



Annual Report

END OF YEAR REPORT

1 July 2008 - 30 June 2009

JOINT REPORT FROM HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE	2
AUDIT OFFICE REPORT	12
CITY VISION AND COMMUNITY OUTCOMES	14
REPORT ON COUNCIL PERFORMANCE BY ACTIVITY	
Leadership	16
City Economic Development	25
Community Services	30
Activation	39
Parks and Reserves	44
H ² O Xstream	50
Library	55
Expressions Arts and Entertainment Centre	66
Property	78
Akatarawa Cemetery	80
Emergency Management	83
Regulatory Services	88
City Planning	93
Land Transport	97
Water Supply	103
Wastewater	107
Stormwater	111
Solid Waste	114
Support Services	118
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
Council Financial Statistics	121
Statement of Compliance and Responsibility	123
Statement of Accounting Policies	124
Statement of Financial Position	136
Statement of Financial Performance	137
Statement of Movements in Equity	138
Statement of Cash Flows	139
Statement of Commitments	140
Notes to the Financial Statements	142
APPENDICES	
Quality Assurance Statement	179
Equal Employment Opportunities	180
Borrowing and Investments	181
Performance against Year 3 of the 2006-16 Long Term Council Community Plan	182
Funding Policy Summary	185
ELECTED MEMBERS	186
ORGANISATION CHART	187
COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION	188

Adopted 28 October 2009
Date of Issue 29 October 2009

Joint Report from His Worship the Mayor and the Chief Executive

Welcome - this foreword summarises, for each of **Upper Hutt's seven Community Outcomes (listed below)** the contributions Council has made towards achieving the City Vision 'Upper Hutt – A Great Place to Live'.

1. Upper Hutt is the city of choice for people from all walks of life
2. Upper Hutt has a vibrant city heart
3. The economy is robust, innovative and growing
4. Upper Hutt offers a green and attractive living environment
5. The community is safe, healthy and strong
6. Leisure opportunities are outstanding
7. Upper Hutt is connected with the world

This foreword also covers key highlights of Council's performance, both in financial terms and using other quantitative and qualitative measures over the past year.

Council had a busy and productive year during 2008/09. Significant projects included:

- the Urban Growth Strategy related study of the Maymorn area as a location for future urban growth
- the review of Council's Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP)
- the closing of H²O Xstream to undertake significant maintenance work to ensure the complex remains a top class leisure facility for many years to come
- commencement of the comprehensive review of the Southern Hills with a view to ensuring appropriate protection of this visual backdrop is in place
- facilitation of the gifting of the Cosgrove collection of Pumpkin Cottage paintings to the city
- over \$2 million was allocated towards upgrading the city's water, wastewater and stormwater pipes
- almost \$2 million was allocated towards land transport projects such as resealing roads, maintenance and development of footpaths, lighting, safety improvements and kerb and channel upgrades.

From a community support perspective, a key project for the year was the development of the Council's Youth Engagement Project, which was developed following the extremely successful 2008 Youth Survey. The survey, which asked the hard questions around drugs, alcohol and violence, was filled out by over 50% of Upper Hutt's youth.

Community Outcome 1:

Upper Hutt is the city of choice for people from all walks of life

On 26 June 2009, Council adopted its Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) 2009-19. This document lets you know what the Council plans to do over the next ten years and why. In developing the LTCCP Council undertook extensive public consultation in order to produce a plan, guided by you, that includes some very exciting projects, yet at the same time, continues to remain financially prudent. A copy of the LTCCP can be found on Council's website www.upperhuttcity.com or a copy can be picked up from the main Council building, the Library or the i-Site Centre.

In order to support this Community Outcome to make our city a destination of choice for people from all walks of life, Council held four citizenship ceremonies during 2008/09.

Joint Report from His Worship the Mayor and the Chief Executive

Upper Hutt City Council welcomed 124 candidates from a wide range of countries, via a very special ceremony where all new 'kiwis' are presented with a native tree to plant.



Council supports new migrants to settle into Upper Hutt via a number of initiatives. For example, a specific information stand has now been housed at the Library and a welcome information pack is sent to all new arrivals. Council established a bi-lingual story time for pre-schoolers at the Library. Council also assisted Upper Hutt new settlers to attend workshops outside of Upper Hutt, such as an IRD forum, and a forum on driving in New Zealand. In addition, Council provided a free Orientation Bus Tour, which visited local parks, the Upper Hutt Library, H²O Xtream and specific places related to finding information about living in Upper Hutt.

Council also assisted many events to gain publicity during the 2008/09 year including the National Boxing Championships, the Business Awards, Spring Festival, Targa Car Rally, Rimutaka Wild Food and Pig Hunt 20 Year celebration, FIFA Under 17 World Cup Football, Fireworks Fantastic, Defence Force Rugby Tournament, International Jousting, the Searchers music concert, Summer Carnival and the Karapoti Mountain Bike Race.

Community Outcome 2: Upper Hutt has a vibrant city heart



Upper Hutt residents enjoyed an array of fun, family-friendly events supported or organised by Council during 2008/09, including three key events - the Spring Festival, the Santa Parade and the Summer Carnival all of which attracted very large numbers of attendees into the city. Other examples of highly successful activities involving Council include the promotion of the increasingly popular Children's Day on 1 March 2009; and the overwhelmingly attended Seniors Celebration Month, launched by Dr Michael Cullen, encompassing a range of events provided through H²O Xtream, the City Library, and Expressions. Other activities supported by Council include Earth Hour 2009; a presentation by Nigel Latta on parenting teenagers, hosted jointly with the Trentham Army Camp and held at Expressions with an accompanying parenting forum; and a Public Transport Open Day, which provided an opportunity for the community to see all the ways in which transport has been made more accessible, especially for those with mobility needs.

To provide for a more vibrant and economically viable city centre, Council has included four key projects in the Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) 2009-2019. These projects include: 1) the continued revitalisation of Upper Hutt's CBD; 2) upgrades to the area surrounding the Upper Hutt train station; 3) continued funding of Experience Upper Hutt; and 4) the enhancement of the Gibbons Street entrance off State Highway 2 and improvements to the access route into the CBD.



Joint Report from His Worship the Mayor and the Chief Executive

To ensure a steady turnover of car parks for retail customers the city's Traffic Warden continues his regular patrols of the CBD. Council also continues to provide free parking throughout the city.

In order to keep our city looking attractive, Council regularly maintains footpaths, roads and street lighting. A new footpath is being installed along Messines Avenue towards Dante Road and stage one of the street light upgrade on Akatarawa Road is underway. Gardens around the CBD and the city are replanted seasonally to keep our city looking presentable and attractive.

Community Outcome 3: The economy is robust, innovative and growing

A strong economy is essential to community wellbeing and Council is committed to supporting the growth of local businesses in Upper Hutt. Council has provided for, in its Long Term Council Community Plan, a major promotional campaign focussed on niche markets, for example retailers, developers and key growth sectors, such as the bio-security sector. The aim of this project is to increase business growth and localise jobs with added benefits such as less leakage of retail spend, less congestion on the roads, continued housing market growth and increased significance within the region.



A strong and robust economy is based on a variety of successful and innovative businesses and the Upper Hutt Excellence in Business Awards, supported by Council, recognises these businesses. The 2008 Excellence in Business Awards saw Wedgelock Equipment Ltd awarded as the Supreme Winner.

Council launched its inaugural Future Dragons Programme for young entrepreneurs. Based on the popular UK television series, the programme has been designed to provide Upper Hutt's young people with the business skills to start up their own business.

Council further supported local businesses by granting a number of significant business consents during 2008/09 including: the establishment of three new childcare centres, a new three storey building for a storage company, an extension of a motel, and consent for the development of the Hutt Gables retirement village complex. The Hutt Gables complex includes: 52 apartments, a 45 suite care facility, and a range of community facilities and services for the residents.

During 2008/09 visitors from throughout New Zealand attended 34 conference and function events held at Expressions, making the most of facilities including the spacious hall (Riverstone Recreation), superb 200 seat Genesis Energy Theatre, and the ambient Rotary Foyer. Vector Gallery remains an important outlet for local producing artists to raise their profile through exhibiting, and to sell their works in a professional retail setting.

Joint Report from His Worship the Mayor and the Chief Executive

The Library continues to support the development of a skilled workforce by holding monthly computer basics IT, website and email tutorials using the Library's PC Zone.

Community Outcome 4:

Upper Hutt offers a green and attractive living environment

The environment is an integral part of Upper Hutt's identity and Council works hard to keep Upper Hutt clean, green, healthy and attractive. As part of a review of the protected tree provisions in the District Plan, Council recently undertook a tree survey, and along with public feedback, has identified a short-list of potential trees to be evaluated for inclusion on the notable tree schedule.

Council spent considerable time during 2008/09 planning the projects to be undertaken over the next ten years. As a result, Council plans to undertake four key projects, as set out in the recently adopted Long Term Council Community Plan 2009-2019, aimed at keeping Upper Hutt a green and attractive city to live in. These projects include: 1) increased tree planting around the city, 2) a strategy identifying the significant natural areas in Upper Hutt, 3) the development of a Sustainability Strategy, including the appointment of a sustainability officer, and 4) the development of eco-friendly incentives.



Another key ongoing project is the Urban Growth Strategy, which guides the future physical development of the city in order to effectively manage growth. Two key projects identified within this strategy that were started in 2008/09, were the Southern Hills Review and the Maymorn Structure Plan.

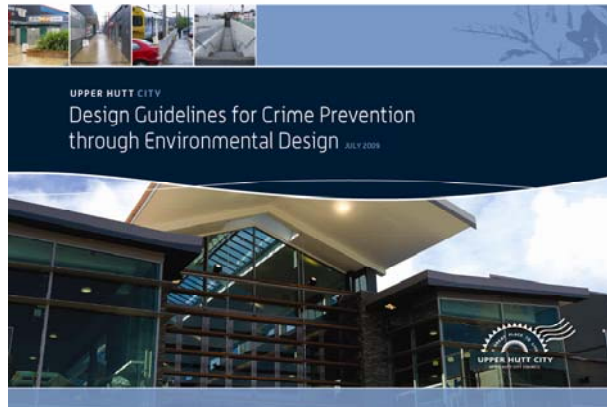
Council remains committed to our core business of delivering the basic infrastructure services essential for living and running a business. Significant effort is placed on reducing water leakage through Council's leak detection programme and our prompt response times. As a result of this focussed effort Council reduced the average minimum night flow for the year to well below the benchmark of 70 litres per second.

Another core service for Council is waste management, and in particular reducing the amount of waste ending up in our landfill. During 2008/09 the average weight of recycling increased to 154kg per household compared to 145kg in 2007/08 and the amount of household refuse collected reduced by 18.3%.

Joint Report from His Worship the Mayor and the Chief Executive

Community Outcome 5: The community is safe, healthy and strong

In 2008/09 Council developed Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) guidelines for the city. The CPTED principles aim to improve public safety by promoting good design to ensure that the physical environment promotes safe movement through, and enjoyment of, the city. A CPTED assessment has also been carried out in Brown Owl and a Neighbourhood Action Kit is being developed in response to the outcomes of the report.



In addition, a further five CCTV cameras have been installed in the CBD this year, bringing the total number of CCTV cameras in the CBD to 16, and all CCTV installations are currently being monitored by the Upper Hutt Police.

A further project, developed jointly with Police, aims to improve community safety in Trentham. 'The Together, Our Place (TOP) project' focuses on localised community development to reduce alcohol related harm.

Another example of Council's support for our local community was in relation to the proposed merger of the Upper Hutt and Lower Hutt Police Districts during the year. Council fiercely advocated against the merger and was heartened by the strong community response also in opposition to the merger. The merger has since been abandoned by the NZ Police.

In 2008/09 Council administered the distribution of 96 grants to community organisations which benefit the residents of Upper Hutt, to the value of \$106,427. This allocation was divided between two funds, Upper Hutt City Council Community Grants and Creative Communities Upper Hutt (an art based grant funded by Creative New Zealand, but awarded by Council). Of this 67 grants were approved for the Community Grant scheme and 29 approved for Creative Communities.

To support our community to be active and strong, Council's Activation initiative has been pro-active in facilitating a range of events and programmes aimed at enhancing the wellbeing of the Upper Hutt community, including the Pathway to Activity/GOLD¹ programme, before and after school fitness programs, providing support for the Green Prescription Group, and working with schools to develop an active transport (walking bus) programme.

Another project supporting this Community Outcome is the effective operation and maintenance of the Upper Hutt City Wastewater network to provide an efficient, reliable, uninterrupted service to the community. In addition, to ensure the city's pipes remain in

¹ GOLD: Growing Old, Living Dangerously.

Joint Report from His Worship the Mayor and the Chief Executive

perfect condition Council continued a condition survey during the year via its micro-robotic mobile CCTV camera to identify preventative maintenance works.

Council was very pleased to hear that its Asset Management Plans (AMP) will be used by Audit NZ within its national notable practice guidelines. Our AMP's are continually updated with current information to ensure the city's assets remain in perfect working order so as to gain optimal service for as long as possible. This results in well planned, sustainable budgets and no surprises for our ratepayers.

Community Outcome 6: Leisure activities are outstanding

Upper Hutt's leisure attractions continue to go from strength to strength providing residents and visitors to Upper Hutt with outstanding leisure opportunities.



Earlier this year H²O Xtream underwent a full makeover including new tiles in the pools, and the installation of CCTV cameras. This work ensures H²O Xtream remains a top class leisure facility and continues to attract visitors from around New

Zealand. H²O Xtream has also attracted interest from overseas with articles appearing in the World Water Park magazine and the Australasian Parks and Recreation magazine on its award winning marketing strategy targeting teenagers.

A number of new initiatives have been implemented at H²O Xtream including a more detailed weekly schedule of what's on, plus a new website with more up-to-date information. This enables swimmers to better plan their visits and get the most out of the facility. All activities continue to be organised into timed sessions to ensure there is something for everyone, as often as possible.

The Expressions Arts and Entertainment Centre also underwent renovations that included refurbishing the Totara flooring. The Expressions Arts and Entertainment Centre continues to provide a strong and balanced programme catering to mainstream artists and audiences as well as the more experimental works and fringe audiences. Events such as the 2009 Queens Birthday Jazz and Blues Festival and the 2009 Upper Hutt Salon exhibition were very successful in attracting regional audiences to the city.



Joint Report from His Worship the Mayor and the Chief Executive

It keeps on getting better for the library!

The Upper Hutt City Library continues to grow in popularity with 337,871 visits to the Library and 642,381 items issued in 2008/09. This equates to a 10% increase in visitors and a 6% increase in the number of items borrowed compared to 2007/08. To keep up with the demand for Library services, Council has set aside funding to renovate and extend parts of the existing Upper Hutt Central Library in 2009/10. The Library continues to run its regular programmes for adults and children including Creative Crafting, the Book Discussion Group, Tea and Tales and Lifestyles, and the increasingly popular Baby Time programme. The Summer Reading Programme 'Superheroes Read' was the Library's most successful programme yet with 193 children completing the programme.

Through a partnership with local primary schools and Youthtown, Upper Hutt City Library rolled out its 'Book in Every Backpack' project. This project has enabled 1,520 children to become library members in 2008/09. Children in participating schools are presented with their own limited edition library card and matching canvas library bag containing information to help them get the most out of their visits to the library. The project aims to encourage more children to enjoy reading.

Activation continued to take a lead role in managing numerous events during 2008/09 aimed at getting the Upper Hutt community more active more often. These events, often run in partnership with other organisations, included the very successful Kev the Kiwi Walks (originally created in Upper Hutt and now part of the Greater Wellington Outdoor programme), and the Walking Events Series across the whole of the Hutt Valley. As well as 'Bike to Work', which included a free breakfast and bike safety check (provided by the Bike Hutt) for Bike Wise week; the ZM Women's run swim event; the Moonshine half marathon; Lively Places; Pathway to Activity/GOLD; Push Play month and Lively Parks.

Other highly popular and very successful events managed by Activation included the 'Bike the Trail' and 'Walk the Trail' events. These are family oriented events to get people of all ages biking, walking and running the Hutt River Trail. The Biking event attracted 3000 participants over two events and 'Walk the Trail' attracted around 500 participants.

Activation also held a Sport and Recreation Expo in March 2009, which proved hugely popular. The purpose of the festival type day was to expose Upper Hutt to the wonderful recreation and sporting activities available in the city. It was also an opportunity for clubs and groups to showcase their code of activity.

Community Outcome 7:

Upper Hutt is connected with the world

Council regularly advocates on behalf of the community on a wide range of issues affecting Upper Hutt. During 2008/09, the Mayor and officers made multiple oral and written submissions to external organisations. For example, Council made a submission in relation to the Resource Management (Simplifying and Streamlining) Amendment Bill, the Greater Wellington Regional Council Proposed 10 Year Plan 2009-2019, and the Sale and Supply of Liquor and Liquor Enforcement Bill.

Joint Report from His Worship the Mayor and the Chief Executive

This year Council undertook a project to match the precise location of all 4,782 plaques and headstones, using GPS readings at Akatarawa Cemetery. The locations and accompanying photographs are now available on the Council's website and this initiative has proven to be an invaluable tool for researchers and genealogy enquiries. Council has received feedback and enquiries regarding this service from as far away as Texas, USA.

To cater for the computer savvy members of our community, Council is increasingly using the internet, as one of a number of tools, for its public communications. This ranges from online surveys for public consultation on Council's documents, to launching Twitter and Flickr sites for H₂O Xtream and the Library.

Measures of Council Performance

Key Financial Measures

The poor economic environment impacted on Council's ability to meet its financial targets for the 2008/2009 financial year.

At year end the Council had a rate funding deficit of \$309,000 after carryovers and the operating result (operating income less expenditure) was a deficit of \$1.723 million compared to a budgeted deficit of \$1.742 million.

The rate funding result (a cash – balance sheet item) was impacted by lower than budgeted income, especially building consent income which was \$533,000 below budget. In addition, metered water income and resource consent income were below budget by \$85,000 and \$59,000 respectively. While Council's share towards the unintended repair costs for the Hutt Valley wastewater pipeline amounted to \$359,000.

The operating result (a non-cash bookkeeping item) was impacted on the revenue side by assets vested in Council, which were \$3.97 million above estimate. The major components were in stormwater and roading assets. Reserve Fund Contributions were \$656,000 above estimate. Offsetting these were significant non-cash expenses that were not allowed for. Depreciation was \$3 million higher reflecting asset revaluations and the wastewater project. The current valuation of interest rate swap contracts held by Council resulted in a cost of \$1.15 million, which will fully reverse over time. In addition the items noted under the rate funding result above also impacted on the operating result.

External debt increased to a total of \$18.1 million (2008 - \$17.8 million), a conservative position, which is still well within Council's debt management ratios. The current operating financial position remains steady with the current ratio (current assets: current liabilities) being 1.12:1 (2008 – 1.06:1).

Joint Report from His Worship the Mayor and the Chief Executive

Non Financial Measures

Council successfully achieved 84 out of its 106 non-financial performance targets in 2008/09 - a particularly pleasing result for Council. Nine additional non-financial performance targets were not measured during 2008/09, due to non-annual surveys and reviews. Results for a further two performance measures are still outstanding and include the results from a survey measuring club participation numbers which are expected in September 2009. The results measuring whether Council met firefighting requirements for water supply are unavailable as the external organisation responsible for fire hydrant testing did not undertake any during 2008/09.

Each year, Council undertakes its Annual Community Survey, a statistically valid telephone survey of 400 residents. This survey gives Upper Hutt residents an opportunity to share their views on the range of services Council delivers and helps Council to identify better ways to meet the needs of the Upper Hutt community.

Council is pleased with the 2009 Annual Community Survey results. Outstanding community satisfaction of 95% or more was achieved in the following areas:

- Level of customer service from the reception staff at H²O Xtream – 95.0%
- Level of service provided by the Mobile branch of the Library – 95.0%
- Provision of information by the Council on Council affairs – 95.1%
- Range of resources available at the Library – 95.7%
- Accuracy of the information they were given when they visited Council offices – 96.1%
- Access to sporting and recreation opportunities – 96.2%
- Standard of presentation of the city's public garden areas – 96.3%
- City's road markings – 96.7%
- Helpfulness and courtesy of poolside staff at H²O Xtream – 97.1%
- Children's services provided at the library – 97.8%
- The way in which city parks meet their relevant recreation needs – 97.9%
- Relevance and currency of print and electronic information services – 98.0%
- The way their needs were understood when they visited Council offices – 98.0%
- Water supply – 98.3%
- Wastewater disposal – 98.6%
- Facilities and services provided at the Akatarawa Cemetery – 98.8%
- Level of service at the Pinehaven branch of the library – 100%
- The way they were greeted when they phoned or visited Council offices – 100%

Council was pleased to see an improvement in the percentage of the community that are prepared for a Civil Defence Emergency this year, compared to 2007/08. 62.6% of persons surveyed were prepared for a Civil Defence Emergency compared to 57.9% in 2007/08, and 68% of those surveyed stored enough drinking water for three days - an increase of 4% on the 2007/08 results. Council is keen to see an even better improvement in these results for 2009/10.

With regard to performance measures that were not achieved, these areas are currently under review and action will be taken where possible.

Joint Report from His Worship the Mayor and the Chief Executive

Have your say!

Council is guided by the community and encourages public involvement in the decision making for our city's wellbeing. Council endeavours to provide a range of consultation mechanisms that empower residents to have a say and have their views heard. For example Council holds Full Council meetings each month – to which the public are very welcome to attend. Meeting times, agendas and reports can be found on the 'Your Council' page on our website www.upperhuttcity.com or call (04) 527 2169.

Other consultation mechanisms include the Annual Community Telephone Survey, the month long consultation on the Annual Plan each April/May, the regular community forums, the quarterly 'Valley News' newsletter, the regular 'Chatter' newsletter, Twitter and Flickr sites set up by H²O Xstream and the Library, and specific consultation for items such as District Plan amendments. For details on upcoming consultation, please see the 'Consultation' page on our website www.upperhuttcity.com

Council has also published a booklet entitled 'Have Your Say – How to Make an Effective Submission'. This resource is designed to assist submitters to make a submission that ensures their views have maximum impact.

Thank you for reading this summary, we greatly appreciate your interest.

Audit Report

**To the readers of
Upper Hutt City Council and group's
financial statements and performance information
for the year ended 30 June 2009**

The Auditor-General is the auditor of Upper Hutt City Council (the City Council) and group. The Auditor-General has appointed me, Phil Kennerley, using the staff and resources of Audit New Zealand, to carry out an audit. The audit covers the City Council's compliance with the requirements of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 that apply to the annual report of the City Council and group for the year ended 30 June 2009, including the financial statements.

Unqualified Opinion

In our opinion:

- The financial statements of the City Council and group on pages 124 to 177:
 - comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand; and
 - fairly reflect:
 - the City Council and group's financial position as at 30 June 2009; and
 - the results of operations and cash flows for the year ended on that date.
- The service provision information of the City Council and group on pages 16 to 119 fairly reflects the levels of service provision as measured against the intended levels of service provision adopted, as well as the reasons for any significant variances, for the year ended on that date; and
- The Council has complied with the other requirements of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 that apply to the annual report (the "other requirements").

The audit was completed on 28 October 2009, and is the date at which our opinion is expressed.

The basis of our opinion is explained below. In addition, we outline the responsibilities of the Council and the Auditor, and explain our independence.

Basis of Opinion

We carried out the audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the New Zealand Auditing Standards.

We planned and performed the audit to obtain all the information and explanations we considered necessary in order to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial statements, performance information and the other requirements did not have material misstatements, whether caused by fraud or error.

Material misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts and disclosures that would affect a reader's overall understanding of the financial statements, performance information and the other requirements. If we had found material misstatements that were not corrected, we would have referred to them in our opinion.

The audit involved performing procedures to test the information presented in the financial statements, performance information and the other requirements. We assessed the results of those procedures in forming our opinion.

Audit procedures generally include:

- determining whether significant financial and management controls are working and can be relied on to produce complete and accurate data;
- verifying samples of transactions and account balances;
- performing analyses to identify anomalies in the reported data;
- reviewing significant estimates and judgements made by the Council;
- confirming year-end balances;
- determining whether accounting policies are appropriate and consistently applied; and
- determining whether all required disclosures are adequate.

We did not examine every transaction, nor do we guarantee complete accuracy of the financial statements, performance information and the other requirements.

We evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements, performance information and the other requirements. We obtained all the information and explanations we required to support our opinion above.

Responsibilities of the Council and the Auditor

The Council is responsible for preparing financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand. The financial statements must fairly reflect the financial position of the City Council and group as at 30 June 2009. They must also fairly reflect the results of operations and cash flows and the levels of service provision for the year ended on that date. The Council is also responsible for meeting the other requirements of Schedule 10 and including that information in the annual report. The Council's responsibilities arise from Section 98 and Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2002.

We are responsible for expressing an independent opinion on the financial statements, performance information and the other requirements and reporting that opinion to you. This responsibility arises from section 15 of the Public Audit Act 2001 and section 99 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Independence

When carrying out the audit we followed the independence requirements of the Auditor-General, which incorporate the independence requirements of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of New Zealand.

Other than the audit, and in conducting the audit of the Long Term Council Community Plan, we have no relationship with or interests in the City Council or any of its subsidiaries.



Phil Kennerley
Audit New Zealand
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Wellington, New Zealand

Matters Relating to the Electronic Presentation of the Audited Financial Statements, Performance Information and the Other Requirements

This audit report relates to the financial statements, performance information and the other requirements of Upper Hutt City Council and group for the year ended 30 June 2009 included on Upper Hutt City Council and group's website. The Upper Hutt City Council and group's Council is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of Upper Hutt City Council and group's website. We have not been engaged to report on the integrity of Upper Hutt City Council and group's website. We accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the financial statements, performance information and the other requirements since they were initially presented on the website.

The audit report refers only to the financial statements, performance information and the other requirements named above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to or from the financial statements, performance information and the other requirements. If readers of this report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from electronic data communication they should refer to the published hard copy of the audited financial statements, performance information and the other requirements as well as the related audit report dated 28 October 2009 to confirm the information included in the audited summary annual presented on this website.

Legislation in New Zealand governing the preparation and dissemination of financial information may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.