

# Annual Reporter

Te Pane Matua Taiao he whakarāpopoto i te pūrongo ā-tau 2020/21  
Greater Wellington Regional Council Summary of the Annual Report 2020/21



## He tau pukumahi mō tō tātou rohe taurikura Busy year for our brilliant region

Every year Greater Wellington produces an Annual Report that looks at our achievements, compared to what we set out to do. It covers all the Council's activities and the way they're delivered and is required by Section 98 of the Local Government Act 2002. It also reports against year three of the 2018-2028 Long Term Plan.

This Summary version gives everyone the chance to see the important information, without the heavy (but very necessary) detail. But if you're into the detail, it's all here at [www.gw.govt.nz/annual-report](http://www.gw.govt.nz/annual-report).

Read on and you'll find the inside news on what we've been doing over the last year to make our region safe, prepared and actively on track for the future.

It looks at everything from protecting the environment to responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, improving outcomes for Mana Whenua and Māori to flood protection and water supply.

Greater Wellington, its partners and community have been working hard and we're well prepared. Thanks for your support and let's keep making this a brilliant place to live now and forever.

## He hapori whai kaha, manawaroa hoki Community strength and resilience



Nigel Corry, Chief Executive



Daran Ponter, Council Chair

2020/21 was a successful year of planning and partnership for Greater Wellington. We collaborated with our community and mana whenua partners to deliver our services and created several ambitious plans to set a foundation of strength and resilience to deal with ongoing challenges.

Leading the way on that were the development of our 2021-31 Long Term Plan (LTP) and our new Integrated Strategy. Together they set out our future direction, explaining how we'll deliver for our community over the next 10 years.

### Mana Whenua Partners

A big focus this year has been working with and improving outcomes for our mana whenua partners. We engaged with iwi on several of our key planning projects and developed frameworks including the 2021-31 Long Term Plan. We also worked to create a Māori economic development strategy to support iwi fostering economic development and growth.

### COVID-19

Greater Wellington has worked hard to adapt to the complex challenges that emerged from COVID-19. We utilised government funding to protect native ecosystems and fund riparian planting and erosion management. The Regional Growth Framework was also finalised this year to support economic development and recovery.

### Public Transport

The Public Transport team continued to respond to changes in Alert Levels ensuring the safety of our communities and workforce and received an international award, alongside Snapper, for our response to COVID-19 in the 'Most Innovative Customer Serving Operator' category.

### Climate Change

We continued our strong commitment to climate change action. There were several key projects including the funding of two key restoration projects and finalising the 2020-2030 Toitū te Whenua Parks Network Plan. We also set ambitious plans and targets to decarbonise our public transport fleet, decrease transport related carbon emissions and increase active travel and public transport use by 2030.

### Environment

We continued our passionate commitment to the environment. This year we started to shift our processes towards delivering our services based on natural catchment boundaries to better protect our environment and engage with communities and mana whenua.

### Finances

We have achieved an operating deficit of \$2.6 million for the year, compared to a forecast deficit of \$15.5 million set in the 2020/21 Annual Plan. This is primarily due to timing difference in operating expenditure, delay in grants and subsidies as a result of delays to capital projects, a change in accounting for

rail network renewals and additional dividend received from CentrePort Limited.

In September 2021, Greg Campbell stepped down as Chief Executive after being in the role for seven years. We would like to thank Greg for his service to Greater Wellington.

We're proud of the work that's been done this year and acknowledge the mahi of our staff and the invaluable input from our mana whenua partners and communities. Please read this report and become involved in the work we're doing to develop an extraordinary region - thriving, connected and resilient.

# E hia? E hia te utu?

# How many? How much?

From planting trees to managing possums, there's a lot going on in our region. As you can see, it all adds up to something pretty special.

 **48,000** Native trees planted 


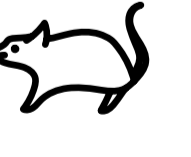
 **1.96 million** people visited a Regional Park this year 

 **665 hectares** of willow-poplar planting and 248 hectares afforestation completed 

 **913 hectares** of erosion prone land planted 

 **62 percent** of Wellington Region's primary schools participated in Movin' March cycling campaign 

 **576** non-notified resource consents processed 

 **106,000 hectares** of possum and 4,295 of mustelid control delivered through the Regional Possum Predator Control programme 

 **90 percent** of customers satisfied with Metlink's COVID-19 response and recovery 

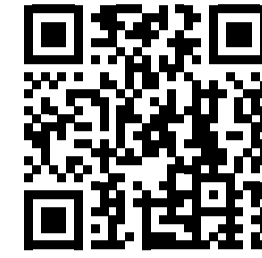
 **2,750** submissions received on the Regional Public Transport Plan 

## Whakapā mai

Please Contact us for more information and answers to your questions.

**Greater Wellington Regional Council**  
Phone: 04 384 5708  
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Phone: 0800 496 734.  
**Media enquiries**  
Phone 021 914 266  
Email: [comms@gw.govt.nz](mailto:comms@gw.govt.nz)



Greater Wellington Regional Council is a statutory body made up of 13 regional councillors, representing six constituencies. For information about a committee or to contact your local councillor, please visit <http://www.gw.govt.nz/contact-us>

**20 AWESOME EVENTS THIS SUMMER**

**Create whanaungatanga - unforgettable memories!**

**January - March 2022**  
[gw.govt.nz/summerevents](http://gw.govt.nz/summerevents)

**Ko te ahunga whakamua mō te hāpori pakari, nui te ora hoki**

**Vision for a strong, healthy community**

It takes planning and structure to help a vision come to life, and that's what Greater Wellington's been doing. We've identified five Community Outcomes that underpin everything we do, and they connect directly to our vision. It means everything's linked with a clear goal to achieve.

**Vision:**

*He rohe taurikura – ka tōnuī, ka honohono, ka pakari hoki*

*An extraordinary region – thriving, connected and resilient*

# Ko ngā Hua Hapori e rima Five community outcomes

## Strong Economy

### What does that mean?

A thriving and diverse economy supported by high quality infrastructure that retains and grows businesses and employment.

### Contributing Groups of Activities

- Environment
- Regional Parks and Forests
- Flood Protection and Control Works
- Regional Leadership
- Water Supply
- Metlink Public Transport

## Healthy Environment

### What does that mean?

An environment with clean air, fresh water, healthy soils and diverse ecosystems that support community needs.

### Contributing Groups of Activities

- Environment
- Regional Parks and Forests
- Flood Protection and Control Works
- Regional Leadership
- Water Supply
- Metlink Public Transport

## Resilient Community

### What does that mean?

A community that plans for the future, adapts to change and is prepared for emergencies.

### Contributing Groups of Activities

- Environment
- Flood Protection and Control Works
- Regional Leadership
- Water Supply

## Engaged Community

### What does that mean?

A community that takes pride in the region, values our urban and rural landscapes, and enjoys our amenities and choice of lifestyles.

### Contributing Groups of Activities

- Environment
- Regional Parks and Forests
- Regional Leadership

## Connected Community

### What does that mean?

People are able to move around the region efficiently and our communications networks are effective and accessible.

### Contributing Groups of Activities

- Regional Leadership
- Metlink Public Transport



**Kiribati (Te taetae ni Kiribati):  
Ko kona ni kabonganai baao ni  
mwamwananga n akea te kantoka nakon te  
tabo n iti are ko na karekea iai te iti n totoko –  
man te Moanibong 20 n Tebetembwa 2021**

# 2021

## Ko te Whakamahere, Rangapū, Manawaroa ā-Rohe Planning, Partnership and Regional Resilience

## Greater Wellington's year in review

Our financial year runs from 1 July to 30 June and those 12 months have been a significant time for everyone in our region. We've had to deal with the ongoing challenge in COVID-19 and grapple escalating issues such as climate change. We've approached it all with a commitment to planning, partnership and creating resilience.

There was a lot to do and we're really grateful to the community and mana whenua partners for their collaboration in helping deliver our services and develop ambitious plans.

## Planning for the future

We completed critical plans and important developments to help build a strong future across the board. We set a clear regional direction for the next 10 years with the development of the 2021-31 Long Term Plan and our Integrated Strategy.

We also set targets around regional transport through the 2021-31 Regional Land Transport Plan and the 2021-31 Regional Public Transport Plan.

In an important step, we implemented a Living Wage for all Metlink bus drivers. We continued our involvement with other organisations including RiverLink, Predator Free Wellington, Let's Get Wellington Moving and the Multi-User Ferry Precinct.

## Environmental Focus

We maintained our strong passion and commitment to the environment. We started moving towards a catchment-based approach in delivering our services and made big progress in developing a Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee Whaitua Implementation Programme.

We processed 576 non-notified resource consents and resolved 93 percent of appeals to the Environment Court.

## Community Projects

Metlink ran a popular 'Design a Metlink Bus' contest and two buses were wrapped in custom-made vinyl designs created by talented young people.

We worked with the community to design and restore the swing bridge at Kaitoke Regional Park, making it safer and more accessible.

Several successful events were held including a 'Night skies' stargazing event for Matariki, and the 'Whakarongo ki te Taiao – Feeling the rhythm of the land', celebrating Wairarapa Moana's new global status as a Wetland of International Significance.

## Continued progress on key issues

We continued our focus on improving outcomes for mana whenua, regional recovery and adaption to COVID-19, as well as addressing the growing threat of climate change.

It was a challenging and busy year and has set us up well for the year ahead and into the future.

*The following pages take a dive into the detail and a closer look at the amazing people who helped make it all happen.*

# Ko ngā nekeneke mō ngā take whakahirahira

## Big Steps On Important Issues

While we're constantly delivering our services, improving the way we operate and planning for the future right across the organisation, there were three areas this year that influenced a lot of our activity.



# Ko te mahi ā-rōpū ki te haumaruru i te awa o waikanae

## Group Action To Protect Waikanae River

Waikanae River is one of our most important water ways, travelling 25 kilometres from the Tararua Ranges to the sea. Greater Wellington, district councils, Department of Conservation, local iwi and organisations have come together to protect the river against climate change and other threats.

The group, called Waikanae ki Uta ki Rai (mountains to sea), secured an \$8.5 million grant from Jobs for Nature in 2020 and has been working in a number of ways to protect this special area.

Much of the river area is classified by Greater Wellington as 'Key Native Ecosystems' and includes precious examples of lowland riparian forest with highly diverse ecosystems.

The areas are home to many plants and freshwater fish that are either regionally or nationally threatened.

Greater Wellington Biodiversity Management Team Leader, Richard Romijn said the catchment's diverse landscape was an important connector between the mountains and the sea.

"It creates an ecological corridor that links the Tararua Ranges, the Waikanae River estuary, the Kāpiti Marine Reserve and Kāpiti Island Nature Reserve, creating a network of habitat stepping-stones," he said.

Greater Wellington does monthly nutrient-level testing, checking on phosphate and nitrate levels. It also conducts annual ecology testing for macro invertebrates.

E.coli testing is also regularly conducted over summer.

Waikanae River is prone to flooding so a lot of work has been done to protect homes, trails and the integrity of the riverbank, including an upgrade of the stock bank.

Groups like the Waikanae Estuary Scenic Reserve have been doing significant planting along the river and in the estuary, to help protect the river from climate change and support the ecosystem.

Close attention is also being paid to coastal erosion in the lower estuary and excess sediment deposits from heavy rainfall.

Restoring the river's health will take time, but with so many groups coming together to tackle

the issues, the future is looking brighter for the long-term planning and management of a such a sacred resource.

Image: Greater Wellington is monitoring coastal erosion in the lower estuary of the Waikanae River, along with excess sediment deposits.

# Ko Te Whakarahi Ake I Ngā Hua Mō Te Mana Whenua Me Te Māori

## Improving Outcomes For Mana Whenua And Māori

We have strong partnerships with mana whenua across the region. We value engaging with each iwi group directly on a number of exciting plans and projects.

Our partnership with mana whenua is important in upholding our commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and gives us vital insight and knowledge on how we can improve our region.

Greater Wellington has six mana whenua partners, represented by the following entities:

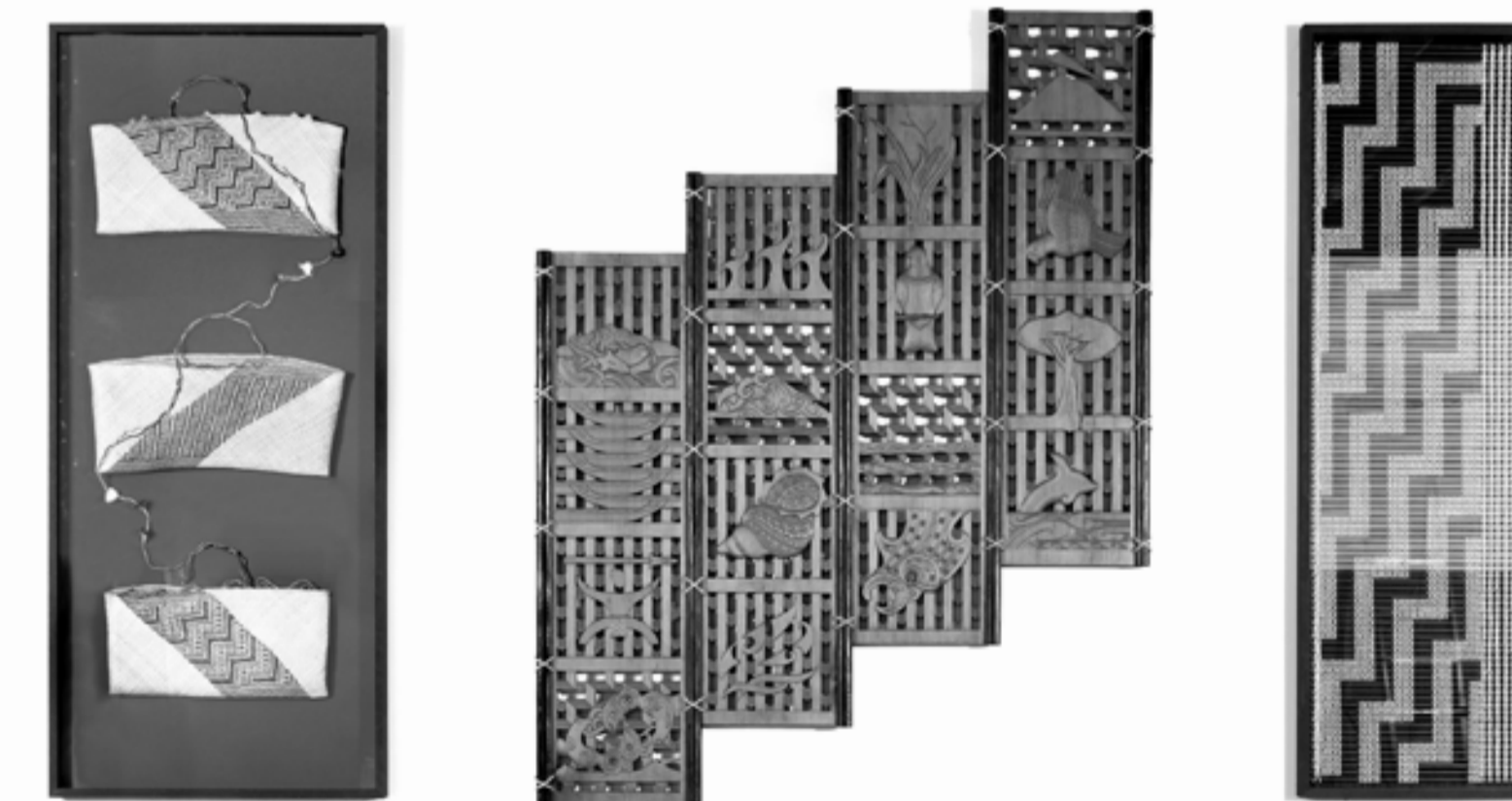
- Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki
- Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust
- Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangitira Inc
- Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust
- Rangitāne O Wairarapa Inc
- Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Charitable Trust

We also have links with mātāwaka communities around the region.

It's been an important year of transition and we've had a good look how our processes can align with mātauranga Māori to inform policy, strategy, planning and delivery of our services.

It all feeds into how we can improve overall outcomes for mana whenua and Māori. This year we:

- Developed a Māori Outcomes Framework to guide our progress in partnering with and improving outcomes for mana whenua and Māori.
- Adopted the Māori economic development strategy, Te Matarau a Māui, and appointed an independent board to support the success of the work programme.
- Agreed on a new baseline funding model for mana whenua which allows iwi groups to develop positive outcomes for their community and region. It also helps identify opportunities for activities right across the organisation.
- Engaged with mana whenua to develop the 2021-31 Long Term Plan.



Artwork especially commissioned for Greater Wellington, proudly hangs in our Council Chamber. They are a symbol of the sacred nature of our new home at 100 Cuba Street, bringing our people together for the first time in 6 years.

Artists - Elaine Bevan (Ngāti Raukawa, Ngāti Toa) with the assistance of Ezra Bevan (Ngāti Raukawa, Ngāti Toa), Hermann Salzmann (Ngāti Toa Rangitira, Ngāti Raukawa, Ngāti Koata), and Kohai Grace (Ngāti Toa) with the assistance of her son Rakairoa Hori (Ngāti Toa) and a whakairo student (of Sam Hauwaho) Benjamin Jolley (Waikato).

# Ko tā Te Pane Matua Taiao whakautu, whiriwhiri hoki i te pānga atu o te Mate KOWHEORI-19

## Responding to COVID-19

When COVID-19 arrived in New Zealand it impacted every aspect of our lives. Greater Wellington's done a lot to build resilience and stability across the board to help our region adapt to the huge challenges COVID-19 continues to throw at us.

### Continuous Response

We responded to changes in COVID-19 Alert Levels throughout the year, setting up processes to allow staff to work from home when needed, so we could continue supplying essential services.

The Public Transport team continued maintaining safe and reliable bus and rail services with strict hygiene protocols throughout all Alert Levels. We also ran high profile campaigns encouraging mask wearing and social distancing on public transport.

### Adapting to Changes and Challenges

This year we've looked to work more collectively, across Council and with our partners. We believe this will give us a stronger foundation and greater ability to adapt when needed.

This year we:

- Worked to improve outcomes for mana whenua and Māori through supporting the regional Māori economic development strategy, Te Matarau a Māui.
- Utilised central government 'Shovel Ready' funding to provide key flood protection infrastructure in the Hutt and Kuamāhanga River catchments.
- Committed to Te Upoko o Te Ika a Maui to promote regional social procurement.
- Enhanced our environment throughout the region by utilising central government 'Jobs for Nature' funding.

### Ready for the Future

Partnerships and collaborations will be key in successfully meeting the challenges of COVID-19. To help achieve that we:

- Finalised the Wellington Regional Growth Framework
- Supported the establishment of the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee (WRLC) to implement Wellington Regional Growth Framework



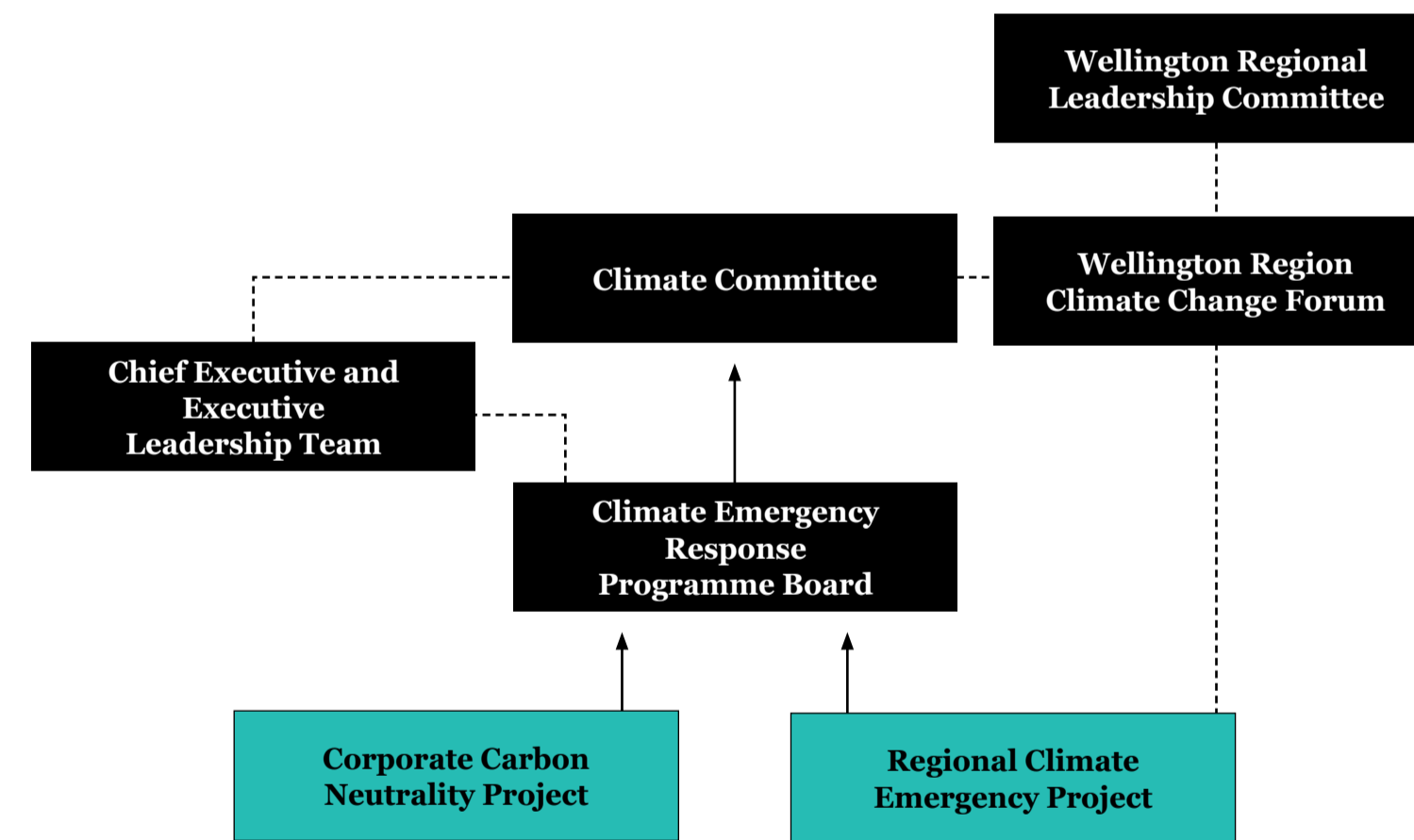
\* The WRLC is comprised of representatives from mana whenua, Greater Wellington, local territorial authorities, Horowhenua District Council and central government. Greater Wellington is the administrative authority for the WRLC which means we ensure it has the resources, information, and support to facilitate regional adaptation and resilience.

# Ko te Mahi mō te Āhuarangi Climate Action Now

*Climate change is here and we've seen the wide-reaching effects it has on our community, infrastructure, economy and natural ecosystems. This is a priority for us and we've made a lot of progress this year in establishing governance structures, developing strategies, managing risks and working towards our carbon emissions targets.*

**Governance:**

We've established the following key governance groups, working together to develop and implement climate change strategies.



**Strategies guiding the action**

There are four key strategies that guide us in addressing climate change.

**The 2021-31 Long Term Plan (LTP).**

This sets the direction for the next 10 years, including 'addressing climate change' as one of the four overarching priorities. It includes ambitious plans and funding to reduce emissions and increase climate resilience.

**Wellington Regional Growth Framework.**

This spatial plan outlines how we'll adapt to key challenges and opportunities to achieve the best outcomes for the region. It outlines four main priorities including:

- housing supply, affordability and choice;
- transport choice and access;
- iwi and Māori housing, capacity and taonga; and
- climate change and regional resilience.

**The Climate Emergency Response Programme**

This outlines the governance and actions to support our work to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

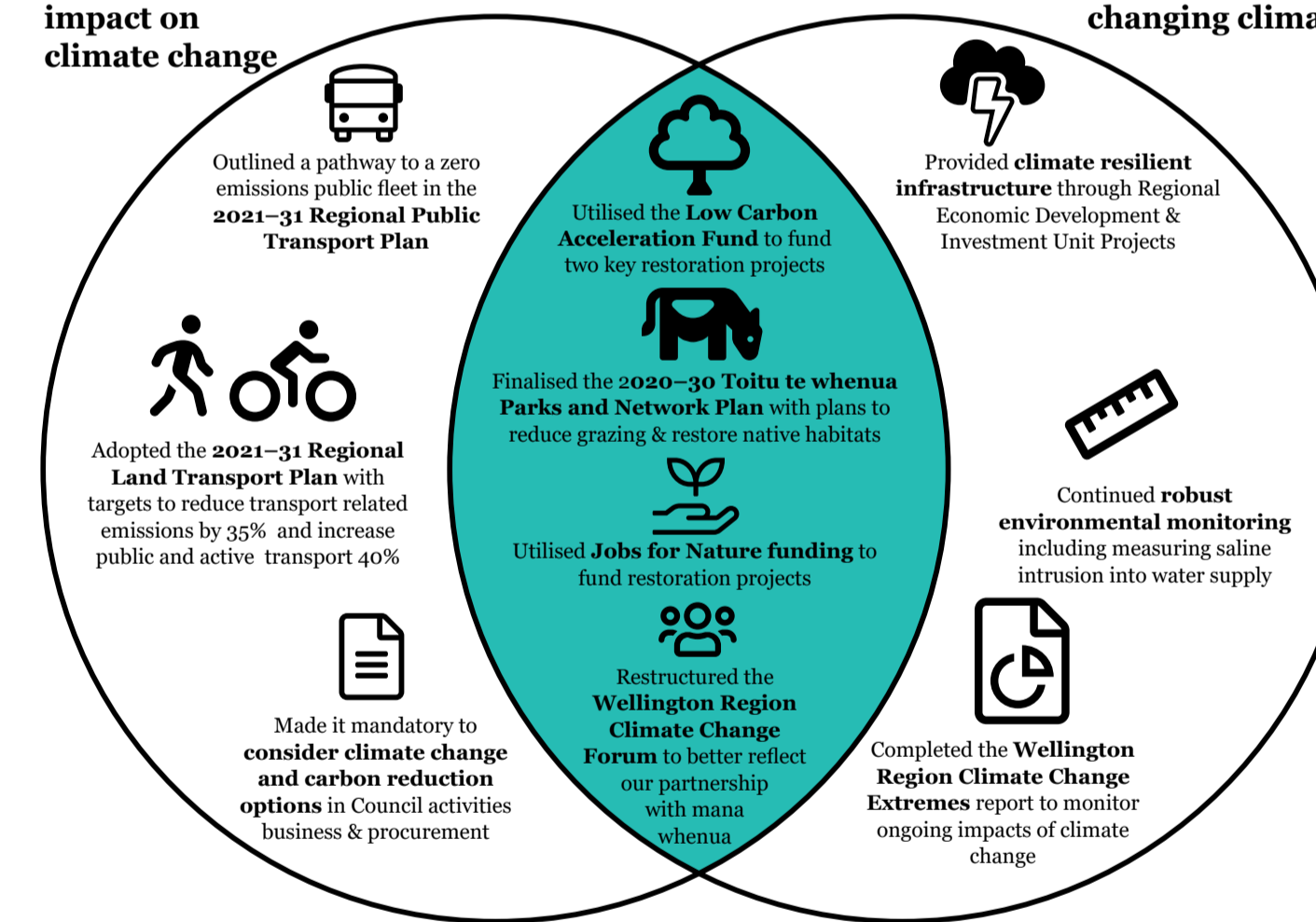
Within the programme we have two ten-point action plans:

1. Corporate Carbon Neutrality Action Plan. This outlines how we'll work to minimise our direct contribution to climate change by reducing and offsetting our greenhouse gas emissions.
2. Regional Climate Emergency Action Plan. This shows how we'll work with others to build climate action consistency across the Region. We also contribute to central government climate action by making submissions on strategies such as the Climate Change Commission draft advice and Hikina te Kohupara - Kia mauri ora ai te iwi - Transport Emissions: Pathways to Net Zero by 2050.

**Risk Management**

We've taken action across a lot of areas this year to deal with climate change risks, looking at ways to reduce the impact and adapt to change.

**Mitigating our impact on climate change**

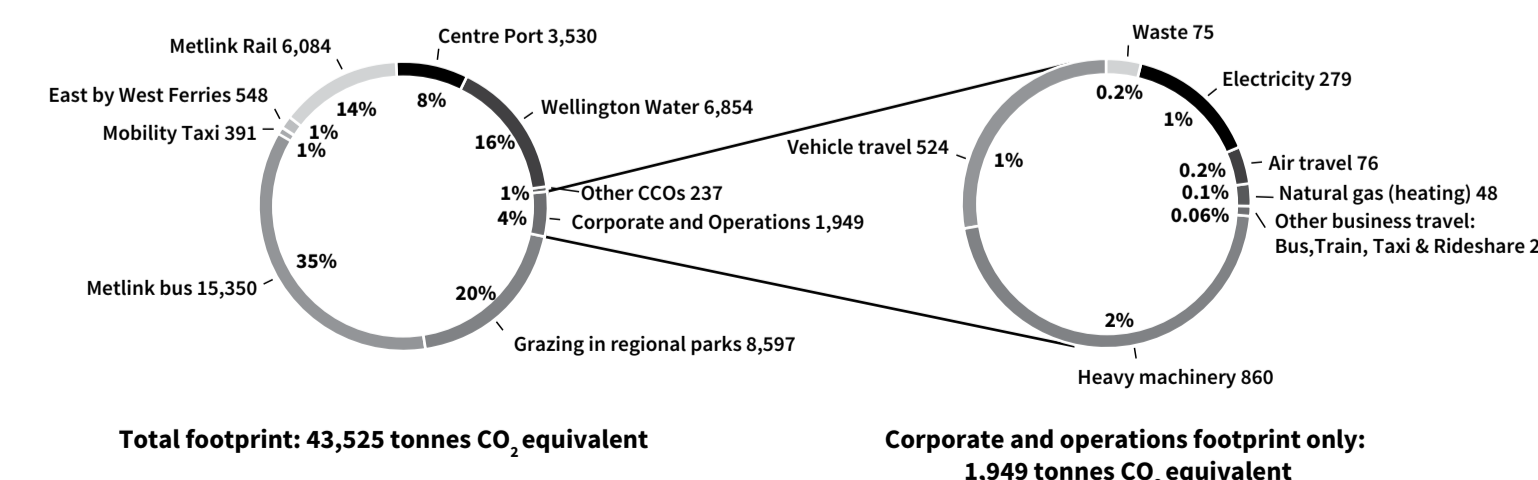


**Metrics and Targets**

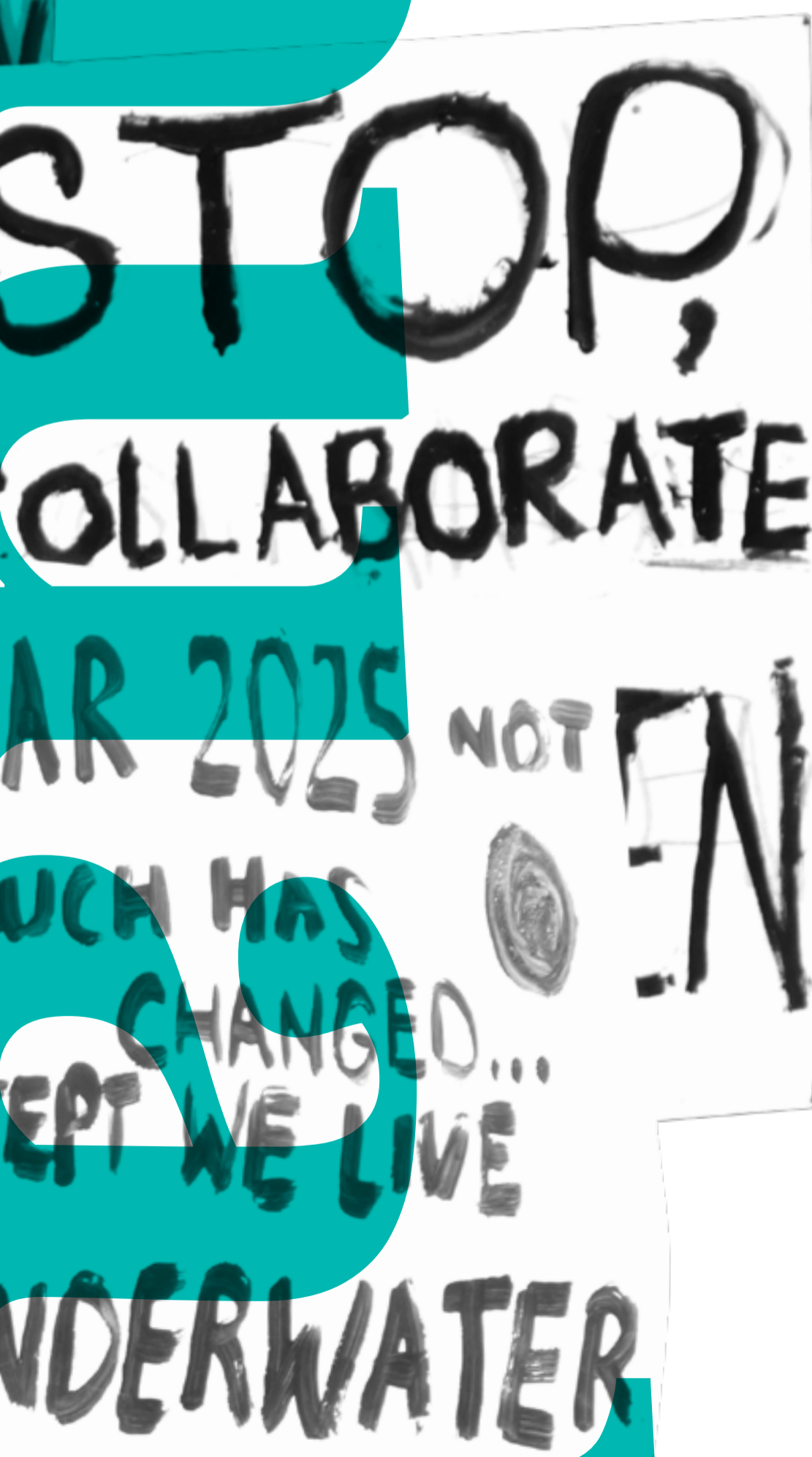
We've drawn a line in the sand, committing to be a carbon neutral organisation by 2030 and climate positive by 2035. To achieve that we're closely monitoring our carbon emissions in everything we do. It takes a long time to gather the data, so the previous 2019/20 financial year is the latest complete data set to use in the Annual Report.

In the 2019/20 financial year the Greater Wellington Group's\* emissions of 43,525 tonnes remained stable, falling approximately one percent in comparison to the previous year. This reduced emissions growth is a big improvement on the average rise of 9.3 percent of previous years.

**GW organisational carbon footprint 2019/20**



\*Greater Wellington Group includes Greater Wellington Regional Council, Council Organisations and subsidiaries

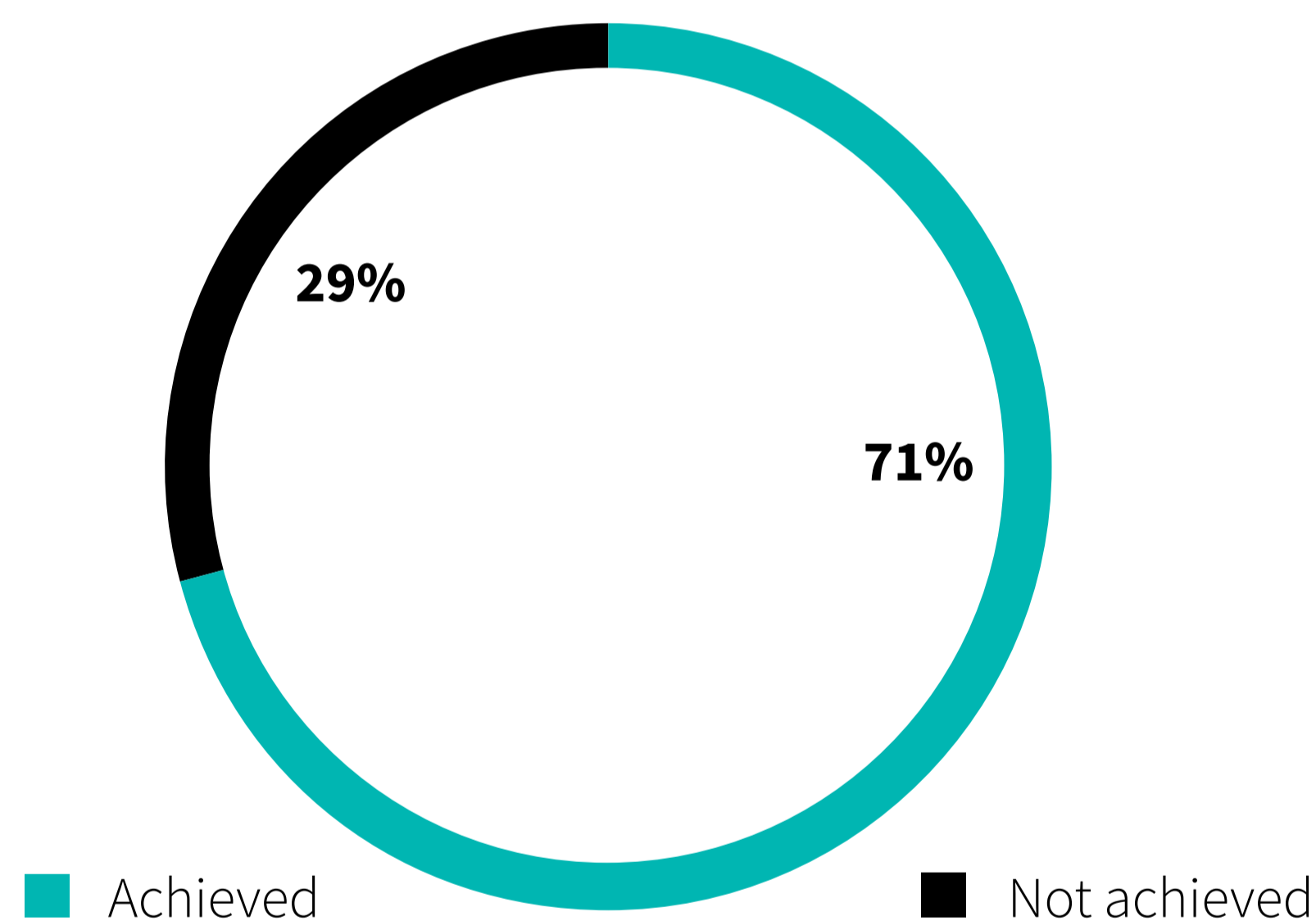


# He kupu mō te hapori Community close up

## Activities of Greater Wellington

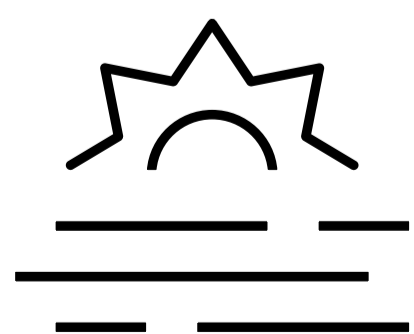
Every year we set goals and measure progress across everything we do. Here are the results and details of what we achieved in 2020/21.

2020/21 Status of non-financial performance

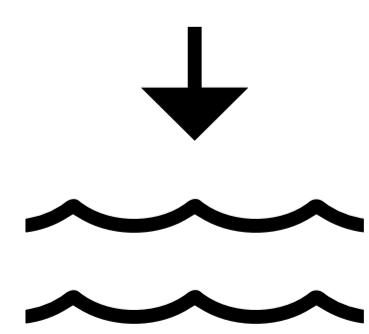


## Weather forecast

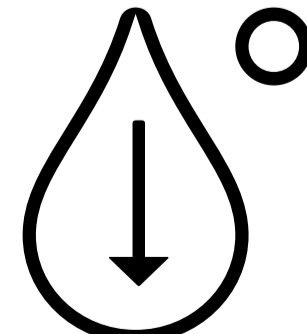
Our climate is changing and it will have a huge affect on how we live our lives. These are the effects we will see in the Wellington Region.



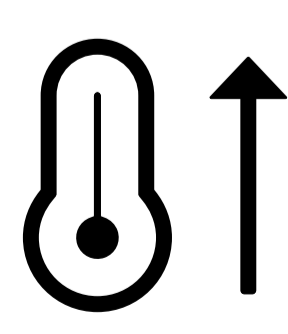
Drought increase



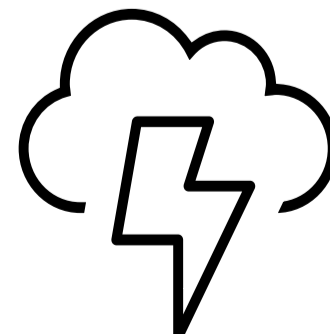
Water shortage increase



Water quality decrease



Temperature increase



Storm intensity increase

# Global Recognition For Wairarapa Moana Wetlands

Locals and visitors have long understood the special and spiritual nature of Wairarapa Moana. It's been a taonga (treasure) for hundreds of years and in August 2020 its reputation went global.

The wetland area borders Lakes Wairarapa and Ōneke and was awarded status as an 'internationally significant' wetland under the Ramsar Convention, an intergovernmental treaty to protect wetland areas around the world.

Greater Wellington has been working for years with Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa, the Department of Conservation and Wairarapa District Council to protect and improve biodiversity of these precious wetlands.

The international recognition was a great honour and was celebrated in March this year with a vibrant festival on the shores of Lake Wairarapa.

"Gaining recognition through the Ramsar status was a huge achievement," said Greater Wellington Councillor for Wairarapa, Adrienne Staples.

"The vision of the Wairarapa Moana Project is to ensure this taonga is cherished as a place of cultural and historical significance that inspires future generations. We can only get there if people feel a deep connection to nature and recognise the tremendous value it holds."

The March festival, 'Whakarongo ki te taiao - Feeling the Land's Rhythms' was a great way to celebrate the honour and for people to explore the habitat and creatures of Wairarapa Moana.

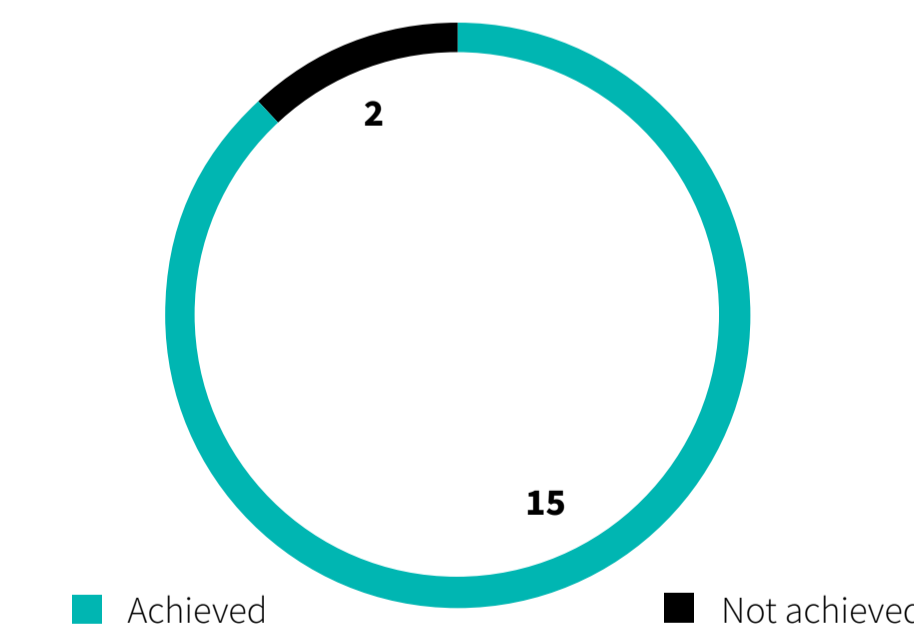
Hundreds came and enjoyed the day, with the oldest attendee being Koro, an ancient Totara log found on the shores and then crafted into an instrument. Koro was symbolic of the spirit of the event, to build and strengthen connection between the Moana and the many people who work, live and play there.

"The festival was a celebration of te taiao, our natural environment. At the end of the day, that's what Greater Wellington is all about - the environment and the people," said Cr Staples.



## The Debrief: Te Taiao | Environment

2020/21 Status of non-financial performance



Environment activities achieved 88 percent of their 17 performance measures this year.

Greater Wellington is responsible for regulating, protecting, and enhancing our environment throughout the region.

We do this by regulating natural resources, protecting and enhancing biodiversity, and working with communities to manage land sustainably. We also look after the region's harbours and manage threats to the environment including pest animals and plants.

- There's been plenty to do and we've achieved a lot in delivering for our environment. We finalised and implemented the proposed Natural Resources Plan and continued providing resource consents and enforcing environmental regulations. The Key Native Ecosystems (KNE) programme was also largely completed this year with the majority of KNE operational plans finalised.
- This year began the process of delivering our activities based on natural catchment areas, another way to improve the environment and collaborate with the community and mana whenua. A great example of the benefits of a catchment-based approach is the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee, which made excellent progress towards completing a Whaitua Implementation Programme (WIP). Mana whenua representatives have been developing a companion document to the WIP, Mahere Wai, to tell the mana whenua perspective on the programme.
- Another example of the successful catchment-based delivery is our Mahi Waiora project, where we work with Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki and the community to implement the proposed Natural Resource Plan. This year the team worked with Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki in co-sampling water quality and monitoring the inanga (a native freshwater whitebait fish) population in the Waitohu catchment.
- We've continued to protect and improve biodiversity in our natural ecosystems. The Wairarapa Moana Wetland Project, in collaboration with Rangitāne o Wairarapa, Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa, the Department of Conservation and South Wairarapa District Council, is a great example of a successful project. This year the area gained Ramsar status as a Wetland of International Significance\*. This is a great honour and reflects the high value of the Moana, despite its degraded state and marks a small but important step toward restoring its mana.

- We were successful in securing funding from 'Jobs for Nature' and '1 Billion Trees' programmes to develop plans and complete operational work including planting 10,000 native trees at Lake Domain beside Lake Wairarapa.
- Our Wetland Programme is progressing well and has supported over 100 wetland sites across the region since its launch in 2016. The wetland monitoring system collected data for the first time this year and that data will feed into plans and projects for restoring our region's wetlands. Our Biodiversity team also worked with Ngāti Toa to apply for funding from the Freshwater Improvement fund for fish passage and Mātāuranga Māori mahi.
- Our Land Management team has been working more closely with mana whenua on restorative programmes. This year the team partnered with Wairarapa iwi to develop a Mātāuranga Māori training resource for operational staff as well as a strategy on how to work with mana whenua on future projects and programmes.
- The 2020/21 Regional Pest Management Operational Plan was completed, including over 106,000ha of possum control and 4,295 of mustelid control delivered. The pest plant and animal work programme was also implemented and despite a big increase in demand for rabbit control, the team successfully responded to almost 1,300 public requests for pest advice and control.
- We've partnered with our six mana whenua partners to prepare and deliver the Akatarawa aerial control project to manage predator numbers in the area.
- This year our Harbour Management activities included revising the Regional Navigation Safety Bylaws, with valuable input from the community, legal advisors and Councillors. We also ran a successful campaign to promote safe boating and reduce recreational injuries and fatalities on the water.

\* For more information on Ramsar Status see [www.ramsar.org](http://www.ramsar.org)

# Protecting And Planting In Partnership

The beautiful Parangarahu Lakes are part of the East Harbour Regional Park. Every year Greater Wellington joins Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko Te Ika iwi, MIRO, and other local volunteer groups to plant native plants as part of a programme to protect and connect with this unique area.

This hardworking group not only comes together annually for the planting days, it also co-manages the area, which includes Lake Kohangapiripiri, Lake Kohangatera, the associated wetlands and surrounding land.

Greater Wellington Councillor, Prue Lamason says the work the group does is critical to the protection and restoration of the area.

"Over 50 bird species call this park home, which includes the regionally rare dabchick, tomtit, rifleman, whitehead, kakariki, falcon, banded dotterel and grey duck. They all rely on the unique ecology of the area," she said.

"The work we do as a combined group on our planting days helps Taranaki whānua iwi members fulfil their kaitiaki (guardian) responsibilities to the park's historic, cultural and ecological objectives."

Rōpū Tiaki member, Vince Robertson agrees and says the annual planting days are a great opportunity for everyone to come together.

"The co-management plan objectives of Rōpū Tiaki are really brought to life at these events. This year was very special as there was a blessing ceremony for a commemorative plaque donated by Greater Wellington for the late Sam and June Jackson, esteemed Taranaki Whānui kaumatua who worked with Greater Wellington in this area over many years.

"Nōu te rourou, Nāku te rourou, ka ora ai te taonga Kohango ora – with your help, with my help, our treasured nest, nurturing life and wellbeing, will stay well for future generations," said Vince Robertson.



*Pictured: Volunteers join the annual planting day at East Harbour Regional Park, helping protect and restore this ecology precious area.*

## The Debrief: Ngā Papa Whenua | Regional Parks And Forests

*We're incredibly lucky to have so many beautiful parks and forests in our region.*

Greater Wellington is responsible for managing our eight parks and forests and that includes monitoring ecosystem health, making access easy and enjoyable, and ongoing planning to protect and enhance these stunning areas.

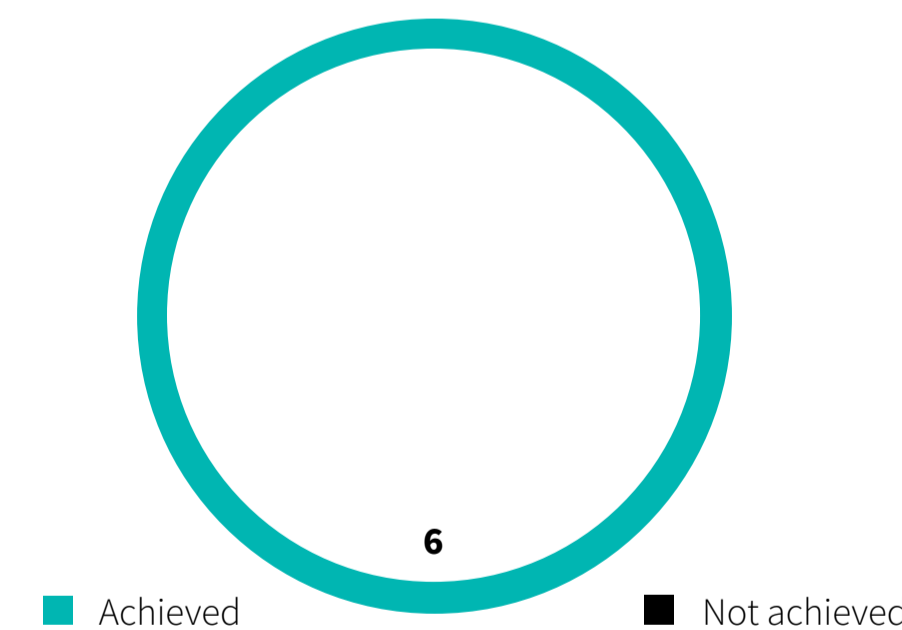
- A highlight this year has been the completion of the 2020-30 Toitū te Whenua Parks Network Plan and we've already started looking at the best way to deliver on that, with a stronger focus on improving environmental outcomes across everything we do.
- Two key restoration projects in the 2020-30 Toitū te Whenua Parks Network Plan were set up this year in Queen Elizabeth and Kaitoke Regional Parks. They were approved through the Low Carbon Acceleration fund with additional funding from One Billion Trees to withdraw grazing and restore native ecosystems. We're moving quickly on these restoration projects with winter planting scheduled for August 2021.

\*Means to put in place a temporary ban on an area. After an agreed lapse of time, the rāhui is lifted.

# WE LISTEN TO THE FORESTS

Greater Wellington protects 43,000 ha at key sites across the region.  
Learn more at [gw.govt.nz/listen](http://gw.govt.nz/listen)

2020/21 Status of non-financial performance



Regional Parks and Forests activities achieved 100 percent of their six performance measures this year

- This year we had approval, through Jobs for Nature, to run a restoration project in the Hem of Remutaka area in partnership with the Department of Conservation, Taranaki Whānui and community volunteers. It will greatly improve the native ecosystem on the Pencarrow Coast including Parangarahu Lakes and Baring Head.
- Greater Wellington staff and members of Taranaki Whānui continue working together in the co-management of the Parangarahu Lakes. We meet monthly to manage the area and run restoration events including whānau planting days and rāhui\* on beaches to protect the nesting cycle of endangered birds.
- Over the past year we welcomed almost two million visitors to our Regional Parks. Kaitoke Regional Park had over 30,000 camper nights last summer, which is the highest number ever experienced. We also worked with Be. Lab, an accessibility organisation, to upgrade the swing bridge at Kaitoke Regional Park to be safer and wheelchair accessible.

# Good Progress On Flood Protection For The Hutt Valley And Wairarapa

In August last year, Greater Wellington's flood protection efforts received a major boost with an \$11 million grant from the Government's post COVID-19 infrastructure fund. Two main areas in Lower Hutt and Wairarapa have been targeted for improvement and excellent progress has been made over the last year.

This is the first co-funding flood protection work since the 1980s, with Greater Wellington contributing \$6 million to the project.

In the Hutt Valley, work will include Hutt River erosion and edge protection. Six out of the 10 site designs for the work were completed this year.

In the Wairarapa, representatives from Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa were involved in the early stages of the Masterton erosion site. Work will target the Ruamāhanga River with stop bank reconstruction, buffer land establishment and tree planting.

Hutt Valley Councillor and Chair of Greater Wellington's Hutt Valley Flood Management Sub-Committee, Prue Lamason said the work will give families, businesses and communities more certainty for the future.

"In the first instance, this funding boost will bring forward works that will provide a lift to employment in the region, while at the same time adding much needed resilience to floods and a critical first step to managing the effects of climate change.

"In the longer term, this work will provide confidence for people to invest in the regional economy, knowing we have invested in infrastructure that will protect that investment from the effects of flooding," she said.

Wairarapa Councillor and Greater Wellington Deputy Chair, Adrienne Staples says the region, and New Zealand, needs investment in flood protection infrastructure.

"The Wellington region is a beautiful place to live with our mountain ranges, winding rivers and many ocean-side cities and towns. But we also know there is a flip side to enjoying the beauty in the form of environmental hazards and risks posed to us and our properties," she said.

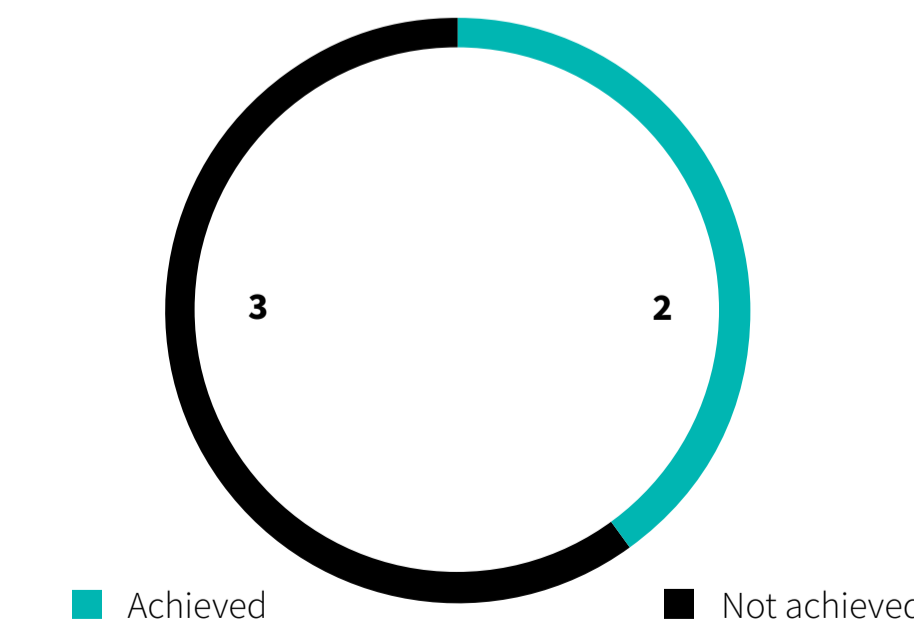
This co-funded flood protection project in the Hutt Valley and Wairarapa will significantly improve safety and surety for everyone in the region.



*Flood protection work happening on the Hutt River*

## The Debrief: Te Tiaki Te Arahi Waipuke | Flood Protection And Control Works

2020/21 Status of non-financial performance



Flood Protection and Control Works activities achieved 40 percent of their five performance measures this year.

*Our geography, along with climate change, means our region has to be well prepared for the possibility of floods.*

Greater Wellington is responsible for providing flood protection and managing flood risk across our region. We identify the risk of flooding and manage the risk by developing floodplain management plans, as well as providing and maintaining key flood protection infrastructure. We also work closely with mana whenua, landowners and crown entities to improve the health of our rivers and streams.

- This year we accessed central government funding to provide key flood protection infrastructure. The Major River Riparian Management project was established through Jobs for Nature funding, providing flood protection to riverbanks in the Ruamāhanga Catchment. This year we identified site locations and plant species with Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa. We purchased 36,000 native and willow trees and planted 12,000 of them across riverbanks in Masterton.
- We also obtained funding through the Regional Economic Development & Investment unit to plan and implement 10 Hutt River Erosion Edge Protection projects. Six out of 10 site designs were completed this year and representatives from Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa were involved in the early stages of the Masterton erosion site.

- Progress has been made in our RiverLink project with Waka Kotahi and Hutt City Council, to provide flood protection, improve transport connections and support urban growth in Lower Hutt central city. RiverLink continues to partner with mana whenua, with Taranaki Whānui and Ngāti Toa now contributing through representation on the RiverLink Board and in the design of the works. The resource consent application was finalised this year and we ran major communication campaigns to increase awareness and knowledge of this exciting project.
- We've also been working with the community to develop a living statement to guide how we manage the flood and erosion risks on the Waiohine River Floodplain. We finalised the Waiohine River Plan this year and have asked for feedback from the community.
- With increasing extreme weather conditions, flood response has been an essential part of our work. This year we made good progress in developing regional flood response procedures that can be used for any flood event anywhere in the region. These new procedures have already been applied to a number of flood responses this year.



Students from South Wellington Intermediate School learn safe cycling moves from Greater Wellington's Pedal Ready instructors. Pedal Ready is a free programme run by Greater Wellington with 35 instructors around the region, helping children and adults to upskill on their current bikes, or safely hop on a bike for the first time.

## The Debrief: Ngā Kaihautū O Te Rohe | Regional Leadership

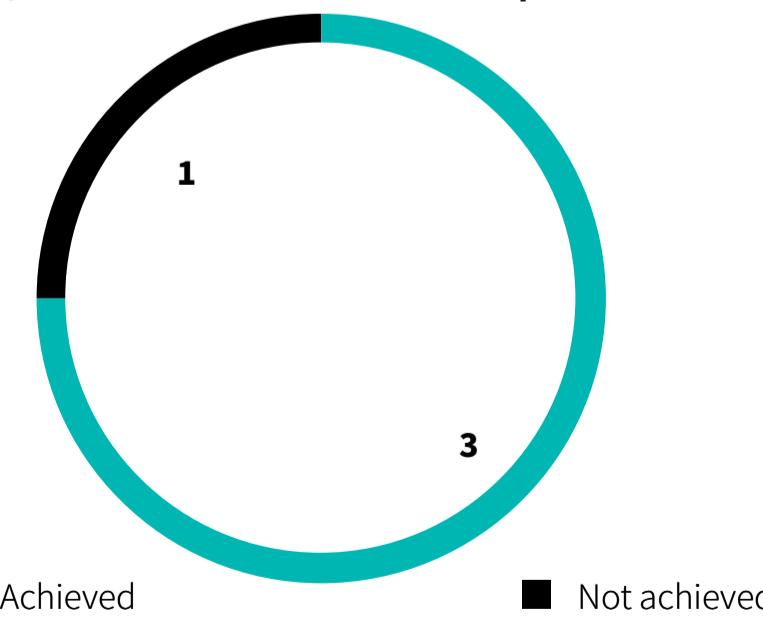
We believe it's really important to have a collective voice and collaborative approach to tackling issues across our region.

Communities often face complex issues that need a regional approach to solutions, so we've coordinated a range of activities across our region, in partnership with local authorities, mana whenua and other key partners.

- The impacts of COVID-19 had a huge effect on our region. A significant part of addressing that was delivering the Wellington Regional Growth Framework to guide our spatial planning and economic development, including how to adapt to the impacts of COVID-19. This year the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee was dissolved, and the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee (Joint Committee) was created, to implement the Wellington Regional Growth Framework.
- The Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) was adopted this year to set a strategic vision and direction for our transport network over the next 30 years. The RLTP set three ambitious targets to reduce reliance on private motor vehicle use, reduce transport related emissions, and reduce deaths and serious injuries on our roads. We also ran several behaviour change programmes promoting cycling and walking, such as Bikes in Schools, Movin' March, and the Greater Welly Bikefest.
- We engaged mana whenua and the community to develop the direction of the Council for the next 10 years through the 2021-31 Long Term Plan. The Plan outlines four strategic priorities including responding to the climate emergency, improving outcomes for mana whenua and Māori, responding to the impact of COVID-19 and aligning with Government direction.

- We continued to address the climate emergency. We approved two key restoration projects through the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund and also restructured the Wellington Region Climate Change Working Group to better reflect its role as an advisory body and to improve our connection with Māori and mana whenua.
- We've continued to engage with mana whenua on several key initiatives. Te Matarau a Māui, the Māori Economic Development Framework, was created to support iwi in accelerating economic development and growth for their people across the region. We also collaborated with mana whenua on the development of our new 2021-31 Long Term Plan, where new baseline funding was agreed for mana whenua, enabling them to work with Greater Wellington to develop positive outcomes for their communities and the region. We also developed a Māori Outcomes Framework to guide us in the most effective ways to continue working side by side with mana whenua.
- Together with our partners Bluebridge, KiwiRail, CentrePort Limited, Wellington City Council and Waka Kotahi we've made progress on the Multi-user Ferry Precinct. Kaiwharawhara was reaffirmed as the preferred location for the precinct.
- The Wellington Regional Emergency Management Office (WREMO) successfully ran Exercise Parawhenua this year with over 180 people coordinating an initial response to a distant source tsunami. WREMO also developed Community Response Plans for all designated areas of the Wellington region.

2020/21 Status of non-financial performance



Regional Leadership activities achieved 75 percent of their four performance measures this year.

- Greater Wellington's Democratic Services continued to facilitate public engagement and Council meetings this year. They facilitated 66 Council, Committee and Joint Committee meetings including public hearings for several key plans.



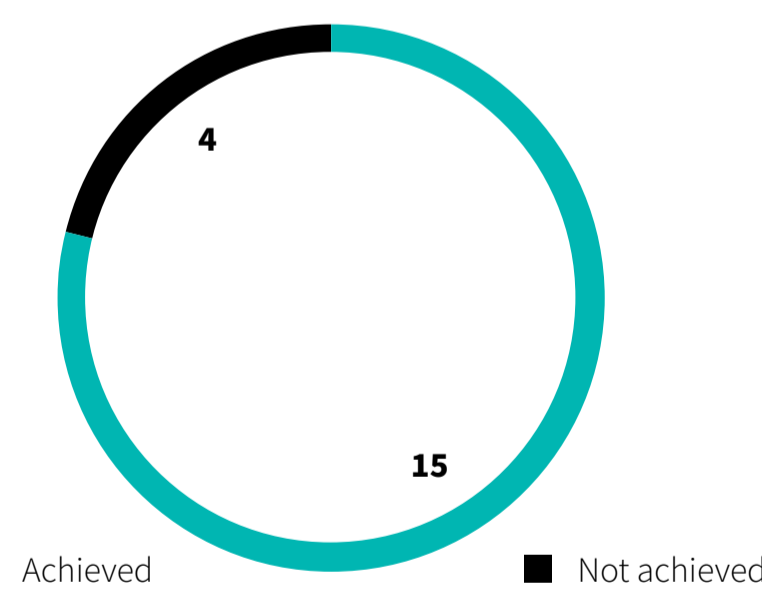
## The Debrief: Ngā Puna Wai | Water Supply

Greater Wellington is responsible for maintaining the bulk water supply and delivering safe drinking water to Wellington, Lower Hutt, Upper Hutt and Porirua city councils.

These services are delivered by Wellington Water Limited, a jointly owned water management company.

- While Wellington Water Limited dealt with an increased workload this year, it responded with new processes to maximise efficiency and effectiveness. It also made progress on improving the resilience of our water supply, including the design development of the Silverstream pipe bridge project and seismic strengthening of the treated water reservoir at the Wainuiomata water treatment plant.
- An initial process assessment for the Te Mārua Water Treatment Plant upgrade project also started this year. This upgrade will increase the output capacity of the plant and the drought resilience of our region.
- This year the government announced a new system to ensure New Zealand's three waters – drinking water, wastewater and storm water – are efficiently delivered, affordable and fit for purpose. We were involved in the development and testing of options for the Three Waters Reform and assessing the possible impacts.

2020/21 Status of non-financial performance



Water Supply activities achieved 79 percent of their 19 performance measures this year.

## Clearing The Way For Our Freshwater Fish

There are around 20 species of freshwater fish living in streams, rivers and connecting pipes on the Kāpiti Coast. Most of them need to migrate to and from the sea but often hit barriers along the way. Greater Wellington is working with mana whenua, catchment experts, students and landowners to do something about it.

Greater Wellington Senior Biodiversity Advisor, Katrina Smith says barriers in waterways are stopping fish from accessing suitable habitat, resources and completing their life cycle.

"The main issue is poorly designed, installed and maintained man-made structures such as weirs, culverts, fords and dams. They pose a real threat to freshwater fish species, 72 percent of which are already or at risk of extinction," she said.

Working with Ngāti Toa Rangatira, Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai and Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki, Greater Wellington is talking to farmers on the Kāpiti Coast to identify and access barriers to 'fish passage'.

Greater Wellington Environmental Science Senior Advisor and Project

Manager, Penny Fairbrother, says this is an exciting project bringing a number of groups together to find the best solution.

"A student from Victoria University of Wellington will be employed to lead the assessments and data collection, with members from each iwi providing field work support in their respective areas," she said.

The project is at the information gathering stage and in the future data will help prioritise work with landowners to fix any barriers that threaten fish passage on the Kāpiti

Coast. All data is logged into a national database created by NIWA.

Greater Wellington Kāpiti Coast Councillor, Penny Gaylor said the project is a great example of Council working closely with mana whenua for positive environmental and water outcomes.

"The data collected is vital to establishing a holistic picture of our native species' health, giving us invaluable insights to creating a consistent, national approach to protecting and restoring our environment," she said.



Shortjaw kokopu - Shyam Morar



## 5 Minute quiz

1. What freshwater nuisance that Greater Wellington monitors is a particular threat to dogs during the summer?
2. In which regional Park would you find Rivendell, the location where Arwen and Aragorn kissed in Peter Jackson's The Lord of the Rings?
3. Where would you find Akura, Greater Wellington Regional Council's plant nursery?
4. How much would it cost you to take the bus from Brooklyn to your COVID-19 Vaccination appointment on Cuba Street?
5. How did Metlink feature the talent of local artists Bill and Ellie in 2021?
6. Which bird did Greater Wellington Regional Council support for Bird of the Year 2021?
7. What local TV series did Greater Wellington Regional Council collaborate with to teach kids about scooter safety?
8. Banded Dotterel eggs are often mistaken for what?
9. How many electric buses will Metlink have in its fleet by 2023?
10. How many councillors make up the Greater Wellington Regional Council?

## Answers

1. Toxic Algae in rivers and waterways
2. Kaitoke regional park
3. On the outskirts of Masterton
4. Nothing! Public transport to COVID-19 Vaccination appointments are free.
5. Their designs were put on buses
6. The Tūpoumanu - Riffeman
7. Wellington Paranormal
8. Beach stones
9. 13
10. 13



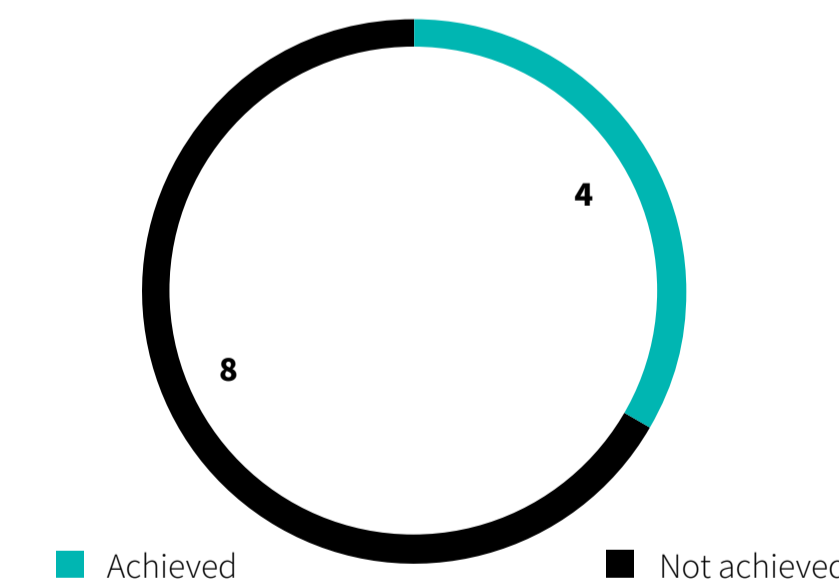


Our #onboardwithmasks campaign was part of an award-winning communications project helping travellers on public transport to make safe choices during the pandemic.

## The Debrief: Ngā Waka Tūmatanui | Metlink Public Transport

Greater Wellington manages the Metlink Public Transport network and delivers an integrated network of public transport services across the region – bus, rail and the harbour ferry service.

### 2020/21 Status of non-financial performance



Metlink Public Transport activities achieved 33 percent of their 12 performance measures this year.

- COVID-19 continued to have an impact on how Metlink managed the public transport network. While Alert levels remained at Levels 1 and 2, we responded with an efficient, coordinated approach. We maintained strict hygiene protocols throughout the year, regardless of Alert Levels, to ensure the ongoing safety of passengers and staff.
- We developed communications campaigns to help people make the right choices for their health, safety and wellbeing. Campaigns such as #onboardwithmasks, and the double decker bus mask wrap successfully shared information on wearing masks and maintaining physical distancing. We received an international award at the 2021 Transport Ticketing Awards for the way we responded to COVID-19.
- We completed the review of the 2021-31 Regional Public Transport Plan (RPTP). The 2021-31 RPTP is the main planning and policy document for public transport in our region and describes how we'll deliver the high-level strategic direction. This year the Plan included targets to increase public transport usage by 40 percent and achieve a net carbon zero public transport fleet by 2030.

- Efforts to decarbonise our public transport fleet continued with four new electric double-decker buses and a new electric ferry to replace the current diesel ferry on the East to West harbour service, starting in late 2021. The electric ferry will be Australasia's first fully electric commuter ferry to hit the water and is estimated to have the same decarbonisation benefit of eight electric buses.
- Metlink engaged with mana whenua during the preparation of the 2021-31 LTP on public transport priorities. With our six mana whenua partners we co-designed an Iwi Engagement strategy – critical for successful engagement with Māori on public transport policy and initiatives. An example of this is the proposed purpose-built bus shelter on Kelburn Parade, part of Te Herenga Waka – Victoria University of Wellington's new Living Pa development. The shelter will tell the story of Pa by incorporating cultural designs by local artists.
- Metlink faced big challenges this year with recruiting and retaining drivers, compounded by COVID-19 and associated disruptions to services in Alert Level One and Two. Our cooperation with operators and strong union involvement were critical to addressing our workforce challenges. Together we refined service levels to better match driver resource to meet customer demand. In April 2021, as part of the gradual improvement of driver terms and conditions, Council approved a funding proposal to align minimum bus driver base rates with the Living Wage.
- We made big improvements to our delivery of real-time digital information to customers. This year we introduced a new Metlink website and app, and an iOS Snapper top-up app. We're also getting closer to implementing the National Ticketing Solution which aims to standardise the approach to paying for public transport (bus, rail, and ferry).
- Rail service delivery performance remained consistent. We strengthened our partnership with Transdev and KiwiRail, which is vital to the day-to-day operation and disruption management of the Network, ensuring the rail network is resilient and fit for purpose.
- Other achievements included progressing the refurbishment of the Wairarapa carriage fleet to improve frequency and performance, station upgrades with Park & Ride extensions, refurbished bathroom facilities, lighting improvements and seismic strengthening.



## Muddying The Waters – It's An Issue

Towards the end of 2020, Greater Wellington had a close up look at the sediment in Te Awarua-o-Porirua. It was part of an underwater survey checking the health of the Onepoto and Pauatohanui estuaries and results showed the harbour was not looking too good.

This is the sixth underwater survey conducted by NIWA divers and monitors the diversity of animals in sediments, the quality of the sediments and the amount of storm water contaminants and mud.

Greater Wellington Senior Coastal Scientist, Dr Megan Melidonis said the results were concerning.

"The key issues are sedimentation, pollution and ecological degradation. The number and type of species living in the sediment is changing as more mud is settling on the harbour floor.

"This reduces the ability of the estuaries to support food gathering and recreation, or to protect us from storm surges and flooding. Estuaries are important for storing carbon as they act as kidneys for our environment by filtering freshwater before it enters the open coast."

Dr Melidonis said Te Awarua-o-Porirua is a special area that needs protection.

"It's of great cultural importance to Ngāti Toa Rangātira who have kaitiakitanga (guardianship) over the area and historically used the estuary for mahinga kai," she said.

It's also an area of significant economic and ecological value with thousands of hectares of farmland, lifestyle blocks, urban settlement, parkland, rail and road corridors – which all put pressures on the estuary ecosystem.

As well as the underwater surveys, Greater Wellington has also installed sensors to measure water murkiness and completed two surveys of the harbour floor to measure the depth.

Greater Wellington Regional Councillor for Porirua, and Tawa, Jenny Brash said results from the surveys and other monitoring measures were critical in guiding estuary and harbour policy and management actions, sediment and contaminant reduction, and restoration of the catchments and streams that flow into the Porirua Harbour and Pauatohanui Inlet.

"We need this data to make strategic decisions through the 2019 Porirua Whaitua Implementation Programme that will need us all working together to restore the ecosystem health of both arms of the Porirua Harbour."

**ENVIRONMENT  
HOTLINE**

**0800 496 734**  
(24 hr)

# He Pūrongo Putea Finances at a glance

The financial overview provides a summary of the major aspects of our financial management and results for the 2020/2021 year.

This overview gives Wellington Region residents a snapshot of our finances. Full details are provided later in the report, including financial statements and the costs of providing services for each activity, comparing what was spent with what was budgeted.

Greater Wellington continued to focus on enhancing its financial management and sound financial position, performing strongly in managing operating costs.

Greater Wellington achieved an operating deficit before tax of \$2.6 million for the year, compared to a forecast deficit before tax of \$15.5 million set in the 2020/2021 Annual Plan.

The total revenue and operating expenses were less than budget mainly due to delay in grants and subsidies as a result of delays to capital projects and the reclassification of transitional rail subsidies received from Waka Kotahi from a gross to net basis.

Capital expenditure was underspent mainly due to timing of water supply work programme and the deferral of the cross harbour pipeline project.

### Annual revenue

2019/20  
Actual  
\$439.7 million

2020/21  
Annual Plan  
\$511.6 million

2020/21  
Actual  
\$432.5 million

\$179.2 million  
from rates

\$253.3 million  
from grants and other sources

### Annual expenditure

2019/20  
Actual  
\$438.0 million

2020/21  
Annual Plan  
\$527.1 million

2020/21  
Actual  
\$435.2 million

### Capital expenditure

2019/20  
Actual  
\$45.8 million

2020/21  
Annual Plan  
\$83.2 million

2020/21  
Actual  
\$42.5 million

### Debt

2019/20  
Actual  
\$519.7 million

2020/21  
Annual Plan  
\$645.0 million

2020/21  
Actual  
\$531.9 million

### Financial overview for the year ended 30 June 2021

\$30.2 million  
net deficit after  
tax for 2020/21

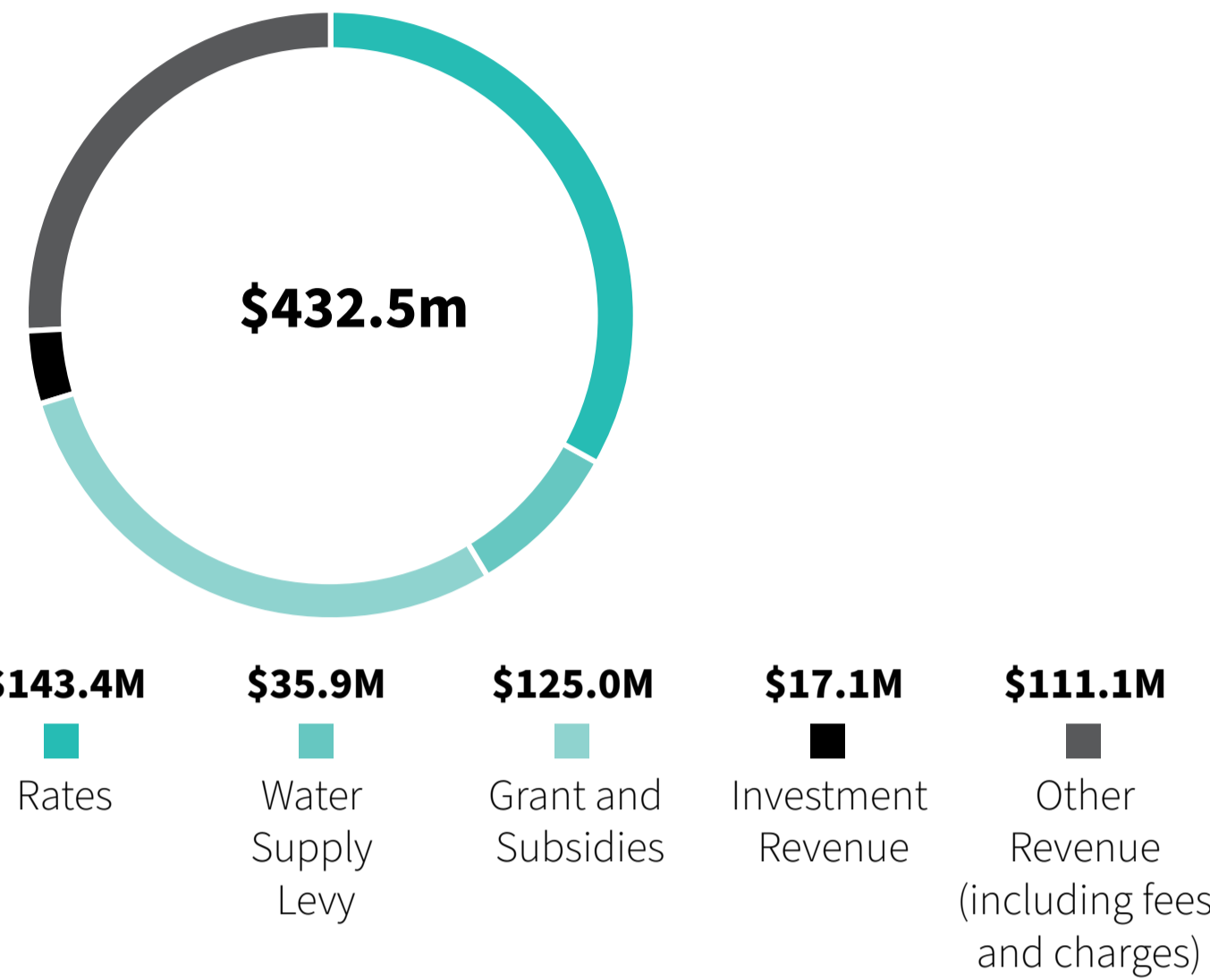
\$1.8 billion  
of total assets managed by  
Greater Wellington

\$5.83  
cost of delivering all Greater Wellington  
services per rating unit per day

AA+ credit rating  
with Standard & Poor's indicating  
good financial health

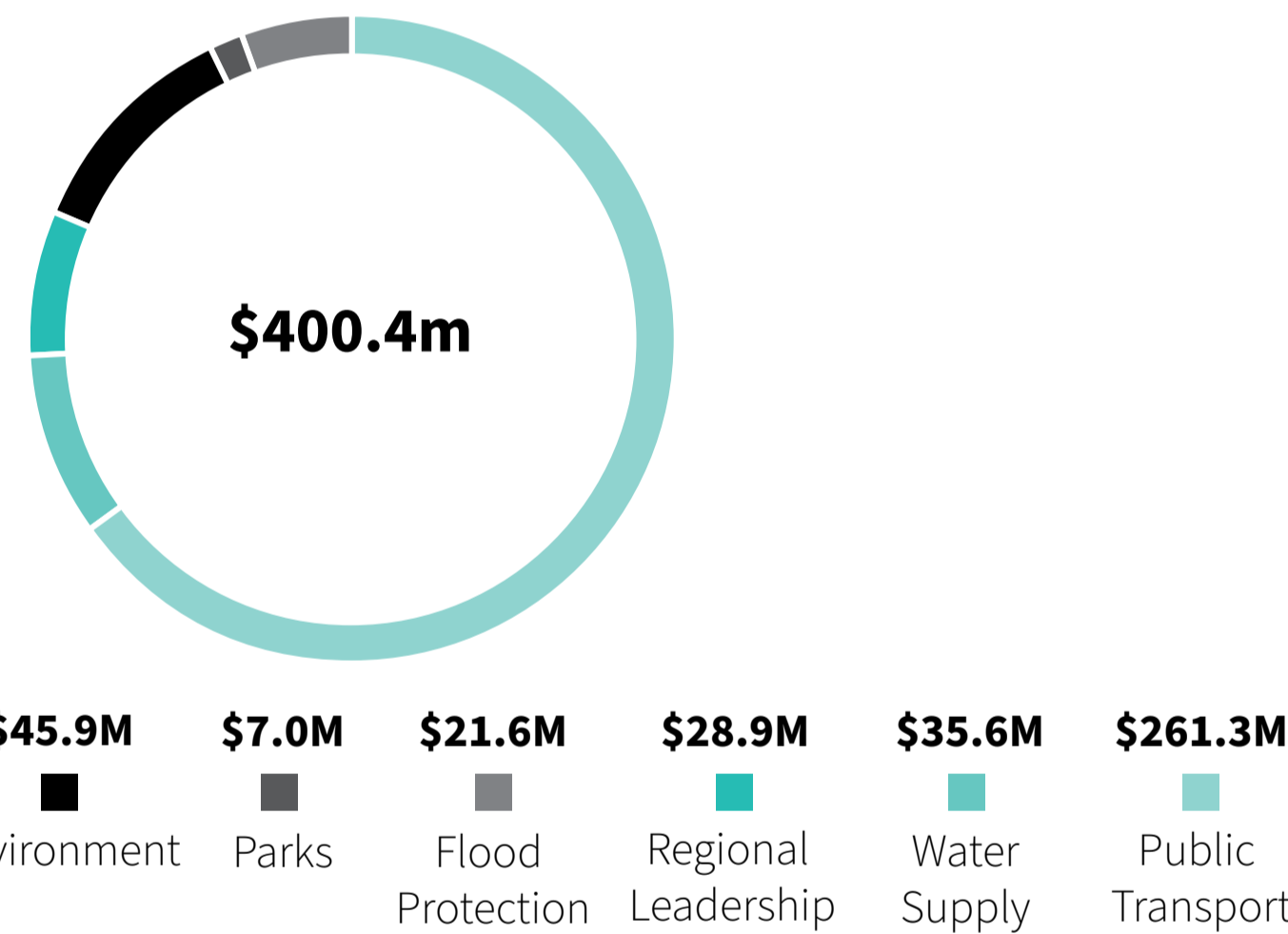
Te pane matua taiao he whakarāpopoto i te pūrongo ā-tau 2020/21 -  
Greater Wellington Regional Council Summary of the Annual Report 2020/21

## Revenue



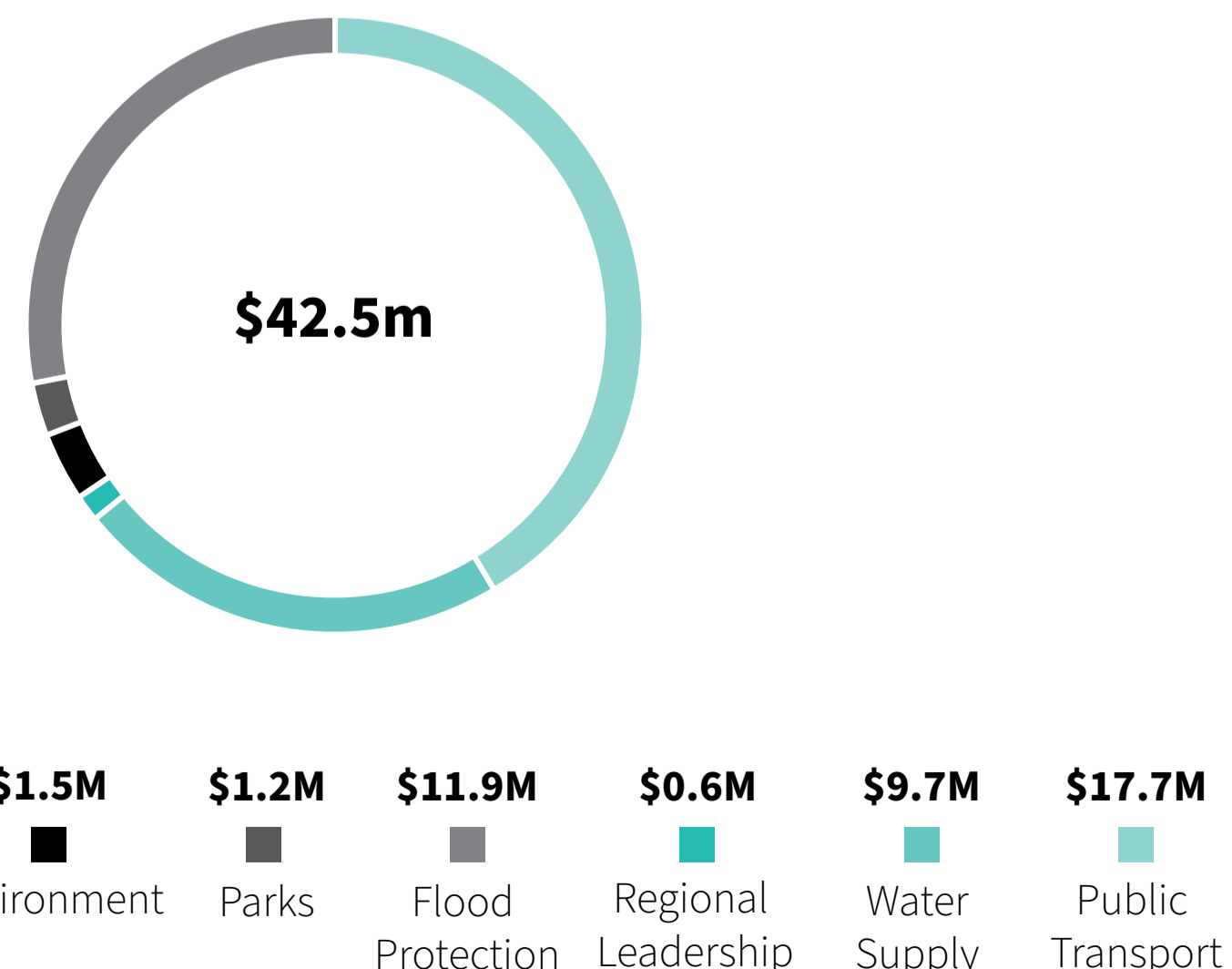
Greater Wellington's revenue is sourced primarily through rates and grants from central government. Other revenue sources include water supply levy, fees, charges, and investment income

## Operational expenditure



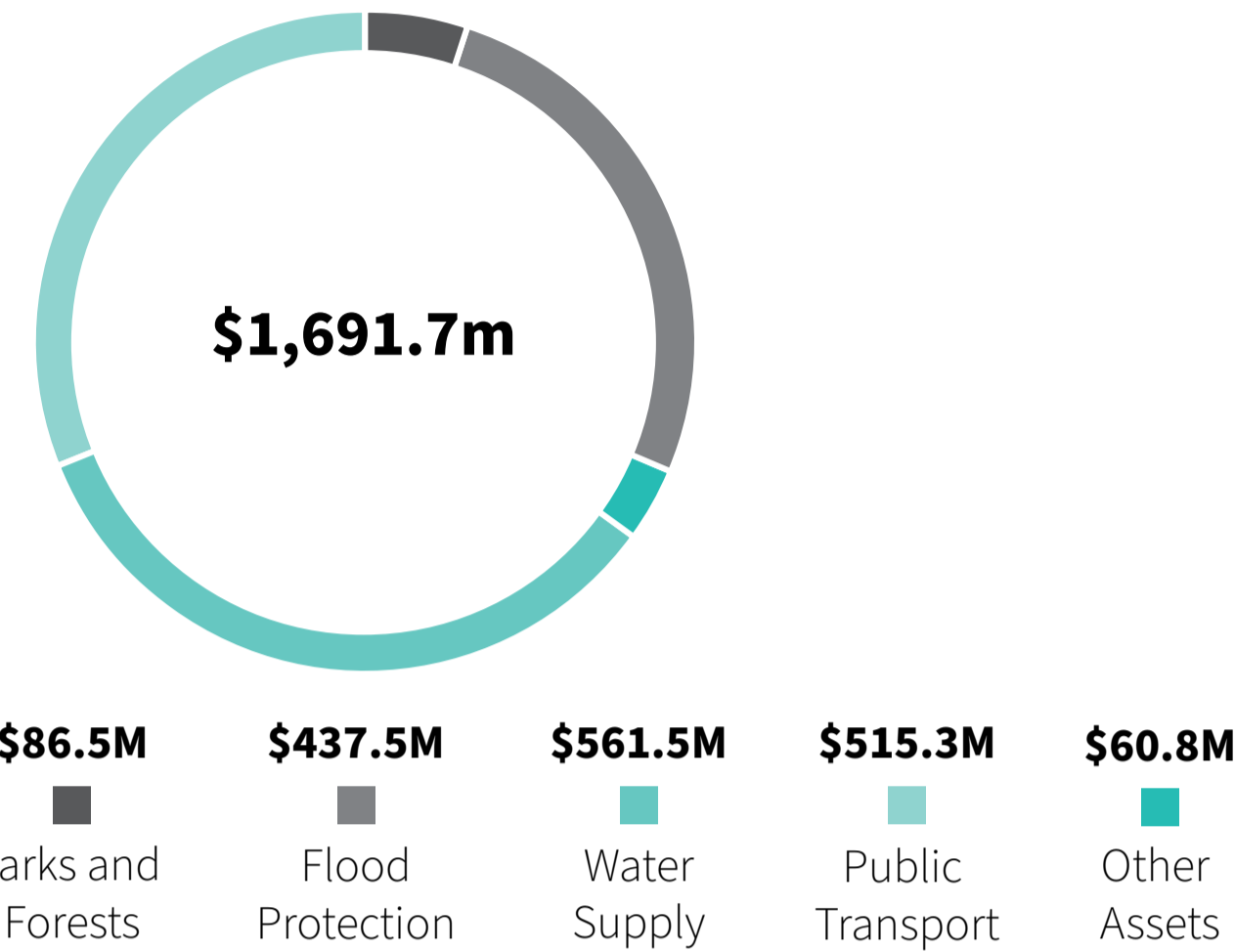
The above pie chart illustrates Greater Wellington's operational expenditure by strategic area outcomes.

## Financial overview for the year ended



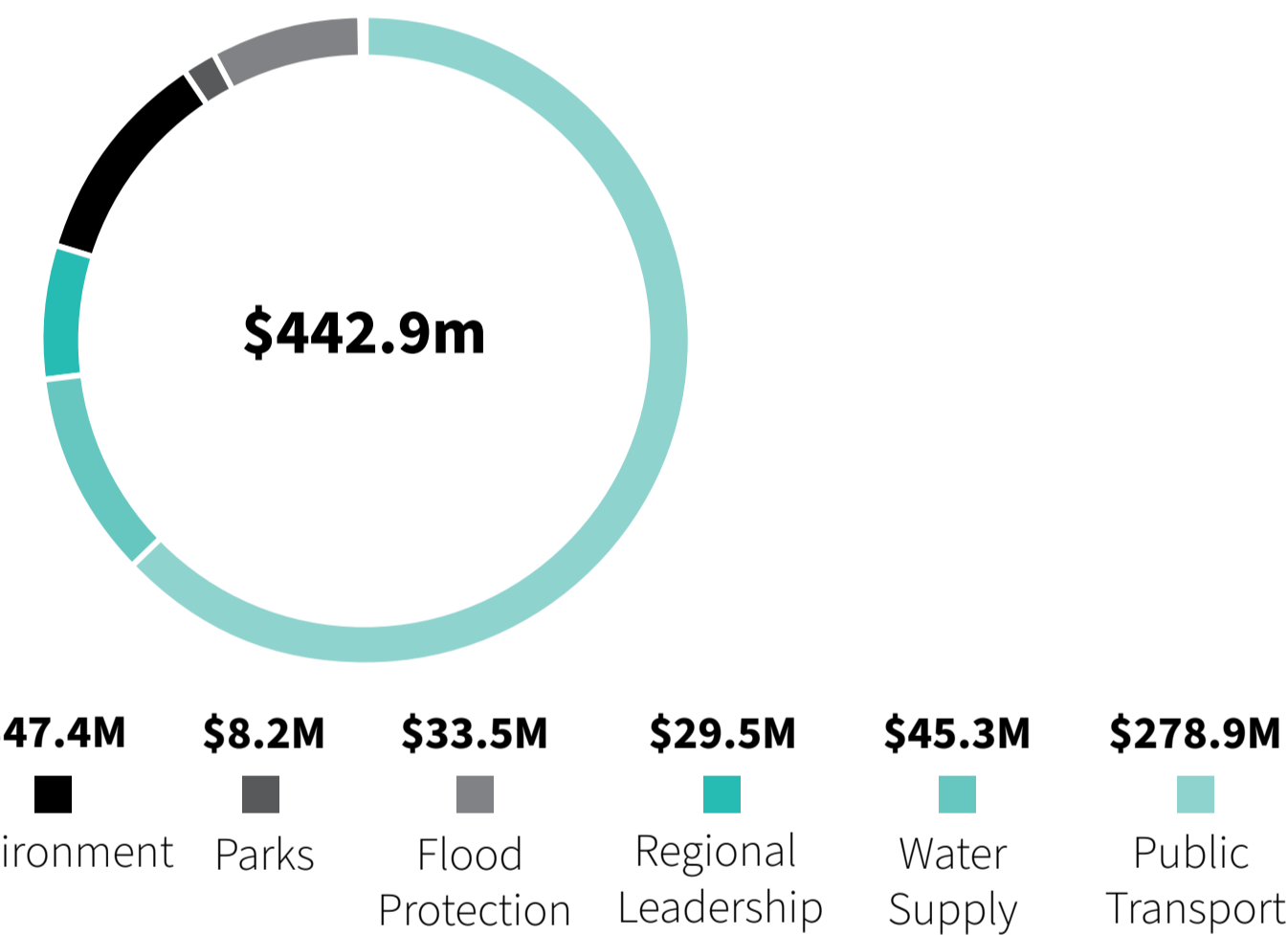
Greater Wellington's capital expenditure highlights infrastructure investment in public transport, flood protection, water supply and parks and forests.

## Property, plant, and equipment



The above pie chart illustrates Greater Wellington's asset base comprising public transport, flood protection, water supply and parks. Public transport includes \$452.7m of rail rolling stock and railway station infrastructure owned by Greater Wellington Rail Limited, a Council subsidiary.

## Financial overview for the year ended 30 June 2021



The above pie chart illustrates Greater Wellington's total expenditure ie. operational plus capital by strategic area outcomes.

## Disclaimer

The specific disclosures included in this Summary of the 2020/21 Annual Report have been extracted from the full 2020/21 Annual Report. The Summary cannot be expected to provide as complete an understanding as provided by the full annual report of the financial and service performance, financial position and cash flows of the Greater Wellington Regional Council. The Summary has been examined by the auditor for consistency with the full annual report audited by Audit New Zealand on behalf of the Auditor-General. A qualified audit opinion was issued on 23 December 2021. This Annual Report summary was adopted by the Council on 23 December 2021.

Te pane matua taiao he whakarāpopoto i te pūrongo ā-tau 2020/21 -  
Greater Wellington Regional Council Summary of the Annual Report 2020/21

# Financial Statements

## Summary Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense For the year ended 30 June 2021

	Greater Wellington			Greater Wellington Group	
	Actual 2021 \$'000	Budget 2021 \$'000	Actual 2020 \$'000	Actual 2021 \$'000	Actual 2020 \$'000
Operating revenue and gains	432,572	511,644	437,027	508,048	528,373
Finance expenses	(21,314)	(21,663)	(22,369)	(21,199)	(22,388)
Total operating expenditure	(413,864)	(505,450)	(415,638)	(515,789)	(530,080)
<b>Operating surplus/(deficit) before other items and tax</b>	<b>(2,606)</b>	<b>(15,469)</b>	<b>(979)</b>	<b>(28,940)</b>	<b>(24,095)</b>
Share of associate's surplus/(deficit)	-	-	-	135	14
Fair value gains / (losses) in profit and loss	32,775	13,821	(17,711)	32,775	(17,711)
Investment properties	-	-	-	(1,998)	747
Earthquake related items	-	-	-	-	167,251
Tax on continuing operations	-	-	-	(22,458)	(2,185)
<b>Operating surplus / (deficit) after tax</b>	<b>30,169</b>	<b>(1,647)</b>	<b>(18,690)</b>	<b>(20,486)</b>	<b>124,021</b>
<b>Other comprehensive revenue and expenses</b>					
Increases / (decreases) in revaluations	4,689	-	30,949	19,680	29,750
<b>Total comprehensive revenue and expense</b>	<b>34,858</b>	<b>(1,647)</b>	<b>12,259</b>	<b>(806)</b>	<b>153,771</b>
<b>Attributable to:</b>					
Equity holders of the Parent	34,858	(1,647)	12,259	(1,451)	117,483
Noncontrolling interest	-	-	-	645	36,288
	34,858	(1,647)	12,259	(806)	153,771

## Summary Statement of changes in equity For the year ended 30 June 2021

	Greater Wellington			Greater Wellington Group	
	Actual 2021 \$'000	Budget 2021 \$'000	Actual 2020 \$'000	Actual 2021 \$'000	Actual 2020 \$'000
<b>Opening equity</b>	<b>1,103,138</b>	<b>1,040,356</b>	<b>1,090,879</b>	<b>1,619,766</b>	<b>1,467,146</b>
Operating surplus / (deficit) after tax	30,169	(1,657)	(18,690)	(20,486)	124,021
Dividend to noncontrolling interest	-	-	-	(4,615)	(1,154)
Asset revaluation movements	-	-	27,229	14,992	26,033
Revaluation movement of other financial assets	4,689	-	3,720	4,689	3,720
<b>Total closing equity at 30 June</b>	<b>1,137,997</b>	<b>1,038,709</b>	<b>1,103,138</b>	<b>1,614,346</b>	<b>1,619,766</b>
<b>Attributable to:</b>					
<b>Equity holders of the Parent</b>	<b>1,137,997</b>	<b>1,038,709</b>	<b>1,103,138</b>	<b>1,514,438</b>	<b>1,514,597</b>
<b>Noncontrolling interest</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>99,908</b>	<b>105,169</b>
	1,137,997	1,038,709	1,103,138	1,614,346	1,619,766

## Summary Statement of Financial Position For the year ended 30 June 2021

	Greater Wellington			Greater Wellington Group	
	Actual 2021 \$'000	Budget 2021 \$'000	Actual 2020 \$'000	Actual 2021 \$'000	Actual 2020 \$'000
Current assets	219,845	53,316	185,297	381,178	454,435
Noncurrent assets	1,600,593	1,697,081	1,621,490	2,067,903	1,992,824
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>1,820,438</b>	<b>1,750,397</b>	<b>1,806,787</b>	<b>2,449,081</b>	<b>2,447,259</b>
Current liabilities	224,678	193,470	191,108	226,031	185,543
Noncurrent liabilities	457,763	518,218	512,541	608,706	641,950
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>682,441</b>	<b>711,688</b>	<b>703,649</b>	<b>834,737</b>	<b>827,493</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>1,137,997</b>	<b>1,038,709</b>	<b>1,103,138</b>	<b>1,614,346</b>	<b>1,619,766</b>
Equity attributed to:					
Other reserves	1,137,997	1,038,709	1,103,138	1,514,438	1,514,597
Minority interest	-	-	-	99,908	105,169
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>1,137,997</b>	<b>1,038,709</b>	<b>1,103,138</b>	<b>1,614,346</b>	<b>1,619,766</b>

## Summary Statement of Cash-Flow For the year ended 30 June 2021

	Greater Wellington			Greater Wellington Group	
	Actual 2021 \$'000	Budget 2021 \$'000	Actual 2020 \$'000	Actual 2021 \$'000	Actual 2020 \$'000
Cashflows from operating activities	64,794	14,417	(1,237)	63,045	6,013
Cashflows from investing activities	(81,651)	(89,481)	(58,424)	(140,725)	113,531
Cashflows from financing activities	12,195	87,506	52,142	15,080	31,263
<b>Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(4,662)</b>	<b>12,442</b>	<b>(7,519)</b>	<b>(62,600)</b>	<b>150,807</b>
<b>Opening cash equivalents</b>	<b>9,338</b>	<b>11,395</b>	<b>16,857</b>	<b>259,393</b>	<b>108,585</b>
<b>Closing cash equivalents</b>	<b>4,675</b>	<b>23,837</b>	<b>9,338</b>	<b>196,793</b>	<b>259,392</b>

## Major variances between actual and budget:

### 1. Operating revenue and gains

The operating revenue and gains are lower due to lower than budgeted capital expenditure and the reclassification of transitional rail subsidies received from Waka Kotahi from a gross to net basis.

### 2. Operating expenditure

The total operating expenditure is lower due to the reclassification of transitional rail subsidies received from Waka Kotahi from a gross to net basis and resource constraints in implementing the low carbon fund initiatives.

### 3. Fair value

Fair value movements are favourable to budget reflecting the increase of the fair value of the interest rate swaps held by Greater Wellington due to the increase trend in market interest rates.

### 4. Total assets

The total assets are higher than budget mainly due to an advance made Wellington Regional Stadium Trust and a special dividend received from Centre Port during the year.

### 5. Total equity

The total equity is higher than budget mainly due to the favourable variance to budget as a result of fair value movements.

### 6. Cashflows

Cash and cash equivalents are significantly lower than budget mainly due to the investment of surplus funds for a term exceeding three months.

## Events occurring after the balance date

### Three Waters Reform

In July 2020, the Government launched the Three Waters Reform Programme – a three year programme to reform local government three waters service delivery arrangements. Currently 67 different councils own and operate the majority of the drinking water, wastewater and stormwater services across New Zealand. The proposed reform programme is being progressed through a partnership basis approach with the local government sector, alongside iwi/Maori as the Crown's Treaty Partner.

Following the Government announcement on the 27 October 2021 on Three waters reform, there is increased certainty with the proposal to transfer the three water delivery and infrastructure from the 67 councils to four Water Service Entities (WSEs). In June 2021, the Government proposed regional boundaries for each entity A, B, C and D, which would manage water assets for the country. Council would belong to WSE 'C', along with 22 other Councils. The WSE would be independent with a separate Board of Directors and Councils would have no shareholding and no financial interest. At the date of this annual report being approved for issue there is due to this announcement, increased certainty that should the legislation be enacted, Council will not provide water services from 1 July 2024.

### Official cash rate

Subsequent to balance date the Reserve Bank increased the Official Cash Rate (OCR) to 0.75% and market interest rates have increased. This will increase interest costs on floating rate borrowings and decrease the liability values for the existing floating to fixed interest rates swaps.

### COVID-19

As an essential service provider, Metlink and CentrePort are able to operate during all COVID 19 alert levels with appropriate additional public health measures in place. There is no any material impact on the operations.

### CentrePort Limited Binding Ruling Reversed

Based on discussions with Inland Revenue leading up to balance date, a \$23.5 million tax expense was recognised in CentrePort Limited's 30 June 2021 financial statements. Inland Revenue had disagreed with the treatment of insurance proceeds received for Seaview Wharf and Aotea 1-3 Wharves. On 15 December, Inland Revenue accepted that the insurance proceeds for Seaview Wharf and Aotea 1-3 Wharves 1-3 is non-taxable. The impact of this ruling is the income tax expense and deferred tax liabilities are overstated.

### Dividend

No dividend was declared post balance date by WRC Holdings (2020: Nil).

There were no other subsequent events up to the date of these financial statements which would affect the amounts or disclosures in the financial statements.

*The full financial statements presented in the 2020/21 Annual report have been audited and have an unqualified audit opinion. Greater Wellington's full financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Public Benefit entity (PBE) Accounting Standards.*

*Specific disclosures included in the summary financial statements have been extracted from the full financial statements. These financial statements contain no information that has been restated or reclassified.*

*The summary financial statements do not include all the disclosures provided in the full financial statements and cannot be expected to provide as complete an understanding as provided by the full financial statements.*

*The full financial statements can be obtained from the Greater Wellington website.*

*The full financial statements are denominated in NZ\$.*

*The summary financial statements comply with PBE FRS 43 – Summary financial statements.*

Te pane matua taiao he whakarāpopoto i te pūrongo ā-tau 2020/21 -  
Greater Wellington Regional Council Summary of the Annual Report 2020/21

# Independent Auditor's Report

## To the readers of the Greater Wellington Regional Council's summary of the annual report for the year ended 30 June 2021

The summary of the annual report was derived from the annual report of the Greater Wellington Regional Council (the Regional Council) for the year ended 30 June 2021.

The summary of the annual report comprises the following summary statements on pages 10 to 16, and 19:

- the summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021;
- the summaries of the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash-flow for the year ended 30 June 2021;
- the notes to the summary financial statements that include other explanatory information; and
- the summary "Activities of Greater Wellington".

### Opinion

In our opinion:

- the summary of the annual report represents, fairly and consistently, the information regarding the major matters dealt with in the annual report; and
- the summary statements comply with PBE FRS-43: Summary Financial Statements.

However, the summary Group financial statements are misstated to the equivalent extent as the full audited information. This qualification is explained below in *The full annual report and our audit report thereon* section.

### Summary of the annual report

The summary of the annual report does not contain all the disclosures required by generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand. Reading the summary of the annual report and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the full annual report and the auditor's report thereon.

### The full annual report and our audit report thereon

We expressed a qualified opinion on the financial statements and an unmodified opinion on the audited information, excluding the financial statements in the full annual report for the year ended 30 June 2021 in our auditor's report dated 23 December 2021.

The basis for our qualified opinion on the financial statements is explained below.

### Post balance date clarification of tax position

Subsequent to balance date, the Regional Council's subsidiary company, CentrePort Limited, has received formal communication from Inland Revenue that has substantially resolved the uncertainties associated with estimating the tax expense and deferred tax liability of the Group at 30 June 2021.

As disclosed under 'Events occurring after the balance date' on page 19 (Note 34 on page 160 to the full financial statements), the Group recognised an additional income tax expense of \$23.5 million based on discussions with Inland Revenue about the tax treatment of insurance proceeds relating to the 2016 Kaikoura earthquakes. The clarified position means that, subject to conditions, this additional income tax expense is not required.

Under PBE IPSAS 14 *Events after the reporting date* this is considered an adjusting event and the financial statements of the Group should be adjusted to reflect the clarified taxation position. The Council has not made the required adjustments to the Group financial statements. The Group tax expense and deferred tax liability are therefore materially overstated and the financial statements do not comply with generally accepted accounting practice in relation to this issue only.

Our auditor's report on the full annual report also includes two emphasis of matter paragraphs drawing attention to the following matters:

### The Government's three waters reform programme announcement

Note 34 on page 160 of the full financial statements discloses that the Government announced it will introduce legislation to establish four publicly owned water services entities to take over responsibilities for service delivery and infrastructure from local authorities from 1 July 2024. The impact of these reforms, once legislated, will mean that the Regional Council will no longer deliver bulk water services. These matters are addressed under 'Events occurring after the balance date' on page 19 of the summary financial statements.

### Adjustment to fair value of operational port land

Note 16 on pages 132 and 133 of the full financial statements describes that the fair value of operational port land was adjusted for the remaining resilience work required to support the land after the Kaikoura earthquakes.

The cost of completing the land resilience work has been estimated with reference to the cost of completed work and third-party estimates and is sensitive to change.

### Council's responsibility for the summary of the annual report

The Council is responsible for preparing the summary of the annual report which includes preparing summary statements, in accordance with PBE FRS-43: Summary Financial Statements.

### Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary of the annual report represents, fairly and consistently, the information regarding the major matters dealt with in the full annual report and whether the summary statements comply with PBE FRS 43: Summary Financial Statements.

Our opinion on the summary of the annual report is based on our procedures, which were carried out 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.

In addition to our reporting on the summary and full annual reports, we have audited the Regional Council's 2021-2031 long-term plan and performed a limited assurance engagement related to the Regional Council's debenture trust deed. We also performed agreed upon procedures in respect of Greater Wellington Regional Council - Wellington Metropolitan Rail special purpose financial statements. These engagements are compatible with those independence requirements.



Clint Ramoo,  
Audit New Zealand  
On behalf of the Auditor-General  
Wellington, New Zealand  
23 December 2021

# THE WINDS OF CHANGE

“ I'm always prepared for a sudden change that can come both quickly and from nowhere ”

David James - Featherston



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