

Mōhiohio

Whānui



General

Information



Rāranga kupu | Glossary

Activity

A good or service provided by or on behalf of local authority.

Activity Management Plans (AMPS)

AMPs cover all aspects of managing an asset. They include policy, financial forecasting and engineering requirements for all major activities. They ensure that the required level of services is maintained over the long-term by helping Council anticipate and plan for future needs and renewals.

Allocated costs

Allocation of costs by support departments to other Council departments for services provided. They reflect the true cost of the provision of goods and services.

Annual Plan

A plan produced by Council every year that sets out what it plans to do for the following year and into the future, how much it will cost and how Council plans to fund it. Every third year it is part of the LTP (Long Term Plan).

Annual Report

A document that Council prepares each year, which provides the public with information on the performance of the local authority during the past year, both in financial and non-financial terms.

Appropriation

Money that has been set aside from or brought into an operating revenue account.

Assets

Assets are available resources owned by Council. Non-current assets are assets that have a useful life of more than one year, such as roads, parks, footpaths and buildings.

AWPT

Abbreviation for Area Wide Pavement Treatment Programme. AWPT is a NZTA subsidised programme of renewal of pavements including overlays and chemical stabilisation. It should not be confused with Council's road sealing programme.

BERL

Business and Economic Research Ltd. This is the name of the index councils use for inflation figures across all areas like roading, water and stormwater. These all have different inflation rates.

Capital Value (CV)

The value of land plus any additions like buildings, driveways and fences.

Capital expenditure (CAPEX)

Capital expenditure is additions, improvements or renewals to fixed assets that have or will be built or purchased by Council, where the benefit will be reflected over more than one financial year.

CBEC

Abbreviation for Community Business and Environment Centre.

Community

The people of the area covered by Council.

Community Board

A local elected board within a community to advise a district council on issues affecting the community and to carry out functions delegated to it by Council.

Community Development (CD)

Is a broad term applied to the practices and disciplines of involving local people in the economic and social progress of our communities. Community development seeks to provide individuals and groups of people with the skills they need to effect change in their own communities. These skills are often created by forming and supporting interest groups working for an agreed common agenda.

Community outcomes

The future that a community wants to achieve. These outcomes set the direction for Council plans and help in the coordination of activities.

Constituency

An electoral area within district boundaries.

Council Controlled Organisation (CCO)

An organisation in which a Council has 50% or more of the voting rights.

Council Controlled Trade Organisation (CCTO)

As for a CCO but with the intention of making a profit.

Council

A territorial authority, being an elected group of people that by democratic process have the mandate of the community they represent to make decisions and provide local governance. In the context of this document, 'Council' refers to the Far North District Council, while 'council' refers to territorial authorities generally.

Development contributions

A mechanism provided under the Local Government Act 2002 to fund capital expenditure needed to meet extra demand placed on utilities by development and is met by the developer / subdivider.

Depreciation

The loss in value of an asset over time. This is an accounting device to ensure that an appropriate amount of capital expenditure is allocated as an expense each year and matched against the income of Council (including rates) in the statement of financial performance.

Deighton Total Infrastructure Management System (dTIMS)

A decision support tool used by managers to plan, analyse and select maintenance and rehabilitation activities in the life-cycle of their infrastructure assets.

Far North Holdings Limited (FNHL)

A Council Controlled Trading Organisation in which the Far North District Council is the major shareholder. FNHL manages fixed and non-commercial assets including maritime facilities and assets.

Fees and Charges

Fees and Charges are charges for a Council service that must be met by the user of the service (e.g. entrance fees to swimming pools, fees for dumping waste at transfer station etc).

FNDC

Abbreviation for Far North District Council.

FRAs

Abbreviation for Forward Rate Agreements.

Infrastructure

The systems that help a district function such as roads, public water supply, refuse and effluent disposal.

Internal recoveries

Recovery of costs by support departments from other Council departments.

ISDA

Abbreviation for International Swaps and Derivatives Agreement.

Land Value (LV)

The probable price that would be paid for the bare land at the date of valuation. The value includes development work such as drainage, excavating, filling, levelling, retaining walls, clearing, building up fertility and flood protection.

Levels of service (LOS)

A measure of a service that Council delivers e.g. a number of sportsfields available for use, library opening hours, water quality etc.

LGA

Local Government Act (2002). The purpose of the LGA is to provide for democratic and effective local government that recognises the diversity of New Zealand communities. The Act provides the general framework and powers under which New Zealand's 78 local authorities – regional, district and city councils – operate.

LGCI

Local Government Cost Index. A BERL measure of the cost of business for a local authority.

Liabilities

Amounts that the organisation owes. Non-current liabilities are amounts that are not due to be paid within the next year.

Loan funds

This is money used by Council that it has obtained by raising a loan.

Local Government Statement

A collection of information prepared under Section 40 of the Local Government Act 2002 that includes information about the ways in which a local authority engages with its community, how it makes decisions, and the ways in which citizens can influence those processes.

Long Term Plan (LTP)

Our 10-year plan adopted every three years that sets out the planned activities, budgets and service provision of Council.

NZTA

New Zealand Transport Agency. NZTA is a Crown entity established under the Land Transport Management Act 2003. The objective of the Agency is to undertake its functions in a way that contributes to an affordable, integrated, safe, responsive and sustainable land transport system. Each year the NZ Transport Agency funds innovative and relevant research that contributes to this objective.

New Zealand Transport Strategy

Government's vision for transport for an affordable, integrated, safe, responsive and sustainable transport system.

NZ GAAP

New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practices.

Operating expenditure

Spending for the normal day to day services of Council. This also includes depreciation, interest on loans, and allocated costs.

Performance indicators

Performance indicators are used by Council to measure how well services are performing. They enable targets to be set for service improvement and comparisons of performance over time with other organisations.

Private benefit

This occurs when individuals who benefit from a service can be clearly identified and therefore charged for that service. It applies to user charges, application fees, purchase price and water by meter, although there are exceptions to the rule.

Public benefit

This relates to spending which benefits the community in general and for which no individual beneficiaries can be clearly identified.

Rates

Money that property owners pay to the District and Regional Council for the provision of assets and services.

Rating Information Database (RID)

A Council database that provides rating and valuation information about any property in the Far North District, using either the property's physical address or valuation roll number.

Regional Council

A Council that represents a regional community, manages natural resources and deals with issues that affect the environment. Our Regional Council is the Northland Regional Council (NRC).

Renewal expenditure

This is spending that replaces deteriorating assets with new assets that have the same service potential as the originals.

Reserve contribution

A contribution made either in money or land (at Council's discretion) to the District's reserves, payable for any subdivision in which the number of lots is increased, or for any significant development of land.

Resource Consent

Special permission from Council for an activity related to land.

Restricted assets

Assets that cannot be disposed of because of legal or other restrictions and that provide benefit or service to the community. They include reserves vested under the Reserves Act 1977, endowments and property held in Trust for specific purposes.

Reticulation

When water is supplied from a main source and distributed within a defined area, for a cost. Also a means of wastewater disposal where sewage is discharged to a main source where it is treated for disposal.

Revenue and financing policy

This is a statement about who should pay for the services provided by Council. The policy outlines who will benefit from each activity and who should pay for it, taking into account fairness and what is practical.

RFS

Request for Service. This is Council's system for tracking all public requests such as maintenance requests, questions or complaints.

Service levels

Defined service parameters or requirements for a particular activity or service against which service performance may be measured.

Significance

The degree of importance of an issue, proposal, decision or matter, as assessed by the authority, in terms of its likely impact on and likely consequences for:

- The current and future well-being of the District or Region
- Any persons who are likely to be particularly affected by, or interested in, the issue, proposal, decision, or matter
- The capacity of Council to perform its role and the financial and other costs of doing so.

Special Consultative Procedure (SCP)

A formal consultation process defined in legislation, setting out a series of steps that must be followed when councils consult on particularly types of decisions.

Special funds / Reserve funds

Money set aside for a specific purpose. Some uses are legally restricted and others created by Council.

Stormwater Catchment Management Plans

SCMPs are designed for the sustainable management of stormwater runoff within a defined catchment utilising piped networks and overland flows giving consideration to current and future development, climate change, system capacity and condition, water quality, financial affordability and the environment.

Sustainability

Sustainability focuses on improving the quality of life for all people without increasing the use of natural resources beyond the capacity of the environment to supply them indefinitely. Sustainable activities utilise resources and build capacity in a way that ensures the activity can be safely maintained over time.

Sustainable development

Sustainable Development has many definitions. Most interpretations share the fundamental idea that it is development that maintains or enhances economic opportunity and community well-being while protecting and restoring the natural environment upon which people and economies depend. Sustainable Development meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Territorial Authority

A city or district council.

Triennial agreement

An agreement entered into by all of the local authorities within a region that sets out the basis for community and coordination between authorities.

Uniform Annual General Charge (UAGC)

The fixed component of rates levied in respect of every separately rateable property as a contribution to the costs of activities, works or services, the costs of which are not otherwise recovered from separate rates and charges. This amount does not vary with the value of the property.

Utilities (Utility assets)

Utilities are items of network infrastructure that provide mechanisms for the delivery of services. In a local government context, utilities are commonly public water supply, wastewater, sewerage and solid waste.

Ward

An area within the District administered by Council.



WHAKAPĀ MAI | CONTACT US

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