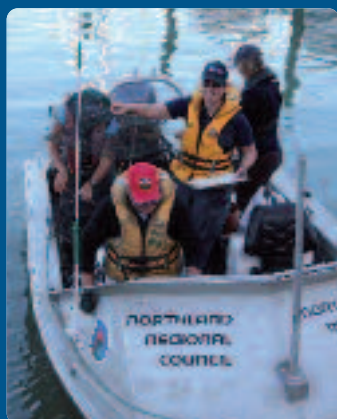


Annual Report 2010

our year in summary



Putting Northland first

**NORTHLAND
REGIONAL
COUNCIL**





This is a summary of the Northland Regional Council's activities for the year 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010. The information has been extracted from our Annual Report 2010.

The Annual Report Summary 2010 was authorised for issue by resolution of the Northland Regional Council on 29 September 2010. It has been prepared in accordance with the FRS-43: Summary Financial Statements.

Copies of the full Annual Report 2010 are available online at **www.nrc.govt.nz/annualreport**

You can also pick up a printed copy from any Northland Regional Council office or freephone 0800 002 004.

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our year

Welcome to the Northland Regional Council's Annual Report Summary 2010



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This summary shows you what we did during the year, some of the highlights and what it cost to provide the many services designed to help keep Northland growing.

Despite a global recession and a serious and economically costly region-wide drought, we've achieved a lot this year. This once again included funding for a wide range of community projects, important work to develop the next generation of our Regional Policy Statement and the completion of the multi-purpose Northland Events Centre, which is now operational.

We developed new Regional Pest Management Strategies and significant progress has been made towards developing tailor-made plans designed to reduce the flood risk to some of Northland's most flood-prone communities.

We also restructured the Northland Regional Council Community Trust and its subsidiary Enterprise Northland (which supports regional economic development and sustainable business). The restructure aims to ensure the trust has a broader focus to strategically develop Northland's economy and to grow the trust fund itself.

The 30 Year Transport Strategy was a substantial infrastructure planning project also completed by the Council during 2009-2010. It's the first Strategy of its type in New Zealand to have a 30 Year outlook and addresses all forms of transport – including air and coastal.

We have also continued to work with our region's three District Councils, Police and other government agencies to improve Northland's roading network.

about the Council

The Northland Regional Council aims to create a region of choice through growth, and the provision of regional leadership, environmental protection, economic opportunities and integrated infrastructure.

We will achieve this by putting our community and region first. We are committed to being forward thinking and innovative, flexible and open, responsive and value-driven, and professional and accountable. We also work with others – regional and central government, iwi, community groups, development agencies and commercial enterprises – to meet these goals.

Your Regional Council is made up of eight elected Councillors, including a Chairman, an appointed Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and about 140 full-time staff. We are here to serve our community and constantly strive to ensure Northland is a great place to live.



Your Councillors: (left to right) John Bain, Joe Carr, Mark Farnsworth (Chairman), Ian Walker (Deputy Chairman), Lorraine Hill, Bill Rossiter, Peter Jensen and Craig Brown.

highlights of our year

There were many highlights during the 2009-2010 year. Here's a snapshot of the key successes the Regional Council and our community achieved.



Key infrastructure

The Regional Council funded a number of key community infrastructure projects throughout 2009-2010, including the Northland Events Centre, which is now operational.

Work began on the Okara Park, Whāngārei project early in 2009, funded by \$13 million from the Northland Regional Council and \$3 million from the Whāngārei District Council. A subsequent \$2.5 million grant from Central Government was used to further enhance the multi-events centre, which will host two matches during the Rugby World Cup 2011.

The Kerikeri Sports Complex was completed in early 2010. The \$2 million multi-purpose Far North District Council building was funded in part through the Regional Council's Recreation Fund.

The complex features 12 netball courts, three sports fields, 300-plus car parks and the multi-purpose shared facility with eight changing rooms, canteen, social area, officials' meeting and control rooms, kitchen and tiered decking for spectators.

The Dargaville swimming pool also received money through the Regional Council's Recreation Fund.

The 30 Year Transport Strategy was a substantial infrastructure planning project completed by the Council during

2009-2010. The Strategy was adopted at the end of May 2010 and addresses all forms of transport – including air and coastal. It is the first strategy of its type in New Zealand to have a 30 Year outlook.

Flood protection and priority rivers projects

The Priority Rivers Flood Risk Reduction project aims to reduce the flood hazard risk in 27 Priority Rivers throughout Northland.

Each of the Priority Rivers has a river management plan developed and

implemented, detailing flood risk and the options for reducing risk. Detailed hydraulic models have been developed for each of the Priority Rivers, incorporating extensive air and conventional survey data.

Flood hazard maps have been prepared using the models. The maps show the extent and depth of flooding that could occur in a range of 'design storm' scenarios. Risk assessment and identification of options to reduce flood risk have also been developed. Draft river management plans are scheduled for completion during July – August 2010.

A flood risk reduction strategy was developed for Kaeo and planning on how this will be carried out has started. Flood mitigation and protection works also continued in the Kaihū, Kaeo-Whangaroa and Awanui river schemes.

Beach profile monitoring was undertaken at priority sites during summer and winter. This data will enable us to better understand coastal processes and will be used to update coastal hazard assessments.

Tsunami hazard modelling work was completed for priority coastal communities and reports were placed on the Regional Council's website. Additional tsunami hazard modelling work also started for the area around the Whāngārei Harbour.





Compliance with resource consents

The Northland Regional Council has legal responsibilities (under the Resource Management Act (1991)) for the control of activities that may have a negative effect on our environment. Activities such as discharging a substance to air or water are controlled by rules in Regional Plans and – as required – by resource consents. The Council monitors compliance with Regional Plans and resource consents.

Monitored activities are graded according to their level of compliance. Activities can:

- Be fully compliant (within the rules or resource consent limits);
- Have minor non-compliance (some evidence of minor/actual, or potential for minor effect on the environment); or
- Be significantly non-compliant (are having, or have the potential to have, a major or significant effect on the environment).

In cases of significant non-compliance, the Council can take enforcement action to stop an activity, or fine or prosecute a serious offender, and restore the affected area.

In 2009-2010, 66% of consents monitored were fully compliant, 25% had minor non-compliance and nine percent were significantly non-compliant. Monitoring showed slightly increased compliance compared to 2008-2009.

The Council has continued to take a tougher line on monitoring throughout the 2009-2010 financial year, including four prosecutions; one for a sediment discharge to the Mangawhai Harbour and three related to farm dairy effluent discharges. The table (opposite) illustrates compliance rates across a range of activities for the 2009-2010 year.

Recreational bathing water quality programme

This programme is a joint project between the Northland Regional Council, the Northland District Health Board (DHB) and Northland's three District Councils. It aims to let the public know how safe water is for swimming. Some sites are not always safe as water can sometimes be contaminated with human or animal waste, particularly after heavy or prolonged rainfall.

Monitoring of 63 coastal sites and 23 freshwater sites was carried out throughout 2009-2010 with popular swimming spots monitored weekly during the summer. The results were posted on the Council's website with colour-coded 'green', 'orange' and 'red' dots showing whether the sites were safe for swimming.

Forty-five coastal sites were always safe for swimming and another 13 were safe on all but one occasion (90-99% compliance). Three sites were safe on all but two of the times they were sampled. Two other sites (the Ōpua foreshore at the shop end of the beach, and Ngunguru at the toilets) were safe for

swimming on all but three and four occasions respectively (75-89% compliance). No coastal sites had compliance of <75%. The level of compliance for coastal sites was higher in 2009-2010 than 2008-2009. Again, this is probably related to lower regional rainfall over the 2009-2010 summer.

In 2009-2010, six freshwater sites were always safe for swimming and two sites on all but one time they were sampled. Four more were safe on all but two sampling occasions. Overall, more freshwater sites were 100% compliant in 2009-2010 than 2008-2009. This may also be attributable to lower summer rainfall this year.

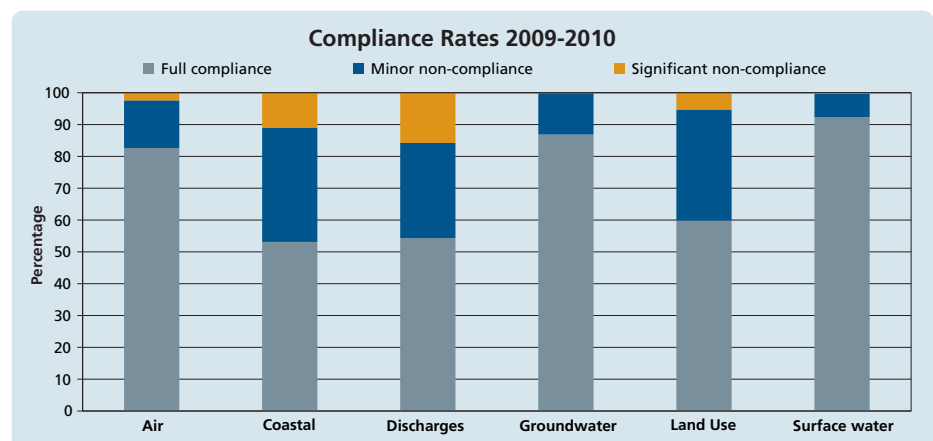
However, nine freshwater sites were safe for swimming for less than 75% of the time. These were the Ocean Beach and Waipū Beach Streams, Kerikeri River at the Stone Store, Pacific Bay Stream, Whāngārei Falls, Kapiro and Otamure Bay Streams and the Coopers Beach and Langs Beach Streams.

Water quality – still a top priority

Northland's rivers and streams provide habitat for a range of indigenous flora and fauna, as well as being an important water supply for rural communities, horticultural and agricultural demands. Our rivers and streams also provide important recreational, aesthetic and cultural value to Northlanders.

Pollution enters rivers and streams both directly from industrial discharges and indirectly when rain creates runoff over land. Because our rivers are comparatively small, they have little capacity to dilute contaminants. Poor water quality in our rivers can in turn affect harbour health as most Northland rivers flow into harbours, rather than open coastline.

Water quality monitoring of rivers and streams is undertaken at 35 sites throughout Northland as part of the





Council's state of the environment monitoring network. Water quality is monitored monthly for a range of things including bacteria and nutrient levels. Changes in water quality of Northland's rivers and streams during the past year were:

- Water clarity – this measures how clear (or cloudy) water is. Poor water clarity affects a river's suitability for swimming. In 2009-2010, most sites had good compliance with water clarity guidelines. Water clarity improved in the Awanui, Victoria, Kaeo and Ruakaka catchments. (This improvement may be partially attributable to the drought as there was less rain running off the land and carrying sediment into the rivers.) However, clarity was poor in areas with a lot of erosion such as the Utakura, Ruakaka and Paparoa Rivers.
- *E.coli* bacteria - low levels of bacteria are found in freshwater as a result of natural processes like plant decay however the way land is used and human activity can also increase bacteria levels. Water contaminated by human or animal waste may contain a range of disease-causing micro-organisms including viruses, bacteria and protozoa. These can pose a health risk when the water is used for recreational activities like swimming and bathing.

Most sites had average to good compliance with the water quality guidelines for bathing. However, compared to the previous year, most sites had worse water quality in terms of bacteria. This is thought to be due to drought conditions, which saw streams drop to very low levels. With less water in them, any pollution which did find its way into the rivers was less likely to be diluted. Further work is being done to determine the source of *E.coli* in our rivers.

Overall, compared to the previous year, most sites show notable improvements in water quality. It is likely that less rainfall runoff during the drought meant fewer nutrients entered rivers and streams.

Our marine environment

The maritime team had a busy year with a record number of cruise ship visits to the Bay of Islands, two regional response oil spill exercises and the Council's 18 harbour wardens patrolling Northland harbours from Mangawhai to Houhora.

A record number of ships visited Northland with 29 cruise ships and two super-yachts piloted safely into and out of the Bay of Islands. The cruise ship *Queen Mary 2* – the largest ever to visit Northland – anchored in the Bay of Islands in March. Planning for the event took 18 months with navigation and safety aspects the subject of a comprehensive operations plan coordinated by the Regional Council's Harbour Master, who also piloted the vessel safely into and out of the bay.

A significant upgrade to navigation aids on Rangaunu Harbour was completed and maintenance carried out on all Houhora Harbour navigation aids.

The Council's team of harbour wardens was increased to 18 with the appointment of wardens for Pataua and Whangaruru. The Northland-wide warden team continues to provide a valuable source of local knowledge and advice. Harbour patrols were carried out on the busiest harbours during December and January and were augmented by a Northland-wide commercial radio campaign.

Two regional response team training exercises were also completed by the maritime team, working with other key stakeholders. The first tested our ability to contain, recover and store oil while it was still out on the water.

The second exercise ran over two days in May 2010. The exercise involved about 40 representatives from the Council, local iwi, Maritime New Zealand, the Department of Conservation and local industries. It centred on a fictional spill that sent nine tonnes of 'oil' from a ship on to Bream Bay's beaches.

Staff from local authorities as far south as Marlborough took part and the exercise saw a number of national firsts with the use of heavy machinery to clean up parts of Ruakaka beach, a special decontamination tent and a helicopter and fixed-wing aircraft to find and spray the 'slick' with special dispersant chemicals.

Environment fund

Changes to the 2009 fund were made with applications open through until April 2010. The Environment Fund has provided more than \$2.5 million to help people improve and protect Northland's natural environment over the 14 years it has been available.

Around \$500,000 was available from the 2009-2010 fund, which could be applied for – and was allocated – over a 10-month period. The changes to the fund were designed to enable people to apply for worthwhile projects almost year-round, rather than within a previously much smaller 10-week application window.



Emergency Management – from tsunami to drought

In September and October 2009 earthquakes in Samoa and Vanuatu saw the Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre generate tsunami warnings for New Zealand. The Northland Civil Defence and Emergency Management (CDEM) Group activated its Group Emergency Operation Centre and the Far North, Whāngārei and Kaipara District Councils activated responses at various levels. Immediate action was taken to alert communities using a variety of methods including media, fax, email, text messages and telephone trees. Although there were no reports of damage, there were reports of strong tidal currents around the Tutukaka marina.

After the events a number of suggestions were made for improvements that could be made for future events. These were mainly recommendations about more effective ways to distribute warnings through the national media. It was also noted that public education on tsunamis needed to be improved, particularly around the impacts of such events. The success of local Community Response Plans was noted, and it was agreed the Northland population at large was aware of the tsunami warnings.

Drought 2009-2010

The impact of the drought during the summer of 2009-2010 will be felt for many months but initial estimates put the cost to Northland's economy in excess of \$300 million.

The Regional Council worked with key stakeholders from the agriculture and horticulture sectors and local government to assist those who were most affected.

The Council's hydrometric network – a series of rainfall, water level, flow and some climatic stations – provided crucial information during the drought.

The information enabled Council staff to determine whether river levels were dangerously low and at what point irrigation should be stopped on farms and orchards.

Information was posted on the Council's website and staff liaised with the Northland Drought Committee, which was led by Rural Support Trust Northland. Our staff also worked with the region's territorial authorities to monitor and develop plans to cope with water shortages.



Managing pests

Plant and animal pests are managed by the Regional Council, which aims to reduce the impacts of marine, plant and animal pests on primary production, natural ecosystems and human health.

Pest species in Northland are listed in the Regional Pest Management Strategies (RPMS). These strategies provide guidance on how pest plants and animals should be managed in the region.

During the 2008-2009 financial year the Council began the process of reviewing the RPMS and decided to merge the existing 25 documents into three – marine pests, animal pests and plant pests. This process was completed during 2009-2010 and the new RPMS were ratified by the Council in July 2010.

Communities are also active in pest control, fostered by the Council's biosecurity staff through Community Pest Control Areas (CPCAs).

CPCAs have been operating for five years and have grown to involve 30 communities region-wide, covering

more than 23,000 hectares of land. More than 600 people are involved and 3300 hectares of privately owned indigenous forest is protected from pests as a result of these community plans.

Improved bus services in Whāngārei a success

The Regional Council has a statutory role in regional transport. The overall aim of transport planning is to achieve an affordable, integrated, safe, responsive and sustainable land transport system. As part of these responsibilities, the Council administers Whāngārei's urban CityLink bus service. On 1 July 2008 a new service was introduced through contracted transport provider NZ Bus. This new service saw increased morning and evening peak trips, increased afternoon Saturday trips and the introduction of an inner city circular service.

The most visible aspect of the new service was a fleet of 10 modern low floor, low emission, air-conditioned buses. These vehicles are fitted with onboard cameras and facilities to accommodate passengers with limited mobility and those using pushchairs. The buses also boast visual and verbal announcement facilities. Changes to the service are clearly a success with passenger numbers increasing by just over 21,000 in the first year, and a further 20,000 in 2009-2010.

Following thorough analysis of the new service, further changes were introduced on 1 March 2010 to remove poorly-patronised trips. These included peak trips, the inner city circular service, Saturday afternoon trips and public holiday services. The impact on passenger numbers and revenue was minimal. A recent passenger satisfaction survey showed 98% of passengers rated the service either "excellent, very good or good".



Extending our reach

The Council uses a range of ways to communicate information about our activities to the community. Social media – like Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook – is an ever-increasing communications medium that now has a wider reach than any other form of media.

The Council joined Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook during 2009-2010 and now sends live updates from its monthly meetings as well as information about job vacancies, events, consultation and local service information.



For more information go to:

<http://twitter.com/NRCExpress>

www.facebook.com/NorthlandRegionalCouncil

www.linkedin.com/companies/northland-regional-council

The Council's newsletter to Northland ratepayers, the Regional Report, was sent to more than 60,000 households four times during 2009-2010. It features articles about the Council's projects and some of the people in our community, who we work with.

Northlanders were able to access hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of aerial photography and other local authority geographic information system (GIS) data during 2009.

The Council granted access to around 90 percent of the data on its GIS databases, a first for any Council in New Zealand.

The move allowed ratepayers to source both Regional Council-produced data – which is available free and includes things like Regional Water and Soil Plan layers, Regional Coastal Plan layers, flood susceptible areas etc. – and aerial photography.



Sharing services

During the course of its work, the Council is involved in a wide range of activities and shares its services and knowledge with other organisations and community groups.

The build up to the Rugby World Cup 2011 in Northland started during 2009. A Regional Co-ordinator was appointed – Stewart McElwain from the Regional Council's regional development agency Enterprise Northland. Regional Council staff provided support and assistance to the Co-ordinator including development of the Northland 2011 website.

The site features business guidance on supplying to Tournament organisers and associated business, as well as advice as to what's available – and where – in terms of training. Background information about the tournament, the teams visiting Northland and more is available at www.northland2011.com

A new Biodiversity Northland website was developed during 2009-2010. Biodiversity Northland is a forum made up of the Regional Council, Northland's three District Councils – Whāngārei, Kaipara and Far North – the Department of Conservation, Fish and Game NZ, the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust, NZ Landcare Trust, Kiwi Foundation and Kiwi Recovery Programme.

The site aims to provide access to data on biodiversity and natural areas of ecological significance within Northland. Layers of information contributed by the group's members will be available including reserve and covenant boundaries, habitat survey information, weed and pest sites, Landcare group locations etc.

Anyone will be able to access the site although some areas will be subscription only to protect any sensitive details. The site will go live in September this year – go to www.biodiversitynorthland.org.nz



Civil Defence is managed by Northland's Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Group, which is made up of the Regional Council, the region's three District Councils and agencies such as Police and the Fire Service.

The CDEM Group works to reduce the potential effects of hazards, to promote community and Council readiness to respond to emergencies, and to help the community to recover after an event.

During 2009-2010 the group worked with local communities on their Community Response Plans. There are currently 39 community response groups in Northland who are either currently being established or who are aiming to have completed or draft plans later this year.

The Regional Council worked with the Whāngārei District Council during 2009 and early 2010 to establish key contacts in most of the priority communities. We also provided support to develop the Mangawhai plan in the Kaipara District.

The Kaipara Harbour Technical Advisory Group – which the Regional Council is a member of – secured funding to significantly increase our understanding of the effect sediment has in the Kaipara Harbour.

A \$14.4 million Foundation of Research and Science and Technology grant was awarded for the research after considerable work by the group during 2009-2010. The funding was awarded to the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Ltd. (NIWA) to manage. NIWA will spend the next six years working with other organisations – including the Regional Council – to learn more about how aquatic ecosystems survive in 'muddy' waters and how sediments may affect the productivity of these waters.

Information gained through the research will help the Council improve and sustainably manage Northland's land and marine systems.

The promotion of safer and more environmentally conscious beach driving continued, the 2009-2010 summer being the fourth that the Safe Beach Driving programme has run.

The Council is now active with almost thirty CoastCare groups, which aim to enhance coastal dune systems. A Facebook page was set up for CoastCare Northland which will be used to share information about CoastCare, including events such as planting days and workshops.

For more information go to www.facebook.com/CoastCareNorthland

Northland's water

Monitoring Northland's waters – coastal and river – was carried out throughout 2009-2010 with our popular swimming spots monitored weekly during the summer.

The results were posted on the Council's website with colour-coded 'green', 'orange' and 'red' dots showing whether the sites were safe for swimming. The project was extended over the 2009-2010 summer to include popular coastal swimming spots.

In our community

Awards were presented by the Council for excellence in dairy industry environmental management through the NRC Sustainable Land Award, the runner-up Sharemilker of the year award and NRC Sustainable Development Award at the Northland Business Excellence Awards.

The Council also presented an award in the annual Northland Ballance Farm Environment Awards.

The Council was involved in several events including eDay, a community initiative designed to raise awareness about the hazards of electronic waste (e-waste).

The 2009 eDay was co-ordinated by the Community and Business Environment Centre (CBEC), with support from the Northland Regional Council, Far North District Council and Whāngārei District Council.

Around 58 tonnes of e-waste was collected at centres in Kaitiāia, Kaikohe, Kerikeri and Whāngārei during the September event.

The Regional Council added its voice to calls for Northlanders to join millions of others around the globe and switch off their lights and other electrical appliances to mark 'Earth Hour 2010'.



Organisers of the worldwide event – held at the end of March – hoped as many as a billion people globally would flick off their lights and other electrical appliances between 8.30pm and 9.30pm for Earth Hour.

The Regional Council held a sustainability exhibition outside its Water Street, Whāngārei offices, across the road from the popular early morning farmers' markets.

Visitors to the event had the chance to view displays and chat about a range of ways to reduce their 'environmental footprint' from worm farming and composting, weed and pest control to using CityLink Whāngārei buses.

The education and Enviroschools team visited schools throughout the region to promote the education programme. The Regional Youth Summit was held in October 2009 and Environmental Curriculum Awards were presented to 19 schools from August to mid-October. The Council also ran a range of projects and professional development workshops for the Enviroschools programme.



activities – what we do

The Northland Regional Council is one of Northland's main environmental guardians. We are charged with protecting Northland's land, water, coast and air while allowing for sustainable development. We are also responsible for promoting the region's economic, social and cultural wellbeing: 'Putting Northland first'.

Our responsibilities include environmental management, flood and land management, biosecurity, emergency management, pollution control, public transport planning and funding, and coastal navigation and safety. Councillors decide our overall policies and our 140 staff implement them.

Roughly half our income comes from rates and charges with the balance from investments and government grants.

Awards and funding

The Council has funding available to assist with a variety of eligible environmental, educational and cultural initiatives undertaken by the Northland community.

Regional Council funding and advice is available to all individuals, landowners, community groups, schools and iwi throughout the region.

www.nrc.govt.nz/funding



Biosecurity

Biosecurity is about protecting our environment, economy and way of life from the harmful impacts of pest animals, pest plants and diseases. The Council works with landowners to target regional pest plants and animals and helps the rural economy by controlling possums to stop the spread of bovine Tb.

www.nrc.govt.nz/nasties

Flood management

The region's rivers can put homes, farmland, jobs, livelihoods and property at risk from flooding. We help communities protect themselves from the effects of flooding.

www.nrc.govt.nz/floodplans





Harbours

We look after the navigational safety of all vessels in our region's harbours – from Kaipara in the south to Pārengarenga in the north – and around the regional coastline. We also encourage safe boating behaviour and we are ready to respond in the event of a marine oil spill. www.nrc.govt.nz/onthewater

Infrastructure

We work with regional and national agencies to help ensure the provision and security of core regional infrastructure like transport, energy and telecommunications. We also have plans to establish an Infrastructure Development Authority as a way to fund future infrastructure projects. www.nrc.govt.nz/projects

Environmental planning and monitoring

The region's natural resources sustain our lives. We help people to use these resources appropriately and sustainably. Through Regional Plans, resource consents and monitoring, we work with the community to care for our environment – the air, land, water and coast.

www.nrc.govt.nz/environmentalmonitoring and www.nrc.govt.nz/consents

Education and public information

Specialist Council staff host seminars and field days designed to educate Northlanders about a variety of topics linked to the environment, while others visit schools to deliver environmental education initiatives. We also produce a wide range of publications and self-help guides covering most aspects of our work. www.nrc.govt.nz/schools and www.nrc.govt.nz/publications



Emergency management

The Council coordinates the Civil Defence Emergency Management Group for the region. We work together to minimise the potential effects of emergencies, prepare ourselves and the community, respond to emergencies and help the community to recover. www.nrc.govt.nz/civildefence

Land management

We encourage landowners to recognise the economic and social value of managing land in a way that will protect the resource and meet the needs of current and future generations. The Regional Council works with landowners to develop sustainability and property conservation plans and with rural community groups.





Northland Advocate Photo

Pollution control

We maintain a 24/7 incident response service (0800 504 639), conduct environmental assessments of industrial and commercial sites, and maintain a register of sites with hazardous industries or activities.

www.nrc.govt.nz/waste

Tourism and economic development

We support business development and tourism promotion through the NRC Community Trust and its subsidiaries, Enterprise Northland and Destination Northland Ltd.

www.enterprisenorthland.co.nz and www.northlandnz.com



Transport

We help plan the region's road network and administer and partially fund Whāngārei's urban bus service.

www.nrc.govt.nz/transport and www.nrc.govt.nz/bus

Water management

We ensure there is enough water for everyone – a difficult task with so many competing needs. Water allocation, use and monitoring help us to manage our water resources. www.nrc.govt.nz/water



Our year in numbers

- 1129** resource consent applications processed.
- 98.8%** of resource consent applications processed within statutory time frames.
- 28** lakes monitored quarterly by the Regional Council.
- 35** river quality monitoring sites sampled monthly.
- 86** freshwater and coastal sites monitored weekly throughout summer.
- 34** reported marine oil spills responded.
- 130** projects were funded to a value of \$531,249 through the Environment Fund.
- 90%** approximate amount of GIS data and aerial photography now publicly available.
- 98%** of passengers surveyed rated the CityLink Whāngārei bus service as "Good, Very Good or Excellent".
- 149** permanent staff employed by the Regional Council in Whāngārei, Ōpua, Dargaville and Kaitāia.
- 170** cleaner production and hazardous waste site inspections made.
- 290** maritime incidents responded to throughout the year.
- 376%** increase in our website subscribers.
- \$476k** flood mitigation and protection works continued in Kaihū, Kaeo-Whangaroa and Awanui river schemes.
- \$700k** contribution to swimming pool complex in Dargaville.
- \$500k** contribution to Kerikeri Sports Complex from the Recreation Fund.
- 23,000** hectares of land now covered by Community Pest Control Areas.
- 36,262** Total Mobility trips were operated.
- 58 tonnes** of e-waste collected on eDay across the region.

financial summary

This Summary provides an overview of the Council and Group's financial results for the period.

The Council reports its financial results in accordance with New Zealand International Financial Reporting Standards (NZ IFRS). These standards collectively represent generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand. They tell us how to recognise and disclose all financial transactions in our financial statements.

Understanding the Council's reported surplus for the year ended 30 June 2010

The Council has consistently operated within a sound financial position. The continuing and prolonged economic recession has continued to negatively impact on the level of interest revenue earned, this has been largely offset by increased revenue in other areas and savings in operational expenditure.

Council posted a deficit, before tax of \$7.8 million for the year ended 30 June 2010 compared to a budgeted deficit of \$12.3 million.

There are a number of extraordinary or one-off non-operating items contributing to this variance (see below) and if these are removed, the true operating surplus would be about \$410 thousand (against what would have been a budgeted surplus of \$595 thousand (\$12.3 million deficit plus \$13 million grant towards the Events Centre, plus fair value gains of \$137 thousand). The actual result is satisfactory and reflects Council's prudent financial management.

The budgeted deficit and the variance of actual results against budget is largely due to Council including in its budget a \$13 million grant towards the establishment of the Northland Events Centre and making only a \$10.4 million contribution during the 2009-2010 financial year. A \$2.9 million contribution was made during the 2008-2009 year. Included in this year's income is a further \$2.5 million received from Central Government to bring the Northland Events Centre to Rugby World Cup standard. Whāngārei District Council has made a \$3 million contribution towards the Centre.

A further \$2.2 million will be paid by the Northland Regional Council in the 2010-2011 financial year, bringing the total cost of the Northland Events Centre to \$18.5 million. The Events Centre contract is a fixed price design-build contract. The \$13 million contribution is to be funded from revenue collected from the Recreational Facilities rate over an approximate 15 year period. The Recreational Facilities rate commenced on 1 July 2006.

The operating deficit of \$7.8 million includes a \$806 thousand increase in the fair value of investment property and property held for sale (including \$695 thousand decrease relating to land purchased for the proposed Marsden Point to Oakleigh rail corridor). The operating deficit also includes a \$330 thousand decrease in the fair value of owner occupied buildings and disposal of minor property plant and equipment and a \$334 thousand decrease in the fair value of financial and forestry investments. Under NZ IFRS certain fair value movements are recognised as income in our financial statements even though the Council has not actually received or paid any additional cash. Council budgeted fair value increases in the value of forestry assets of \$137 thousand. Gains and losses resulting from fair value movements do not represent additional cash collected or paid by the Council and therefore the surplus or losses are not used to offset or increase rates or to fund Council's planned expenditure for future financial years.

The deficit also includes \$500 thousand grant made towards the establishment of the Kerikeri Sports complex, this grant was approved by Council in October 2009, subject to Council satisfying itself it would not be liable for gift duty. Due to the uncertainty around the timing of the payment of the grant, the grant was not included in the 2009-2010 budget. At the end of May 2010, the Far North District Council advised the Kerikeri Sports Complex had successfully registered as a Charitable Trust and Council was able to pay the contribution. The \$500,000 contribution was made in early June.

Lastly, while not considered to be an extraordinary item, the surplus also includes expenditure of \$786 thousand (including the fair value adjustment mentioned above of \$695 thousand) relating to securing the Marsden Point rail designation, against budgeted expenditure of \$541 thousand and interest income of \$218 thousand against budget of \$518 thousand. While also not impacting on the net surplus, Council is now holding the designation asset of \$1.3 million (\$2009: \$830 thousand) as an inventory as required in accordance with New Zealand Financial Reporting Standards.

The financial summary

The Council is a regional authority constituted by the Local Government Act 2002. The Northland Regional Council is a public benefit entity for reporting purposes. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with New Zealand generally accepted accounting practice and comply with New Zealand Equivalents to IFRS and other applicable Financial Reporting Standards, as appropriate for public benefit entities. The financial statements include a Statement of compliance to this effect.

The Long Term Council Community Plan numbers are those approved by the Council at the beginning of the year after a period of consultation with the public.

A summary report cannot be expected to provide a comprehensive understanding of Council's activities as the full document. Copies of the Annual Report 2009-2010 are available at the Council Offices, or online www.nrc.govt.nz/annualreport, or by calling (09) 438 4639.

The Annual Report has been audited by Audit New Zealand and has received an unqualified audit opinion. The Annual Report fully complies with all relevant International Financial Report Standards. The summary financial report has been examined by Audit New Zealand for consistency with the full financial report and has received an unqualified audit opinion.

In this financial summary we provide a summary of Council's financial performance during the 2009-2010 financial year.

Financial Performance and Changes in Equity

The Summary Statement of Comprehensive Income and Summary Statement of Changes in Equity present the final performance and equity movements of the Council and the Group. These statements summarise operating income and expenditures as well as other financial transactions that have impacted on the Council's and Group's net equity.

Consolidated Statement of Financial Performance

For the Year Ended 30 June 2010

	Council 30-Jun-10 \$	LTCCP 30-Jun-10 \$	Council 30-Jun-09 \$	Consolidated 30-Jun-10 \$	Consolidated 30-Jun-09 \$
Operating Income	28,314,240	25,198,070	26,605,685	38,003,331	26,875,015
Operating Expenses (excluding Finance Expense)	36,162,139	37,465,683	25,463,868	43,473,964	30,163,241
Finance Expense	–	1,000	35,045	36,820	55,187
Total Operating Expenditure	36,162,139	37,466,683	25,498,914	43,510,784	30,218,428
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(7,847,899)	(12,268,612)	1,106,771	(5,507,453)	(3,343,413)
Taxation Credit/(Expense)	80,732	–	(925,253)	85,866	(698,611)
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) AFTER TAXATION	(7,767,167)	(12,268,612)	181,518	(5,421,587)	(4,042,024)
Other Comprehensive Income					
Gains/(loss) on Property Revaluations	(111,157)	230,643	(323,740)	(3,984,622)	(10,825,964)
Financial Assets at fair value through Other Comprehensive Income	195,886	–	–	195,886	–
Net Hedging Movement (Associate)	–	–	–	152,976	(1,059,411)
Total Other Comprehensive Income	84,729	230,643	(323,740)	(3,635,760)	(11,885,375)
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	(7,682,437)	(12,037,969)	(142,222)	(9,057,346)	(15,927,399)
Total Comprehensive Income attributable to:					
Northland Regional Council				(8,785,308)	(11,813,155)
Non-controlling interest in surplus of Northland Port Corporation (NZ) Ltd				(272,038)	(4,114,244)
				(9,057,346)	(15,927,399)

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 30 June 2010

	Council 30-Jun-10 \$	LTCCP 30-Jun-10 \$	Council 30-Jun-09 \$	Consolidated 30-Jun-10 \$	Consolidated 30-Jun-09 \$
Balance at 1 July	127,526,389	128,728,321	127,668,611	249,685,725	273,677,863
Share Buy Back	–	–	–	–	(4,047,601)
Less Dividends Paid	–	–	–	(1,055,755)	(4,017,138)
Total Comprehensive Income	(7,682,437)	(12,037,969)	(142,222)	(9,057,346)	(15,927,399)
Balance at 30 June	119,843,951	116,690,352	127,526,389	239,572,624	249,685,726
Total Comprehensive Income attributable to:					
Northland Regional Council	119,843,951	116,690,352	127,526,389	179,470,899	188,256,955
Minority Interest	–	–	–	60,101,725	61,428,771
Balance at 30 June	119,843,951	116,690,352	127,526,389	239,572,624	249,685,726
Equity is made up of the following components:					
Retained Earnings	115,438,937	112,017,469	108,561,310	127,914,564	123,602,159
Asset Revaluation Reserve	976,790	1,087,947	704,966	48,469,047	50,656,768
Financial Assets at fair value through Equity	195,886	–	–	195,886	–
Special Reserves	3,232,338	14,420,973	7,424,075	2,891,402	13,998,027
Minority Interest	–	–	–	60,101,725	61,428,771
	119,843,951	127,526,389	116,690,351	239,572,624	249,685,725

In the Summary Financial Statements the "Council" column includes the Northland Regional Council. The "Consolidated" column includes Northland Regional Council Community Trust and Northland Port Corporation (NZ) Ltd. The Summary Financial Statements are presented in New Zealand dollars rounded to the nearest dollar, unless otherwise stated.

Variances to budget can be explained as follows:

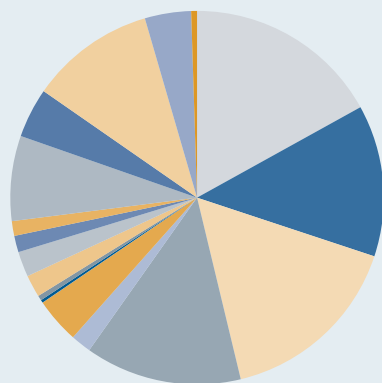
- Operating Revenue is greater than budget due Council receiving a \$2.5 million grant from Central Government towards the Northland Events Centre, to bring the Events Centre to Rugby World Cup standard. Also contributing is increased operating revenue of \$1 million made up of consents fees \$575,000 and \$140,000 from pilotage and \$90,000 from additional monitoring and infringement charges and \$165,000 from various work programmes undertaken. This increased revenue offsets the decreased investment income.
- Operating Expenditure is less than budget due to the deferred timing of the Northland Events Centre contribution with the Council paying \$10.4 million, compared to the \$13 million budgeted. A total contribution of \$13 million will be made by the Council.

Our sources of Income

The following graph shows the various sources of the Council's \$28.3 million income during 2009-2010. The largest contribution to revenue was provided by rates. While rates continues to be the main source of income, the Council also received income from a number of other sources including from government grants and subsidies, user fees and charges and investment income.

The breakdown is as follows:

Funding and Revenue 2009-2010

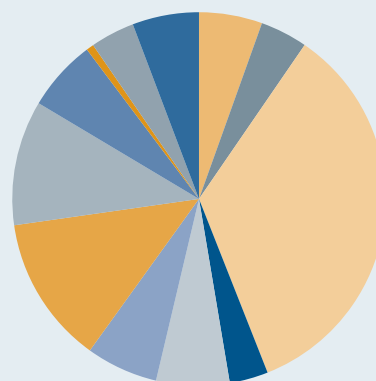


Sources of Funding and Revenue	%	\$
Fees and Charges	16.95	4,800,164
Government Subsidies	13.13	3,718,752
Targeted Environmental Rate	16.15	4,573,502
Targeted Land Management Rate	13.56	3,838,070
Targeted Awanui River Management Rate	1.77	501,411
Targeted Regional Recreational Facilities Rate	3.94	1,114,993
Targeted Kaihu River Management Rate	0.25	69,987
Targeted Kaeo River Management Rate	0.43	121,572
Regional Infrastructure Rate	1.93	545,190
Rescue Helicopter Services Rate	2.18	618,030
Transport Rate	1.43	403,790
Rate Penalties	1.28	361,316
Interest	7.36	2,085,257
Dividends	4.30	1,218,460
Investment Income	10.83	3,067,474
Forestry Income	4.00	1,133,611
Other Gains/(Losses)	0.50	142,660
TOTAL FUNDING	100	28,314,240

Our Expenditure

The following graph shows the allocation of our \$38.3 million of expenditure by activity. The Council's expenditure is guided by the priorities identified in our 2009-2010 Long Term Council Community Plan.

Expenditure on Activities 2009-2010

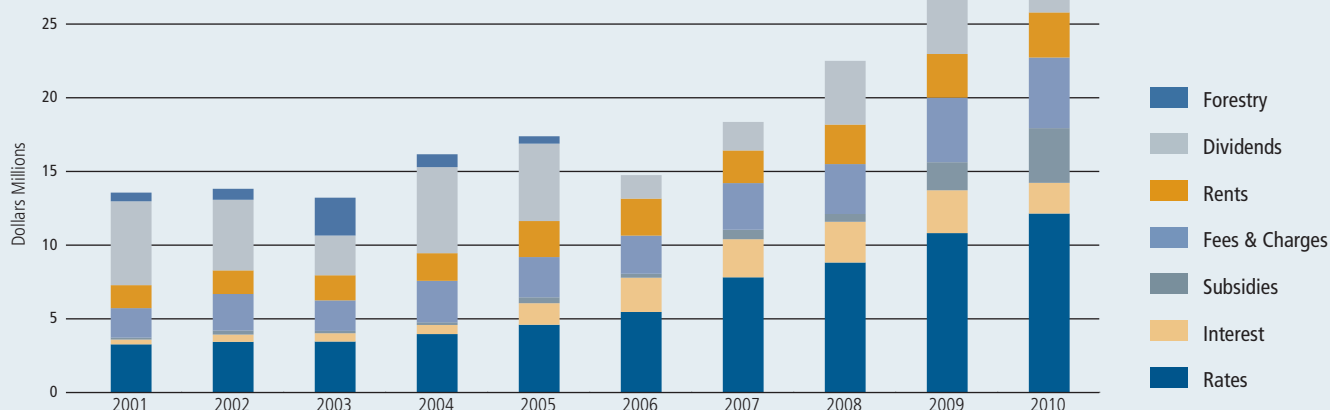


Expenditure on Activities	%	\$
Democracy and Corporate Services	5.48	2,102,992
Regional Information and Engagement	4.10	1,571,816
Regional Economic Development	34.44	13,214,643
Resource Management Planning	3.34	1,282,406
Transport	6.35	2,436,307
Consents	6.23	2,390,646
Environmental Monitoring	12.81	4,916,382
Land and Rivers	10.82	4,152,536
Biosecurity	6.19	2,374,755
Emergency Management	0.65	248,753
Maritime	3.83	1,470,902
Operating Total	94.23	36,162,138
Capital Expenditure	5.77	2,212,478
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	100.00	38,374,616

Revenue Trends

Rating revenue since 2005-2006 reflects the introduction of targeted rates to fund the proposed Regional Events Centre and extra land and emergency management initiatives. In the 2009-2010 financial year Council introduced a Targeted Transport Rate to fund the Whāngārei Bus Passenger Transport Services, that were previously funded by the Whāngārei District Council. Council also introduced the Targeted Rescue Helicopter Services Rate to provide funding certainty to the Northland Emergency Services Trust.

Ten Year Revenue Trends



Financial Position

The Summary Statement of Financial Position shows what assets we own and what liabilities we owe to other parties and our net worth. The Council's position remains very strong with liabilities representing only 5% of total assets.

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2010

	Council 30-Jun-10 \$	LTCCP 30-Jun-10 \$	Council 30-Jun-09 \$	Consolidated 30-Jun-10 \$	Consolidated 30-Jun-09 \$
Current Assets	13,569,456	25,652,384	33,948,353	16,005,777	34,215,400
Non-current Assets	112,083,076	95,827,420	100,815,527	230,753,646	223,489,703
Total Assets	125,652,532	121,479,804	134,763,880	246,759,423	257,705,103
Current Liabilities	(5,685,661)	(4,684,090)	(7,125,460)	(7,060,653)	(7,897,527)
Non-current Liabilities	(122,917)	(105,363)	(112,031)	(126,142)	(121,851)
Total Liabilities	(5,808,578)	(4,789,453)	(7,237,491)	(7,186,795)	(8,019,378)
NET ASSETS/EQUITY	119,843,955	116,690,351	127,526,388	239,572,628	249,685,725
Equity attributable to:					
Northland Regional Council				179,470,904	188,256,954
Minority Interests				60,101,725	61,428,771
				239,572,628	249,685,725

Variances to budget can be explained as follows:

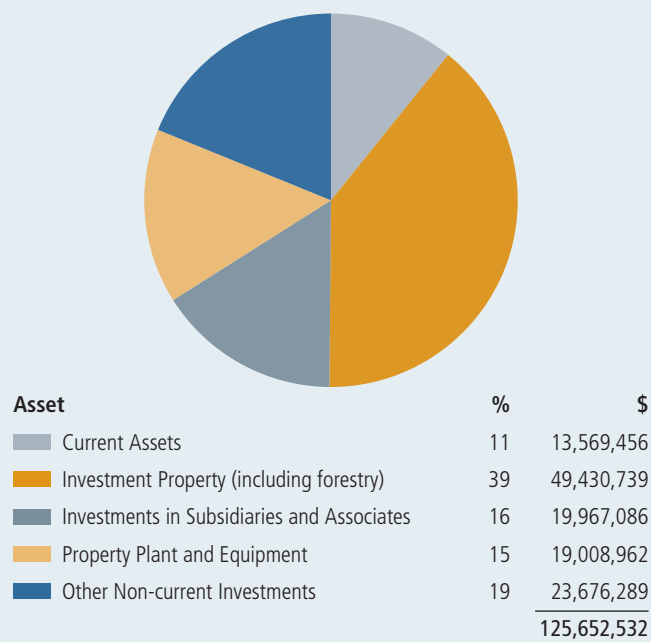
- Current Assets are less than budget and Non-current Assets are greater than budget primarily due to financial assets being invested in long term investments (greater than 12 months).
- Current Liabilities are greater than budget due to a higher number of trade payables being due at the end of the financial year.
- Total Equity is greater than budget largely as a result of fair value decreases in the value of investment property and as a result of higher than expected opening balance resulting from the previous years surplus and as a result of a change in timing of the \$13 million contribution made towards the establishment of the Northland Events Centre, with \$10.4 million paid compared to \$13 million budgeted.

Council's Assets

The major components of our assets include:

- Current Assets (including investments with maturities less than 12 months, cash and trade receivables) - \$13.57 million.
- Investment property (including forestry assets) - \$49.4 million.
- Property, Plant and Equipment (including operational assets such as Council-occupied land and buildings and river management schemes) - \$18.2 million.
- Investment in subsidiaries and associates (including investment in the Northland Regional Council Community Trust \$12.1 million and shares held in Northland Port Corporation (NZ) Ltd \$7.8 million. **Note:** Our investment in these subsidiaries and associates is reflected at original cost in the Council Financial Statements in accordance with applicable reporting standards. However, the market value of these two investments as at 30 June 2010 was \$36 million. The historical cost value as recorded in Council's Statement of Financial Position is \$20 million.
- Other non-current investments (including other receivables and investments in stocks and other securities) - \$23.7 million.

Composition of Council's Assets 2009-2010



Council's Liabilities

- Current liabilities (including trade and other payables, employee benefits and tax liability) - \$5.6 million.
- Non-current liabilities (made up of non-current employee benefit liabilities) - \$123,000.

Cash Flows

The summary Statement of Cash Flows shows how we generated and used cash. The overall net increase or decrease represents the change in our cash and cash equivalents arising from operating, investing and financing activities. Our operating activities generate cash inflows, mainly from rates and user charges. Investing activities relate to the sale and purchase of property, plant and equipment and cash and property investments.

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 30 June 2010

	Council 30-Jun-10 \$	LTCCP 30-Jun-10 \$	Council 30-Jun-09 \$	Consolidated 30-Jun-10 \$	Consolidated 30-Jun-09 \$
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(8,126,191)	(11,314,917)	738,161	(7,299,205)	(2,740,502)
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	9,765,081	(3,480,903)	(8,855,688)	9,196,462	3,382,509
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	—	—	—	(1,076,296)	(8,110,490)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH HELD	1,638,889	(14,795,820)	(8,117,527)	820,960	(7,468,484)
Cash, cash equivalents and bank overdrafts at the beginning of the year	2,671,630	15,626,687	10,789,158	4,064,506	11,532,989
CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND BANK OVERDRAFTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR	4,310,519	830,867	2,671,631	4,885,466	4,064,505

Other financial information

As at 30 June 2010, Council commitments included an agreement to provide \$2.3 million (2009: \$11 million) towards the establishment of the Northland Events Centre to bring the total contribution made by Council to \$13 million.

Significant Related Party Transactions

Northland Regional Council is the ultimate parent of the Group and controls two entities, being Northland Port Corporation (NZ) Ltd (52.4% owned) and Northland Regional Council Community Trust (100% owned). It also has significant influence over a number of other entities by way of direct investments in these entities by its subsidiary, Northland Port Corporation (NZ) Ltd.

The following transactions were carried out with related parties:

Northland Port Corporation (NZ) Ltd

Dividend received by Council

Profit on sale of shares (share buy back)

Enterprise Northland

Payment made from the Council for services provided in the normal course of business

Grant received from the Council

Accounts payable to Enterprise Northland for operating Grant received from the Council

Destination Northland Limited

Payment made from the Council for services provided in the normal course of business

Grant received from the Council

	Council 30-Jun-10 \$	Council 30-Jun-09 \$
Dividend received by Council	1,218,460	4,445,064
Profit on sale of shares (share buy back)	—	132,5331
Payment made from the Council for services provided in the normal course of business	25,218	162,487
Grant received from the Council	10,365,679	2,870,565
Accounts payable to Enterprise Northland for operating Grant received from the Council	7,500	7,500
Payment made from the Council for services provided in the normal course of business	700	—
Grant received from the Council	100,000	100,000

Full information on Council's Commitments, Contingencies and Related Party Transactions can be found in the full 2009-2010 Annual Report.

Accounting Standards issued but not yet effective

There are number of accounting standards which have been issued but are not yet effective. Full details of these accounting standards can be found in the accounting policies included in the Annual Report.

Events after Balance Date

There were no significant events after balance date.

Audit Report

To the readers of Northland Regional Council and Group's Summary Annual Financial Statements, Council Activities Information and the other requirements for the year ended 30 June 2010

We have audited the Summary Financial Statements, council activities information and the other requirements of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 as set out in pages 4 to 9, 13 to 17 and 19 to 24.

Unqualified opinion

In our opinion:

- the Summary Financial Statements, Council Activities Information and the other requirements represent, fairly and consistently, the information regarding the major matters dealt with in the Annual Report; and
- the information reported in the Summary Financial Statements, Council Activities Information and the other requirements complies with FRS-43: Summary Financial Statements and is consistent with the Full Financial Statements, Council Activities Information and the other requirements from which they are derived.

We expressed an unqualified audit opinion, in our report dated 29 September 2010, on:

- the Full Financial Statements;
- the Council Activities Information; and
- the Council and Group's compliance with the other requirements of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 that are applicable 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, we have no relationship with or interests in Northland Regional Council or any of its subsidiaries.

Responsibilities of the Council and the Auditor

The Council is responsible for preparing the Summary Financial Statements, Council Activities Information and the other requirements of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 and we are responsible for expressing an opinion on those Summary Financial Statements, Council Activities Information and the other requirements of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2002. These responsibilities arise from the Local Government Act 2002.



F Caetano
Audit New Zealand
On behalf of the Auditor General
Whangarei, New Zealand

29 September 2010



our performance

The Regional Council measures its performance against a range of indicators. These Activity Performance Indicators measure the things that we have a high degree of control over. A summary of indicators for the 11 areas of the Council are included here – for a full list of measures refer to the 2009-2010 Annual Report.

Democracy and Corporate Services

Performance measure and target

Provide democratic local decision-making and action on behalf of the community.

- Facilitate a sustainable development approach to all Council practices and policies.
Develop a framework by 31 December 2009 to provide annual reports on sustainable Council practices and policy initiatives. Report at 30 June 2010 and 2011.

Achieved. Framework developed in October 2009. Annual Report to 30 June 2010 completed.

Manage and maximise the return on commercial property with consideration to the requirements of the Council and the public.

- Maintain or increase the level of return from investment properties.
Achieve an annual return of at least 4.9% on the total value of investment properties.

Achieved. Return on investment properties is 6.18%.



Regional Information and Engagement

Performance measure and target

Collaborate and provide resources to the community on sustainable environmental practices and issues.

- Regularly exhibit Council activities and programmes at major regional events.
Produce an annual events calendar and report monthly on activities undertaken in the relevant CEO report to Council and in the Northland Regional Council Annual Report.

Achieved. Calendar was produced and consisted of: Keep New Zealand Beautiful events – Hātea River clean up, Paihia Beach clean up and Dargaville planting/cleanup (September 2009), Northland Community Conservation and Environment Awards (September 2009), Kerikeri Garden Discovery (October 2009); Friends of Matapouri Environmental Day (October 2009), Maungaturoto Lifestylers Field Day (November 2009) Northland Boat Show (November 2009), Mangawhai Baywatch/Safe Boating Displays (January 2010), Northtec Orientation Day (February 2010), Waimamaku Wild West Festival (February 2010), Northland Field Days (March 2010), Auckland International Boat Show (March 2010), Whāngārei Garden Discovery (March 2010), Seniors Expo (March 2010) and Earth Hour (March 2010). These initiatives were reported in the appropriate CEO's report as they occurred.



Regional Information and Engagement continued

Ensure that the regional community is well informed about Council issues and activities through a co-ordinated Communications Strategy.

- Produce and distribute relevant publications on Council activities and programmes.

Produce and distribute at least five new publications per annum.

Achieved. Publications released from July 2009 include:

- 12 State of the Environment report cards;
- Northland Enviroschools' newsletter;
- Caring for Northland's Dunes brochure;
- CoastCare Code brochure;
- CoastCare News December 09;
- Advice to mooring owners brochure;
- Dairy Farmer News publication;
- 2009-2010 tide tables;
- SuperGold Card holder brochure;
- NRC What We Do brochure;
- Regional Rates 2009-2010 brochure.



Ensure that the community has 24/7 access to up-to-date information on Council activities and real-time environmental data.

- Increase use of the Council's online services.

Increase the number of people using the Northland Regional Council website's online services by 10% per annum based on number of visits.

Achieved.

- Subscription service customers increased by 376% compared to same period last year.
- Job applications made online: 332 applications made online. (Service not available last year).
- Epayments: 31% decrease in payments made online compared to same period last year.
- Social media: Twitter launched in September 2009 and achieved 142 followers by 30 June 2010. Facebook launched in June 2010 and achieved 29 fans by 30 June 2010.
- Reporting package changed in July 2009 so no comparison available for visits and page views for previous year. Improved reporting package will enable better site analysis to monitor ongoing usage of website and online service channels.



Establish and maintain processes, foster the development of capacity and provide relevant information to Māori in order for Māori to contribute to the decision making processes of Council.

- Provide opportunities and assistance to Māori to contribute to the Council's decision-making process.

At least one iwi monitoring plan or one iwi environmental management plan will be funded each year.

Achieved. During this reporting period, Council has entered into an agreement with Far North District Council to assist Te Runanga o Whaingaroa to develop an Iwi Environmental Management Plan and part-funded during 2009-2010.



Consents

Performance measure and target

Process resource consent applications.

- Process all consent applications efficiently.

At least 98% of all applications are processed within statutory timeframes annually as indicated by the Council's consents database.

Achieved. 98.8% of all decisions (1,129 for year) were processed within statutory timeframes.



Emergency Management

Performance measure and target

Increase the community's capability to respond to, and recover from, Civil Defence Emergencies.

- Develop and implement training and exercise programmes for all agencies across the CDEM sector in Northland.

Provide a minimum of three co-ordinated incident management courses per year.

Achieved. Three Co-ordinated Incident Management Courses are planned for 2010. Co-ordinated Incident Management Systems Level Four courses held in May and June and third planned for September. Core skills course held in April and a Welfare Course held in May.



Regional Economic Development

Performance measure and target

Lead in partnership with key stakeholders, the development of a Regional Growth Programme for Northland.

- Develop a Growth Programme discussion document and conduct appropriate consultation to finalise agreed Terms of Reference for the Growth Programme.

Terms of Reference agreed by 31 October 2009 and progress reported to the Council via the CEO's monthly report.

Not Achieved. Progress reported in CEO monthly report. Draft Growth Programme discussion document developed following workshop with Council. Staff are currently engaging an independent consultant to review the draft document and will then be able to develop revised timing for the project.



Transport

Performance measure and target

Develop strategic approaches in regional transport and road safety.

- Develop a Regional Procurement Strategy in conjunction with Northland's District Councils.

Strategy developed and implemented by 1 July 2009. Procurement Strategies followed and reported to the Regional Transport Committee annually.

Achieved. A National Procurement Strategy was released by the New Zealand Transport Agency at the end of July 2009.

Not Achieved. A Draft Regional Procurement Strategy for Northland, which will allow for economies of scale to be achieved on region-wide projects, is in progress. It is expected that this document will be finalised in October 2010. This Draft will be sent to the Association of Consulting Engineers of New Zealand and the New Zealand Bus and Coach Association for comment. This will take approximately two weeks. The Draft Strategy will then be sent to the New Zealand Transport Agency for their endorsement prior to being presented to the Council for their approval. The above actions will be completed by the end of August 2010 which will ensure that the NRC will still meet with the NZTA requirement for each of the approved organisations to develop a procurement strategy by October 2010.



Administer a cost effective passenger transport service.

- Administer the long-term contract for the subsidised bus services for the Whāngārei urban area.

At least 75% of customers rate the overall bus service provided in Whāngārei as either "Very Good or Excellent".

Not Achieved. An annual passenger satisfaction survey took place in April 2010. 65% of the passengers surveyed rated the service as "Very Good or Excellent". This is below the performance measures set. However, 98% of respondents rated the service as "Good, Very Good or Excellent". NRC staff will monitor monthly operational route and trip statistics to identify any problem areas. This will be undertaken in conjunction with on-bus surveys and interviews. Regular meetings with NZ Bus on service performance will also continue.



Resource Management Planning

Performance measure and target

Develop and publish strategic planning documents to manage Northland's natural and physical resources.

- Maintain an operative Regional Policy Statement (RPS), Regional Coastal Plan, Regional Water and Soil Plan and Regional Air Quality Plan, including development of implementation strategies.

Report annually via the CEO's report to the Council on the implementation status of all operative plans and strategies.

Achieved. The full 10-year efficiency and effectiveness review of the Regional Policy Statement for Northland (RPS) was reported to Council in December 2009. This report included an assessment of the implementation of the RPS.

The implementation status of the operative regional plans was reported to Council in June 2010. The summary and the individual reports can be viewed at www.nrc.govt.nz/Your-Council/Council-Projects/New-Regional-Policy-Statement-/Implementation-Status-of-our-Regional-Plans/



Land and Rivers

Performance measure and target

Reduce risk from natural hazards.

- Prepare flood risk reduction plans for priority rivers.

Flood risk reduction plans completed for identified priority rivers by 30 June 2010.

Not Achieved. Late capture of LiDAR survey (due to unfavourable weather conditions) resulted in delays to programme that have affected delivery of plans, despite running elements of the programme concurrently to reduce delays. Draft plans now scheduled for delivery during September 2010. Nevertheless, this performance target was set with a challenging timeframe to ensure the timely production of plans. Looking forward, the revised delivery timeframe still provides sufficient time to ensure continuity of progress with future performance targets relating to the prioritisation and implementation of outcomes from the plans. No damaging flooding occurred during the year.



Promote the sustainable management of land including soil, water and ecosystems in the Northland region.

- Collaborate with representatives of primary sector groups and landowners to promote sustainable land and water management practices.

Minimum of three meetings held annually with primary sector groups. Outcomes reported to the Council via the CEO's report.

Achieved. 25 meetings held to date with groups representing dairy farming, beef and sheep farming, pastoral farming generally, production forestry and primary industry consultants and reported via the CEO's Report.

Provide appropriate advice within 20 days of receiving requests for advice. Report annually on the number and type of responses given via the CEO's report to the Council.

Achieved. 188 sustainable land management (SLM) enquires were logged in the database during 2009/10 and advice provided where required. Most popular enquiries were biodiversity (32), land information (29), wetlands (16), erosion control (13), catchment management (12) and threatened flora/fauna (9). Reported to July 2010 CEO's report. Compliance with the 20 day timeframe was not able to be determined, and an improvement in reporting systems is to be developed to enable determination of compliance.



Environmental Monitoring

Performance measure and target

Monitor and identify significant environmental issues and trends in the region.

- Operate a region-wide quality network for the measurement, recording and reporting of groundwater, river and lake water quality trends and soil quality trends.

Achieved. Monthly sampling undertaken at all 31 State of the Environment river water quality monitoring sites (and 4 sites monitored by NIWA). Quarterly sampling carried out at 36 groundwater sites. Quarterly sampling at 28 lakes. Soil monitoring programme is being reviewed as per statement in LTCCP (pg 163). The revised programme will be implemented in the 2011 Financial year.

Annual % compliance of rivers with relevant guidelines for five key parameters.

Achieved. The annual % compliance is calculated by comparing the median value for each parameter for each site over the 12 month sampling period against the relevant guidelines. The % compliance represents the number of monitoring sites (35 in total) that complied with relevant guidelines for more than 50% of the time. Bacteria, water clarity, total nitrogen and total phosphorus were all above target. Dissolved oxygen met target (100%). Total nitrogen and phosphorus % compliance was considerably better than 2007 baseline. However, this is most likely as a result of the drought experienced from November 2009 to May 2010. Reduced rainfall in the region meant there was less runoff from the land entering the rivers. Runoff from land is a significant contributor of nutrients into waterways.

Monitor and enforce compliance with resource consent conditions, regional rules and relevant statutory requirements. Documentation and implementation of monitoring programmes for water, land and air consents. This includes monitoring of:

- Emission testing and/or appropriate off-site monitoring of major industrial discharges to air;
- Effluent and receiving water quality testing of sewage, industrial and landfill discharges;
- Land clearance, earthworks, and river works that are the subject of resource consents;
- Bore construction; and
- Farm dairy effluent treatment and disposal systems.

100% of monitoring programmes meet the standards of the Council's independently audited and accredited ISO quality management systems.

Not achieved. The target has been set very high. 98% compliance is a very good achievement. Staff work loads makes a higher achievement rate difficult. However, this LOS is reported monthly and if the non-compliance is increasing then individual staff are encouraged to address this.

Facilitate the safe handling and lawful storage of hazardous substances and management of waste hazardous substances.

- Operate facilities throughout Northland for the short-term storage of waste hazardous substances awaiting transport.

Facilities open for 100% of working hours.

Achieved. Facilities were open for 100% of working hours during the 2009-2010 financial year. Re-sort Whangarei is only closed two days per year.



Northland Age Photo



Biosecurity

Performance measure and target

Reduce the adverse impacts of pests on the environment, economy and human health.

- Review all pest management strategies in accordance with the provisions of the Biosecurity Act.

Carry out a five year formal review of all pest management strategies by 1 July 2010.

Achieved. The review is now complete and can be accessed via the NRC website.

Reduce the adverse impacts of pests on the environment, economy and human health.

- Actively pursue opportunities for partnerships with the community, crown and other pest agencies via community pest plans (CPCA) and other agreements.

Establish at least one new partnership with a pest agency and five new community pest plans (CPCA) annually and reported to the Environmental Management Committee.

- Achieve at least 15% maintenance level on residual possum densities.

Achieved. Six new community pest plans were finalised and one new pest agency partnership plan has been agreed to by participating agencies. A report to the Environmental Management Committee will be done during September 2010.

Achieved. Average maintenance level is below 10%. This represents low residual possum densities. Densities of 15% or higher would represent high possum populations.



Maritime Operations

Performance measure and target

Maintain and implement the Marine Oil Spill Contingency Plan.

- Maintain an up-to-date Marine Oil Spill Contingency Plan.

Plan updated every six months.

Achieved. Improvement of environmental information in the Plan is an ongoing process. Oil spill contingency plan updated in March 2010.

Respond to marine oil spills in the Northland region.

- Maintain a team of trained oil spill responders.

Maritime NZ Training is carried out on an ongoing four-yearly cycle and a 24/7 roster is maintained.

Achieved. Response personnel received scheduled training on Maritime New Zealand courses. Regional On-Scene Commander roster was in place throughout the year.

Promote safe navigation on all Northland harbours and coastline

- Assess whether the present harbour safety management systems are adequate.

Code application assessment annually reviewed and amendments recorded in the safety management system.

Achieved. Formal Safety Management Systems for Whāngārei and Bay of Islands regularly assessed for adequacy. Existing Code Application Assessment reviewed on a continual basis and any improvements recorded in the appropriate sections of the safety management system. No changes were required to the code this year.



Putting Northland first

WHĀNGĀREI: 36 Water Street, Private Bag 9021, Whāngārei Mail Centre, Whāngārei 0148; Phone 09 438 4639, Fax 09 438 0012.

DARGAVILLE: 61B Victoria Street, Dargaville; Phone 09 439 3300, Fax 09 439 3301.

KAITĀIA: 192 Commerce Street, Kaitāia; Phone 09 408 6600, Fax 09 408 6601.

ŌPUA: Unit 10, Industrial Marine Park, Ōpua; Phone 09 402 7516, Fax 09 402 7510.

Freephone: 0800 002 004 24/7 Environmental Hotline: 0800 504 639

E-mail: mailroom@nrc.govt.nz Website: www.nrc.govt.nz

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/companies/northland-regional-council

Facebook: www.facebook.com/NorthlandRegionalCouncil

Twitter: www.twitter.com/NRCExpress