

Democracy and Governance



What activities are included in democracy and governance?

City governance and decision making

- Elected member governance and decision-making
- Staff support for, and advice to, elected members

Public participation in democratic processes

- Council holds elections
- Provide consultation policy framework and advice on implementation
- Provide opportunities for public participation in decision-making processes

Why is the Council involved in democracy and governance?

- Elected members receive advice and support to enable them to provide strong leadership for, and make good decisions on behalf of, Christchurch.
- Public participation supports informed decision-making and helps ensure that decision-making reflects community views.

How does democracy and governance contribute to our community outcomes?

The Council provides leadership on issues affecting the community

- Delivering comprehensive, timely and consistent information and advice to elected members of Council and community boards enables them to make informed decisions and take leadership on issues affecting the community.

Decisions are transparent and informed by timely, accurate and robust information and advice

- Delivering information and providing logistic support for councillors and community board members enables them to carry out their functions, duties and powers.
- Adhering to prescribed governance and decision-making practices ensures that decision-making is transparent.
- Recording decisions, communicating them and monitoring actions ensures that decisions are given effect to within the Council organisation.

Statutory obligations are met by the Council

- Council makes decisions, following processes that take into account all legislative requirements, Council policy and granted delegations, thereby meeting its statutory obligations.

Maori have opportunities and the capacity to contribute to decision-making processes

- Providing and developing appropriate liaison processes enables Maori to take opportunities to participate in Council decision-making on issues of mutual interest.

Decisions take account of community views

- Undertaking comprehensive and accessible consultation processes supports the Council taking into account community views in its decision-making and explain the reasons for their decisions to submitters.

People are actively involved in their communities and local issues

- Providing accessible information and opportunities to find out forthcoming Council decision-making and elections promotes community interest in local

issues. Providing submitters with feedback on Council decisions supports greater understanding in the community about Council decision-making.

The Council's goals and activities are clearly communicated to the community

- Consultation processes provide a means for informing the community about the goals that the Council is aiming to achieve and proposed activities for achieving them. These processes also involve communicating decisions on activities following Council consideration of community views.

The special position of Ngāi Tahu is recognised

- Partnering with Ngāi Tahu to provide Mahaanui Kurataiao Ltd services recognises the special position that Ngāi Tahu has in Council decision-making.

What changes are planned for democracy and governance?

Measures and services will continue as for previous years.

What negative effects or risks can occur in relation to democracy and governance?

Negative Effects

Interest groups may dominate a decision-making process.

Poor voter turnout.

Mitigation Options

Wider consultation with options of support for those who do not speak English.

Make information on voting available through various channels.

Council Activities and Services

Democracy and Governance

Activity	What is the Council trying to achieve?	What services will the Council offer to make this happen?	How would we know these services were successful?	Target
City governance and decision-making	The Council provides leadership on issues affecting the community Decisions are transparent and informed by timely, accurate and robust information and advice Statutory obligations are met by the Council	Effective governance and decision-making by elected members	Percentage of residents that understand how Council makes decisions	At least a certain percentage of residents understand how Council makes decisions
			Percentage of residents that feel the public has some or a large influence on the decisions the Council makes	At least a certain percentage of residents feel the public has some or a large influence on the decisions the Council makes
			Proportion of residents that are satisfied with the opportunities to access information about Council decisions.	At least a certain proportion of residents are satisfied with the opportunities to access information about Council decisions.
			Percentage of residents satisfied that the Council makes decisions in the best interests of Christchurch	At least a certain percentage of residents are satisfied that the Council makes decisions in the best interests of Christchurch
			Council and community board decisions comply with statutory requirements	Percent of Council and community board decisions comply with statutory requirements
Public participation in democratic processes	Maori have opportunities and the capacity to contribute to decision-making processes Decisions take account of community views People are actively involved in their communities and local issues The Council's goals and activities are clearly communicated to the community The special position of Ngāi Tahu is recognised	Council holds elections	All elections, polls, and representation reviews are held with full statutory compliance with relevant legislation	All elections, polls, and representation reviews are held with full statutory compliance with relevant legislation
		Provide consultation policy framework and advice on implementation	Percentage of residents that feel they can participate in and contribute to Council decision making	At least a certain percentage of residents feel they can participate in and contribute to Council decision making
			Submitters are advised of decision(s) made by the Council	100%

Council Activities and Services

Democracy and Governance

Current Performance	Planned performance		
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
2008: 31.5% 2009: 38% (Quality of Life Survey) 2010: 37% 2011: not surveyed 2012: 34%	At least 40%	Maintain	Maintain
2009: 58% (Quality of Life Survey) 2010: 38% 2011: not surveyed 2012: 39%	At least 55%	Maintain	Maintain
2010: 41% 2011: not surveyed 2012: 38%	At least 40%	Maintain	Maintain
2008: 48% 2009: 41% 2010: 47% 2011: not surveyed 2012: 37%	At least 48%	Maintain	Maintain
100%	100%	Maintain	Maintain
100%	100%	Maintain	Maintain
2010: 45% (Quality of Life Survey)	At least 46%	Maintain	Maintain
100%	100%	Maintain	Maintain

Council Activities and Services

Democracy and Governance

Annual Plan 2012/13	Three Year Plan 2013 - 2016			Annual Plan 2012/13	Three Year Plan 2013 - 2016				
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16		
	\$000				\$000				
	Cost of proposed services				Cost of capital expenditure				
9,623	City Governance and Decision-making	9,225	9,679	9,589	-	Renewals and replacements	-	-	-
2,894	Public Participation in Democratic Processes	4,210	3,064	3,155	-	Earthquake rebuild	-	-	-
12,517		13,435	12,743	12,744	-	Improved service levels	-	-	-
	Revenue from proposed services				-	Increased demand	-	-	-
-	City Governance and Decision-making	-	-	-	-		-	-	-
-	Public Participation in Democratic Processes	350	-	-			-	-	-
		350	-	-			-	-	-
12,517	Net operational cost (funded by rates)	13,085	12,743	12,744			-	-	-
-	Vested assets	-	-	-			-	-	-
12,517	Net cost of services	13,085	12,743	12,744			-	-	-

Rationale for activity funding (see also the Revenue and Financing Policy)

There are few opportunities for direct revenue from these activities. The balance of the net operating cost is funded by general rates, as the whole community benefits from these activities.

Council Activities and Services

Democracy and Governance Funding Impact Statement

Annual Plan 2012/13	Three Year Plan 2013 - 2016			Annual Plan 2012/13	Three Year Plan 2013 - 2016			
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	
	\$000				\$000			
	Sources of operating funding				Applications of capital funding			
12,517	General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	13,085	12,743	12,744	Capital expenditure			
-	- Targeted rates	-	-	-	- to replace existing assets	-	-	-
-	- Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-	- earthquake rebuild	-	-	-
-	- Fees and charges	350	-	-	- to improve the level of service	-	-	-
-	- Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-	- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
-	- Earthquake recoveries	-	-	-	- Increase (decrease) in reserves	-	-	-
-	- Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	-	-	-	- Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
12,517	Total operating funding	13,435	12,743	12,744	- Total applications of capital funding	-	-	-
	Applications of operating funding				- Surplus (deficit) of capital funding	-	-	-
11,846	Payments to staff and suppliers	12,465	11,840	11,832	- Funding balance	-	-	-
-	- Finance costs	-	-	-	Reconciliation to net cost of services			
627	Internal charges and overheads applied	926	859	868	- Surplus (deficit) of operating funding from funding impact statement	-	-	-
44	Other operating funding applications	44	44	44	(12,517) Remove rates funding	(13,085)	(12,743)	(12,744)
12,517	Total applications of operating funding	13,435	12,743	12,744	- Deduct depreciation expense	-	-	-
-	Surplus (deficit) of operating funding	-	-	-	- Add capital revenues	-	-	-
	Sources of capital funding				- Add vested assets / non cash revenue	-	-	-
-	- Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-	(12,517) Net cost of services per activity statement surplus/(deficit)	(13,085)	(12,743)	(12,744)
-	- Development and financial contributions	-	-	-				
-	- Earthquake recoveries	-	-	-				
-	- Increase (decrease) in debt	-	-	-				
-	- Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-				
-	- Lump sum contributions	-	-	-				
-	Total sources of capital funding	-	-	-				