

## GOOD GOVERNANCE AND STRATEGIC ALLIANCES

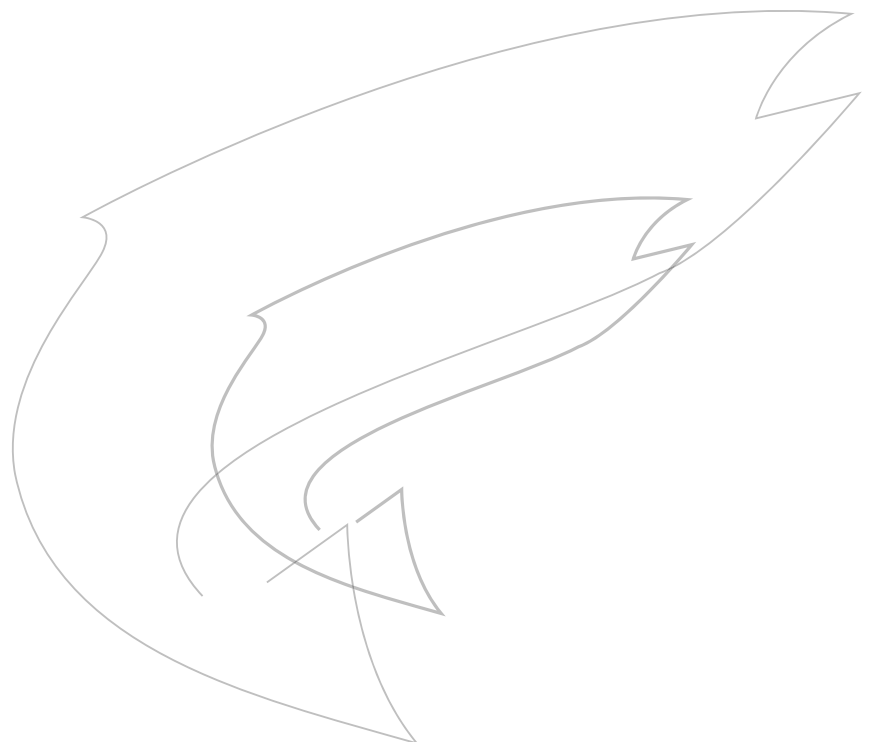
The Local Government Act 2002 provides the framework within which all local authorities must operate. Rather than telling councils what they must do, the Act provides guidelines about how we should operate.

Central to the Act are a number of principles about good governance. These principles encourage councils to make decisions openly, in consultation with their communities. The Act also requires councils to work collaboratively with other agencies to achieve Community Outcomes and make better use of resources. This means that Council's relationships with central government, other district and regional councils, the private sector and community and voluntary organisations take on more importance.

Good governance and strategic alliances are a key component of sustainable development. Councils and other agencies are challenged to think beyond their traditional boundaries and take an integrated approach to achieving what the community identifies as being important for its future.

### Key Activities

- Governance, Advocacy and Leadership
- Community Planning
- Strategic Planning.



## GOVERNANCE, ADVOCACY AND LEADERSHIP

### What we do (current level of service)

Governance covers the work of Council, Council committees and sub-committees, and the Turangi/Tongariro Community Board.

Councillors and Community Board members are responsible for setting Council's directions on behalf of the people of Taupo District. They are also responsible for monitoring progress to achieve these directions, providing leadership, communicating and consulting with the public, building relationships for the benefit of the District and advocating on behalf of the community.

Council acts as an advocate, working on behalf of the community to help ensure that the district's voice is heard by other organisations and also in forums outside the District. This involves:

- Attending meetings with other organisations to make the District's views heard
- Attending meetings outside the District, to represent the community
- Advocacy roles with regional and central government and various Ministries and Departments.

### We will deliver (measuring level of service)

Service maintenance – ongoing levels of service targets

- 75% of residents and ratepayers satisfied with Council's overall directions<sup>29</sup>
- At least 45% of residents state they are satisfied with the way Council involves them in decision-making<sup>29</sup>
- Significant decisions comply with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002<sup>30</sup>.

### TAUPO AIRPORT AUTHORITY

The governance structure of the Taupo Airport Authority has changed. The TAA will be governed by a committee of five members including a Councillor. This committee will oversee the activities of the Airport and will report to Council.

### Key Actions

- Act as an advocate on behalf of the community. The following is a list of some of the issues for which we intend to act as an advocate:
  - Water allocation
  - Affordable housing issues
  - Foreshore erosion and flooding
  - Water supply: drinking water quality standards
  - Sustainable Land Management and climate change: Government's plan of action
  - Local Government Funding Enquiry
  - Regional Growth Management Strategy.

<sup>30</sup> Measured by the triennial residents' satisfaction survey.

<sup>31</sup> Refer to Council's policy on significance.

## COMMUNITY PLANNING AND PARTNERSHIPS

### What we do (current level of service)

Community planning and partnerships covers:

- Identifying Community Outcomes that meet community and statutory requirements
- Building relationships with government departments and other external agencies to encourage coordinated/collaborative approaches to achieving Community Outcomes
- Developing and overseeing monitoring and other data gathering activities that provide Council with information about how well Community Outcomes are being achieved and indicate trends and emerging issues
- Reporting on progress with achieving Community Outcomes<sup>31</sup>
- Acting as an advocate for the community and representing the views of the District at the regional and national levels.

### We will deliver (measuring level of service):

Service maintenance – ongoing levels of service targets

- Community Outcomes identified every six years
- Active participation in intersectorial collaboration efforts at the regional (Waikato and Bay of Plenty) and local level
- Progress toward achieving the Community Outcomes reported on every three years
- Monitoring report prepared annually
- Undertake the triennial residents' satisfaction survey
- Submissions made to other organisations as required.

Service improvement - long term levels of service targets

- 60% of key stakeholders incorporate responses to the Community Outcomes in their long term planning documents.

### STATE OF THE DISTRICT REPORT

Councils in New Zealand have a responsibility under the Local Government Act to carry out monitoring and reporting on the community's progress toward achieving their community outcomes.

In 2006 and again in 2007 we produced the 'Top Twenty Report' as a short report on key indicators in the community outcomes themes. In 2007/08 we intend to produce a more comprehensive report on the District. This 'State of the District' report will include statistics in each of the four well-being areas – environmental, economic, social and cultural. It will be very useful for anybody needing information about the Taupo District.

### Key Actions

- Advocacy and participation in wider forums both within and outside the District as needed
- Interagency and intersectorial collaboration
- Identify new or emerging strategic issues (ongoing)
- Prepare 2007/08 State of the District report.

<sup>32</sup> Local authorities are obliged to report the community's progress toward achieving Community Outcomes at least once every three years.

## STRATEGIC PLANNING

### What we do (current level of service)

The Local Government Act 2002 requires local authorities to have in place various policies and plans that relate to what we do as an organisation and how we will undertake this work. These policies and plans inform the public of Council's activities and operating principles.

Strategic Planning involves the preparation of Council operating plans and policies, and reporting on its progress. It includes preparation of:

- the Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) and subsequent amendments
- Annual Plans
- Annual Reports
- Financial and funding policies
- Policies to assist Council with decision making (e.g. Significance Policy)
- Corporate Business Plan.

### We will deliver (measuring level of service):

Service maintenance – ongoing levels of service targets

- Policies and plans will be prepared as follows:
  - LTCCP every three years
  - LTCCP amendments as required
  - Annual Plans in the intervening years between LTCCPs
  - Annual reports prepared annually
  - Financial and funding policies reviewed at least every three years
  - Policies to assist Council with decision making at least every three years.

### Key Actions

- Prepare LTCCP Amendments as required
- Prepare 2006/07 Annual Report and 2008/09 Annual Plan.



## FORECAST COST OF SERVICE STATEMENT

Operating Funding Requirements	LTCCP 2007/08 (\$,000)	A/Plan 2007/08 (\$,000)
<b>Operating Income</b>		
Targeted Rates		
Dev Contribution Recognition		
Other Income		
Governance	55	53
Community Planning		
Integrated Planning		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>		
Governance	3,376	3,510
Community Planning	1,266	1,469
Integrated Planning	714	781
<b>Total Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>5,356</b>	<b>5,760</b>
<b>Net deficit (surplus) of operations</b>	<b>5,301</b>	<b>5,707</b>
<b>Funded by:</b>		
General Rates	5,301	5,707
Other general Investment sources		
Operating deficit (surplus) to/from reserves		
Opening Balances		
<b>Total Funding applied</b>	<b>5,301</b>	<b>5,707</b>

FORECAST COST OF SERVICE STATEMENT CONT.

Capital and Reserves Funding Requirements	LTCCP 2007/08 (\$,000)	A/Plan 2007/08 (\$,000)
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>		
Governance	51	52
Community Planning Integrated Planning		
<b>Total Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>52</b>
Loan Repayments	22	
Transfer to reserves		
<b>Total net Cost</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Funded by:</b>		
General Rates		
Property Sales		
Loans Raised		
Development Contributions		
<b>Transfer from Reserve(s)</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Total Funding applied</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Split of Capital Expenditure</b>		
Renewals	51	52
Growth		
Increase in level of service		
<b>Total Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>52</b>

