over 80% for most facilities. However, satisfaction with the libraries’ opening hours declined significantly this year. Respondents expressed a strong desire for enhanced accessibility and services in local libraries, upgrades to recreational facilities, and better maintenance of open spaces.
	Increase in number of bookings for community facilities	67%	69%	10% increase	Council records	↑	Not Achieved: Council venues were booked an average of 244 days during 2023-24. The Greytown Town Centre was again the most frequently booked at 272 days.
	Swimming pools are open at least 15 weeks per year	100%	100%	100%	Council records	-	Achieved
	Residents are satisfied with Council swimming pools	71%	76%	74%	Customer survey	↑	Achieved
	Library collection turnover meets or betters national averages by 2023-24	83%	87%	90%	Council records	↑	Not Achieved
	At least 75% of library programme attendees report a positive impact or application as a result of attendance	>75%	>75%	>75%	Programme evaluation feedback	-	Achieved

Service Level	Key Performance Indicators	Performance Targets (for the Financial Year)			How it will be measured	2023-24 v 2022-23	Comments
		2022-23 Results	2023-24 Results	Target 2023-24			
Council promotes the waste management hierarchy “reduce, reuse, recycle, reprocess, treat, dispose”	% waste recovered for recycling through the kerbside collection	Further 6% recovered	Further 5% recovered	Further 5% recovered	Council records	↓	Achieved: All kerbside recycling is taken to the Mixed recycling facility where it is sorted and large contaminants removed. Kerbside audits and traffic light system has reduced contamination in kerbside recycling.
Refuse collection and disposal meets the needs of the community	% of customer complaints resolved within 24 hours	96%	96%	95%	Council records	—	Achieved
	% of residents satisfied with the level of service	63%	64%	85%	Customer survey	↑	Not Achieved: SWDC have implemented new technology on trucks to better monitor kerbside collections. During the current term of the Waste Minimisation and Management Plan, we will also review how we can best meet the needs of rural and coastal communities. We can enhance communication and transparency around collection schedules, service updates, and changes. We will also focus on increasing education around waste minimisation practices and gathering regular feedback to effectively address community needs and pain points
Council supports the community to improve their social, cultural and environmental wellbeing	Provide appropriate funding to organisations and community groups to help them deliver programmes and services to their communities	Yes:97 Grants Provided	Yes: 76 grants provided	Yes	Council records	↓	Achieved: Almost \$267,000 in funding was distributed through Community & Youth Grants, Community Boards, the Māori Standing Committee, Creative Communities Scheme, Creative Communities Festival Fund and Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund... with 76 grants across a variety of community organisations.
Council supports economic wellbeing	% of commercial ratepayers satisfied with the level of services essential for their business operations (information provided, response time, fairness and consistency)	n/a	n/a	70%	Council survey	—	This measure is not currently supported through appropriate data collection.

Funding Impact Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2024 for Community Facilities and Services

30 June 2023 Annual Report \$000		30 June 2023 Long Term Plan \$000	30 June 2024 Long Term Plan \$000	30 June 2024 Annual Report \$000
Sources of operating funding				
2,708	General rates, Uniform Annual General charges, rates penalties	5,453	5,738	3,594
3,527	Targeted rates	820	836	3,907
584	Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	4	4	448
580	Fees and charges	358	367	498
107	Interest and dividends from investments	35	64	157
-	Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
714	Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	741	759	884
8,221	Total operating funding (A)	7,411	7,769	9,488
Applications of operating funding				
6,738	Payments to staff and suppliers	5,744	5,911	6,989
104	Finance costs	112	115	144
1,025	Internal charges and overheads	821	860	1,089
7,868	Total applications of operating funding (B)	6,677	6,887	8,222
353	Surplus /(deficit) of operating funding (A - B)	734	822	1,266
Sources of capital funding				
-	Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	42	43	62
-	Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
500	Increase/(decrease) in debt	-	-	(1,105)
24	Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
-	Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
524	Total capital funding (C)	42	43	(1,043)
Applications of capital funding				
19	- to meet additional demand	1,532	-	104
382	- to improve the level of service	61	52	177
185	- to replace existing assets	449	604	909
292	Increase/(decrease) in reserves	(1,266)	269	(967)
878	Total applications of capital funding (D)	776	925	223
(353)	Surplus/(deficit) of capital (C - D)	(734)	(882)	(1,266)
-	Funding balance (A - B) + (C - D)	-	-	-

Social housing upgrades

The Council has worked to ensure that its social housing meets health and safety standards. We want all residents in these homes to be comfortable and safe. Throughout 2023-24, upgrades were made to the following facilities.

Featherston flats

The six Matthews flats in Fox Street, Featherston, were painted on the exterior, including the roofs this year. We also upgraded two of these flats with new piping, relined the showers and put new vanities in the bathrooms. New carpet was laid, and window treatments installed, along with interior painting. We also replaced dux quest piping, which is a product that is known to fail. All gutters, drains and paths were cleaned over the past year.

Burling Flats in Bell Street also had some gutters, drains and roofs cleaned, along with all paths cleaned.

Martinborough flats

The 12 Cicely Martin flats in Naples Street, Martinborough, had exterior and roof painting over the past year. All gutters, drains and paths were cleaned. One flat was renovated and repaired, including an interior repaint, new carpet and window treatments.

Greytown flats

Westhaven Senior Housing in West Street, Greytown, has had upgrades, including a new bathroom and new kitchen extractor fans to bring the flats up to Healthy Homes standards. One flat had aluminium joinery installed and a bathroom repaint. All flats had gutters and drains cleared and soft washed, moss and mould roof treatment, along with paths being cleaned to prevent any slippery surfaces.

Wairarapa Library Service

Wairarapa Library Service (WLS) had a successful year, despite facing staffing challenges. The service continued to put people at the heart of its work and focused on helping patrons to get the most out of both physical and virtual collections and sites. Equitable access to wifi through Skinny Jump and the promotion of online resources such as Libby and the WLS app, along with an engaging social media presence, continued to grow these aspects of a virtual library service. All four library sites hosted regular in-person events. These included book clubs, school holiday programmes and weekly Wā Kōrero story times for preschoolers. Community collaborations with groups such as Wai Word, Yarns in Barns, Divine River and Digital Seniors provided quality author talks, workshops and digital literacy support.

The WLS StoryWalk® was shortlisted in April for a national Placemaking Aotearoa Kūmara Award in the Kei tua atu i te Kaupapa/Beyond the Brief category. This award is for physical spaces that exceed what is expected or required. The Martinborough StoryWalk® is an outdoor reading activity that allows children, families and people of all ages to read stories while walking along a nature trail. It is a successful example of how libraries can reach into their communities. The WLS library management system was upgraded in June and has provided an enhanced platform for both staff and patrons, including improvements to the WLS website.

Wairarapa Library Service in numbers

- New members joined 809
- Books (print items) loaned 119,274
- Digital use loaned: ebooks 15,441; audio books 13,292; emagazines issued via Libby app 11,248
- New print books purchased 6,539
- WLS members borrowed 14,944 items from SMART partners

Recreation trail on Underhill Road

A purpose built recreation trail was completed on Underhill Road on 31 May 2024 and funded entirely from central government's COVID-19 Infrastructure Investment Fund, administered by Kanoa. The long term plan is to connect the new 2.2 kilometre stretch of trail to an extensive network of approximately 89.5 kilometres of purpose-built trails and additional experience loops of an extra 103.5 kilometres throughout the Wairarapa. These trails will connect the region's five main towns with interesting diversions around each one. The new Underhill Road trail has smooth grading along a gravel pathway and connects to a new bridge over the Tauwharenikau River, which has the longest suspended deck in Aotearoa. Work on the new trail was done by Pope & Gray to a high standard for recreation users.

Greytown Lands Trust Park secured for 99 years

The historic Greytown Rugby Club grounds were renamed the Greytown Lands Trust Park and opened up to the community, both visually (with a new bollard and chain replacing part of the old fence) and for wider community use from 1 July 2024. These grounds have been in continuous use as a sports field for nearly 150 years and have strong significance to the social fabric of Greytown. The new structure is the result of a collaborative agreement reached during 2023-24 between the Greytown Lands Trust, South Wairarapa District Council, and Greytown Rugby Club. The council regards the new agreement as representing strong goodwill between the three groups as it will enable future generations to play sport at the club's historic tūrangawaewae for the next 99 years.

Heritage buildings maintenance

ANZAC Hall

The ANZAC Hall represents historic significance to Featherston with a Category 1 listing from the Historic Places Trust. This year it was repainted for the first time since 2016 in colours that are sympathetic to the building's important heritage. The painting protects the large single storey wooden building, which is clad in weatherboards of heart totara or matai on concrete foundations. The work was done by Programmed Property Services and Peter Maxwell from Resene Paints. Members of the ANZAC Club were impressed with the thoroughness of the work completed and had received positive feedback from the community.

The hall is used as a civic space for recreation, memorials and community events throughout the year. Its repainting aligns with the council's Long-Term Plan. It was completed on 19 March 2024.

Featherston Old Courthouse

The Old Courthouse, one of Featherston's iconic buildings that was first opened in 1895 and is classified as a historic building, underwent maintenance which included the removal of asbestos, and new vinyl and carpet being laid.

Martinborough Square lights up

Martinborough Square is now lighter for evening walks, due to the repair of existing uplights which are now fully functional. The repairs make walking in the dark safer while retaining full compliance with criteria set out by the Wairarapa Dark Sky Reserve Association, which was consulted with throughout the process to ensure their regulations were met. The next lighting repair in Martinborough Square will be to the four upstanding lantern lights. This work is anticipated to be completed during winter 2024.

Playgrounds, pools and public amenities

Council has given high priority to playgrounds, pools and parks for community use in the South Wairarapa district over the past year. Upgrades have been made on stage one of the Greytown playground refurbishment, resurfacing Dorset Square in Featherston, Greytown swimming pool's changing room refurbishment is currently underway and Greytown Tennis Club's parking area has been completed.

The Greytown Transfer Station had a redesign and fencing to improve green waste drop-off to this important community facility.

The Lake Ferry campground compliance upgrades are nearing completion. And younger members of the community will benefit from the good news that Greytown Wheels Park is nearing the end of detailed design with stage one of its build process anticipated to begin in early 2025.

Waste Management

Waste Management and Minimisation Plan

A new Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) was adopted by the Council in February 2024 to reduce landfill waste and transition the community to a circular economy.

The new WMMP is a collaboration between all Wairarapa district councils and the eight councils in the Wellington region. It lays out specific actions and goals to reduce the amount of waste going to landfills. Following a successful trial of soft plastic and battery recycling, the Council is pleased to continue bringing these two new services to the community. Public awareness campaigns, collaboration between councils and pragmatic guidelines to the public remain a strong focus of this new initiative.

Illegal dumping

Another top priority and grave concern that the council is addressing is illegal rubbish dumping, which is prevalent around the South Wairarapa district. Of particular concern is a historic dump site discovered at Te Kopi Cliffs on the south coast. The council is working closely with external authorities to remove the waste and launch a campaign to highlight the toxic impact this type of dumping is having on the environment.

Enviroschools

On a positive note, the council is working to grow the Enviroschools programme throughout the district to raise young people with an awareness of environmental responsibility.

Welcoming communities

The nationally funded Welcoming Communities programme has completed its establishment phase and is now focusing on implementation in 2024-25. Engagement and research was completed over the past year, culminating in a stock take report that summarises its findings. This report documents how welcoming and inclusive the South Wairarapa district has been to new members of the community.

Based on these findings and further engagement, a Welcoming Plan was created and endorsed by the Strategic Leadership Team. The planned welcoming activities centre around the primary areas of information, integration and inclusion. The three years of national funding end on 30 June 2025, with funding being carried over until late 2025 for the employment of the Welcoming Communities Advisor. This final year will focus on delivering and supporting welcoming inclusive events. It will also work on creating welcome information for new members of the South Wairarapa community. This could include a Welcome Guide as part of council's ongoing activity.

Land Transport (roading and footpaths)

Overview

South Wairarapa District Council provides and maintains a network of public roads. The road transport network is one of the district’s primary assets, enabling people in the community to interact with each other. Other assets such as rail, water and air work in conjunction with roads to allow people to connect. Other assets that allow people in communities to connect are telecommunications and radio. The level of service a community demands from its road transport is dependent on how critical the connection along the road is to the community’s social, cultural and commercial activities. The greater the intensity of current and future demand, the higher the community’s expectations will be.

	Social wellbeing	Economic wellbeing	Environmental wellbeing	Cultural wellbeing
Community outcomes	Residents are active, healthy, safe, resilient, optimistic and connected	A place of destination, new business and diverse employment that gives people independence and opportunity	Sustainable living, safe and secure water and soils, waste minimised, biodiversity enhanced	Strong relationships with whānau, hapū and marae, celebrating diverse cultural identity, arts and heritage
Strategic Drivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Creating better connections and social wellbeing ■ Strengthen social connections within the community ■ Provide universally accessible, safe and diverse spaces to strengthen connection between people and place ■ Advocate for better transport and technology to improve social and business opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Plan for growth that protects rural land and character ■ Contain rural residential expansion ■ Support quality urban development ■ Limit growth in coastal and other areas subject to climate change impacts ■ Support the transition to a low carbon economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Take active measures to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change ■ Empower and enable our community to drive behavioural change for the benefit of the environment ■ Enhancing 3 waters delivery and environmental quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Protect town and rural community character, retaining our unique look and feel ■ Improve urban design and integrate what we build with natural features. ■ Nurturing and creating the district’s special character, qualities and culture

Assets we look after

We will continue to maintain our assets including:

- Bridges – 10 timber, 68 concrete, 13 armco/pipes, 49 box culverts.
- Streetlights – Featherston 285, Greytown 235, Martinborough 300, Rural 25.
- Urban roads – 68.1km sealed, 0.9km unsealed.
- Rural roads – 338.5km sealed, 262.6km unsealed.
- Kerbs and Channels – Featherston 30.1km, Greytown 29.3km, Martinborough 27.5km.
- Footpaths (concrete, asphalt, metal) – Featherston 22.2km, Greytown 24.2km, Martinborough 37.1km

Significant negative effects

An unsafe roading network could endanger users. In order to ensure the safety of road users, the roading network needs to be maintained to a standard that allows safe passage. The roading network is maintained using contemporary techniques, and the roading programme is audited by NZTA Waka Kotahi.

Performance Information - Land Transport

Service Level	Key Performance Indicators Key Performance Indicators	Performance Targets (for the Financial Year)			How it will be measured	2023-24 v 2022-23	Comments
		2022-23 Results	2023-24 Results	Target 2023-24			
The roads are maintained to ensure that they are safe and comfort-able to travel on	Using the RAMM measurement system, average smooth travel exposure on urban roads to be 85% and rural roads 95% with maximum variation of 5%	94% urban 99% rural	94% urban 98% rural	95%	Council records	-	<p>Achieved: 97% is an average between urban and rural. This measure is based on surveys of road roughness and estimated traffic volumes. The roughness survey is completed every two years. The last survey was completed in November 2023. The estimates of traffic volumes have not been updated since June 2021. As a result, they may not reflect current traffic volumes. This means the actual average quality of ride on the sealed local road network may differ materially from the result reported. The Council is considering options to enable more frequent counts and estimations in future. This will be considered during LTP 2025-2034 planning.</p> <p>Te Ringa Maimoa (REG) sector of NZTA Waka Kotahi has implemented a Consistent Condition Data Collection (CCDC) project that will change local road asset management. Te Ringa Maimoa is leading a national approach to sealed road condition data collection, using advanced scanning technologies to deliver high quality and consistent data for asset management and investment decision making.</p> <p>In September 2023, the Waka Kotahi Board approved the CCDC sealed roads project as a nationally delivered activity receiving 100% National Land Transport Fund (NLTP) support for the 2024-2027 NLTP. This replaces the previous approach of Road Controlling Authority co-funding their surveys.</p>

Service Level	Key Performance Indicators Key Performance Indicators	Performance Targets (for the Financial Year)			How it will be measured	2023-24 v 2022-23	Comments
		2022-23 Results	2023-24 Results	Target 2023-24			
The roads are maintained to ensure that they are safe and comfort-able to travel on	Ratepayers and residents fairly/very satisfied with the roads	28% urban 18% rural	34% urban 25% rural	85%	Customer survey	↑	Not Achieved: Many comments expressed frustration with the poor condition of the roads, specifically mentioning the prevalence of potholes, subsidence, and general wear and tear. In light of the Government Policy statement regarding land Transport including pothole reduction a significant budget increase in the Pothole Reduction is in place for 24/25 financial yea, this is targeted at improving the level of service.
	Change in number of fatalities and serious injury crashes on the local road network from previous year	6 Decreased by 1	6	<7	NZTA records	-	Achieved
	5% of sealed roads are resealed each year subject to availability of NZTA subsidy	76% (3.5% sealed)	80% (4.02% sealed)	100%	Council records	↑	Not achieved: The total length of road resealed was 16.3 km of 405.8km which represents 4.02% of the sealed road network in terms of NZTA funding.
	The pavement condition index as measured by the NZTA pavement integrity index	97%	97%	95%	NZTA	-	Achieved

Service Level	Key Performance Indicators	Performance Targets (for the Financial Year)			How it will be measured	2023-24 v 2022-23	Comments
		2022-23 Results	2023-24 Results	Target 2022-23			
Footpaths can be safely used to get around town	Ratepayers and residents are satisfied with footpaths in the district	31%	35%	75%	Customer survey	↑	Not Achieved: There were significant concerns about the condition of the footpaths in the district. Respondents highlighted issues with uneven surfaces, trip hazards, and the absence of footpaths in some areas. Due to Government low priority on funding the upgrading of footpaths this is unlikely to change in the near future.
	Availability of footpaths on at least one side of the road down the whole street (urban)	76%	76%	90%	Council records	↑	Not Achieved: . National Land Transport Plan has no funding for walking and riding, until this is changed, no new footpaths can be developed.
	Footpath Condition rating 95% compliant with SWDC AMP Standard	98%	98%	95%	Council records	↑	Achieved
	The % of customer service requests relating to roads and footpaths responded to within 48 hours	32%	71%	90%	Council records.	↑	Not achieved: Due to high staff turnover SWDC unable respond within timeframes in all instances. Increased staff numbers should improve performance.
	Meet annual plan footpath targets	n/a	n/a	Yes	Council records	-	Footpath Survey done in 2021/22– Not done due to NZTA CCDC change. Future survey will include Kerb and Channel condition rating.

Funding Impact Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2024 for Land Transport

30 June 2023 Annual Report \$000		30 June 2023 Long Term Plan \$000	30 June 2024 Long Term Plan \$000	30 June 2024 Annual Report \$000
Sources of operating funding				
4,147	General rates, Uniform Annual General charges, rates penalties	3,826	4,055	5,022
-	- Targeted rates	-	-	-
3,939	Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	1,576	1,631	3,296
-	- Fees and charges	-	-	53
82	Interest and dividends from investments	27	49	120
-	- Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
165	Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	150	154	621
8,333	Total operating funding (A)	5,578	5,889	9,112
Applications of operating funding				
7,399	Payments to staff and suppliers	3,351	3,507	6,216
41	Finance costs	37	37	66
488	Internal charges and overheads	309	334	535
7,928	Total applications of operating funding (B)	3,696	3,878	6,818
405	Surplus /(deficit) of operating funding (A - B)	1,882	2,010	2,294
Sources of capital funding				
1,831	Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	1,894	2,118	2,852
-	- Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
-	- Increase/(decrease) in debt	-	-	(232)
19	Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
749	Lump sum contributions	427	439	401
2,598	Total capital funding (C)	2,321	2,558	3,021
Applications of capital funding				
1,681	- to meet additional demand	410	419	-
880	- to improve the level of service	993	1,164	1,809
1,472	- to replace existing assets	1,957	2,001	3,125
(1,030)	Increase/(decrease) in reserves	843	984	381
3,003	Total applications of capital funding (D)	4,203	4,568	5,315
(405)	Surplus/(deficit) of capital (C - D)	(1,882)	(2,010)	(2,294)
-	Funding balance (A - B) + (C - D)	-	-	-

Land Transport by the numbers

During the year we focussed on delivering projects and outcomes with ongoing maintenance in the district to improve our road network. Highlights and key activities from the 2023-24 year include:

- 414 potholes filled
- 3171 km of roads inspected
- 13.6 km or 116211m² of roads resealed
- 1 km or 6636m² sealed road rehabilitation
- 1445 km unsealed roads graded
- 9071 m³ unsealed roads maintenance metal applied
- 1072 culverts inspected
- 199 m culverts flushed
- 170.7 m culverts replaced
- 289 m kerb and channel replaced
- 1095 signs inspected
- 414 new signs installed
- 468 new signposts
- 1132 m² footpaths resurfaced

Hinekura Road

The Hinekura Road reopened in March 2024 following work to reinstate the road, which began in early January 2024. The reinstated road was constructed on approximately the same alignment on a 400-metre stretch of the road, as agreed with the Hinekura community. This was deemed to be the low-cost high-risk option to achieve the road opening in the most efficient process. Work was completed by Brownell Earthmoving, following tender, and it included earthworks, drainage works, site clearing, road pavement construction and dam installation.

The work was essential following Hinekura Road being closed in June 2022 due to a massive landslide, which was estimated to have been 500,000m³ to 1,000,000m³ in size.



Pictured: Hinekura earthworks, January 2024.

Emergency works

There were no emergency works events during the 2023-24 year. Progress did continue, however, with the reinstatement of damage caused by events throughout 2022 and 2023.

The value of emergency works throughout the 2023-24 year was \$2,914,845 and attracted a Waka Kotahi (NZTA) subsidy of \$2,262,329.

Works included under this category included reinstating Hinekura Road, dropouts, culvert and drainage renewals and road retrenching on Pahaoa, White Rock, Te Awaiti and Cape Palliser Roads.

Ecoreef

Ecoreef is a relatively new structural product, which has been installed along Cape Palliser Road/Matakitaki a Kupe Road to reinforce the road and prevent coastal erosion. The Ecoreef hexagonal model used on the coast road forms an interlocking system to provide medium to long term protection of infrastructure. It is now fully installed and currently being monitored as part of its long term resource consent conditions. This monitoring is hoped to support an application to make Ecoreef a permanent structure along this rugged coastal road.

The same Ecoreef units were also used to reinforce Mangatoetoe Bridge on Cape Palliser Road. This provides bridge abutment reinforcing support following flooding events in 2023, which had left the foundations and connecting roadway of the bridge undermined.





Pictured: Cape Palliser Road remediation – before, during and after.

Speed Management Plan and Speed Review

The Speed Management Plan was placed on hold awaiting the new Government Policy Statement and speculation around the change in speed setting rules.

After assessment of the above, the draft speed management has been submitted to the Land Transport Director for final approval. SWDC is awaiting the outcome of the submission.

Water Supply

Overview

Council’s primary aim is to provide reliable and sustainable reticulated water supplies to our three towns and to encourage conservation of this valuable resource.

Council’s responsibilities include a duty under the Health Act 1956 to improve, promote, and protect public health within the district. This means Council has an obligation to identify where a potable water service is required, and to either provide it directly, or to maintain an overview of the supply if it is provided by others.

Council provides and maintains potable water supplies to properties throughout the District via Wellington Water, which is a Council Controlled Organisation. This service is not provided to premises which have their own rainwater tanks or bores.

	Social wellbeing	Economic wellbeing	Environmental wellbeing	Cultural wellbeing
Community outcomes	Residents are active, healthy, safe, resilient, optimistic and connected	A place of destination, new business and diverse employment that gives people independence and opportunity	Sustainable living, safe and secure water and soils, waste minimised, biodiversity enhanced	Strong relationships with whānau, hapū and marae, celebrating diverse cultural identity, arts and heritage
Strategic drivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Creating better connections and social wellbeing ■ Provide universally accessible, safe and diverse spaces to strengthen connection between people and place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supporting sustainable growth, employment, economic wellbeing and development ■ Encourage economic diversity and local vibrancy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Enhancing 3 waters delivery and environmental quality ■ Deliver sustainable, clean, clear, safe and secure drinking water ■ Protect and replenish our natural environment and biodiversity ■ Minimise waste and provide environmentally sustainable Council services. ■ Take active measures to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change ■ Empower and enable our community to drive behavioural change for the benefit of the environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nurturing and creating the district’s special character, qualities and culture ■ Work in partnership with mana whenua and iwi, respecting tikanga (customs), kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and taha Māori (heritage)

Assets we maintain

Water Sources Urban

Seven sources of water are:

- Featherston – Boar Bush Gully Catchment (this source is currently operated as an emergency supply only)
- Featherston – Tait's Creek intake weir (this source is currently operated as an emergency supply only)
- Greytown and Featherston – Waiohine River
- Greytown – Soldier's Memorial Park
- Martinborough – Ruamāhanga bores
- Martinborough – Huangarua river (this source is currently used for emergency water supply only)
- Pirinoa – Pirinoa bore

Water Sources Rural (Stock Water Races)

Two sources of supply water to the rural areas of Featherston and Greytown

- Featherston – Tauwharenīkau River (Longwood Water Race)
- Greytown – Waiohine River (Moroa Water Race)

Negative affects

The potential negative effects associated with this activity and ways we mitigate these effects are as follows.

» A water supply that does not meet minimum health standards could cause health problems for users. Council uses contemporary techniques to ensure the water supply is fit for use and has invested heavily in infrastructure over the life of this LTP.

» In addition, a reliable supply is needed during drought and for firefighting purposes. Council aims to improve reliability through demand management and is investing in core infrastructure.

Performance Reporting – Water Supply

Service Level	Key Performance Indicators	Performance Targets (for the Financial Year)			How will it be measured?	2023-24 v 2022-23	Comments
		2022-23 Results	2023-24 Results	Target 2023-24			
The water provided is safe to drink	Water supply systems comply with Ministry of Health Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules (DWQAR)- Bacteriological ²	MBA: No GTN: No FSTN: No PIR: No	MBA: Yes GTN: No FSTN: No PIR: Yes	Yes	Council records	↑	Not Achieved. Treatment plants in South Wairarapa were only equipped with treatment capability to handle Log 3 treatment, as this is what was required under the Drinking Water Standards. The new standards require Log 4 treatment. Recent improvements to the treatment plants have now resulted in compliance with DWQAR.
	Water supply systems comply with Ministry of Health Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules (DWQAR) – Protozoal ²	MBA: No GTN: No FSTN: No PIR: No	MBA: No GTN: No FSTN: No PIR: Yes	Yes	Council records	↑	Further improvements will be focused on improving operational resilience and reliability. Taumata Arowai (the national regulator for water services) replaced Drinking Water Standards with new more rigorous standards (the Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules) in November 2022. The Local Government Non-Financial Performance Measure Rules retained reference to the old Drinking Water Standards until August 2024. As in the second half of the 2022/23 financial year, performance has been measured against relevant bacteriological and protozoal rules in the DWQAR pending the application of the new performance measure rules for 2024/25.*

Service Level	Key Performance Indicators	Performance Targets (for the Financial Year)			How it will be measured	2023-24 v 2022-23	Comments
		2022-23 Results	2023-24 Results	Target 2023-24			
Potable water demand ²	The average consumption of drinking water per day per resident within the territorial authority ²	597 litres	583 litres	<400 litres	Council records	↑	Not Achieved ³ . Water consumption (including leakage and unauthorised consumption) decreased approximately 2.4% year-on-year. This remains significantly above the target of 400 litres per person per day. For 2024/25, Council in its Enhanced Annual Plan, adopted demand management through reducing current allocated quota from 350 m ³ to 250 m ³ of water provided to all users.
The Council provides reliable and safe drinking water supplies	Compliance with resource consent conditions/water permit conditions to “mainly complying” or better	0%	100%	100%	Council records	↑	Achieved
Meeting customer expectations	Number of complaints about the drinking water odour, clarity, pressure, taste, and continuity of supply, expressed per 1000 connections	22.1 per 1000 connections	18.4 per 1000 connections	<65	Council records	↑	Achieved
There is adequate water for urban fire fighting	Fire hydrants tested annually that meet NZ Fire Service Code of Practice	20%	20%	20%	Council records	-	Achieved
Maintenance of the reticulation network ²	The % of real water loss from the local authority’s networked reticulation system ²	46%	42%	<30%	Council records	↓	Not Achieved.

Service Level	Key Performance Indicators	Performance Targets (for the Financial Year)			How it will be measured	2023-24 v 2022-23	Comments
		2022-23 Results	2023-24 Results	Target 2023-24			
Fault response times where the local authority attends a call-out in response to a fault or unplanned interruption to its networked reticulation system	Ratepayers and residents satisfied with level of service for water	51%	57%	75%	Customer survey	↑	Not Achieved ³
	Attendance for urgent call-outs: from the time that the local authority receives notification to the time that service personnel reach the site: ² · in < 1 hour · median response time measured	41% Median time 91 minutes	40% Median time 58 minutes	80% Median time under 1 hour	Council records	↓	Achieved ³
	Resolution of urgent call-outs: from the time that the local authority receives notification to the time that service personnel confirm resolution of the fault or interruption: ² · in < 8 hours · median response time measured	59% Median time 4.7 hours	78% Median time 3.4 hours	90% Median time under 8 hours	Council records	↑	Achieved ³ .
	Attendance for non-urgent call-outs: from the time that the local authority receives notification to the time that service personnel reach the site: ² · in < 2 working days · median response time measured	56% Median time 2 days	48% Median time 3 days	80% Median time under 2 days	Council records	↓	Not Achieved ³
	Resolution of non-urgent call-outs: from the time that the local authority receives notification to the time that service personnel confirm resolution of the fault or interruption: ² · in < 5 working days · median response time measured	77% Median time 3 days	43% Median time 4 working days	80% Median time under 5 working days	Council records	↓	Achieved ³

²These performance measures are mandatory as directed by the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) Non-Financial Performance Measures Rules 2024

³Investment levels considered insufficient to achieve the target. Increased investment in water loss reduction (renewals, pressure management, network calming, network meters, and more frequent leak detection and repairs) in addition to other demand management initiatives is recommended. Consultation in the LTP will include options to increase investment, which will allow for performance improvement.

Funding Impact Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 202 for Water Supply

30 June 2023 Annual Report \$000		30 June 2023 Long Term Plan \$000	30 June 2024 Long Term Plan \$000	30 June 2024 Annual Report \$000
Sources of operating funding				
-	General rates, Uniform Annual General charges, rates penalties	-	-	-
3,942	Targeted rates	3,716	3,999	4,373
111	Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	183
9	Fees and charges	88	90	71
72	Interest and dividends from investments	24	43	105
-	Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
18	Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	19	19	24
4,153	Total operating funding (A)	3,846	4,152	4,756
Applications of operating funding				
3,098	Payments to staff and suppliers	2,508	2,518	3,250
66	Finance costs	109	202	98
318	Internal charges and overheads	206	211	342
3,482	Total applications of operating funding (B)	2,822	2,932	3,691
671	Surplus /(deficit) of operating funding (A - B)	1,024	1,220	1,066
Sources of capital funding				
-	Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
218	Development and financial contributions	158	162	239
-	Increase/(decrease) in debt	1,573	3,892	(205)
16	Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
-	Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
234	Total capital funding (C)	1,732	4,055	34
Applications of capital funding				
-	- to meet additional demand	444	2,840	-
546	- to improve the level of service	1,178	1,150	-
1,459	- to replace existing assets	376	393	1,182
(1,100)	Increase/(decrease) in reserves	758	891	(82)
905	Total applications of capital funding (D)	2,755	5,275	1,100
(671)	Surplus/(deficit) of capital (C - D)	(1,024)	(1,220)	(1,066)
-	Funding balance (A - B) + (C - D)	-	-	-

Water supply – by the numbers

- 1,623 million litres of safe, healthy drinking water supplied to South Wairarapa residents and businesses
- 966,000,000 litres of wastewater (sewage) treated at South Wairarapa wastewater treatment plants
- 178 metres of water pipes constructed

Building Martinborough’s water network resilience

One of the challenges for many rural communities is their relative isolation from mobile power generators, which can leave their water networks exposed during major power outages.

A backup power generator has been installed at the Martinborough Water Treatment Plant, which means that backup power is available on site if a power cut occurs. It avoids the need to transport a power generator from Wellington.

Waiohine Water Treatment Plant also has mobile power generators on site.



Pirinoa access improvements

An unstable dirt track was replaced with safer access steps at Pirinoa Water Treatment Plant. This makes it easier for staff to carry equipment to the site.

This plant provides drinking water for residential houses, a school (with a swimming pool), community hall, public toilets and local dairy.



Above: The new access steps for the Pirinoa Water Treatment Plant

New equipment installed at water treatment plants

In June 2024, a range of new treatment instruments were installed across South Wairarapa, bringing the three main water treatment plants – Soldiers Memorial Park (Greytown), Waiohine Water Treatment Plant (providing water to Featherston and Greytown) and Martinborough Water Treatment Plant- into compliance with Taumata Arowai drinking water standards and rules by July.

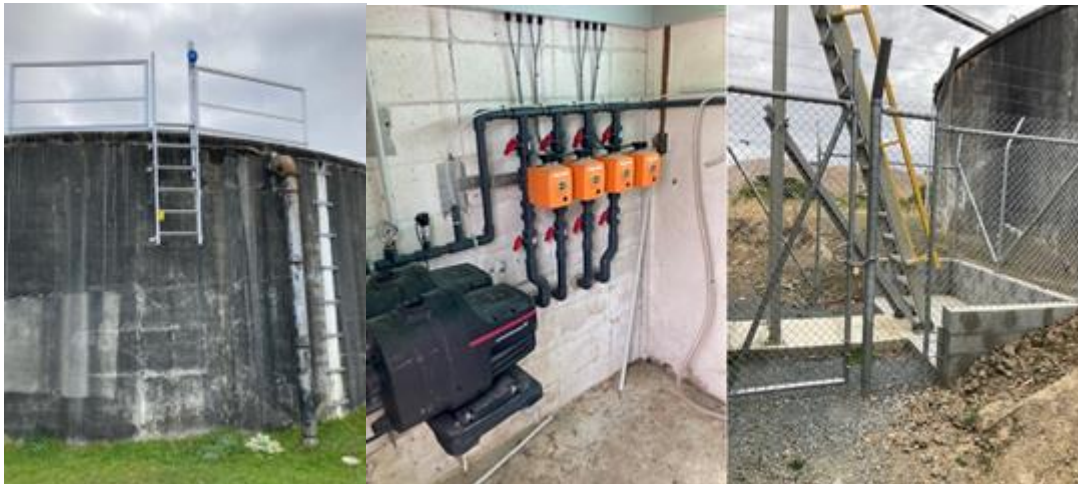
New treatment equipment was installed in water treatment plants across South Wairarapa. These new instruments include turbidity, pH, conductivity and UVT analysers at Soldiers' Memorial Park in Greytown, a conductivity analyser at Waiohine Water Treatment Plant and pH and conductivity analysers at Martinborough Water Treatment Plant. This provides a better understanding of water quality before treating it, which helps optimise and improve the community's drinking water treatment processes



Treatment Plant - Turbidity, pH, conductivity, and UVT analyser

Water treatment and safety improvements at Martinborough Reservoir

An automatic chlorine dosing system was installed to improve the treatment process and health and safety. The new system means staff can add chlorine at the ground level, rather than having to feed it through a hose from on top of the reservoir. A new safer, secure ladder has also been installed for when staff do need to access the reservoir roof.



Above left - Operations staff previously had to manually add chlorine by climbing to the top of the reservoir using the above ladder.

Above right - The new automatic dosing system, with safety ladder and rails for safer access.

Wastewater

Overview

Council’s responsibilities include the duty under the Health Act 1956 to improve, promote, and protect public health within the district. This means Council has an obligation to identify where such a wastewater service is required, and to either provide it directly itself, or to maintain an overview of the supply if it is provided by others.

Council aims to collect, treat, and dispose of wastewater from the urban areas of Featherston, Greytown, Martinborough, and Lake Ferry to provide public health protection with minimal effects on the environment. Wellington Water provides and maintains these wastewater services to properties in the district on behalf of the Council. This service is not provided to single premises with their own septic tanks.

	Social wellbeing	Economic wellbeing	Environmental wellbeing	Cultural wellbeing
Community outcomes	Residents are active, healthy, safe, resilient, optimistic and connected	A place of destination, new business and diverse employment that gives people independence and opportunity	Sustainable living, safe and secure water and soils, waste minimised, biodiversity enhanced	Strong relationships with whānau, hapū and marae, celebrating diverse cultural identity, arts and heritage
Strategic drivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Creating better connections and social wellbeing ■ Provide universally accessible, safe and diverse spaces to strengthen connection between people and place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supporting sustainable growth, employment, economic wellbeing and development ■ Encourage economic diversity and local vibrancy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Enhancing 3 waters delivery and environmental quality ■ Design and implement innovative, sustainable, efficient and affordable wastewater and stormwater systems ■ Protect and replenish our natural environment and biodiversity ■ Minimise waste and provide environmentally sustainable Council services ■ Take active measures to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nurturing and creating the district’s special character, qualities and culture ■ Work in partnership with mana whenua and iwi, respecting tikanga (customs), kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and taha Māori (heritage)

Assets we look after

There are four wastewater community systems in the South Wairarapa District:

- Featherston – Urban
- Greytown – Urban
- Martinborough – Urban
- Lake Ferry – Rural

These systems include pipes, pumps, ponds and plant facilities to collect, treat, and discharge the wastewater.

Significant negative effects

There are health and environmental risks if wastewater is not disposed of in an orderly manner. Council is implementing wastewater systems that mitigate the risks associated with wastewater. The resource consent process ensures health, environmental, and cultural considerations are considered.

Performance Information– Wastewater

Service Level	Key Performance Indicators	Performance Targets (for the Financial Year)			How it will be measured	2023-24 v 2022-23	Comments
		2022-23 Results	2023-24 Results	Target 2023-24			
Council provides wastewater services that effectively collect and dispose of wastewater	Number of blockages per 1000 connections	19.9	15.4	<10	Council records	↑	Not Achieved ² . While this is above the target, it is not unusual for sewerage pipes to block because of root intrusion or foreign objects (such as wet wipes) being introduced to the system, and the result is not unexpected given this. It is worth noting that the number of wastewater overflows remains within target – so that while there are blockages these do not always result in an overflow.
	Ratepayers and residents' satisfaction with wastewater services ¹	54%	68%	57%	Customer survey	↑	Achieved
	Number of dry weather sewerage overflows per 1000 connections ¹	4.5	1.1	<10	Breach of Consent	↑	Achieved
	Attendance time: from notification to arrival on site: ¹ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> in <1 hour median response time measured 	57% Median time 58 mins	39% Median time 65 mins	75% Median time under 1 hour	Council records	↓	Not Achieved ² .
	Resolution time: from notification to resolution of fault: ¹ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> in < 4 hours median response time measured 	14% Median time 13.6 hours	60% Median time 3.6 hours	80% Median time under 4 hours	Council records	↑	Achieved Resolution time of 3.6 hours is within target of 4 hours

Service Level	Key Performance Indicators	Performance Targets (for the Financial Year)			How it will be measured	2023-24 v 2022-23	Comments
		2022-23 Results	2023-24 Results	Target 2023-24			
Wastewater disposal does not create any smells, spill or health issues and causes minimal impact on the natural environment	% of resource consent conditions complied with to mainly complying or better*	0%	66%	90%	Council records	↑	This measure relates to the annual compliance report from the regulator. The most recent report was for 2022-23.
	No. of abatement notices	1	3	<2	Council records	-	Not Achieve.
	No. of infringement notices	0	0	0	Council records	-	Achieved
	No. of enforcement notices	0	0	0	Council records	-	Achieved
	No. of convictions	0	0	0	Council records	-	Achieved
	No. of complaints per 1000 connections received about sewage odour ¹	0.6	2.2	< 15	Council records	↓	Achieved
	No. of complaints per 1000 connections received about sewage system faults ¹	11.5	1.5	< 15	Council records	↑	Achieved
	No. of complaints per 1000 connections received about sewage system blockages ¹	19.9	15.4	< 15	Council records	↑	Not Achieved
	No. of complaints per 1000 connections received about the response to issues with sewage ¹	0.6	1.9	< 15	Council records	↓	Achieved:
	Proportion of urgent wastewater service requests responded to within 6 hours of notification	84%	78%	95%	Council records	↓	Not Achieved ² .

¹These performance measures are mandatory as directed by the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) Non-Financial Performance Measures Rules 2024

²Investment levels considered insufficient to achieve the target. Consultation in the LTP will include options to increase investment, which will allow for performance improvement.

Funding Impact Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2024 for Wastewater

30 June 2023 Annual Report \$000		30 June 2023 Long Term Plan \$000	30 June 2024 Long Term Plan \$000	30 June 2024 Annual Report \$000
Sources of operating funding				
-	General rates, Uniform Annual General charges, rates penalties	-	-	-
3,094	Targeted rates	2,939	2,894	3,790
111	Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
30	Fees and charges	-	-	26
98	Interest and dividends from investments	32	59	143
-	Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
190	Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	258	265	172
3,522	Total operating funding (A)	3,230	3,218	4,132
Applications of operating funding				
2,178	Payments to staff and suppliers	1,344	1,235	2,261
602	Finance costs	481	507	575
254	Internal charges and overheads	128	120	266
-	Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
3,034	Total applications of operating funding (B)	1,954	1,862	3,102
489	Surplus /(deficit) of operating funding (A - B)	1,276	1,355	1,029
Sources of capital funding				
-	Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
789	Development and financial contributions	211	216	480
1,500	Increase/(decrease) in debt	1,027	1,052	(278)
22	Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
-	Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
-	Other dedicated funding	-	-	-
2,311	Total capital funding (C)	1,238	1,268	202
Applications of capital funding				
-	- to meet additional demand	222	-	7
1,522	- to improve the level of service	1,475	1,736	2,640
1,349	- to replace existing assets	346	362	1,702
(71)	Increase/(decrease) in reserves	471	525	(3,117)
2,800	Total applications of capital funding (D)	2,514	2,624	1,231
(489)	Surplus/(deficit) of capital (C - D)	(1,276)	(1,355)	(1,029)
-	Funding balance (A - B) + (C - D)	-	-	-

Donald Street Pump Station completed

A new wastewater pump station facility was installed along Donald Street in Featherston in September 2023. The upgrade includes the pump station itself as well as pipework, which is known as a rising main. It also includes an underground storage tank. This has significantly increased the amount of wastewater (sewage) being transported from the eastern part of Featherston to treatment facilities, preventing the network from getting overloaded on rainy days when groundwater can seep into the ageing wastewater network.

The upgrade improves resilience and provides temporary storage for excess wastewater, which is especially important during power cuts and heavy rain.

Significant improvements and benefits have been noticed by the local community, such as no overflows in the catchment area occurring since the installation.



Improving Greytown's environmental outcomes

The council was able to discharge 100% of treated wastewater from the Greytown Wastewater Treatment Plant to land last summer. This was part of a trial to enable the long-term goal to discharge all of South Wairarapa's wastewater to land (rather than rivers and streams) all year round to improve environmental outcomes.



Wastewater treatment plants more secure

Fencing was installed around Martinborough, Greytown and Featherston wastewater treatment plants to provide a more secure environment to help prevent people and animals entering the ponds.



Supporting remote rural communities at Lake Ferry

We provide water services to remote, small rural communities such as Lake Ferry and Pirinoa. Improvements have been made to treatment plant facilities in these towns to improve plant operations and health and safety.

Flow meters have been installed at the Lake Ferry Wastewater Treatment Plant, which will provide water services to operate live, remotely accessible readings of the volume of wastewater (sewage) flowing through the plant. This data enables the understanding of trends that enable the plant to operate effectively, while also increasing resilience during high rainfall conditions.

In recent years, with growing visitor numbers to the Wairarapa, there has been a noticeable increase in wastewater flowing into the plant during the peak summer period. For instance, the plant was at capacity in January 2024, which kept frontline staff busy.



Photograph above: New flow meters that feed into the SCADA system

Stormwater drainage

Overview

Council’s responsibilities include an obligation to identify where a public stormwater management service is required and to either provide it directly or to maintain an overview where it is provided by others. Wellington Water Limited provides and maintains stormwater drainage assets on behalf of the Council. It also sets the requirements for stormwater drainage assets where they are to be provided by others.

	Social wellbeing	Economic wellbeing	Environmental wellbeing	Cultural wellbeing
Community outcomes	Residents are active, healthy, safe, resilient, optimistic and connected	A place of destination, new business and diverse employment that gives people independence and opportunity	Sustainable living, safe and secure water and soils, waste minimised, biodiversity enhanced	Strong relationships with whānau, hapū and marae, celebrating diverse cultural identity, arts and heritage
Strategic drivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Creating better connections and social wellbeing ■ Provide universally accessible, safe and diverse spaces to strengthen connection between people and place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supporting sustainable growth, employment, economic wellbeing and development ■ Encourage economic diversity and local vibrancy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Enhancing 3 waters delivery and environmental quality ■ Design and implement innovative, sustainable, efficient and affordable wastewater and stormwater systems ■ Protect and replenish our natural environment and biodiversity ■ Take active measures to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nurturing and creating the district’s special character, qualities and culture ■ Work in partnership with mana whenua and iwi, respecting tikanga (customs), kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and taha Māori (heritage)

Assets we look after

There are no assets under this activity

Potential negative effects

If our stormwater systems are not properly maintained and upgraded, flooding and contamination could impact on the wellbeing of ratepayers and their dwellings, as well as the profitability of local businesses. We are investing in preventative maintenance and investigations to inform future investment strategies.

Performance Information - Stormwater Drainage

Service Level	Key Performance Indicators	Performance Targets (for the Financial Year)			How it will be measured	2023-24 v 2022-23	Comments
		2022-23 Results	2023-24 Results	Target 2023-24			
Stormwater drains are well operated and maintained by the Council	% of ratepayers and residents satisfied with stormwater drains	16%	24%	59%	Customer survey	↑	Not Achieved. Satisfaction levels have increased from the previous year, with a significant decrease in the number of residents who were very dissatisfied.
	% of urgent (any blockage causing extensive flooding of buildings or other serious flooding) requests for service responded to within 5 hours ¹	Not due	Not due	95%	Council records	—	No Flooding Events
	No. of flooding events ¹	0	0	0	Council records	—	No Flooding Events
	No. of habitable floors affected per flooding event per 1000 properties connected ¹	0	N/A	0	Council records	—	No Flooding Events
Consent Compliance	No. of abatements notices ¹	0	0	0	Council records	—	Achieved: No abatement notices
	No. of infringement notices ¹	0	0	0	Council records	—	Achieved: No infringement notices
	No. of enforcement notices ¹	0	0	0	Council Records	—	Achieved: No enforcement notices
	No. of convictions ¹	0	0	0	Council Records	—	Achieved: No convictions
	Median response time to flooding events (Notification to personnel reaching site in hrs) ¹	0	0	3	Council Records	—	Achieved: No Flooding Events
	No. of complaints about stormwater per 1000 properties connected ¹	0	N/A	0	Council records	—	SWDC does not have any stormwater connections as defined in the DIA rules

Funding Impact Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2024 for Stormwater Drainage

30 June 2023 Annual Report \$000	30 June 2023 Long Term Plan \$000	30 June 2024 Long Term Plan \$000	30 June 2024 Annual Report \$000
Sources of operating funding			
370 General rates, Uniform Annual General charges, rates penalties	422	433	461
- Targeted rates	-	-	-
25 Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
- Fees and charges	-	-	-
7 Interest and dividends from investments	2	4	10
- Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
2 Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	2	2	2
403 Total operating funding (A)	426	439	473
Applications of operating funding			
305 Payments to staff and suppliers	262	246	264
- Finance costs	-	26	-
42 Internal charges and overheads	38	39	49
346 Total applications of operating funding (B)	300	311	313
57 Surplus /(deficit) of operating funding (A - B)	126	128	160
Sources of capital funding			
- Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
- Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
- Increase/(decrease) in debt	-	-	(20)
2 Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
- Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
2 Total capital funding (C)	-	-	(20)
Applications of capital funding			
- - to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- - to improve the level of service	-	1,052	-
49 - to replace existing assets	-	-	78
10 Increase/(decrease) in reserves	126	(924)	63
59 Total applications of capital funding (D)	126	128	140
(57) Surplus/(deficit) of capital (C - D)	(126)	(126)	(160)
-Funding balance (A - B) + (C - D)	-	-	-

Notes to Service Performance Reporting

For the year ended 30 June 2024

1. Reporting Service Performance Information

The New Zealand Accounting Standards Board (XRB) issued a Standard for Service Performance Reporting: Public Benefit Entity Financial Reporting Standard 48 Service Performance Reporting (PBE FRS 48). This was issued in November 2017, with amendments made in January 2019.

The PBE FRS 48 Standard requires public benefit entities to apply the requirements to annual financial reports beginning on or after 1 January 2022. South Wairarapa District Council adopted the Standard commencing with the year-end 30 June 2023 Annual Report.

The performance information of the Council, on pages 65 to 122, has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2022 and the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014, which include the requirement to comply with New Zealand generally accepted accounting practice (NZ GAAP). The financial information has been prepared in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Reporting Standards which has been applied consistently throughout the period.

2. Scope of Performance Information

The Council's Performance Information is contained within the Performance Reporting section of the Annual Report.

PBE FRS 48 states that in reporting about the entity's objectives and how it intends to achieve them, the information should be drawn from the founding documents, governance documents and accountability documents. As such, Council has drawn this information from the 2021–31 Long-Term Plan, and the 2023/24 Annual Plan.

PBE FRS 48 states judgment is required in deciding how much information to provide about the current reporting period and also how much information to provide about progress towards the long-term objectives. Council has balanced the information available with the need to report in an understandable and concise manner for the users.

As acknowledged within PBE FRS 48 and as applicable to Council, entities are subject to a range of reporting requirements from different standard bodies, as such the presentation of Service Performance Information by Council allows for the different reporting requirements.

3. Service Performance Judgments and Assumptions

In the preparation of the forecast performance reporting in the Long-Term Plan, and Annual Plan, Council has made the following judgments in the selection of our service performance measures:

We have reflected on the extent to which the levels of service we plan to provide to the community were best captured by the performance measures.

Consideration has been given to the views expressed by our residents and ratepayers. This includes feedback relevant to the levels of service and performance measures received throughout the LTP consultation process.

We have ensured that the performance measures adequately inform progress towards delivering the outcomes in the Long-Term Plan and Annual Plan.

Under the Local Government Act 2002 we are mandated to provide standard performance measures so that the public may compare the level of service provided in relation to the following group of activities: water supply, sewerage and the treatment and disposal of sewage, stormwater drainage, and the provision of roads and footpaths. We are also required to demonstrate regulatory compliance for statutory measures (such as percentage of both building consents and resources consents applications processed within 20 statutory days).

Further to the above judgments being made in the selection of performance measures, we also apply judgments to the measurement, aggregation, and presentation of service performance information.

Glossary | Te Kuputaka

AMP	Asset Management Plan
BERL	Business and Economic Research Limited
BCA	Building Consent Authority
CCO	Council Controlled Organisation
CDC	Carterton District Council
CDEM	Civil Defence and Emergency Management
DLC	District Licensing Committee
GIS	Geographical Information System
CEG	Chief Executive’s Group
DIA	Department of Internal Affairs
FWWTP	Featherston Wastewater Treatment Plant
GST	Goods and Services Tax
GWRC	Greater Wellington Regional Council
IT	Information Technology
KPI	Key Performance Indicators
LAP	Local Alcohol Policy
LAPP	Local Authorities Protection Programme
LGA 2002	Local Government Act 2002
LGFA	Local Government Funding Agency
LTP	Long Term Plan
MDC	Masterton District Council
MBIE	Ministry of Business and Innovation
NAASRA	National Association of Australia State Roading Authorities
NZTA	New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi
NRB	Nation Research Bureau
PBE IPSAS	Public Benefit Entity International Public Sector Accounting Standard
PBE IFRS	Public Benefit Entity International Financial Reporting Standard
PGF	Provincial Growth Fund
RAMM	Road Asset Maintenance Management
RENEWAL CAPITAL	Capital Expenditure on Renewal of Infrastructure Assets e.g. Sewer or Water Pipes
RMA	Resource Management Act 1991
SPR	Special Purpose Road
SWDC	South Wairarapa District Council
uPVC	Unplasticised polyvinyl chloride
UV	Ultraviolet
VESTED CAPITAL	Capital Expenditure on Assets by Others with Ownership Vested in Council
WTP	Water treatment plant
WWL	Wellington Water Limited
WWTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant
XRB	External Reporting Board



**SOUTH WAIRARAPA
DISTRICT COUNCIL**
Kia Reretahi Tātau

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