

# 2007 Summary Annual Report

# Letter from the Mayor

Welcome to the Summary Annual Report for 2007. This document outlines the Hutt City Council's activities over the past 12 months.

The recent LTCCP shows the city in a healthy financial position following a period of prudent and sensible fiscal planning.

As a result, the Council was able to deliver ratepayers the lowest rates rise of any city council in New Zealand of just 1.3%.

But that's not all. In 2004, the new Council set an ambitious target to get rates below the average of other councils around the country by 2010. At the time, Hutt City's rates were 8% above. Remarkably we have achieved the target three years ahead of schedule, with rates now 2% below – a reduction of 10%.

Our commitment to infrastructure was underlined by the extra millions being invested to improve the city's flood protection, stormwater network and roads, including a provision of \$18m for major transport upgrades such as the Cross Valley Link and The Esplanade.

Putting the finances in order is vital to the social and cultural wellbeing of the city, and allows Council to provide the myriad of other services ratepayers expect, such as keeping the city graffiti free, maintaining and improving community facilities like parks, playgrounds, libraries and public toilets, and providing opportunities for our young people.

The Council's made strong efforts to better engage and consult with residents. Two-hundred and thirty residents attended a ground-breaking community engagement workshop aimed at encouraging greater community input in Council's decision-making. The Council has also embarked on a project to investigate how it can better support the city's three community boards and those areas of the city that do not have them.

Hutt City's participation in the Wellington Regional Strategy was confirmed, meaning we can now push on with unlocking the Wellington region's economic potential.

Social housing in the city received a boost with Council transferring its public housing to UrbanPlus – a council-controlled company – with strict instructions to increase the number and quality of the units housing elderly residents and others on low, fixed incomes.

The Council farewelled CEO Rik Hart after six years, with Business Services General Manager Tony Stallinger appointed his replacement.

One of the big highlights was the reopening of TheNewDowse. Now the most innovative art gallery in New Zealand, it's an asset the city and region can be proud of.

My thanks go to councillors, managers and staff for their hard work and diligence during the past 12 months. Together we are committed to making Hutt City a great place to live and work.

This Summary Annual Report shows we are well on track.

and for

DAVID OGDEN MAYOR, HUTT CITY COUNCIL 10 AUGUST 2007

# **Report from the staff**

I have great pleasure in presenting the Council's 2007 Annual Report Summary. After only a couple of months in the job as Chief Executive, credit for our achievements this year goes to my predecessor Rik Hart and the hard working Council staff.

## AWARDS

A highlight of the year was achieving a Silver Award from the New Zealand Business Excellence Foundation. Council is only the second local body in New Zealand to ever achieve this ranking. Our Pools staff also celebrated their winning of the SPARC Win/Win Facility Award for the Huia Pool.

TheNewDowse opening in February unveiled a new jewel in Hutt City. The Summer Festival that accompanied the opening incorporated the increasingly popular events of the Petone Fair, the Jackson Street Fiesta and Te Ra O Te Raukura. TheNewDowse was also recognised by an Excellence Award in Education and Arts from the NZ Property Council.

Council has launched www.huttcity.com to offer small businesses, sports clubs and other community organisations free support with the establishment of websites. This great initiative was recognised by the Association of Local Government Information Management with an Innovation Award.

### **ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY**

Much effort has been put into improving consultation with the community. Written submissions on the Community Plan increased by 17% over the previous year. The Consultation Plus workshop in February attracted 230 people to express their views, and an Expo in April promoted the diversity of Council activities. Excellent progress has been made on defining how we will work with community boards more effectively in the future. Consultation is currently underway in those areas of the city without community boards so that we can agree how to best engage those communities also.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

The slips and flooding experienced in this and previous years emphasise the need for Council's increased focus on protecting the city from major natural events. Significant progress was made during 2007 including work on the Hutt River, Black



Creek in Wainuiomata, private drains in the Waiwhetu area and wastewater storage at Silverstream. Planning for works to improve flood protection from the Awamutu and Waiwhetu streams has progressed, including discussions on funding the removal of the contaminated stream bed in the Waiwhetu.

### **CITY DEVELOPMENT**

The Wellington Regional Strategy will be an important guiding document for future development in the region. Council has already been focusing on achieving greater regional efficiencies and effectiveness, and is working closely with other councils to improve the quality and value of services to residents, eg. wastewater, landfill.

Visible signs of development during the past year include Sky City Cinemas, the Harvey Norman building and the Les Mills gymnasium.

The commencement of consultation on the Petone Vision Statement is Council's initial response to the growing development pressure in the area, and will be followed by similar exercises in the CBD and Seaview. This will enable us to review our District Plan and pave the way for sympathetic development of the city.

## CONCLUSION

The Council is in excellent health as we head towards 2008. Our financial position has improved significantly and this is benefiting the community through minimal rate increases. We have excellent staff who are consistently adopting best practices and being recognised through awards. Increased investment is being made into the City's infrastructure and we are all safer for it. The City's economic indicators are improving.

I look forward to 2008 as we work towards making Hutt City a great place to live, work and play.

TONY STALLINGER CHIEF EXECUTIVE, HUTT CITY COUNCIL 10 AUGUST 2007

# **Key Projects**

Key projects and issues Hutt City Council has worked on during the year to 30 June 2007

Gro	oup of Activity	Non Financ	cial Targets	Projects – Operating and Capital with a budget over \$100,000			
		Achieved	Not Achieved	Completed	Not Completed**		
People		26	14*	18	9		
Utility Services		30	4	33	7		
Environment		11	4	-	_		
Economy		9	2	8	2		
Organisation		10 2		9	2		

\* A number of these projects were not achieved due to the Dowse redevelopment, or data not yet being available to confirm that the targets have been achieved.

\*\* These projects have been carried forward to the 2007/08 financial year.

## STAFF MANAGEMENT

Increased demands for Council services has meant a temporary shortage of staff in some areas. Staff turnover of the 510 full and part time Hutt City Council employees was 12% during the year.

## SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

## WAINUIOMATA PILOT PROJECT

The Council has been a party to a three year contract to improve the community well-being of Wainuiomata, and a new five year contract will continue the progress made.

### DISABILITY ADVISORY GROUP

The Hutt Valley Disability Advisory Group was established in December 2006 by Hutt City Council, the Hutt Valley District Health Board and the Upper Hutt City Council to advise on issues of concern to disabled people.

## **CITY SAFETY**

The Council is developing a "Safer City Strategy" to increase community safety with better inter-agency cooperation to make Hutt City a safer place.

### **BYLAW REVIEW**

To meet the bylaw review legislative deadline of July 2008, Council reviewed the 1997 Traffic, Cemeteries, Parks and Reserves, Amusement Devices and Insecurely Loaded Vehicles Bylaws.

### YOUTH TRANSITION SERVICE

The Hutt Valley Youth Transition Service (Vibe YTS) has established its kaupapa and is working with schools (especially including YTS promotions in annual plans), Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Development, Victoria University of Wellington, Rimutaka Prison, Hutt Valley Chamber of Commerce, cadets, discrete communities, other whole of valley initiatives and other Council Community Development projects.

## HEALTHY HOUSING STEERING GROUP

Council is a member of the Healthy Housing Steering Group, which has representation from a wide range of government agencies. The Group has now undertaken a pilot retrofit of 95 houses and a social needs assessment with their occupants. The aim is to establish a three year 'Healthy Homes Healthy People Programme' to retrofit around 740 homes in the Hutt Valley.

## SETTLEMENT SERVICES

The Hutt City Council has been contracted by the Department of Labour since July 2005 to provide Settlement Support services, to ensure refugees and migrants who have arrived into the country in the last two years have access to relevant information that will help them settle into the Hutt Community.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Hutt City's economic performance continues to be high. The Council's proactive approach to economic development helped create an environment that has encouraged development and job growth.

The most recent figures show that job numbers increased 3.6% and the city gained 204 new businesses. The city's economy grew 4.4%, twice the national average.

Some high profile manufacturing operations closed, including Colgate Palmolive at Petone, but the number of people working in this sector remains steady and job losses appear to have been absorbed within the sector.

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Hutt City and Upper Hutt City have merged their emergency management functions into a single operation.

Readynet – the Emergency Management Preparedness pilot for Hutt City – has been purchased for the community. More than 250 organisations have access to the preparedness planning guide and early warning system.

## ENVIRONMENT

## WASTEWATER

The 10 million litre wastewater storage tank at Silverstream was completed and will reduce wastewater overflows into the Hutt River. The private drains upgrade in the Waiwhetu catchment is in its second year (of four), and will reduce wastewater overflows into the Waiwhetu Stream.

#### COASTAL EROSION AND DUNE RESTORATION

Volunteer coastal restoration projects along the eastern bays and Esplanade are increasingly popular, with plantings eventually expected to provide protection from storm damage.

### PEST PLANTS AND ANIMALS

Council raised weed awareness during Conservation Week, and volunteer groups tackled various weeds. Council co-funds possum control in the lower Korokoro Stream, Galbraiths Gully, Belmont Regional Park and Percy Scenic Reserve. Council loans possum kill traps to residents, kills rats and destroys wasp nests in reserves.

## **BAYWATCH RESULTS FOR THE 2006/07 SEASON**

The results from sampling beaches in the Hutt area have generally been within the limits described in the Recreational Water Quality Guidelines.

## NOISE

Complaints about heat pumps are increasing with owners often required to reduce noise levels. Resource consent applications for Child Care Centres in residential areas are increasing, and usually require acoustic treatments and noise management plans to comply with the District Plan.

#### **KEEP HUTT CITY BEAUTIFUL ACTIVITIES**

Clearance of litter and beach cleanups involving volunteer groups were undertaken.

## **GRAFFITI IN OUR CITY**

Council's contractor removed 1,748 graffiti "hits". We rely heavily on residents reporting graffiti to us.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION**

Existing programmes for schools and businesses continued.

## WASTE AND RECYCLING

A total of 130,768 tonnes of waste was deposited into Hutt City Council landfills – a 1% decrease compared to the previous year. A total of 7,129 tonnes of recyclables were collected from kerbside and recycling stations – an increase of 18% compared to last year.

# **Financial Overview**

## Introduction

I am pleased to present Council's financial overview for the year ended 30 June 2007.

Council has achieved excellent financial results this year, with a reported surplus of \$6 million, which is \$4 million above budget.

At least ten years of producing budget surpluses and focusing on debt repayment have put Council in a strong financial position. As a result, Council has increased investment in areas of community concern, such as stormwater protection.

Council's Financial Strategy has continued to guide decisions made during the financial year. As a result, Council has consistently delivered rate increases that are among the lowest in the country. Council is determined to maintain its record of prudent financial management and ensure residents and ratepayers in the City receive excellent value.

## PETER COLLINS

ACTING GENERAL MANAGER BUSINESS SERVICES

## What it Cost to Run the City

The following table shows the cost per resident for Council activities. It highlights that the majority of Council expenditure is on essential infrastructure and community facilities. In the future, Council expenditure is expected to be even more heavily directed towards infrastructure, particularly in the area of stormwater protection.

COSTS TO RUN THE CITY	
Group of activities	Net cost per resident
People (libraries, pools, recreation, parks, community property and support)	\$225
Utility Services (roads, water, waste)	\$398
Environment	\$32
Economy	\$30
Organisation (including cost of democracy)	\$43

## **Financial Performance**

The Summary Income Statement summarises the financial performance of Council and the Group\* for the last two financial years. The summary shows the operating revenue and expenditure as well as other transactions that have impacted on Council's and the Group's net wealth.

Council operating revenue was well above budget. This was due to increased revenue from environmental management activities and central government subsidies. Income from rates was also above budget due to property development in the City. Council operating expenditure was above budget as a result of storm related costs and an increase in demand for Council services.

SUMMARY INCOME STATEMENT AND STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY					
		Council	Group		
	Actual 30 June 07 \$000	Budget 30 June 07 \$000	Actual June 2006 \$000	Actual 30 June 07 \$000	Actual June 2006 \$000
Revenue	109,472	104,918	106,110	110,623	107,053
Expenditure	(98,974)	(96,839)	(92,825)	(100,157)	(93,606)
Finance costs	(5,532)	(5,450)	(4,904)	(5,582)	(4,904)
Gain on revaluation of financial instruments	1,442	_	546	1,442	546
Surplus before income tax	6,408	2,629	8,927	6,326	9,089
Income tax		-	-	-	-
Surplus after tax	6,408	2,629	8,927	6,326	9,089
Movements in revaluation reserves		-	220,323	_	220,323
Total recognised revenue and expenditure	6,408	2,629	229,250	6,326	229,412
Equity at the beginning of the year	960,028	741,243	730,778	960,826	731,414
Equity at the end of the year	966,436	743,872	960,028	967,152	960,826

\* Group is a term used in Council's financial statements to describe Council and its subsidiary companies combined.

## Summary Statement of Cash Flows

The following table summarises how Council and the Group generated and used cash during the respective financial years. In both years, large cash surpluses from operating activities were invested in the City's assets.

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS						
	Council			Group		
	Actual 30 June 07 \$000	Budget 30 June 07 \$000	Actual June 2006 \$000	Actual 30 June 07 \$000	Actual June 2006 \$000	
Net cash flow from operating activities	26,255	24,094	31,858	26,347	32,250	
Net cash flow from investing activities	(32,346)	(34,537)	(33,125)	(36,715)	(33,490)	
Net cash flow from financing activities	7,921	8,013	899	12,221	899	
Net cash flow for the year	1,830	(2,430)	(368)	1,853	(341)	

## Summary Statement of Financial Position

The following table provides a summary of the Council and Group financial position (that is what they own and owe) at the end of each financial year. There are only minor changes between years as a result of investment in capital projects in 2007. The Council's financial position remains in excellent shape with liabilities representing only 12% of total assets.

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION					
		Council	Group		
	Actual 30 June 07 \$000	Budget 30 June 07 \$000	Actual June 2006 \$000	Actual 30 June 07 \$000	Actual June 2006 \$000
Current Assets	15,679	13,524	14,510	14,925	14,541
Non-current assets	1,061,811	836,536	1,050,169	1,066,759	1,050,997
Total Assets	1,077,490	850,060	1,064,679	1,081,684	1,065,538
Current Liabilities	70,937	77,950	74,869	74,415	74,930
Non-current liabilities	40,117	28,238	29,782	40,117	29,782
Total Liabilities	111,054	106,188	104,651	114,532	104,712
Net assets/equity	966,436	743,872	960,028	967,152	960,828

#### Notes

- 1. Part 6 s 98(b) of the Local Government Act 2002 requires Council to make publicly available a summary of information contained in its Annual Report.
- 2. The specific disclosures included in the summary financial report have been extracted from the full financial report adopted on 10 August 2007. This summary has been prepared in accordance with FRS-43: Summary Financial Statements.
- 3. The summary financial report cannot be expected to provide as complete an understanding as provided by the full financial

report. The full financial report dated 10 August 2007 has received an unqualified audit report. A copy of the financial report may be obtained from Council's offices.

- This summary financial report has been examined by the auditor for consistency with the full financial report. An unqualified auditor's report is included with this summary.
- The Council has complied with New Zealand equivalents to the International Financial Reporting Standards as applicable for public benefit entities.

## Explanation of Transition from Previous NZ Generally Accepted Accounting Practice to NZ International Financial Reporting Standards (extract from Note 2 of the full financial report)

		Previous NZ GAAP 1 July 2005 \$000	Effect on transition to NZ IFRS 1 July 2005 \$000	NZ IFRS 1 July 2005 \$000	Previous NZ GAAP 1 July 2006 \$000	Effect on transition to NZ IFRS 1 July 2006 \$000	NZ IFRS 1 July 2006 \$000
<b>RECONCILIATION OF EQUITY</b>	– COUNCIL						
Current assets		17,794	-	17,794	17,189	(2,679)	14,510
Non current assets	b,c,d,e	811,073	824	811,897	826,931	223,238	1,050,169
Total Assets		828,867	824	829,691	844,120	220,559	1,064,679
Current liabilities		68,640	24	68,664	74,845	24	74,869
Non-current liabilities		28,641	1,608	30,249	28,753	1,029	29,782
Total Liabilities	f,d	97,281	1,632	98,913	103,598	1,053	104,651
Net Assets		731,586	(808)	730,778	740,522	219,506	960,028
Total equity attributable							
to Council	a,b,d,e,f	731,586	(808)	730,778	740,522	219,506	960,028
<b>RECONCILIATION OF EQUITY</b>	– GROUP						
Current assets		17,935	-	17,935	17,220	(2,679)	14,541
Non current assets	b,c,d,e	811,567	824	812,391	827,759	223,238	1,050,997
Total Assets		829,502	824	830,326	844,979	220,559	1,065,538
Current liabilities		68,639	24	68,663	74,906	24	74,930
Non-current liabilities		28,641	1,608	30,249	28,753	1,029	29,782
Total Liabilities	f,d	97,280	1,632	98,912	103,659	1,053	104,712
Net Assets		732,222	(808)	731,414	741,320	219,506	960,826
Total equity attributable							
to Group	a,b,d,e,f	732,222	(808)	731,414	741,320	219,506	960,826

#### **Explanatory Notes – Reconciliation of Equity**

#### a. Properties held for resale

Properties previously classified as intended for resale no longer meet the NZ IFRS definition. Book value of \$2,679,000 has been transferred back to Property Plant and Equipment.

#### b. Deemed cost/Property Plant and Equipment

Hutt City Council has applied the deemed cost exemption that is available under NZ IFRS, which allows Council to measure an item of property, plant and equipment at its fair value as its deemed cost on transition to NZ IFRS. Revaluation reserves attributed to Infrastructure assets, land, buildings, land under roads and library books of \$317,751,000 have been transferred to retained earnings as at 30 June 2005.

These were revalued at 30 June 2006 but not previously recognised in the financial statements to 30 June 2006. The reduction in revaluation reserve balance at 30 June 2006 of \$92,864,000 consists of the 2005 deemed cost adjustment of \$317,751,000, asset revaluation reserve movements for 2006 of \$255,000 and revaluation of Infrastructure assets, land, buildings, land under roads and library books movement of \$225,142,000.

#### c. Correction of prior period error

Hutt City Council was issued with a qualified audit opinion for the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2006 due to possible understatement of asset values.

Council revalued its fixed assets at 30 June 2006 and this increased asset values by \$225,142,000.

#### d. Financial derivatives

Financial derivatives were not previously recognised, but NZ IFRS requires them to be recognised in the Balance Sheet at their fair value.

#### e. Intangible assets

Computer software was previously classified as part of property plant and equipment. The net book value of computer software reclassified as an intangible asset is \$859,000 and at 30 June 2006, \$1,421,000.

#### f. Sick leave

NZ IAS 19 requires Hutt City Council to recognise employees unused sick leave entitlement that can be carried forward at balance date, to the extent that Council anticipates it will be used by staff to cover future absences.

## **RECONCILIATION OF SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006**

Income	:	Previous NZ GAAP 30 June 2006 \$000	Council Effect on transition to NZ IFRS 30 June 2006 \$000	NZ IFRS 30 June 2006 \$000	Previous NZ GAAP 30 June 2006 \$000	Group Effect on transition to NZ IFRS 30 June 2006 \$000	NZ IFRS 30 June 2006 \$000
		106,110	-	106,110	107,053	-	107,053
	a	97,729	(546)	97,183	98,510	(546)	97,964
		8,381	(546)	8,927	8,543	(546)	9,089
		_	-	_	_	-	-
		8,381	(546)	8,927	8,543	(546)	9,089

## **Explanatory Notes – Reconciliation of Surplus**

### a. Financial derivatives

Movements in financial derivatives were not previously recognised, but NZ IFRS requires them to be recognised in the Balance Sheet at their fair value.

## Rates

The graph measures rates per capita in comparison with Council's peers (other similar local authorities). It highlights the reductions achieved from 1999 onwards.

Historically Hutt City rates per capita have been well above peer average. This is partially due to many peer authorities owning major profitable businesses such as ports, airports, forestry and electricity companies, that help to keep rates down. Council's target to deliver rate levels less than peer average will be achieved in the 2007/08 financial year.

## Net Debt

This graph shows historical net debt levels per capita in comparison with Council's peers (other similar local authorities). It highlights the considerable success Council has had in managing debt levels since 1993. At the time debt levels in Hutt City were more than twice the average for similar local authorities.

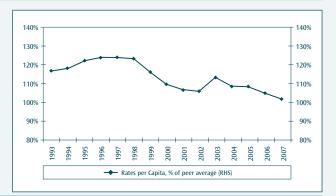
The increase in debt in 2002 was due to the unavoidable requirement to fund the construction of the wastewater treatment facilities at Seaview. Despite this, debt levels are now below the average of peer local authorities.

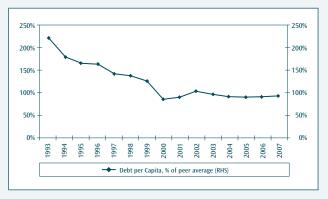
Council has a target of reducing net debt below \$60 million by 2010 and a long term target of reducing net debt below \$30 million by 2015.

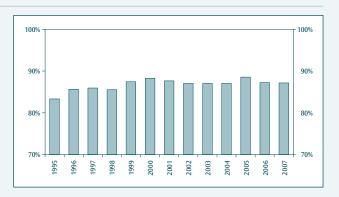
## **Customer Satisfaction**

Council monitors customer satisfaction levels with Council services annually by way of an independently conducted survey.

Council budgets to maintain satisfaction levels that are above the average of Council's peers (other similar local authorities). Council also has a long term target of achieving results regarded as best practice, which is above 90%.







# **Audit Report**

TO THE READERS OF HUTT CITY COUNCIL AND GROUP'S SUMMARY ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

We have audited the summary annual report.

## **UNQUALIFIED OPINION**

In our opinion:

- the summary annual report represents, fairly and consistently, the information regarding the major matters dealt with in the annual report; and
- the information reported in the summary financial statements complies with FRS-43: Summary Financial Statements and is consistent with the full financial statements from which it is derived.

We expressed an unqualified audit opinion, in our report dated 10 August 2007, on:

- the full financial statements; and
- the Council and group's compliance with the other requirements of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 that apply to the annual report.

#### **BASIS OF OPINION**

Our audit was conducted in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the New Zealand Auditing Standards. Other than in our capacity as auditor and in conducting the audit of the Long-Term Council Community Plan and subsequent amendments, we have no relationship with or interests in Hutt City Council or any of its subsidiaries.

# RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COUNCIL AND THE AUDITOR

The Council is responsible for preparing the summary annual report and we are responsible for expressing an opinion on that report. These responsibilities arise from the Local Government Act 2002.

ohn Slomell

John O'Connell AUDIT NEW ZEALAND On behalf of the Auditor-General Wellington, New Zealand

10 AUGUST 2007

# **Contact Us**

## YOU CAN CONTACT THE MAYOR OR ANY COUNCILLOR AT:

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Mayor David Ogden Cr R W (Roger) Styles, Eastern Ward, Deputy Mayor Cr JMK (Joy) Baird, Harbour Ward Cr G (Glenda) Barratt, Eastern Ward Cr M J (Margaret) Cousins, Western Ward Cr J (Julie) Englebretsen, Northern Ward Cr A (Angus) Finlayson, Northern Ward Cr D (Deborah) Hislop, Central Ward Cr V R (Ross) Jamieson, Harbour Ward Cr C (Christopher) Milne, Central Ward Cr T (Tracey) Pollard, Wainuiomata Ward Cr W R (Ray) Wallace, Wainuiomata Ward

