

PROFILE OF THE

Quality for Life



greater WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Greater Wellington Regional Council

What does Greater Wellington do? >>>



► Environmental management

- Regulates the use of the natural environment through regional policies, plans and resource consents
- Helps the community restore ecosystems, such as streams and wetlands
- Helps businesses become more environmentally sustainable
- Monitors and reports on the state of the environment
- Provides a 24-hour pollution response service
- Runs environmental education programmes in schools



► Metlink buses and trains

- Funds buses, trains and harbour ferries
- Improves the transport network and infrastructure, eg, new Metlink trains, bus shelters, railway stations
- Encourages people to use Metlink public transport
- Monitors Metlink services to see that services run to timetable
- Provides public transport information through a call centre, website, texts and timetables



► Transport planning

- Plans improvements to the region's strategic roading and public transport networks
- Monitors how these networks are operating and meeting people's needs
- Encourages businesses, schools and the public to walk, cycle, carpool and use public transport



► Water supply

- Supplies water to the region's four city councils – enough to fill the Westpac Stadium each week
- Operates four water-treatment plants, 15 pumping stations and 180km of pipelines
- Ensures that all water meets New Zealand's drinking water standards
- Forecasts and plans for future water needs
- Improves the water network's ability to cope with earthquakes
- Encourages water conservation



► Flood protection

- Investigates flood risks and helps the community decide on risk-management strategies
- Prepares and carries out floodplain management plans
- Builds and maintains flood protection and river management structures, eg, stopbanks and bank-edge protection
- Advises the community about flood hazards and provides a flood-warning service
- Enhances the river environment through restoration planting and walkways



► Pest management

- Works with the community to manage pest plants and animals
- Surveys the region for new pests
- Protects our native biodiversity
- Works to eradicate bovine Tb
- Advises landowners about how to control pests



► Land management

- Helps farmers prepare farm/sustainability plans to prevent soil erosion so land stays productive
- Runs the Akura Conservation Centre tree nursery to supply soil conservation materials
- Plants on stream sides to stop erosion and improve water quality
- Advises landowners on sustainable land management practices



► Harbour safety

- Provides navigation aids, lights and beacons in our harbours
- Monitors ferries and commercial shipping arriving and departing from Wellington
- Cleans-up marine oil spills
- Enforces navigation and safety bylaws
- Regulates special events on the harbour
- Educates recreational boaties about harbour safety



► Regional parks and forests

- Provides parks and forest areas for recreation
- Protects and enhances their natural heritage and environment
- Provides park rangers
- Works with the community on environmental restoration projects
- Operates plantation forests in Wellington and the Wairarapa

Parks and forests

- Akatarawa Forest
- Battle Hill Farm Forest Park
- Belmont Regional Park
- East Harbour Regional Park
- Kaitoke Regional Park
- Pakuratahi Forest
- Queen Elizabeth Park



► Sustainable development

- Hosts a leadership committee to oversee the Wellington Regional Strategy – a sustainable economic growth strategy
- Funds Grow Wellington – a regional economic development agency
- Coordinates the region's response to climate change



► Stadium and CentrePort

- Provided a loan to Westpac Stadium
- Major shareholder in CentrePort Ltd



► Emergency management

- Coordinates civil defence emergency management across the region
- Operates the regional Civil Defence Operations Centre
- Prepares plans and procedures for coping with emergencies
- Educates the public to be prepared for emergencies

What's a regional council?

Regional councils are responsible for their region's natural resources and environment as a whole. Their more specific responsibilities typically include:

- Flood protection
- Pest management
- Land transport planning
- Public transport services
- Harbour navigation and safety
- Sustainable economic development
- Marine pollution
- Regional parks

How are city and district councils different?

City and district councils are responsible for essential community services within their own areas, such as:

- Road maintenance
- Water for homes and businesses
- Sewerage
- Stormwater
- Land use and subdivisions
- Community health
- Community services (eg, libraries and swimming pools)

What do Regional Councillors do?

The Council and its various committees meet every six weeks to receive reports from Greater Wellington staff, debate issues and decide on policy. Councillors decide the overall policies, while Greater Wellington's management provides advice to the Council and is responsible for implementing the Council's decisions. In general, meetings are open to the public and meeting dates are advertised in local newspapers.

Regional Councillors are publicly elected in local government elections every three years. The Council's chair is elected by the Councillors.

There are 13 Regional Councillors representing the Wellington region's six constituencies:

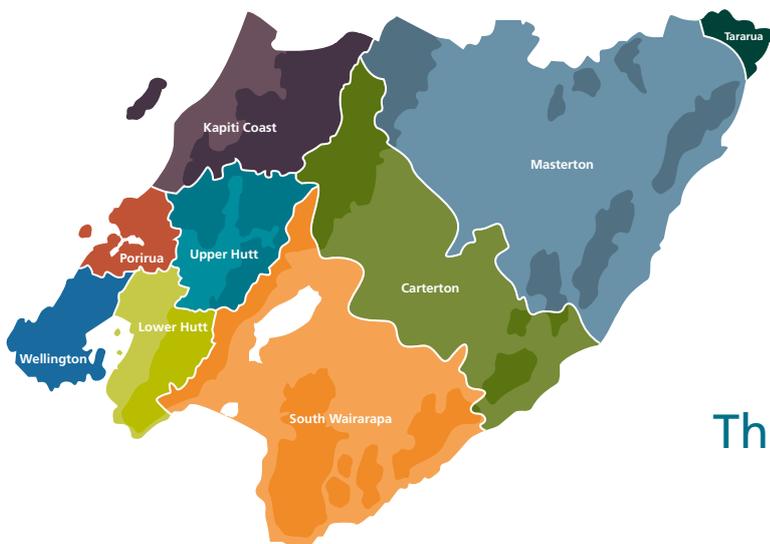
Constituency	Representatives
Wellington	5
Kapiti Coast	1
Porirua-Tawa	2
Lower Hutt	3
Upper Hutt	1
Wairarapa	1
Total	13

Where does our money come from?

- General rates
- Targeted rates
- Water supply levy
- Government subsidies
- Dividend income
- Other revenue

Have your say

Every year Greater Wellington publishes an Annual Plan and every three years updates its 10-Year Plan. Both plans ask for your views on our planned work for the Wellington region.



The Wellington region

For more information, contact Greater Wellington >>>

Wellington office
142 Wakefield Street
PO Box 11646
Manners Street
Wellington 6142

Upper Hutt office
1056 Fergusson Drive
PO Box 40847
Upper Hutt 5140

Masterton office
34 Chapel Street
PO Box 41
Masterton 5840

0800 496 734
info@gw.govt.nz
www.govt.nz