

Financial Overview

These pages (pages 12 to 16) explain how the long term financial strategy ensures that large infrastructural costs and the funds borrowed to pay for these costs are manageable in the context of the day to day running of the Council's operations. The Council uses a strict set of well-established financial guidelines to maintain this strategy. These are outlined here, along with a summary of future financial projections into the next century.

Also included within this section on pages 17 to 25 are changes to the Council's funding policy, information on the rating system and details about the changes between the draft and final versions of the Plan.

Service Level & Programme Changes

This section (pages 26 to 31) summarises the differences between the 1999 Plan and the 1998 Plan. The individual items have been listed in bullet point form under the following headings:

- committed costs
- cost increases due to growth
- new operating initiatives
- new capital initiatives
- efficiency gains

Also included in this section are the changes resulting from the submission process. They include both the financial and policy changes which were agreed to at the Council meeting to finalise this Plan. At the end of the section are those capital projects which have been deleted from the 5 year programme. These projects were included in the 1998 Plan and have, for reasons noted alongside each project, been deleted.

Strategic Elements

This section (pages 32 and 34) sets out the Council's vision, goals and strategic objectives. It outlines where the Council is headed both in the short and long term. This section provides the context in which the detailed programmes and list of projects for 1999/00 have been prioritised.

Also included within this section (pages 35 and 36) is a summary of the Council's borrowing management policy and the investment policy.

Plans for Customer Service Activities, Corporate Service Providers, Other Organisations and Trading Activities

This section (pages 37 to 76) outlines and provides a budget for each of the Council's services. Included are the infrastructural services, such as city streets, parks, sewerage and waterways; cultural, community and recreational services such as the art gallery, museum, libraries and Council housing; and the Council's trading enterprises such as the Orion Group, the Lyttelton Port Company and the Christchurch International Airport Company. For each activity or organisation, all new services are described.

For the Council activities the budgets have been summarised on an output class basis. Output classes are best described as groups of related or similar goods or services. Any revenue relating to an output class is matched against the expenditure.

The performance indicators include a mix of measures in terms of quantity, quality, timeliness, etc. Each indicator is related back to a specific objective and indicates whether the objective or specified progress towards it has been achieved. For Objective 1 Performance Indicators 1.1, 1.2 etc are relevant, Objective 2 Performance Indicators 2.1, 2.2 and so forth.

The capital expenditure which relates to each activity is summarised separately below the Cost of Service Statement.

The categories used to classify capital expenditure are:

- Renewals and Replacements - Maintaining existing assets. Necessary to sustain agreed levels of service.
- Asset Improvements - Capital expenditure that improves or adds to the level of service of existing assets.
- New Assets - Works or purchases creating wholly new assets.
- Capital Funding - Reflects a capital contribution - eg For the new Art Gallery.

Forward Capital Programme

This section (pages 77 to 96) itemises what capital improvements are scheduled throughout the city for the next five years, and how much is budgeted for each. It includes infrastructural renewals and replacements such as to streets, parks and water services; as well as developments to improve sports, leisure, recreation, community, economic and environmental services.

Community Board Funded Projects

This section (pages 97 to 100) itemises Community Board funded projects. These projects, which relate to each Community Board area, include new operating initiatives as well as capital expenditure on neighbourhood parks and suburban streets.

Supporting Information

This section (pages 101 to 120) contains the budgeted financial statements, a list of proposed fee changes for various Council services, the Equal Employment Opportunity Programme for 1999/00, a listing of elected members and senior staff, and a listing of directors for the Trading Enterprises and representation on other organisations. A glossary of terms and a directory of Council Service Centres can also be found within this section.