

MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

CASE STUDY
of Selected City and District Council
State of the Environment Monitoring
& Indicators

MFE01
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose and Scope of Project

Section 35 of the Resource Management Act requires all Territorial Local Authorities (TLAs) to undertake three types of monitoring:

- state of the environment monitoring
- effectiveness of plan policies
- compliance monitoring

This purpose of this study, commissioned by the Ministry for the Environment, is to

1. complete a case study on selected TLA state of the environment monitoring and links to the EPI programme
2. visit the 16 TLAs to:
 - inform the TLAs of progress under the EPI programme
 - gather information about their current state of the environment monitoring and reporting
3. identify key environmental issues at the TLA level
4. recommend priority areas for the development of Environmental Performance Indicators of the key issues

The study has involved a written survey, together with follow up face-to-face consultation, of all 16 TLAs selected.

The study has highlighted the lack of monitoring strategies within some TLAs and the lack of a clear methodology and integration of all forms of monitoring within the TLAs.

Overview of TLA Monitoring

The survey of the 16 TLAs has shown that most (94%) of the councils surveyed are undertaking compliance monitoring of resource consents. This compliance monitoring is largely generated by complaints, rather than a formalised monitoring system.

The preparation and notification of Proposed Plans has been a significant task for District Councils, and as a result, monitoring has taken a back seat to District Plan preparation in many districts. Only half of the TLAs surveyed were involved in the monitoring of the effectiveness of the District Plan. There was little emphasis among those not undertaking monitoring of their District effectiveness of the need for a feedback loop between environmental issues, objectives, policies and rules, and changes to those provisions because of monitoring.

Present TLA State of the Environment Monitoring

Approximately half of the local authorities considered that they were undertaking some form of state of the environment monitoring. It was considered that in many cases the

state of the environment monitoring could be undertaken in a more integrated way within the Council.

The issue of the definition of “environment” was often raised in regard to both socio-economic and biophysical monitoring. There were considerably different approaches among the 16 TLAs with respect to this issue.

Many of the TLAs surveyed appeared to be undertaking some form of state of the environment monitoring but were either not reporting the results in an overall comprehensive and integrated state of the environment report, or were producing two or more separate (biophysical vs. socio-economic) reports. In some cases, there appeared to be a lack of reporting and interaction between different sections of the Council undertaking different types of monitoring and those using different environmental performance indicators.

The environmental performance indicators used and the frequency of reporting varied considerably within the study.

The survey confirmed that better resourced and larger more urban TLAs are more likely to have a monitoring strategy and be involved, to some extent at least, in state of the environment monitoring and reporting.

Identification of Issues

Feedback loops between the setting of environmental policy and the monitoring of the effectiveness of that policy is not occurring. Survey results indicated that although 88% of TLAs had identified key resource management issues specific to the District in the District Plan, only 44% were undertaking specific monitoring relating to those issues. The need for comprehensive indicator development was a common concern of some of those TLAs surveyed and consulted.

Another common issue raised by the TLAs was the perceived overlap of regional council and territorial local authority functions and a range of issues were identified in the study where this is considered to occur.

Indicator Development

A two-tiered set of Environmental Performance Indicators was considered as a solution to the need to customise SEM. A core set of EPIs could be used by all TLAs which would enable comparison between Councils while a further wider set could be developed for use in monitoring specific environmental issues for different District Councils.

Recommendations for ongoing TLA Indicator Work

The issues listed below are those that the 16 TLAs considered as being most important and for which indicators that the TLAs consider should be developed:

- land use

- amenity
- heritage
- leisure and recreation
- natural features/ biodiversity
- noise
- population growth
- public access to foreshore
- transportation
- waste management
- natural hazards
- water quality

Some of the above issues may also be considered as part of regional council functions as well as TLA functions. There is a need to identify the critical aspects underlying and that form part of the above issues so that indicators can be developed for them and their relationships to regional council functions.

Role of MfE

There was strong support within the survey for the role of MfE as the developer of environmental performance indicators and TLAs were conscious of the need to use a consistent set of indicators.

Furthermore, there was strong support for MfE to provide an educational role to all TLAs. In particular, the MfE should provide a series of seminars to TLAs explaining about SEM and SER and the need for the results of monitoring to result in positive change of environmental policy and management. There is a real need to emphasise both a practical approach to monitoring and the benefits of undertaking focused state of the environment monitoring and reporting.

MfE also needs to provide support and encouragement for the preparation and implementation of monitoring strategies. These are considered vital for consequential state of the environment monitoring and reporting but many TLAs require simple and practical advice on the preparation of the strategy.

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- Appendix A Project Brief**
- Appendix B TLA Survey Form**
- Appendix C TLA Survey Results**
- Appendix D TLA Monitoring Information**

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Sustainable management of New Zealand's environment is the central purpose of the Resource Management Act. Sustainable management relies, in part, on the availability of good information. Information on the state of the environment is generated by monitoring data using environmental performance indicators. Periodic monitoring using environmental performance indicators may detect changes and trends in the state of the environment. That information can then be used to affect management decisions, policy decisions, and changes to environmental policies themselves.

Section 35 of the Resource Management Act broadly requires three types of monitoring to be carried out (in addition to the monitoring of any duties transferred):

- state of the environment monitoring
- effectiveness of Plan policies
- compliance monitoring

The duties under Section 35 apply to all local authorities - both regional councils and territorial local authorities (TLAs). Compliance monitoring appears to be the most common type of monitoring undertaken at the territorial local authority level. Over the last three years, most of the territorial local authorities have prepared and notified their first District Plans under the Resource Management Act. Issues of environmental concern relating specifically to those Districts have been identified and objectives and policies for addressing those issues developed in the Plans. In many cases, monitoring relating to the effectiveness of Plan policies may only now be commencing, even though that monitoring is set out in the Proposed District Plan, due to the focus on the completion of the District Plan review process.

The development of state of the environment monitoring (SEM) and reporting (SER) has initially tended to be focused at the regional council level. It has also tended to be focused more toward the use of biophysical indicators rather than the use of socio-economic indicators.

The Ministry for the Environment (MfE) is co-ordinating a programme for the development of a core set of environmental performance indicators (EPI). The purpose of the EPI programme is to develop indicators to measure and report on how well NZ is looking after its environment. The EPI programme aims to develop a core set of environmental performance indicators for New Zealand that are useful to resource managers to assess the state of the environment and help monitor outcomes of environmental objectives, policies and legislation. Two discussion papers have been produced by the Ministry for the Environment on environmental performance indicators which relate to the following:

- air, fresh water, land and soils

- stratospheric ozone and climate change

The environmental performance indicators relating to the above areas will be confirmed by July 1998. However, there is still considerable work to finalise the indicators and how they will be implemented. This will also involve the trialing of the indicators. However, the above subject areas are considered to relate predominantly more to regional council functions.

The Ministry for the Environment now intends to broaden the focus of the development of environmental performance indicators to include what has been traditionally considered to be territorial local authority functions, for example, transport and waste indicators.

1.2 Statutory Framework

The relevant statutory duties for any TLA relating to monitoring under the Resource Management Act are set out in Sections 35 (1) & (2):

“Duty to gather information, monitor, and keep records -

(1) Every local authority shall gather such information, and undertake or commission such research, as is necessary to carry out effectively its functions under this Act.

(2) Every local authority shall monitor -

(a) The state of the whole or any part of the environment of its region or district to the extent that is appropriate to enable the local authority to effectively carry out its functions under this Act; and

(b) The suitability and effectiveness of any policy statement or plan for its region or district;

(c) The exercise of any functions, powers, or duties delegated or transferred by it; and

(d) The exercise of the resource consents that have effect in its region or district, as the case may be, -

and take appropriate action (having regard to the methods available to it under this Act) where this is shown to be necessary.”

It is noted that there is a clear mandatory requirement for the TLA to undertake SEM within the district. However, that mandatory requirement in Section 2(a) is qualified by the phrase: “... to the extent that is appropriate to enable the local authority...”.

Furthermore, while there is a clear direction to undertake appropriate monitoring, there is no statutory requirement to undertake reporting of the monitoring, especially in the form of a state of the environment report. Accordingly, the varied level of SEM and SER found to occur within the 16 TLAs surveyed in this study can be attributed, in part, to the provisions of Section 35 of the Act.

1.3 Purpose and Scope of Project

The Ministry for the Environment commissioned Peter Glasson of Glasson Potts Group Limited to undertake this pilot project to ascertain the level of state of environment monitoring by territorial local authorities. Sixteen Councils throughout New Zealand were selected to be part of the study. The purpose of the pilot project was to:

1. complete a case study on selected TLA state of the environment monitoring and links to the EPI programme
2. visit the 16 TLAs to:
 - inform the TLAs of progress under the EPI programme
 - gather information about their current state of the environment monitoring and reporting
3. identify key environmental issues at the TLA level
4. recommend priority areas for the development of Environmental Performance Indicators of the key issues

The study and this resultant report is not intended as an exhaustive study of state of the environment monitoring and reporting at the territorial local authority level. Section 3 of this report sets out recommendations for ongoing TLA indicator work.

1.4 Territorial Local Authorities Consulted

Sixteen territorial local authorities were selected to take part in the survey:

1. Auckland CC
2. Christchurch CC
3. Dunedin CC
4. Gore DC
5. Horowhenua DC
6. Hutt CC
7. Kapiti Coast DC
8. Manukau CC
9. Palmerston North CC
10. Queenstown-Lakes DC
11. Rodney DC
12. Southland DC
13. Taupo DC
14. Tauranga DC
15. Waitakere CC

16. Wellington CC

A vital part of the project was considered to be the face to face consultation with all of the above TLAs. It was not considered practical to undertake a face-to-face visit of all 74 local authorities in New Zealand on this issue. However, the above list of TLAs was selected on the basis that it:

- covered main cities and areas of pressure
- covered a range of councils who have initiated some state of the environment monitoring
- covered areas of environmental pressure and high tourist expectations
- covered some provincial/ isolated district councils

It is acknowledged that the list has a higher proportion of larger, more urbanised TLAs and those that have already undertaken some SEM and reporting. The list also contains most of the TLAs that are experiencing high growth rates and therefore may be experiencing greater environmental pressure.

It is intended that the survey will be sent out to all the other 58 TLAs in New Zealand.

1.5 Methodology

The survey form, attached as Appendix B, was sent to all 16 TLAs with a covering letter explaining the general purpose of the study and the need to undertake face-to-face consultation with the 16 TLAs. A meeting was subsequently arranged with each of the TLAs which consisted of a presentation on the Ministry for the Environment Environmental Performance Indicators (EPI) Programme and the purpose and extent of the present study. Discussion of the relevant issues and monitoring of each TLA followed.

A relatively small group (16) of Territorial Local Authorities, out of the total number (74) in New Zealand, was sampled and consulted in this study. Responses were forthcoming from all 16 Council's surveyed. However, some of the surveys contained insufficient information relating to the importance of issues question and this is shown in the collated survey form. A follow up telephone call was made to a key contact in each council. A collation of all the survey responses received is attached as Appendix C and individual Council information is presented in Appendix D.

It is considered that the survey, and follow up consultation, was effective in gathering information from the 16 TLAs contacted and also in building relationships between the TLAs and MfE with respect to the issue of state of the environment monitoring. However, the issue remains of how well the results can be used to determine state of the environment monitoring by the other TLAs in New Zealand. The survey was particularly useful in identifying key issues from which environmental performance issues could be further developed.

The original survey contained a statement that information gained in the study would not be attributed to any individual TLA. However, the consent of representatives from all TLAs was subsequently gained so that each TLA could then be individually identified where appropriate and more information from the study could be presented.

An informal review of this document has been undertaken by Stephen Knight and Tom Fookes of Auckland University and their assistance is gratefully acknowledged.

2. RESULTS OF SURVEY & VISITS TO 16 TLA

2.1 Overview of TLA Monitoring

2.1.1 Compliance Monitoring

The survey of the 16 TLAs has shown that most (94%) of the councils surveyed are undertaking compliance monitoring of resource consents granted by the local authority. However, approximately only half are undertaking monitoring relating to the effectiveness of plans and policies or state of the environment monitoring.

Most compliance monitoring being undertaken appears to be based primarily on complaints generated in respect of resource consents issued. Fewer local authorities have set up formal “bring-up” systems or undertaken random monitoring of a percentage of resource consents each year.

There are at least three reasons for compliance monitoring:

1. compliance of the activity with the consent conditions set;
2. analysis of whether the consent conditions are achieving their purpose;
3. feedback of compliance or non-compliance with resource consent conditions back into District Plan objectives, policies and rules.

Generally, the survey found that of the compliance monitoring that was being undertaken, in most instances it only related to part 1 above i.e. whether the activity was complying with the consent conditions set. Furthermore, in most instances, the compliance monitoring was only being undertaken as a result of complaints from the community. There appeared to be little formal feedback mechanisms from the compliance monitoring undertaken to changes to the District Plan.

2.1.2 Monitoring of the Effectiveness of the Plan and Policies

Approximately half (56%) of the local authorities surveyed reported that they were undertaking monitoring relating to the effectiveness of plans and policies. However, the focus of most of the local authorities over the past few years has been on the preparation and notification of the Proposed Plan and ensuring its passage through the notification procedures. This was a significant issue that was raised by most of the TLAs during face to face discussions. Even some of the larger TLAs raised this issue, but the smaller TLAs seemed to be especially conscious of this issue. In effect, monitoring has taken a

back seat to District Plan preparation in many districts because of financial constraints, staff availability, and other RMA priorities.

Furthermore, there needs to be greater cognisance of the need for a feedback loop between the preparation and implementation of the objective, policy, and rule, and the monitoring of those provisions - *at the time of its preparation*. Questions of “*How could this policy be monitored?*” and “*Do we need any particular baseline work to enable effective monitoring?*” should be asked at the time of the formation of the particular provision.

2.1.3 State of the environment monitoring

Approximately half (56%) of the local authorities also considered that they were undertaking some form of state of the environment monitoring. This includes TLAs who may only be monitoring biophysical issues without considering socio-economic issues.

Furthermore, many councils are undertaking monitoring of both types of issues but the work is being undertaken by different parts of the Council and different reports are being produced covering the two different types of issues. It was considered that in many cases the state of the environment report could be presented in a more integrated form that included both socio-economic and biophysical monitoring information with little additional effort.

The issue of the definition of “environment” was often raised in this regard. Much of the recent interpretation of the Resource Management Act has focused on the biophysical components of the environment, despite the definition of “environment” including social, aesthetic, cultural and economic aspects. The country’s first national State of the Environment report also focused predominantly on biophysical issues. This conundrum is central to state of the environment monitoring at the territorial local authority level and needs to be resolved by each individual TLA at an early stage in the development of a monitoring strategy, state of the environment monitoring, and environmental performance indicators. TLAs can have a significant impact on social and economic issues e.g. health, housing, employment, crime even though most of the issues are a statutory function of other organisations i.e. Government ministries and departments.

The issue also relates to what the TLA perceives to be its functions and statutory obligations with a division between those that consider themselves to have a comprehensive management approach to the district e.g. Christchurch City vs. those that wish to reduce their functions to primarily service delivery e.g. Papakura City. Another common issue raised was the perceived overlap of regional council and territorial local authority functions.

It is noted that the figure of 56% of respondents who considered that they were undertaking some form of SEM in this study contrasts with (approximately) 93% of respondents who claimed to be undertaking SEM in the “Findings of the Annual Survey of Local Authorities”. The discrepancy could only be checked by undertaking an in-depth analysis of the TLA definitions of SEM and state of the environment reporting

(SER). Many of the TLAs surveyed appeared to be undertaking some form of state of the environment monitoring.

However, the TLAs were:

- not reporting the results in an overall comprehensive and integrated state of the environment report; or,
- were producing two or more separate (biophysical vs. socio-economic) reports.

Furthermore, there may be a lack of reporting and interaction between different sections of the Council undertaking different types of monitoring and those using different environmental performance indicators.

Several of the TLAs consulted identified the need to undertake effective baseline studies as part of state of the environment monitoring and reporting. Some had identified the need to prepare an initial in-depth state of the environment report but one that could be followed by shorter monitoring reports that identified and discussed trends and especially recommended appropriate Council action rather than simply reporting monitoring data.

2.1.4 TLA / Regional Council Co-operative Monitoring Approach

Many (75%) of the local authorities have developed some joint monitoring with their particular regional council. However, most of this monitoring related to a particular aspect of water quality with less co-operation between the local authority and regional council on any other issues. While the monitoring of water quality was the one issue most addressed by a co-operative approach between the TLA and the Regional Council, other issues monitored co-operatively included:

- contaminated sites
- tangata whenua
- natural hazards
- DoC conservation estate
- transportation
- vegetation changes
- natural heritage
- stormwater
- coastal changes
- waste

It appears that there is considerable opportunity for greater co-operation between TLA and regional council state of the environment monitoring. The initiatives in the Auckland region between the Auckland Regional Council and TLAs in the form of the regional monitoring forum, and in the Waikato region in the form of the joint state of the environment monitoring could be undertaken in other regions as well.

2.1.5 Monitoring Budget

Less than half (44%) of the local authorities surveyed had a defined overall budget for all types of monitoring. Even less (38%) had a defined budget for SEM. Many of the TLAs consulted expressed their difficulty in answering this question because of the contribution that many staff make towards monitoring within the Council. While it is easy to assess the budget of a dedicated full-time monitoring staff person, it is much more difficult to assess the part contributions of other Council staff towards SEM and monitoring in general.

This comment is equally applicable to the request to state the number of staff involved in SEM. Full time SEM staff are easy to identify but a number of other Council staff will generally be involved in part of the collection of some SEM information and in the smaller local authorities, monitoring is only one of a range of duties a staff person will need to undertake. It is therefore more important to identify the number of hours or the percentage of staff time contributed to monitoring rather than the number of persons involved in the activity.

2.1.6 Monitoring Strategy and Overall Monitoring Report

Less than half (44%) of the local authorities surveyed had an overall monitoring strategy. The compilation of an overall monitoring strategy is considered essential as a first step towards both putting in place the monitoring structure and direction within the TLA and also specifically identifying the broad needs of a SEM system. Without the strategy, it is unlikely that the Council will have the systems and linkages between the different types of monitoring to successfully comply with the requirements of Section 35 of the Act.

It is also significant that of those monitoring strategies identified in the study, some did not have a section on state of the environment monitoring. Furthermore, less than half of the TLAs surveyed produced an overall monitoring report. The lack of a specific statutory direction for formal state of the environment reporting in Section 35 of the Act (as outlined in section 1.2 above) may result in the doubtful exercise of monitoring without reporting and, more seriously, without the feedback to Council action in the way of policy changes should they be required.

It is considered that it is difficult for Councils to measure what monitoring they do undertake against the requirements of Section 35 of the Resource Management Act unless the monitoring requirements are set out in a strategy and the state of the environment monitoring within a state of the environment framework.

The survey confirmed that better resourced Council's are more likely to have a monitoring strategy and be involved, to some extent at least, in state of the environment monitoring. Further additional work to be undertaken by MfE in the future should identify the factors which influence a Council to develop and prepare a strategy. This would enable MfE to provide the most cost effective support to TLAs.

2.2 Present State of the Environment Reporting by TLAs

2.2.1 Frequency of Reporting

As stated above, approximately half (56%) of the local authorities surveyed considered that they were undertaking some form of state of the environment monitoring. It is noted that the frequency varied between the production of an annual SER, one SER every three years, and one SER every five years. The frequency of state of the environment reporting was discussed during consultation and a common comment was that the SER should generally be produced less frequently. This was for a number of reasons including:

- staff resources required to undertake monitoring and produce the SER
- financial resources required to undertake monitoring and produce the SER
- monitoring periods of other agencies e.g. census data every five years
- the time required for trends to become apparent
- timing with election of new Councillors
- timing with other major Council initiatives or statutory requirements

The use of “interim trend reports” on specific issues was raised by several TLAs with the SER itself becoming less frequent. This appears to be good compromise between the constraints and timing requirements on the one hand and the need to produce a comprehensive SER on the other.

Auckland City Council produced its state of the environment report in a ringbinder format so that sections of the SER could be updated as appropriate, and other issues added if appropriate. This enables a different frequency of monitoring and reporting depending on the issue or the variable.

During the consultation phase of the study, it became clear that many of the TLAs possess substantial databases of monitoring information which could be used as part of a state of the environment report but the framework for identifying and including the material, rationalising it, and, including it in a state of the environment report is lacking. Furthermore, the issue of how the TLA will use that information once it is collated into an appropriate form is crucial if the monitoring and subsequent monitoring is to be undertaken on a cost effective basis. “Monitoring for monitoring’s sake” will simply give it a bad name with those persons who make the budgetary decisions.

2.2.2 Use of State of the Environment Reports

The relevance of state of the environment reports and their subsequent use is a key issue. Generally, not enough evidence of a feedback loop back into a change in Council policy was found in the study of the 16 TLAs. The SER must not be viewed as an end in itself but part of the overall environmental management process.

Christchurch City Council appeared to have a very wide distribution of the SER it produces with copies being circulated to schools, universities and libraries as well as

being widely circulated to senior staff throughout the Council itself. Copies were also circulated to all Councillors and Community Boards with a reportedly positive response.

2.2.3 Political and Staff Support

There was strong (69%) political support for SEM within those TLAs surveyed. It was considered that there had been less political consideration of SEM in smaller TLAs than the larger urban TLAs, and that there was less political support for SEM in such Councils.

There was very strong (86%) staff support for SEM within those TLAs surveyed. The difference between the smaller rural TLA and the larger urban local authority was also apparent in this context. Many of the larger urban local authorities had dedicated staff working full time on SEM and the production of a state of the environment report. The staff in the smaller local authorities had multiple roles to undertake and were likely to be involved in all types of monitoring for the Council, as well as the District Plan review and resource consent application processing. In such cases, available time (and enthusiasm) for state of the environment monitoring and reporting were low. Knowledge about SEM was also lower.

2.2.4 Financial Support

A lack of funding was considered twice as important as a lack of political commitment in accounting for the lack of monitoring of key environmental issues in the District.

2.3 Important Environmental Issues

2.3.1 Identification and Monitoring of Issues

Previous comments in this report (section 2.1.2) referred to the TLA focus on the completion of the District Plan review. Survey results also indicated that although 88% of TLAs had identified key resource management issues specific to the District in the District Plan, only 44% were undertaking specific monitoring relating to those issues. While the issues are required to be identified as part of the District Plan process, and plan effectiveness monitoring forms part of the District Plan, many of the TLAs had not developed the indicators required to undertake that monitoring.

2.3.2 Use of Indicators

The use of Environmental Performance Indicators is a key facet of state of environment monitoring. Especially in the cases of the Wellington and Christchurch City Councils, EPIs are particularly well developed compared to other TLAs surveyed. Biophysical indicators have also been developed for the Palmerston North City Council's SEM programme.

A further important reason stated in Council survey replies for the lack of monitoring of key environmental issues was the lack of defined Environmental Performance Indicators. Consultation with TLAs identified the need for EPIs that are consistent and comparable throughout New Zealand and underlined the need for the Ministry for the Environment to continue to be involved in EPI development.

While there was acknowledgement of the need for some consistency in the EPIs used by Councils, there was very strong (69%) opposition to all TLAs being required to use all of the EPIs developed in their own monitoring programmes. The common reason stated for this opposition was, logically, the need to customise the monitoring programme to the local situation.

A two-tiered set of Environmental Performance Indicators was considered as a solution to the need to customise SEM. A core set of EPIs could be used by all TLAs which would enable comparison between Councils while a further wider set could be developed for use in monitoring specific environmental issues for different District Councils.

2.3.3 Priority Issues for Indicator Development

Question 4 of the survey related to priority areas for work on environmental performance indicators and asked respondents to note the level of importance for a very broad range of 37 issues listed. The issues were compiled from existing state of the environment reports and other suggested parameters. During face-to-face consultation with the 16 TLA, the level of importance of the issue was discussed and attributed to those having the highest existing impact and generally those that could be addressed by the TLA concerned. This addresses two of the four aspects of the prioritisation process (MfE, 1996) that was defined as being:

- highest existing impact
- highest probability of occurring
- lower probability but a moderate or high impact
- can be addressed (i.e. are solvable: both in a practical or legal sense)

All survey responses have been collated and the results are contained in Appendix C. The collation of the survey responses for Question 4a of the TLA survey which relates to issues is given in Table 2.3.3 below. Issues that received a high importance rating of either 4 or 5 are set out below in the order of importance attributed to them. The issues listed below are those that nine or more TLAs listed as being very important i.e. a score of 4 or 5. The figure given in brackets against each parameters is the number of TLAs (out of 16) giving that issue a high ranking.

- land use (14)
- amenity (11)
- heritage (11)
- leisure and recreation (11)
- natural features/ biodiversity (11)
- noise (11)
- population growth (11)
- public access to foreshore (10)
- transportation (10)
- waste management (10)
- natural hazards (9)
- water quality (9)

The issue of “population growth” refers to the monitoring of population growth in the overall TLA area, in particular parts of the TLA area and over different periods of the TLA’s growth.

Table 2.3.3: Collation of responses for Question 4a of the TLA survey

Issue	Importance					No of Replies	4+5
	Not				Very		
	1	2	3	4	5		
air quality	5	4		2	2	13	4
agrichemicals	7	4	4			15	
amenity			3	4	7	14	11
biodiversity		1	4	5	4	14	9
climate	7	4	1		1	13	1
coastal habitat and ecosystems	2	2	5	4	1	14	5
contaminated sites	1	3	4	3	4	15	7
crime statistics	4	2	3	3	2	14	5
culture and cultural needs	2	4	5		4	15	4
decision making	2	2	3	3	3	13	6
education	5	3	2	3	1	14	4
employment and unemployment	2	4	3	4	1	14	5
energy supply, usage and efficiency	2	2	6	2	2	14	4
groundwater use	4	2	3	3	1	13	4
health	1	3	6	2	2	14	4
heritage			3	5	6	14	11
housing provision	1	1	6	3	3	14	6
industry trends	1	1	7	3	2	14	5
leisure and recreation			4	6	5	15	11
land use				3	11	14	14
local economy		1	3	6	2	12	8
maori consultation			4	3	5	12	8
natural features	1		2	5	6	14	11
natural hazards	1		4	3	6	14	9
noise			3	4	7	14	11
odour	3	3	4	1	3	14	4
personal safety	3	1	4	3	1	12	4
pests and weeds	4	4	2	1	1	12	2
population growth		1	3	4	7	15	11
public access to foreshore	2	1	2	7	3	15	10
riparian vegetation	1	3	5	2	2	13	4
social well-being	1	4	3	1	2	11	3
soil	2	3	4	3	1	13	4
transportation	1		4	5	5	15	10
waste management	1	1	2	4	6	14	10
water quality	1		3	5	4	13	9
water quantity	1	4	4	3	2	14	5

2.4 Role of Ministry for the Environment

2.4.1 Overlap of Functions

Seventy-five percent of Councils surveyed considered that there was an overlap between their SEM and another statutory authority. Issues identified were as follows:

- water quality
- air quality
- ecosystems/ biodiversity
- earthworks
- contaminated sites
- heritage protection
- transportation
- waste
- amenity
- noise
- growth
- natural hazards
- hazardous substances

Much of the perceived overlap appears to relate to the effect of land use activities on the air or water environments i.e. a TLA/ Regional Council overlap. In such a situation, there appears to be a strong need for an integrated approach to SEM, or at least greater communication on monitoring between the two bodies.

A perceived overlap between the TLA and other agencies undertaking the monitoring of issues, such as the Department of Statistics, NZ Police, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, NZ Employment Service, was also raised. In most cases, this information is more of a socio-economic nature and the other agency is acting as a primary collector and analyser of the information. The TLA, on the other hand, by passing on the information in its own SER, is attempting to show the “big picture” and the integration of biophysical and socio-economic monitoring information.

2.4.2 MfE Indicator Development

There was very strong support (81%) for the Ministry for the Environment development of EPIs for use by Territorial Local Authorities in the same way that air, land, and water, and ozone and stratospheric change indicators are being developed at present.

The MfE role in developing EPIs was also supported by Councils who had already developed their own indicators on issues but were conscious of the need to use, wherever possible, a consistent set of indicators. The financial advantages of MfE undertaking this work, especially for smaller local authorities, was also acknowledged during the consultation process.

2.4.3 Information Management

There was strong support from Council survey responses and during consultation for MfE involvement in the following areas:

- co-ordinated monitoring of a meta database (88%)
- management of a contact database (88%)
- monitoring of best practice information (88%)
- collating national indicator data (94%)

The co-ordinating role of MfE, and the development of a “hub” on the internet as part of the SEM information management was acknowledged by many TLAs during face-to-face consultation.

2.4.4 Education

Survey responses revealed support for the requirement for further information on SEM for Councillors (63%) but even stronger support (88%) for further information for Council staff. Very strong support (94%) was expressed for further education of both Council staff and Councillors.

A stronger preference (63%) was shown for such education to be undertaken by a combination of both Ministry for the Environment staff and Council staff rather than by MfE staff alone (19%), or Council staff alone (19%).

Education about state of the environment monitoring and reporting can be viewed as having many facets including:

1. education of TLA staff about the need for monitoring and the monitoring process
2. education of TLA Councillors about the need for monitoring and the monitoring process
3. release of the results of SEM to Council staff
4. release of the results of SEM to TLA politicians
5. release of the results of SEM to the wider community

The release of the Waitakere Ranges SER in a newspaper format by the Waitakere City Council is an especially appropriate mechanism for education of the wider community and has included a full consultation programme as part of both the preparation and the release of the SER. This approach is particularly different from most other TLAs surveyed where the intended audience is largely Council staff and Councillors.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ONGOING TLA INDICATOR WORK

3.1 Identification of Issues

Section 2.3.3 above has outlined twelve issues considered most important by TLAs and which need to be further broken down into subissues and from which environmental performance indicators could then be developed:

- land use
- amenity
- heritage
- leisure and recreation
- natural features/ biodiversity
- noise
- population growth
- public access to foreshore
- transportation
- waste management
- natural hazards
- water quality

Some of the issues overlap with others (e.g. amenity and leisure, recreation, noise) while some are much more specific (e.g. public access to foreshore). Furthermore, some issues would require the development of indicators and direct use by the territorial local authority involved (e.g. heritage). Other issues (e.g. population growth information from Statistics New Zealand) would involve other agencies at the monitoring stage and may only require the TLA to use the information already gathered and analyse that information in their own state of the environment report. Other issues (e.g. natural features/ biodiversity) may encourage a co-operative approach by both the TLA and another agency or agencies e.g. Regional Council and/or Department of Conservation.

The Ministry for the Environment has commenced work on defining amenity with respect to indicator development. The Ministry for the Environment is also working with Statistics New Zealand on the further development of indicators with respect to environmental data.

The Ministry for the Environment has recently completed draft proposals for indicators for the marine environment, biodiversity, and waste (including contaminated sites, hazardous waste and hazardous substances). These indicators will be developed further into proposed indicators and released as a discussion document between late August - October 1998. Following comments on the MfE indicators document released in October 1997, the Ministry has also commenced work on indicators of toxic contaminants in the environment.

3.2 Identification of Priority areas for EPI development at the TLA level

The issue of greatest concern to TLAs was land use. In consultation with TLAs, many subissues relating to “landuse” were mentioned. These included the following:

- rate of subdivision
- area of subdivision
- changes in versatile land area being used for production
- rate of urbanisation
- population increase and density
- changes in land use
- change in landscape
- effects of land use in aquatic catchments
- transportation
- soils

There is some overlap between the above issues and those outlined by Ministry for the Environment in their Discussion Document entitled: “Environmental Performance Indicators: Proposals for air, fresh water and land”. However, the above subissues relate more to the specific functions of TLAs while those developed in the MfE document are focused toward the work normally undertaken at the regional council level.

The Ministry for the Environment is already involved in aspects of indicator development as set out in section 3.1 above. These include the following areas:

- amenity
- biodiversity/ natural features
- waste
- transportation (after July 1998)
- marine environment (including public access to and along the foreshore)
- fresh water - water clarity and periphyton

A decision on the development of indicators in the following areas needs to be made by the Ministry for the Environment:

- land use
- heritage
- leisure and recreation
- noise
- population growth
- public access to foreshore
- natural hazards

3.3 Methodology for work on environmental indicators at the TLA level

3.3.1 Methodology

The project has revealed that TLAs are generally aware of the environmental issues within their areas, and if required, could break the issues down into subissues. This is a key requirement for the further development of environmental performance indicators at the TLA level. It is also a key requirement of ensuring that SEM is tied to objectives, policies, and rules in District Plans. An essential part of this process needs to be the comparative risk assessment approach, as outlined in section 2.3.3 above. A draft methodology for work on environmental indicators at the TLA level is as follows:

1. Undertake the survey of all other 58 TLAs in New Zealand
2. Finalise prioritisation of issues
3. Identify key stakeholders of representative TLAs
4. Undertake consultation using key stakeholders
5. Identify subissues
6. Prioritise subissues into two level approach of national and local sets
7. Identify existing EPIs used by TLAs for monitoring of such subissues
8. Develop other EPIs for monitoring of the subissues
9. Produce Discussion Document
10. Undertake wider consultation
11. Finalise environmental performance indicators

It is considered that by surveying the other 58 TLAs on their approach to state of the environment monitoring, the survey results will be strengthened and be more accurate.

3.3.2 Further Work

Preparation of monitoring strategies

Further additional work to be undertaken by MfE in the future should identify the factors which influence a Council to develop and prepare a strategy. This would enable MfE to provide the most cost effective support to TLAs. The MfE needs to determine the factors that would be most likely to provide the incentive to TLAs to undertake strategy development. In particular, this may include a decision that direct contact with MfE staff, workshops, MfE presentations to Council's, brochure or report production on

the key requirements, goals, and monitoring feedback loops of a strategy, and/or publication of the results of a pilot study on monitoring may be some of the most effective methods of encouraging the preparation of monitoring strategies.

The material produced by MfE should be short, simple and practical and be directed at the local authority practitioner and at the preparation and implementation of monitoring at the TLA level.

The study has identified a need for all TLAs to prepare a monitoring strategy prior to the preparation of individual strategies on compliance monitoring, policy effectiveness monitoring, or state of the environment monitoring. The emphasis on the monitoring strategy is regarded as the first step in the preparation of all other monitoring documents and will allow TLAs to prioritise their planning and budgeting in this area.

Assistance in the Preparation of Monitoring Strategies

It is unclear how much help TLAs get presently when trying to set up an effective monitoring strategy. There needs to be greater interaction with other TLAs, regional councils, MfE, and other sources of information. MfE should prepare a list of the relevant agencies in New Zealand that can assist TLAs in the preparation of a monitoring strategy and provide relevant information for SEM and SER.

The face-to-face consultation with individual TLAs identified the need for outside assistance.

Liaison between organisations

MfE needs to emphasize the need for closer liaison between (in particular smaller) TLAs to share ideas and knowledge. This recognises the smaller rateable base of some councils. However, as environmental issues are not necessarily proportional to population size, there is a need for monitoring and response strategies which integrate with other TLAs and the regional council. The liaison between organisations can be encouraged by MfE by the reporting of recent examples in the Waikato and Auckland regions. For example, the Auckland Regional Monitoring Forum, Auckland Regional Growth Forum, and the joint SER being developed by the Waikato Regional Council and six Waikato TLAs.

There needs to be greater integration of TLA monitoring strategies into regional monitoring strategies. MfE could assist by undertaking a co-ordinating role or at least set up role.

MfE could encourage regional councils to set up monitoring liaison groups with the TLAs in their areas. The monitoring liaison groups will allow a better understanding of what each individual TLA is monitoring and help to ensure that there is no overlap in the collection and analysis of information. This will lead to budgetary savings by all organisations involved in the monitoring groups.

End result of SEM and SER

It is important that MfE emphasise the links between environmental monitoring, district plan development, comparative risk assessment and issue prioritisation. Furthermore, monitoring needs to be linked back to objectives, policies and rules both during the plan process and throughout the life of the plan by way of plan changes. MfE needs to undertake workshops or forums emphasising the ultimate objective of state of the environment monitoring and reporting. These workshops need to be particularly targeted at the smaller TLAs and outline the opportunities for a co-operative approach to SEM.

Some of the TLAs surveyed and interviewed gave a low priority to state of the environment monitoring and did not fully understand the benefits of the feedback loop between state of the environment monitoring and policy development in the District Plan.

Funding

Where TLAs recognise the need for the development of a particular indicator, it might be feasible to look at shared funding responsibilities. This should include shared funding at a national (SMF, for example) level, regional, or local level. It is recommended that the MfE examine whether district council funds could be used to help pay for the development of EPIs at a regional or national level rather than each council going over similar ground.

At present, there are many organisations that are developing their own indicators for the monitoring of particular issues. During the study, it was observed that there was an overlap in this indicator development in some cases. Funding and co-operation between organisations will ensure that financial resources are well directed and that little overlap occurs.

Overlap of Functions

Analyse the issues identified in this report and suggest ways regional and district monitoring goals could be attained jointly.

Several examples of the integration of TLA strategies in management of land, water, and air were encountered in this study. MfE should encourage greater co-operation between district and regional councils, sharing of information, and an integrated approach of not only biophysical and socio-economic indicators but also across legal boundaries recognising environmental boundaries.

Identification of Issues

MfE needs to consult with a wider group of TLAs and confirm the important TLA environmental issues.

The issues identified in the study are those obtained only from the 16 TLAs surveyed and may not necessarily represent TLA's throughout New Zealand. It is possible that a wider group of TLAs will have different issues - especially those smaller, more rural TLAs.

Identification of Subissues

In undertaking the wider consultation outlined above, MfE should also identify the subissues relating to the key environmental issues within each of the TLAs.

The process of environmental performance indicator development requires the "narrowing" of the issue to sub-issues to identify the exact areas of concern and the categories of measurement.

Indicator Development

At present there appears to a strategy by some TLAs of waiting for the MfE to develop indicators and by other TLAs of developing their own indicators. The MfE should undertake an in-depth survey of all TLAs undertaking SEM to collate a list of indicators being used at present and therefore assist many of the TLAs developing their own indicators in parallel but without reference to other indicator development. More of a lead could be taken by regional and district councils - in conjunction with the MfE undertaking a co-ordinating role.

MfE must ensure that EPIs are not seen as an end in themselves by TLAs. There must be a clear cause and effect relationship between the issue, monitoring of the issue, and the change in Council policy or other management benefit.

MfE needs to identify the indicators which can utilise information already gathered by other agencies and which can be simply evaluated and collated into a state of the environment report. This would greatly assist the smaller TLAs to prepare an integrated state of the environment report and prevent the duplication of work and effort that appears to be occurring in some cases around New Zealand.

Core Set of Environmental Performance Indicators

A core set of EPIs could be used by all TLAs which would enable comparison between Councils while a further wider set could be developed for use in monitoring specific environmental issues for different District Councils. MfE should focus on the core set of indicators for use by TLAs in the first instance.

The MfE focus is on a core set of national environmental performance indicators. TLA indicators should include the nationally developed indicators where relevant and a suite

of other indicators to choose from specific to local issues. It is not the MfE responsibility to develop environmental indicators at a TLA level. The EPI programme - developing indicators at a national level - can, however, add value to TLA indicator development by providing the frameworks, and some ideas about useful indicators.

By developing a core set of environmental performance indicators by a national organisation, some duplication of effort could be avoided by the larger TLAs and work that would be undertaken for smaller TLAs that otherwise probably not be undertaken at all.

Key TLA Monitoring Contacts

Territorial Local Authority	Contact	Telephone
Auckland CC	Maurice Hoban	(09) 373 6316
Christchurch CC	Corinne Macintyre	(03)371 1815
Dunedin CC	H Walker	(03) 477 4000
Gore DC	Peter York	(03) 208 9080
Horowhenua DC	Mike Weir	(06) 368 7189
Hutt CC	Steve McCarthy	(04) 570 6806
Kapiti Coast DC	Andrew Guerin	(04) 298 5139 x 828
Manukau CC	Alex Holly	(09) 263 7100
Palmerston North CC	Peter Frawley	(06) 356 8199
Queenstown-Lakes DC	Claire MacDonald	(03) 442 7330
Rodney DC	Shane Hartley	(09) 426 5169
Southland DC	B Halligan	(03) 218 7259
Taupo DC	Eric Folely	(07) 377 9853
Tauranga DC	James Low	(07) 577 7000
Waitakere CC	J Fuller	(09) 836 8000 x 8442
Wellington CC	Pete Davis	(04) 801 3515



APPENDIX A

Project Brief

CALL FOR PROPOSALS
Case study to assess selected territorial authorities state of the environment monitoring and links to the Environmental Performance Indicators Programme

Goal

To visit a selected group (case study of) territorial authorities to

- inform them of the EPI Programme and
 - gather information on state of environment monitoring
- and recommend priority areas for work on indicators with territorial councils and how such work could be undertaken.

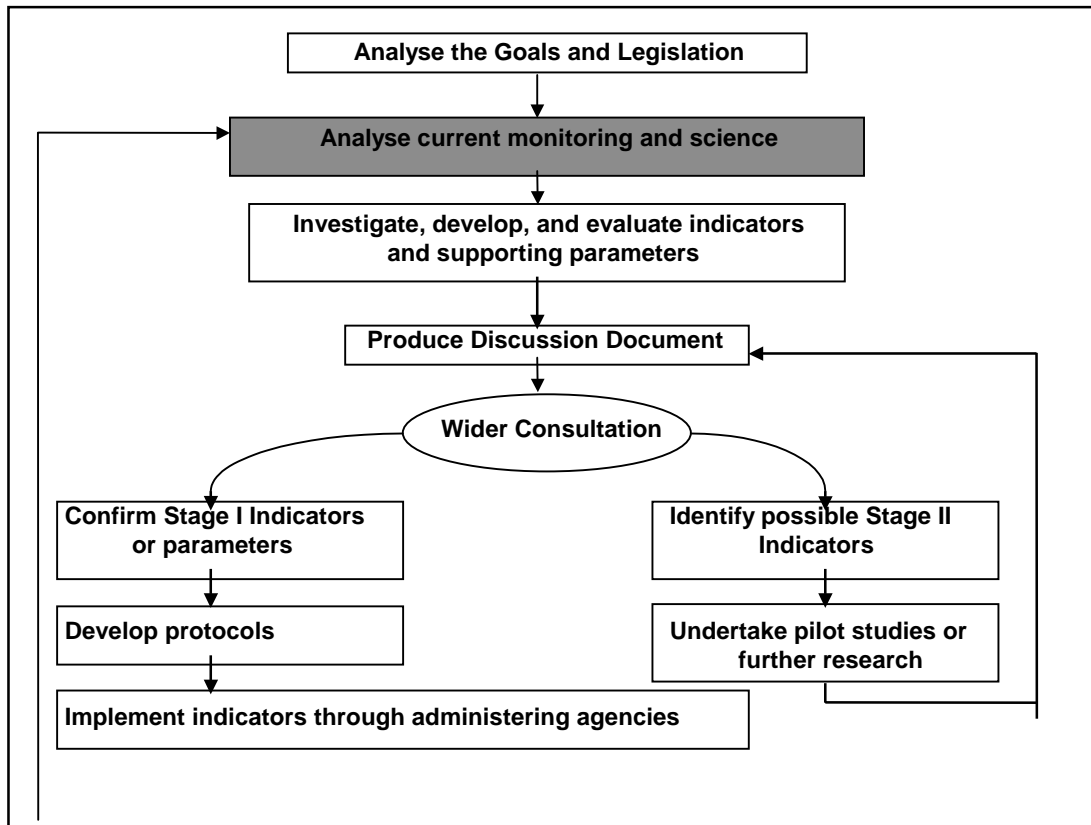
Background to the EPI Programme

Sustainable management of New Zealand's unique environment relies on the availability of good information. This information will be generated by consistent monitoring of the state of our environment. Environmental indicators provide us with information on the environment. This information is used to detect changes in the state of a system, population or individual through monitoring.

The Ministry for the Environment is coordinating the EPI Programme. The EPI Programme aims to develop a core set of environmental performance indicators for New Zealand that are useful to resource managers to assess the state of the environment and help monitor outcomes of environmental objectives, policies such as district plans; and legislation such as the RM Act.

Indicators have been developed using the process outlined in figure 1, involving collaboration with environmental managers to make to most of existing knowledge and techniques. To date most of the consultation on the EPI programme with councils has focused on the regional council level. The Ministry wishes to broaden this focus and engage territorial authorities on the EPI Programme and state of environment monitoring.

Figure 1: Process for Indicator Development



To date, a discussion document on proposed environmental performance indicators for air, fresh water and land has been produced and feedback on this document is being summarised and analysed. Feedback received has reflected the districts and city councils interest in being more involved in the EPI Programme.

Other environmental indicators currently being developed include those for ozone and climate change (which will shortly be released as a discussion document) marine environments (- including coasts and fisheries), biodiversity, and waste. Indicators for pests and weeds, transport and energy will be developed after July 1998. This progressive development over time is outlined over on figure 2.

The purpose and scope of this pilot study

The purpose of this pilot study is to:

- visit selected councils to
 - inform them of progress under the EPI Programme
 - gather information about their current state of environment monitoring
- further develop and test a process for gathering information about territorial councils state of environment monitoring and indicator development, develop information templates, and databases
- better understand territorial authority monitoring activities and issues
- build relationships
- find out the key issues
- find out what monitoring is currently being undertaken or proposed
- determine how it will be useful for EPI Programme
- establish how the Ministry can best assist councils with their monitoring
- determine cost effectiveness of visiting all territorial authorities on the EPI Programme
- recommend priority areas for work on environmental indicators at the territorial authority level and how such work could be undertaken.

This proposed case study builds on Adrienne Young Cooper's "Analysis of Questionnaire to Territorial Councils on Monitoring Duties under Section 35 of the Resource Management Act 1991" in which 40 TLAs responded to a questionnaire about monitoring and the *Monitoring Guide: A practitioner's guide to section 35 of the Resource Management Act*.

This work also builds on the Annual Survey sent to all councils in which they were asked questions about their monitoring.



Figure 2: Outline of EPI Programme

		1997/98			1998/99			1999/2000			2000/01
Group One	Air	draft	consult	confirm	phase-in			Implement			
	Land	draft	consult	confirm	further development and phase-in			Implement			
	Fresh water	draft	consult	confirm	further development and phase-in			Implement			
Group Two	Ozone	draft		consult	confirm	Implement					
	Climate Change	draft		consult	confirm	Implement					
Group Three	Coast/Estuaries	draft			consult	confirm	phase-in			implement	
	Fisheries	draft			consult	confirm	phase-in			implement	
Group Four	Biodiversity - terrestrial	draft			consult	confirm	phase-in			implement	
	- marine	draft				consult	confirm	phase-in	implement		
	Pest/Weed	draft				consult	confirm	phase-in	implement		
Group Five	Waste, Contam. Sites, HazWaste	draft			consult	confirm	phase-in			implement	
	Transport	draft			consult	confirm	phase-in			implement	
	Energy	draft			consult	confirm	phase-in			implement	
Information Management	develop framework			pilot and trial			staged implementation			implement	

A possible process has been devised to undertake the work required as follows:

1. review the material the Ministry currently has available on district council monitoring and provide a brief summary of this for MfE staff
2. assist in developing and circulating an introductory letter from Ministry for the Environment to selected councils about the EPI Programme and this case study
3. initial phone call to:
 - make contact with key staff
 - set up meeting
 - request relevant information
4. review of relevant state of environment monitoring information and indicator development
5. development of templates to guide information gathering and reporting
6. development of presentation material for meetings
7. visits to territorial local authorities with members of the Ministry EPI team
8. interim findings report to Ministry for the Environment:
 - identify key issues, opportunities, and constraints to the EPI Programme
9. write up results and entry into database
10. send draft reports back to authorities for checking
11. update draft reports and preparation of final reports
12. preparation of recommendation report for on-going indicator work at territorial local authority level.
13. presentation of reports to EPI team.

The process of gathering information under this contract will be carried out in parallel to the “needs analysis” work being developed on information management for the EPI Programme. The successful consultant(s) will be briefed on this work.

It is envisaged that the largest component of this study, being the most time consuming and costly, will be Step 6 - Visits to territorial local authorities.

Three potential options have been put together for this as follows:

These are suggestions only and may change. **Please note also that these councils have not yet been contacted about this case study and consultants bidding for this work should not discuss the details of this work with councils until the work is contracted out.**

You may have other suggestions for how to progress this work. We would appreciate your ideas on cost effective ways of involving territorial authorities in the EPI Programme.

Option 1

**North Island
Week One**

Week/ Day	Council No.	Council Name	Contact	Travel
1	1	Wellington City Council	Wayne Tacon; Management Team, Environment Division	Wellington - Masterton Car
2	2	Masterton District Council	Kevin Montgomerie; Manager Resources & Planning	Masterton - Kapiti Coast Car
3	3	Kapiti Coast District Council	Debbie Bly; Fergus Power Trade Waste Officer	Kapiti Coast - Levin Car
4	4	Horowhenua District Council	Mike Weir; Manager, Environmental Services	Levin - Palmerston North Car
5	5	Palmerston North City Council	Peter Frawley	Palmerston North - Wellington Car

Week Two

6	6	Taupo District Council	Ciaran Keogh; Planning Services Manager	Wellington- Taupo Fly Taupo -Tauranga Car
7	7	Tauranga District Council	James Low	Tauranga - Auckland Car
8	8	Waitakere City Council	Jenny Fuller; Policy Analyst	
8	9	Manakau City Council	Alex Holley; Manager, Environmental Monitoring	
9	10	North Shore City Council	Jim Harland	
9	11	Auckland City Council	Maurice Hoban	Auckland - Wellington Fly

**South Island
Week Three**

10	12	Christchurch City Council	Corine MacIntyre	Wellington - Christchurch Christchurch - Dunedin Fly
11	13	Dunedin City Council	Helen Walker Group Manager, Planning & Policy	Dunedin - Gore Car
12	14	Gore District Council	Peter York; Superintendent of Regulatory Functions	Gore - Invercargill Car
13	15	Invercargill City Council	Tony Dowson; Principal Environmental Health Officer	Invercargill - Queenstown
14	16	Queenstown Lakes District Council	John Edmonds; District Planner	Queenstown - Wellington Fly

Advantages:

- 16 councils consulted
- Covered main cities and areas of pressure
- Covered a range of councils who have initiated some monitoring
- Covered areas of environmental pressure and high tourist expectations, some who have made progress and some who have not
- Covered provincial/isolated district councils

Disadvantages:

- Time & Cost

Option 2

North Island

Week One

Week/Day	Council No.	Council Name	Contact	Travel
1	1	Wellington City Council	Wayne Tacon; "Process Owner - Management Team, Environment Division	Wellington Car
2	2	Horowhenua District Council	Mike Weir; Manager, Environmental Services	Wellington - Levin - Palmerston North Car
3	3	Palmerston North City Council	Peter Frawley	Palmerston North - Wellington Car
Week Two				
4	4	Tauranga District Council	James Low	Wellington - Tauranga - Wellington Fly
5	5	Waitakere City Council	Jenny Fuller; Policy Analyst	Wellington - Auckland - Fly
6	6	North Shore City Council	Jim Harland	Auckland - Wellington Fly
South Island				
Week Three				
7	7	Christchurch City Council	Corine MacIntyre	Wellington - Christchurch - Christchurch - Dunedin Fly
8	8	Dunedin City Council	Helen Walker Group Manager, Planning & Policy	Dunedin - Queenstown Car
9	9	Queenstown Lakes District Council	John Edmonds; District Planner	Queenstown - Wellington Fly

Advantages:

- Slightly cheaper and less time consuming.

Disadvantages:

- Does not provide as much "coverage" as Option 1. Does not take advantage of visiting as many councils as possible while travelling.

Option 3

**North Island
Week One**

Week/ Day	Council No.	Council Name	Contact	Travel
1	1	Wellington City Council	Wayne Tacon; "Process Owner - Management Team, Environment Division	Wellington Car
2	2	Masterton District Council	Kevin Montgomerie; Manager Resources & Planning	Wellington- Masterton - Wellington Car
3	3	Kapiti Coast District Council	Debbie Bly; Trade Waste Officer	Wellington - Kapiti Coast - Levin Car
3	4	Horowhenua District Council	Mike Weir; Manager, Environmental Services	Levin - Palmerston North Car
4	5	Palmerston North City Council	Peter Frawley	Palmerston North - Wellington Car
Week Two				
5	6	Tauranga District Council	James Low	Wellington - Tauranga - Wellington Fly
6	7	North Shore City Council	Jim Harland	Wellington - Auckland - Wellington Fly

Advantages:

- Time & Cost
- Possible to do from Wellington as day trips, with only two nights away

Disadvantages:

- Lack of coverage and associated PR benefits of visits.
- No South Island Councils included.

Commencement date for this work and required outputs

Proposed start date for this work is 30th March 1998

Outputs include the following:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. draft report on each council's current monitoring | 15 th May 1998 |
| 2. final report on each council's current monitoring | 22 nd May 1998 |
| 3. draft summary report of findings and recommendations | 26 th May 1998 |
| 4. five copies of the final report and disk with all reports | 5 th June 1998 |

Reporting

Brief progress reports will be made to Karen Bell and Dave Brash every two weeks during this contract.

Skills required

The key areas of expertise to complete this contract include:

- good understanding of the EPI Programme and what makes a good indicator
- excellent understanding of resource management in New Zealand
- excellent understanding of state of environment monitoring
- good relationships with councils
- innovative, sound and focused thinking.
- project management
- communication
- policy development - understanding of policy need, especially information on the costs and benefits needed to justify recommendations.

Ministry selection criteria

Proposals for this work should not be more than 8 pages long. Proposals will be assessed against the following selections criteria:

- demonstrated skills as listed above
- sound understanding of resource management and environmental monitoring
- sound understanding of indicators
- experience with project management
- appropriate contacts in NZ and overseas
- clear methodology and evaluation of risks
- history of client relationships
- costs, including adequate detail on costings and hours
- quality assurance measures
- communication and writing ability
- identification of who will work on each task.

APPENDIX B
TLA Survey Form



STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING
BY TERRITORIAL LOCAL AUTHORITIES
ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
SURVEY

District Planner
 District Council
CITY

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. It is intended that your individual survey form and the notes made from our meeting with you will first be returned to you for your checking. The survey results from the 16 TLAs will then be collated and bound into an overall report that will be sent to all TLAs in New Zealand and possibly to all regional councils. Your individual survey results and discussion notes will not be identified unless you agree otherwise.

I. EXISTING INFORMATION

A. What types of monitoring is your Council currently undertaking ?

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|-----|----|
| 1. | compliance monitoring | Yes | No |
| 2. | effectiveness of plans and policies | Yes | No |
| 3. | state of the environment monitoring | Yes | No |

B. Have you developed any joint monitoring with other statutory bodies ?

1. If so, could you please outline this monitoring

.....

.....

.....

C. Do you have a defined overall budget for all types of monitoring ?

Yes No

If yes, what is the amount ?

For what year ?

D. Do you have a defined budget for state of the environment monitoring ?

Yes No

If yes, what is the amount ?

For what year ?

II. EXISTING STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

A. Does your Council have an overall monitoring strategy ?

Yes No

B. Does the monitoring strategy include a section on state of the environment monitoring ?

Yes No

C. Does your Council produce an overall monitoring report ?

Yes No

If yes, could you please state how frequently ?

.....

D. Does your Council produce a separate state of the environment report ?

Yes No

E. If yes, could you please state how frequently ?

.....

F. How many staff are involved in state of the environment monitoring ?

.....

G. Please list all monitoring staff and their areas of responsibilities:

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

H. Is there general political support for state of the environment monitoring within your council ?

Yes No

1. Do you have any comments relating to this issue ?

.....

.....

I. Is there general staff support for state of the environment monitoring within your council ?

Yes No

1. Do you have any comments relating to this issue ?

.....

.....

III. IDENTIFICATION OF ISSUES

A. Please state the key resource management issues in your TLA area that you consider your council has the major management function ?

.....

.....

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

B. Are these issues identified in your Proposed District Plan ?

Yes No

C. Are you presently undertaking specific monitoring relating to these issues ?

Yes No

D. If you answered yes to the above question, could you please state the issues you monitor and the indicators that you use to undertake the monitoring for these issues. (Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

E. If you answered no to the above question, is this because of one or more of the following:

1.	lack of political commitment ?	Yes	No
----	--------------------------------	-----	----

.....

2.	lack of funding ?	Yes	No
----	-------------------	-----	----

.....

3. outside of TLA core responsibilities ? Yes No

.....

4. lack of defined EPI ? Yes No

.....

5. some other reason ? If so, please state:

.....

.....

IV. PRIORITY AREAS FOR WORK ON ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

A. On the following page is a list of issues that has been compiled from state of the environment reports undertaken by some councils in New Zealand and suggested parameters from other practitioners. Could you please give each of the following areas a ranking of 1 - 5 as to whether you consider the area worthy of monitoring by your Council ?



ISSUE	Importance					Presently monitoring?	If so, what frequency?	Contact person	Phone number	Email
	Not				Very					
	1	2	3	4	5					
air quality										
agrichemicals										
amenity										
biodiversity										
climate										
coastal habitat and ecosystems										
contaminated sites										
crime statistics										
culture and cultural needs										
decision making										
education										
employment and unemployment										
energy supply, usage and efficiency										
groundwater use										
health										
heritage										
housing provision										
industry trends										



leisure and recreation										
land use										
local economy										
maori consultation										
natural features										
natural hazards										
noise										
odour										
personal safety										
pests and weeds										
population growth										
public access to foreshore										
riparian vegetation										
social well-being										
soil										
transportation										
waste management										
water quality										
water quantity										

A. Are there any other issues that you consider should be added to this list?

.....
.....
.....
.....

B. Please indicate any areas that you consider are outside of the Council's monitoring responsibilities and may be the responsibility of other statutory authorities.

.....
.....
.....

C. Do you consider it important that all environmental performance indicators developed under the MfE EPI programme should be used for monitoring by all TLAs throughout New Zealand ?

Yes No

Please state reasons for your response above:

.....
.....

II. ROLE OF MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

A. Do you consider that there is overlap between your Council's state of environment monitoring and any other statutory authority ?

Yes No

B. If so, please state those areas where you consider that the overlap does or could occur ?

.....

.....

C. Would you agree with the formulation of measurable environmental performance indicators for territorial local authorities in the same way that these are being done for air, water and land, climate change and atmospheric ozone indicators by the Ministry for the Environment ?

Yes No

D. Do you think that the Ministry for the Environment should be involved in the following management activities ?

1. co-ordinated monitoring of a meta database

Yes No

2. managing a contact database

Yes No

3. monitoring best practice information

Yes No

4. collating national indicator data

Yes No

5. other ?

.....

.....

E. Do your Councillors and Council staff require further information on state of the environment monitoring ?

1.	Councillors	Yes	No
----	-------------	-----	----

2.	Council staff	Yes	No
----	---------------	-----	----

For example, workshops on indicators ?

Please comment:

.....

.....
F. Do you think that there needs to be more education of Councillors and Council staff ?

Yes No

If so, do you think that this should be undertaken by:

1. Ministry for Environment staff
2. Council staff
3. or a combination of both ?
4. other

.....
Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. You are welcome to discuss any aspect of the survey and give any additional comments to:

Peter Glasson
Glasson Potts Group Limited
P O Box 4365
CHRISTCHURCH

PH: (03) 374 6515
FX: (03) 374 6516
Email: gpgl@xtra.co.nz

Please post this survey to Peter Glasson by 15 May. Alternatively, you may wish to give us the completed survey form when we meet with you over the next few weeks. If you have produced a state of the environment strategy or report, could you please provide us with a copy.

APPENDIX C
TLA Survey Results

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING
BY TERRITORIAL LOCAL AUTHORITIES
ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
COLLATION OF SURVEY RESPONSES

Information that was requested in the surveys has been attributed to specific TLAs. This information may not necessarily represent the official policy of the TLA itself.

Abbreviations for TLAs are indicated in Attachment 1.

1. EXISTING INFORMATION

A. What types of monitoring is your Council currently undertaking ?

1.	compliance monitoring	15	Yes 1	No	Unanswered
2.	effectiveness of plans and policies	9	Yes 6	No 1	Unanswered
3.	state of the environment monitoring	9	Yes 5	No 2	Unanswered

B. Have you developed any joint monitoring with other statutory bodies ?

1. If so, could you please outline this monitoring

Yes	No	Unanswered
12	4	

Joint monitoring with Regional Authorities on the following issues:

	ACC	CCC	DCC	HCC ₍₁₎	MCC	PNCC	RDC	TDC ₍₁₎	TDC ₍₂₎	WCC ₍₁₎	WCC ₍₂₎
WATER QUALITY	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
CONTAMINATED SITES	✓										
TANGATA WHENUA			✓		✓			✓			
NATURAL HAZARDS	✓					✓					
DOC CONSERVATION ESTATE									✓		
TRANSPORTATION										✓	
VEGETATION CHANGES							✓				
NATURAL HERITAGE	✓										
STORM-WATER	✓										✓
COASTAL		✓	✓							✓	
WASTE	✓				✓						

c) Do you have a defined overall budget for all types of monitoring ?

Yes No Unanswered
7 8 1

If yes, what is the amount ?

For what year ?

ACC	\$223,115 Auckland City Planning	1998/1999
ACC	\$600,000 Auckland City Environment	1998/1999
DCC	\$160,000 Waste services	1997/1998
SDC	\$65,000 Compliance Monitoring	Unanswered

Although seven Councils stated that they do have an overall budget for all types of monitoring, only four gave figures.

d) Do you have a defined budget for state of the environment monitoring ?

Yes No

If yes, what is the amount ?

For what year ?

ACC	City Planning \$100,000 District Plan Monitoring \$123,115	1998/1999
CCC	\$67,659 Information collection and analysis \$68,927 Information collection and analysis \$89,521 City monitoring \$71,368 City monitoring \$89,521 City Plan Monitoring \$95,157 City Plan Monitoring \$669,507 Enforcement \$742,377 Enforcement	1997/98 1998/1999 1997/98 1998/1999 1997/98 1998/1999 1997/98 1998/1999
PNCC	\$30,000	1997, 98,99
RDC	\$15,000	1998/1999
TDC₍₁₎	\$32,000 \$56,000	1997/1998 1998/1999
WCC₍₁₎	\$100,000 to monitor external environment \$21,281 (for SOE reporting)	1998/1999 1998/1999

Although 6 TLAs stated that they undertake state of the environment monitoring, only five gave budgets.

2. EXISTING STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

A. Does your Council have an overall monitoring strategy ?

Yes	No
7	9

B. Does the monitoring strategy include a section on state of the environment monitoring ?

Yes	No	Unanswered
5	8	3

C. Does your Council produce an overall monitoring report ?

Yes	No
6	10

If yes, could you please state how frequently ?

	SIX WEEKLY	ANNUALLY	THREE YEARS	FIVE YEARS
ACC		✓		
CCC		✓		
HDC ⁽²⁾	✓			
MCC			✓	
RDC				✓
WCC ⁽¹⁾		✓		

⁽¹⁾ While indicated to be annual, the last SER was in July 1996

d) Does your Council produce a separate state of the environment report ?

Yes No
6 10

e) If yes, could you please state how frequently ?

	ANNUALLY	THREE YEARS	FIVE YEARS
ACC	✓ ⁽¹⁾		
CCC	✓		
MCC		✓	
PNCC			✓
RDC			✓
WCC ⁽¹⁾	✓		

One TLA did not indicate how often an overall monitoring report is produced.

f) How many staff are involved in state of the environment monitoring ?

ACC	1, large number of other staff involved in collecting information etc
CCC	2 Full time, 2 part time, numerous other staff provide information
DCC	6 health staff, 1 planning enforcement and monitoring officer
KCDC	0
MCC	3.5
SDC	0
TDC ⁽²⁾	0
WCC ⁽¹⁾	10

g) Is there general political support for state of the environment monitoring within your council ?

Yes No Unanswered
11 3 2

i) Do you have any comments relating to this issue ?

ACC	Current strategy under review
CCC	Annual SOE widely used and well received
DCC	Only monitor when there is a perceived problem, the monitoring section of the Proposed District Plan has not been heard
GDC	Plan group is focused on District Plan
HDC₍₂₎	Limited constraints
KCDC	Concern over financial implications
MCC	Information is too expensive
PNCC	Funding committed to SER
QLDC	Councillors unaware of monitoring requirements
RDC	There is reluctance from management to monitor unless it is related to Council's performance
SDC	Small declining rating base, and a large physical area. Political view is that there is insufficient funding
WCC₍₂₎	Not many aware of monitoring requirements
WCC₍₁₎	SER very well received by public and politicians

h) Is there general staff support for state of the environment monitoring within your council ?

Yes	No	Unanswered
14	2	

i) Do you have any comments relating to this issue ?

ACC	Concern over impacts over work loads
CCC	SOE reports used to support decision making, generate more detailed research into topical issues
DCC	Planning staff recognise the need to set up monitoring systems in order to assess the effectiveness of the Plan. Much of the information is readily available as well as good analysis techniques, some key indicators should be regularly monitored to provide historical records and trends
GDC	Issue is staff resources, a format for S of E monitoring, and significance for resource users
KCDC	Funding and resource issues
PNCC	Have to work on an awareness of the issue, and sell the benefits of SER
QLDC	SOE not commonly discussed or understood
RDC	There is an increasing awareness of SER and its value
SDC	Cannot afford it
TDC₍₁₎	Not perceived as a core task
WCC₍₂₎	SER is a question of time and priorities

3. IDENTIFICATION OF ISSUES

- A. Please state the key resource management issues in your TLA area that you consider your council has the major management function ?

ACC	Land use integration, protection of natural environment, amenity protection, noise, natural environment protection
CCC	Land and soil, water, air, natural hazards & habitats, energy, waste management, housing, business activity, rural activity, recreation, transport, utilities, subdivision
DCC	Land use, noise, glare, access to water, heritage values, changes in development, population density, transportation, infrastructure, urban amenity, riparian issues
GDC	Amenity values, life supporting capacity of soil, transportation, landscape changes, industry based minerals
HCC₍₁₎	Effects of retail activity, residential development, rural activity, significant natural resources, heritage buildings, open space and recreation, hazardous facilities
HDC₍₂₎	Natural features identification, rural subdivision, land use consents, advertising in rural areas, revitalisation of town centre
KCDC	Land use, subdivision, housing density, coastal discharges from septic tanks, noise
MCC	Water, air, land, landscape, waste, ecology, energy
PNCC	Sustainable land management, surface water quality, groundwater, solid waste, natural hazards, potable water, human activities on the environment, tangata whenua
QLDC	Landscape management, waterways management, growth management, retail and commercial amenity, rural subdivision
RDC	National environment, human and built environment, plan monitoring
SDC	Amenity issues, indigenous vegetation
TDC₍₂₎	Amenity values, infrastructure, traffic management, cultural values, hazard management, significant natural values
TDC₍₁₎	Amenity values, natural resource monitoring, hazards, heritage values
WCC₍₂₎	Air, water quality & quantity, native vegetation, land use, natural features, amenity values, tangata whenua
WCC₍₁₎	Urban containment, CBD and suburban centre development, waste management, amenity, open space, protecting natural environments

- b) Are these issues identified in your Proposed District Plan ?

Yes	No	Unanswered
14	1	1

- c) Are you presently undertaking specific monitoring relating to these issues?

Yes	No	Unanswered
7	8	1

- d) If you answered yes to the above question, could you please state the issues you monitor and the indicators that you use to undertake the monitoring for these issues. (Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

ACC	District Plan Key Performance Indicators yet to be developed, compliance monitoring yet to be developed
CCC	Weather and climate, natural hazards, landuse and soils, air (including noise), surface and groundwater, parks and natural ecosystems, energy, waste management, amenity, heritage, built environment Indicators used: Inflation, economic growth, unemployment, household expenditure, CCC land use zones, subdivision records, complaints register, residential survey, surface water quality data
DCC	Hazard register plans and identification of hazard areas. 5% of new sites monitored annually, monitoring of economic indicators, to commence monitoring of social indicators
GDC	GIS important tool, change in activities needs to be mapped into the GIS system for monitoring purposes
HCC₍₁₎	Considerable amount of SOE monitoring undertaken, but no specific indicators developed
MCC	Complaints monitoring for a range of air and noise pollution, some water monitoring surveys, a complete strategy for monitoring indicators is being developed
PNCC	Plan effectiveness monitoring must integrate with SOE monitoring
RDC	Contaminated sites, land use analysis, vegetation change, population change, interest rates, unemployment, building consents
WCC₍₁₎	Urban containment: dwelling densities, population of CBD, expansion of urban area, urban infill potential, greenfield subdivisions CBD and suburban centre development: Number of people living in CBD, dwelling densities, retail sales of City, pedestrians along specific routes, number of retail unit vacancies, office space vacancies

Although only seven TLAs answered yes to question a further two answered the following question.

- e) If you answered no to the above question, is this because of one or more of the following:

7 answered YES, to question c), and therefore did not answer any of the questions below.

1.	lack of political commitment ?	Yes	No	
		3	6	
2.	lack of funding ?	Yes	No	Unanswered
		6	2	1

3. outside of TLA core responsibilities ? Yes No Unanswered
8 1
4. lack of defined EPI ? Yes No
7 2
5. some other reason ? If so, please state:

ACC	Monitoring was the last area to tackle due to the need to develop District Plan
DCC	Lack of staff resources
GDC	Before undertaking monitoring, need to investigate other avenues for information
HCC₍₁₎	Time and resource constraints in working through the District Plan process
KCDC	Lack of funding and resources
SDC	Insufficient staff, unsure as what should be monitored
TDC₍₂₎	In the process of drafting the District Plan, result in baseline data that can be used for future monitoring
WCC₍₂₎	Staff time

4. PRIORITY AREAS FOR WORK ON ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- a) Priority areas for work on Environmental Performance Indicators have been attributed to individual TLAs and are set out in the TLA Database.
- b) Are there any other issues that you consider should be added to this list?

ACC	Environmental best practice, hazardous substances, electro-magnetic radiation, financial contributions
CCC	Demographic change, tourism growth, amenity (rural and urban), land use (rural and urban), subdivision (rural and urban)
DCC	Urban growth, landscape, public participation, water course/river quality monitoring
MCC	Informed community, landscape, waste, ecology, energy
HCC₍₁₎	Hazardous facilities, open space, animal control, trade waste
PNCC	Subdivision of land, the physical expansion of urban areas to rural land
RDC	Financial indicators, development indicators, consents monitoring, earthworks and land conversion, areas of indigenous forest and protection
SDC	Subdivision patterns, indigenous vegetation modification
TDC₍₁₎	Consumption can be derived from other data. Urban form/patterns could be relevant to transport
WCC₍₁₎	Include arts and culture

- c) Please indicate any areas that you consider are outside of the Council's monitoring responsibilities and may be the responsibility of other statutory authorities.

CCC	Still interested in trends and changes for information purposes, even though some are outside TLA responsibility
DCC	Water use and quality, air quality, quality of indigenous habitat, public health, broad socio-economic monitoring, coastal changes
GDC	Crime, climate, soil
HDC₍₂₎	Agrichemicals, crime statistics
PNCC	Contaminated sites, different approaches occur between Councils throughout NZ
RDC	Water quality, crime
SDC	SRC better equipped to monitor air, ground water soils and water quality
TDC₍₂₎	Monitoring should be undertaken in accordance with the significance of the issue. National significance issue should be the responsibility of MfE
TDC₍₁₎	Water, soil, air quality
WCC₍₂₎	Coastal issues
WCC₍₁₎	WRC/WCC joint monitoring on waste management, fresh and harbour water quality, transport, biodiversity

- d) Do you consider it important that all environmental performance indicators developed under the MfE EPI programme should be used for monitoring by all TLAs throughout New Zealand ?

Yes	No
5	11

Please state reasons for your response above:

ACC	TLAs use the same indicators, but not all have to be used, i.e. different indicators used for rural and urban
CCC	MfE should set guidelines and standards for EPIs, but it is only appropriate to use those EPIs which are relevant to a community
DCC	Needs to be a meaningful collection of data on a national, regional and city basis to provide a good database which will allow a balanced assessment of the health of the City's environment. However, every Council is different with different pressures, and resources
GDC	Different environments will need different indicators. If national indicators are used a matrix may need to be considered, to determine priority for each different environment
HDC₍₂₎	Should be appropriate to each TLA
HCC₍₁₎	Different districts will have different needs and issues, so not all indicators will necessarily be useful for all TLAs
KCDC	Consistency and the ability to compare between districts
MCC	At TLA level some issues become specific to an individual TLA. Also probably insufficient resources
PNCC	There are going to be differences for a number of reasons, eg resourcing, different local and regional context, different issues. What would be helpful is national endorsements of at least basic level indicators able to be applied anywhere and advertisements of acceptable methodologies for a range of indicators
RDC	TLAs should be involved but they should still have the option to choose to monitor or not
QLDC	They are not all applicable, and there is some overlap between authorities. Costs and resources are an issue
SDC	In principle yes, but who pays. Can be onerous on small councils
TDC₍₂₎	Not all indicators will be applicable on the individual District Councils
TDC₍₁₎	There are regional and district differences, however a core set is needed
WCC₍₂₎	Need to maximise consistency, but different areas have different environments and key indicators
WCC₍₁₎	The are not necessary for monitoring, however, the information collected by agencies should be made available to TLAs to assist in policy plan analysis. An expectation by central government that TLAs should monitor all aspects of the EPI programme should be supported by additional funding

5. ROLE OF MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

A. Do you consider that there is overlap between your Council's state of environment monitoring and any other statutory authority ?

Yes	No
12	4

- B. If so, please state those areas where you consider that the overlap does or could occur ?

ACC	Water quality, contaminated sites, heritage protection, transportation, waste, amenity, noise, growth
CCC	CRC, NZ Police, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, NZ Employment Service
DCC	Overlap occurs where land use has impacts on water and air, and in relation to natural hazards, biodiversity, and hazardous substances
GDC	Overlaps may occur once reports are generated with other agencies
HCC₍₁₎	Open spaces, animal control, trade waste/hazardous waste, hazardous facilities
MCC	Air, land, water
PNCC	Contaminated sites, natural hazards, surface water quality, some aspects of air quality
QLDC	Between QLDC and ORC
RDC	With the ARC. Regional monitoring forum is looking at a more integrated regional approach
SDC	Regional Council should integrate regional & district monitoring to ensure there is no repetition
TDC₍₂₎	RC's are monitoring issues of local significance
TDC₍₁₎	Duplication of methodology effort
WCC₍₂₎	Water/air quality, ecosystem, earthworks
WCC₍₁₎	Waste management issues, transport, water quality, biodiversity

- c) Would you agree with the formulation of measurable environmental performance indicators for territorial local authorities in the same way that these are being done for air, water and land, climate change and atmospheric ozone indicators by the Ministry for the Environment ?

Yes	No	Unanswered
13	1	2

- d) Do you think that the Ministry for the Environment should be involved in the following management activities ?

1. co-ordinated monitoring of a meta database

Yes	No	Unanswered
14	2	

2. managing a contact database

Yes	No	Unanswered
14	2	

	3.	monitoring best practice information
Yes	No	Unanswered
14	1	1

	4.	collating national indicator data
Yes	No	
15	1	

5. other ?

DCC	Audit of work done by TLAs and regional councils
PNCC	The MfE has put out some excellent reports on monitoring, feels that education and monitoring needs to be expanded
QLDC	At present their is a lack of understanding and therefore commitment to SER
SDC	Ongoing education into EPI programme
TDC₍₁₎	Why is MfE now suggesting it should take a lead
WCC₍₁₎	Guidance on robust practices for monitoring, to ensure that the information gathered is meaningful and comparable. Also to provide funding where required to support national indicators monitoring

e) Do your Councillors and Council staff require further information on state of the environment monitoring ?

1.	Councillors	Yes	No	Unanswered
		10	3	3
2.	Council staff	Yes	No	Unanswered
		14	1	1

For example, workshops on indicators ?

Please comment:

DCC	Awareness of SER monitoring needs to be raised generally, staff would benefit from assistance in developing useful indicators to monitor District Plan issues
GDC	Indicators need to be defined
HCC₍₁₎	Workshops on developing indicators for the urban environment
HDC₍₂₎	Important that staff given relevant information before the matter is breached with Councillors
MCC	Workshops on the SER, prioritising monitoring, indicators, recommendations from monitoring
PNCC	Better to produce written documents or guidelines. Workshops found to be hard going

QLDC	Currently a lack of understanding and therefore commitment to SER monitoring
RDC	Workshops on the importance of SER monitoring and monitoring in general
SDC	Councillors struggle with technical aspects of workshops, have an MfE presentation at a general level
TDC⁽¹⁾	Need to know what MfE plan to do before any more indicator work is undertaken
WCC₍₁₎	Information of procedures/protocols for information collection and analysis Information on proposals for information management/responsibilities for metadata Information regarding analysis and presentation of information

f) Do you think that there needs to be more education of Councillors and Council staff ?

Yes	No	Unanswered
13	1	2

If so, do you think that this should be undertaken by:

1.	Ministry for Environment staff	3
2.	Council staff	3
3.	or a combination of both ?	10
4.	other	

ATTACHMENT 1

TLA ABBREVIATIONS

1. ACC	Auckland City Council
2. CCC	Christchurch City Council
3. DCC	Dunedin City Council
4. GDC	Gore District Council
5. HDC ₍₂₎	Horowhenua District Council
6. HCC ₍₁₎	Hutt City Council
7. KCDC	Kapiti Coast District Council
8. MCC	Manakau City Council
9. PNCC	Palmerston North City Council
10.QLDC	Queenstown Lakes District Council
11.RDC	Rodney District Council
12.SDC	Southland District Council
13.TDC ₍₁₎	Tauranga District Council
14.TDC ₍₂₎	Taupo District Council
15.WCC ₍₂₎	Waitakere City Council
16.WCC ₍₁₎	Wellington City Council

APPENDIX D

TLA Monitoring Information

1. Auckland CC
2. Christchurch CC
3. Dunedin CC
4. Gore DC
5. Horowhenua DC
6. Hutt CC
7. Kapiti Coast DC
8. Manukau CC
9. Palmerston North CC
10. Queenstown-Lakes DC
11. Rodney DC
12. Southland DC
13. Taupo DC
14. Tauranga DC
15. Waitakere CC
16. Wellington CC

This monitoring information represents some of the information collected in both the Territorial Local Authority survey and face to face consultation that formed part of this study.

AUCKLAND CITY COUNCIL

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

- A. Types of monitoring undertaken:**
- 1. compliance monitoring **Yes**
 - 2. effectiveness of plans and policies **Yes**
 - 3. state of the environment monitoring **Yes**
- B. Joint monitoring with other statutory bodies** **Yes**
- C. Overall monitoring strategy** **Yes**
- D. Inclusion of state of the environment monitoring section** **Yes**
- E. Overall state of the environment report** **Yes**
- F. First year SER published:** **1996**
- G. Key resource management issues:**

KEY ISSUES	MONITORED	FREQUENCY
Amenity	Being developed	
Contaminated sites	Yes	Annually
Decision making	Yes	Annually
Heritage	Being developed	
Land use	Being developed	
Noise	Complaints only	
Pests and Weeds	Yes	Just commenced
Population growth	Yes	Annual
Transportation	Being set up	
Waste management	Yes	Bi-Annual audits
Water quality	Being developed	

Frequency of state of the environment report **Annually**

H. COUNCIL CONTACTS

ISSUE	NAME	PHONE
Amenity, contaminated sites, land use, natural features, water quality	Maurice Hoban	(09) 373 6316
Decision making	Tania Richmond	
Heritage	George Farrant	
Noise	Colin Craig	
Pests and weeds	Bryan Toy	
Population growth Employment, industry trends, local economy	Kelvin Norgrove	
Transportation	Ross Rutherford	
Waste management	Jan Burberry	

All initial contact to be made through Maurice Hoban

I. COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Further relevant points made in discussion with the Auckland City Council are as follows:

1. **Staffing:** ACC has a dedicated staff person working on state of the environment monitoring and reporting. The Council is taking an integrated approach to SEM and SER.
2. **Priority for Monitoring System:** At present, the priority is to set up the state of the monitoring system and then undertake the reporting at a future date.
3. **City Development Plan:** ACC has set a development plan for the City with key performance indicators.
4. **City Plan preparation:** ACC is undertaking the development of the District Plan in stages and resources have been put into the development of the plan rather than into state of the environment monitoring and reporting.
5. **Indicator Development:** The development of key performance indicators is a key issue but there is limited further budget for this work.
6. **SER:** ACC has completed their first State of the Environment Report which is a baseline report (“Our Changing Environment - Environmental Issues & Development Trends in Auckland City”). The report includes both socio-economic and biophysical issues.
7. **Overall SEM Strategy:** ACC originally planned to complete an annual SER but are now concentrating on the development of an overall strategy.
8. **SER Update:** A further update of the SER will be produced this year (1998).

9. **Feedback Loop:** ACC is developing a strategy to develop indicators for monitoring to feed back into other plans:
 - Annual
 - Strategic
 - District
 - Business
10. **Key Strategies for the City:** ACC has set up 5 “dimension” teams - dimensions are key strategies for the City.
11. **Integrated State of the Environment Monitoring:** Overall aim of ACC is to produce an overall SER incorporating biophysical and socio-economic information. Different parts of the Council are collecting information to be incorporated into the SER.
12. **Cultural Issues:** An issue of “cultural issues” is missing from the SER.
13. **Air Quality:** ACC is working in tandem with the ARC on the issue of air quality. There is a formal agreement between the two organisations regarding who does what work in the air quality field. Much of the ACC work relates to specific local issues e.g. Khyber Pass Road air pollution monitoring.
14. **Regional/ City Council Co-operative Monitoring:** Other issues that there is an informal working arrangement between the ACC and ARC is in the following fields:
 - waste
 - contaminated sites
 - water quality
 - natural heritage
15. **Water Quality:** ACC undertakes water quality work in bathing water quality, streams, and other surfacewater with the ARC evaluating longer term trends. NIWA has undertaken a lot of work on stream quality that could be used by the ACC.
16. **Local Monitoring:** ACC is evaluating shorter term trends with more immediate needs for the local population.
17. **Monitoring Staff:** There is a total of 45 people across the Council who are involved in some type of monitoring. There are 3.5 staff involved specifically in compliance monitoring. The compliance and monitoring relates to timing and quality. There is considerable monitoring of the quality of Council functions - as compared to the monitoring of the state of the environment.

18. **Feedback loop:** There is feedback from the compliance monitoring to District Plan effectiveness and therefore a link between the District Plan and the resource consents issued under that Plan.
19. **Amenity:** Recognised that it is difficult to develop indicators for the issue of “amenity”. It is also recognised that amenity transcends across many other issues but it is difficult to measure itself.
20. **Biodiversity:** Monitoring of biodiversity being developed in conjunction with other organisations. There is a regional heritage monitoring group that is involved in the biodiversity monitoring and there is sharing of information at this level. The Department of Conservation is involved in this group.
21. **Urban Biodiversity Issues:** ACC has a focus on *urban* biodiversity issues with a baseline of information on biodiversity issues within the City. However, the ACC also has responsibility for the Hauraki Gulf Islands including Great Barrier and Little Barrier.
22. **Decision Making:** ACC do undertake some monitoring of decision making relating to public participation and using indicators for governance.
23. **Pests & Weeds:** The Council is presently developing a weed inventory and there will be monitoring undertaken as part of that inventory.

CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

A.	Types of monitoring undertaken:	
1.	compliance monitoring	Yes
2.	effectiveness of plans and policies	Yes
3.	state of the environment monitoring	Yes
B.	Joint monitoring with other statutory bodies	Yes
C.	Overall monitoring strategy	Yes
D.	Inclusion of state of the environment monitoring section	Yes
E.	Overall state of the environment report	Yes
F.	Frequency of state of the environment report	Annual
G.	First year SER published:	1994

H. Key resource management issues:

KEY ISSUES	MONITORED	FREQUENCY
Air quality	Yes	Annually
Amenity	Yes	Annually
Biodiveristy	Yes	Ad hoc
Contaminated sites	Yes	Annually
Coastal habitat	Yes	Annually
Crime statistics	Yes	Annually
Culture and cultural needs	Yes	Annually
Decision making	Yes	Annually
Employment & Unemployment	Yes	Annually
Energy supply	Yes	Annually
Groundwater use	Yes	Annually
Health	Yes	Annually
Heritage	Yes	Annually
Housing provision	Yes	Annually
Industry trends	Yes	Annually
Land use	Yes	Annually
Local economy	Yes	Annually
Maori consultation	Identified by little work done to date	Annually
Natural features	Yes	
Noise	Yes	Annually
Odour	Yes	Annually
Personal safety	Yes	Annually
Population growth	Yes	Annually
Public access to foreshore	Yes	Annually
Soil	Yes	
Social well-being	Yes	Programme being developed
Transportation	Yes	Annually
Water quality	Yes	Annually
Waste management	Yes	Annually

I. COUNCIL CONTACTS

ISSUE	NAME	PHONE
Crime, cultural issues, education, employment, health, heritage, leisure & recreation, local economy, population, transportation.	Corinne Macintyre	(03)371 1815
Air quality, biodiversity, coastal habitat, contaminated sites, energy supply, groundwater, land use, natural features & hazards, noise, odour, waste management, water quality.	David Price	(03) 371 1815
Social Well being	Kath Jamieson	(03) 379 1660

J. COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Further relevant points made in discussion with the Christchurch City Council are as follows:

1. **Biodiversity:** CCC is setting up an ecological heritage database and is gathering information for the database at present.
2. **Feedback Loops:** At present there is not a formalised process between state of the environment monitoring, plan effectiveness and the CCC is attempting to get greater feedback. The SER is used in the annual planning process.
3. **Regional/ City Council Co-operative Monitoring:** There is an agreement between the Canterbury Regional Council and the CCC relating to the following:
 - groundwater
 - surfacewater
 - air
4. **SEM Information:** Information is gathered from other Council units undertaking resource consent monitoring e.g. surfacewater monitoring, but not all monitoring is reported in the SER.
5. **Geographic Information Systems:** The CCC utilises their GIS in state of the environment monitoring.
6. **Natural Hazards:** There is an overlap in the monitoring of natural hazards between the CCC and CRC.
7. **Noise:** SEM presently reports on the number and type of noise complaints and residents perceptions of noise problems from a question in the Annual Survey of

Residents. A city wide noise monitoring programme is being set up and will be reported on in future SER's.

8. **Odours:** A register is kept of all odour complaints, and a question in the Annual Survey of Residents measures residents perceptions of odours.
9. **Frequency of SER:** The CCC is changing the frequency of the SER's from annually to bi-annually. This is due to a need to spend more time on plan effectiveness monitoring, and the fact that changes in environmental trends generally occur over periods greater than one year. Also, some information sources such as the census are produced at intervals greater than annually. Some trends do show more frequent changes, these will be reported on in topical information releases. Economic trends which also changes frequently are reported on by other sources, eg National bank and the Canterbury Development Corporation.
10. **Use of Internet:** The CCC SER is published on the internet, and it is anticipated that the topical information releases will be added to the internet site regularly.
11. **Monitoring Updates:** Updates of monitoring information are undertaken on 3 - 6 monthly intervals in Council reports and on the internet.
12. **Social Issues:** The CCC is presently developing a social monitoring policy that will form part of the state of the environment report.
13. **Political Support:** There is considerable political support for the State of Environment Report and the SER is used in decision making. The staff undertake a seminar with Councillors, unit managers, and the Environmental Committee after the release of the SER.
14. **SER Copies:** Copies of the SER are sent to all Councillors and Community Boards and Councillors have expressed support for the SER. It is also well received by staff in other sections. Between 500 and 700 copies are sent out annually to the following:
 - Councillors
 - Community Boards
 - Unit Managers
 - officers in Council
 - community groups
 - geography teachers
 - a selection of city, national and academic libraries
 - residents and businesses as requested

DUNEDIN CITY COUNCIL

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

- A. Types of monitoring undertaken:**
- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | compliance monitoring | Yes |
| 2. | effectiveness of plans and policies | Yes |
| 3. | state of the environment monitoring | Yes |
- B. Joint monitoring with other statutory bodies** **Yes**
- C. Overall monitoring strategy** **No**
- But do have an environmental monitoring strategy for wastewater, stormwater, landfills and contaminated sites.
- D. Inclusion of state of the environment monitoring section** **No**
- E. Overall state of the environment report** **No**
- F. First year SER published:** **N/A**
- G. Frequency of State of the Environment Report:** **N/A**
- H. Key resource management issues:**

KEY ISSUES	MONITORED	FREQUENCY
Industry trends	Yes	
Land use	Yes	
Local economy	Yes	
Natural hazards	Yes	
Noise	Yes	

I. COUNCIL CONTACTS

ISSUE	NAME	PHONE
Environmental Monitoring	H Walker	(03) 477 4000
Air Quality (Treatment Plant)	B Turner	
Coastal sites	B Turner	
Contaminated sites (Gasworks)	B Turner	
Energy (Treatment Plant)	B Turner	

J. COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Further relevant points made in discussion with the Dunedin City Council are as follows:

1. **Integrated Monitoring:** The Dunedin CC undertakes state of the environment monitoring using both socio-economic and biophysical indicators.
2. **Socio-economic Data:** Economic data is collected and analysed quarterly and population, health, crime, and recreational statistics are collected every six months.
3. **City Plan preparation:** DCC is undertaking the development of the District Plan and resources have been put into the development of the plan rather than into state of the environment monitoring and reporting.
4. **Noise:** There is regular noise monitoring throughout the City involving both compliance monitoring and state of the environment monitoring. The DCC has set up sites around the City on the edges of zones and also identified degraded environments where noise state of the environment monitoring is to be undertaken. About 5% of the sites will be monitored each year. Noise is an issue and the DCC is receiving increased numbers of noise complaints. The information is stored on an Excel spreadsheet.
5. **District Plan monitoring:** The monitoring section in the Proposed City Plan is yet to be heard by the Hearings Committee of Council. However, it is considered that there could be greater linkage between the state of the environment monitoring and the monitoring undertaken on the effectiveness of the City Plan.
6. **Compliance Monitoring:** The DCC undertakes a considerable amount of monitoring of their own activities including:
 - wastewater discharges
 - landfill discharges
 - coastline monitoring related to the wastewater discharge
 - trade wastes
 - surfacewater discharges
 - solid waste
 - hazardous waste

The DCC (Waste Services Department) produces an annual overall environmental monitoring report relating to discharges within the City.

7. **Surfacewater Monitoring:** The DCC has undertaken a study of surfacewater quality in conjunction with the Otago University. The monitoring relates to the quality of the surfacewater discharges within the City. Monitoring has involved the study of 16 major pollutants (USEPA) and was an initiative of the DCC to answer the question: Is surfacewater polluted ?". The Otago RC has been

undertaking some parallel work in this area and produces an annual report on discharges in the City each year.

8. **Education:** It was considered that further education and involvement of Councillors on the state of the environment issue would be desirable.
9. **Council function monitoring:** The DCC undertakes considerable monitoring of the activities of staff and Council functions.

GORE DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

- A. Types of monitoring undertaken:**
- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | compliance monitoring | Yes |
| 2. | effectiveness of plans and policies | No |
| 3. | state of the environment monitoring | No |
- B. Joint monitoring with other statutory bodies** No
- C. Overall monitoring strategy** Yes
- D. Inclusion of state of the environment monitoring section** No
- E. Overall state of the environment report** No
- F. Frequency of state of the environment report** N/A
- G. First year SER published:** N/A
- H. Key resource management issues:**

KEY ISSUES	MONITORED	FREQUENCY
Amenity	No	
Land use	Yes	

I. COUNCIL CONTACTS

ISSUE	NAME	PHONE
Monitoring	Peter York	(03) 208 9080
Social	Steven Bunting	(03) 208 9080

J. COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Further relevant points made in discussion with the Gore District Council are as follows:

1. **GIS:** The Gore DC is presently developing a GIS within the Council which will assist with future planning for monitoring. Some monitoring of land use issues is undertaken as part of the GIS.

2. **Financial Constraints:** The Gore DC is a small Council that has financial constraints with respect to such issues as monitoring.
3. **Noise:** The Gore DC undertook a District wide noise survey in 1993 and will undertake a further follow up of that noise survey in 1999.
4. **Light:** The Gore DC is also planning to undertake a survey of ambient light levels in the District.
5. **City Plan preparation:** GDC is undertaking the development of the District Plan and resources have been put into the development of the plan rather than into state of the environment monitoring and reporting.
6. **Socio-economic Monitoring:** There is no formal socio-economic monitoring undertaken by the Council at present but some social surveys have been undertaken in the past.
7. **Council functions:** There is an annual survey of ratepayers undertaken by the Council to monitor the services of Council.
8. **Other monitoring:** The Council is changing from a complaints focused compliance monitoring to regular monitoring. A system is also being set up to monitor the effectiveness of the Proposed Plan.
9. **Education:** Councillors may not be aware of the need for state of the environment monitoring.

HOROWHENUA DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

A.	Types of monitoring undertaken:	
1.	compliance monitoring	Yes
2.	effectiveness of plans and policies	No
3.	state of the environment monitoring	No
B.	Joint monitoring with other statutory bodies	No
C.	Overall monitoring strategy	No
D.	Inclusion of state of the environment monitoring section	No
E.	Overall state of the environment report	No
F.	Frequency of state of the environment report	N/A
G.	First year SER published:	N/A

H. Key resource management issues:

KEY ISSUES	MONITORED	FREQUENCY
Amenity	Yes	On complaints basis
Education		
Groundwater use		
Heritage		
Housing provision		
Industry trends		
Leisure and recreation	Yes	Regularly, via statistical returns
Local economy		
Maori consultation	Yes	Iwi liaison group is drawing up a memo of understanding
Natural features		
Natural hazards		
Noise	Yes	Complaint basis
Personal safety		
Public access to foreshore		
Social well-being		
Waste management	Yes	Monitored regularly to ensure compliance with consent conditions, or specified standards
Water quality	Yes	As above
Water quantity	Yes	As above

I. COUNCIL CONTACTS

ISSUE	NAME	PHONE
	Mike Weir	(06) 368 7189

J. COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Further relevant points made in discussion with the Horowhenua District Council are as follows:

- Monitoring:** There is political and officer acceptance for some types of monitoring but no monitoring strategy but a strategy will be in place by the end of 1998. Some aspects of state of the environment monitoring are undertaken but no state of the environment report is produced.
- Staffing:** There are no specific Council monitoring staff as there are financial constraints on the Council because of low or zero growth in the District.
- Growth:** The lack of growth in the District is the major issue.

4. **Education:** There needs to be more education of staff and Councillors of monitoring.

HUTT CITY COUNCIL

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

- A. Types of monitoring undertaken:**
1. compliance monitoring **Yes**
 2. effectiveness of plans and policies **No**
 3. state of the environment monitoring **Yes**
- B. Joint monitoring with other statutory bodies **Yes****
- C. Overall monitoring strategy **No****
- D. Inclusion of state of the environment monitoring section **No****
- E. Overall state of the environment report **No****
- F. Frequency of state of the environment report **N/A****
- G. First year SER published: **N/A****
- H. Key resource management issues:**

KEY ISSUES	MONITORED	FREQUENCY
Amenity	No	
Heritage	Yes	Heritage register is held by Council, updated as required
Leisure and recreation		
Land use		
Maori consultation		Currently being developed
Natural features		
Natural hazards	Yes	
Noise	Yes	
Odour	Yes	In terms of wastewater treatment
Population growth	Yes	Utilise Statistics NZ information
Public access to foreshore		Incomplete data held
Soil		
Transportation		
Waste management	Yes	
Water quality	Yes	

I. COUNCIL CONTACTS

ISSUE	NAME	PHONE
Contaminated sites, coastal habitat, health, noise	Steve McCarthy	(04) 570 6806
Employment and unemployment, population growth	Brendon Marshall	(04) 570 6922
Heritage	Robyn Fisher	(04) 570 6806
Leisure and recreation, public access	Neil Tonkin	(04) 570 6734
Natural hazards	Brian Toomey	(04) 570 6455
Odour	Yon Cheong	(04) 570 6933
Social well-being	Janet Meredith	(04) 570 6935
Waste management	Talebul Islam	(04) 570 6713
Water quality	Gary O'Meara	(04) 570 6886
	Stephen McArthur	(04) 569 4290
	Ernie Albuquerque	(04) 569 4290

J. COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Further relevant points made in discussion with the Hutt City Council are as follows:

1. **Relevance:** Further evidence of the relevance of State of the Environment Monitoring and Reporting is required.
2. **SER Preparation:** A State of the Environment Report is in draft form at present.

KAPITI COAST DISTRICT CITY COUNCIL

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

A. Types of monitoring undertaken:

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | compliance monitoring | Yes |
| 2. | effectiveness of plans and policies | Yes |
| 3. | state of the environment monitoring | Yes |

B. Joint monitoring with other statutory bodies **No**

C. Overall monitoring strategy **No**

D. Inclusion of state of the environment monitoring section **No**

E. Overall state of the environment report **No**

F. Frequency of state of the environment report **N/A**

G. First year SER published: **N/A**

H. Key resource management issues:

KEY ISSUES	MONITORED	FREQUENCY
Amenity	Partially	Variable
Crime statistics	No	
Decision making	Yes	Continuously
Health	Yes	Continuously
Heritage	Yes	Continuously
Leisure and recreation	Yes	Every five years
Land use	Yes	Every two years
Maori consultation	Yes	Continuously
Natural features	No	
Noise	Yes	Continuously
Population growth	Yes	Annually
Public access to foreshore	No	

I. COUNCIL CONTACTS

ISSUE	NAME	PHONE
Amenity, heritage, land use, Maori consultation, population growth, public access to foreshore	Andrew Guerin	(04) 298 5139 x 828
Decision making	Chris Shaw	x 863
Health, noise	Rod Shaw	x 850
Leisure and recreation	John Genison	x 892

J. COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Further relevant points made in discussion with the Kapiti Coast District Council are as follows:

1. **Staffing:** A full time monitoring position is planned by the Council.
2. **Regional/ City Council Co-operative Monitoring:** Recreational water quality is monitored in conjunction with the Regional Council. Costs of the work are borne by the two councils.
3. **Draft SER:** A draft SER is to be produced by June 1999.
4. **SER Frequency:** The Proposed District Plan states that a SER is to be completed every five years. Monitoring at present is driven more by complaints with SEM of lesser importance.
5. **Biodiversity:** Vegetative cover in an urban area is an issue within Kapiti Coast District.
6. **Crime:** Kapiti Coast District Council has been selected by the NZ Police to undertake a co-operative study using the Council's GIS and considering the effects of urban design on crime statistics e.g. street lighting, design of parks, physical designs. It is understood that the study will be transferred into the Wellington region after the results from the Kapiti Coast District are evaluated.

MANUKAU CITY COUNCIL

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

- A. Types of monitoring undertaken:**
- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | compliance monitoring | Yes |
| 2. | effectiveness of plans and policies | Yes |
| 3. | state of the environment monitoring | Yes |
- B. Joint monitoring with other statutory bodies** **Yes**
- C. Overall monitoring strategy** **Yes**
- D. Inclusion of state of the environment monitoring section** **No**
- E. Overall state of the environment report** **Yes**
- F. Frequency of state of the environment report** **Three yearly**
- G. First year SER published:** **1998**
- H. Key resource management issues:**

KEY ISSUES	MONITORED	FREQUENCY
Air quality	Yes	

I. COUNCIL CONTACTS

ISSUE	NAME	PHONE
	Alex Holly	(09) 263 7100

J. COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Further relevant points made in discussion with the Manukau City Council are as follows:

1. **Integrated State of the Environment Monitoring:** The Manukau CC undertakes state of the environment monitoring using both socio-economic and biophysical indicators. The results of social issues are contained in report entitled “The People and the Place”. There is also a separate City Strategic Indicators Group.
2. **Other Monitoring:** Compliance monitoring is mainly reactive and based primarily on complaints received. Monitoring of the effectiveness of the Plan is based on the identification of issues and the prioritisation of those issues.
3. **Waste:** Strong emphasis within the SEM team at Manukau City Council on waste issues at the local authority level. MCC are undertaking monitoring of the social behavioural effects of waste and introducing a licensing system for waste monitoring of commercial waste streams. All waste contractors are required to produce once yearly monitoring reports detailing parameters such as source, quantities, composition, destination etc. These monitoring reports are designed to be operated in conjunction with ARC statistics. MCC is developing EPIs for waste management.
4. **Regional/ City Council Co-operative Monitoring:** Regional Monitoring Forums are held on a range of issues such as air, water, waste etc. Some politicians may perceive that there is an overlap between regional and local monitoring functions but system is working well and there is a different approach to monitoring by territorial local authorities than by regional councils.
5. **Monitoring Information Costs:** The high cost of information from sources outside of Council was identified as a problem for the production of SER’s.
6. **Local Monitoring:** MCC identified that some information may be available at the national and regional levels but not at the local levels e.g. energy statistics from ECA.
7. **Process:** The MCC held a forum over one day to identify relevant issues and to prioritise those issues. The next stage is the development of environmental performance indicators.
8. **Frequency of SER:** The MCC produces a SER every three years which is timed to coincide with the introduction of the new Councillors. An annual report is also produced using specific environmental performance indicators. Five or six briefer “issues reports” are produced throughout each year.

PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

A.	Types of monitoring undertaken:	
1.	compliance monitoring	Yes
2.	effectiveness of plans and policies	Yes
3.	state of the environment monitoring	Yes
B.	Joint monitoring with other statutory bodies	Yes
C.	Overall monitoring strategy	Yes
D.	Inclusion of state of the environment monitoring section	Yes
E.	Overall state of the environment report	Yes
F.	Frequency of state of the environment report	every 5 years
G.	First year SER published:	1995

H. Key resource management issues:

KEY ISSUES	MONITORED	FREQUENCY
Amenity	Yes, developing methodology	
Biodiversity	Yes	
Contaminated sites	Yes	
Energy supply	Only in part or indirectly	
Heritage	Yes, but limited	
Leisure and recreation	Yes	
Land use	Yes	Six monthly
Natural features	Yes	Every five years
Natural hazards	Yes	On going
Noise	Yes	Every five years
Population growth	Yes	Census and annual update
Riparian vegetation	No	
Soil	Yes	
Transportation	Yes	
Waste management	Yes	On going (six month intervals)
Water quality	Yes, surface water	Every six months
Water quantity	Yes	On going

I. COUNCIL CONTACTS

ISSUE	NAME	PHONE
Energy supply, transportation	Glen Connelly	(06)356 8199
Land use	Bruce Lawrence	(06) 356 8199
Natural features, biodiversity	F Dyhrberg	(06) 356 8199
Population growth	Andrew Boyle	(06) 356 8199
Water quality	A Anderson	(06) 356 8199
Water quantity	B Austin	(06) 356 8199
Waste management	R Pavlinic	(06) 356 8199

J. COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Further relevant points made in discussion with the Palmerston North City Council are as follows:

1. **SER/ District Plan:** The Proposed City Plan was notified in May 1995 and the SER was completed in May 1995 but there should be more integration of the results of the two documents.

2. **SER:** The Palmerston City SER was the first SER in New Zealand and it was scientific, concentrating on biophysical indicators and did not address socio-economic issues.
3. **SER Costs:** The production of the SER is expensive (\$50,000) but the Council charges \$115 per copy for the document and produces an eight page summary document free of charge.
4. **Regional/ City Council Co-operative Monitoring:** There is co-operation between the Regional and City council in the following areas:
 - surfacewater quality
 - groundwater usage in horticultural areas
5. **SEM Costs:** The PNCC will pay the Manawatu Wanganui Regional Council to undertake groundwater monitoring within specific areas of the City.
6. **Overlap in Functions:** There is a potential overlap in functions with respect to the management and monitoring of contaminated sites.
7. **Political Support:** There is very strong support for the SER from Council politicians.
8. **Other SEM:** There is an urban growth report prepared every six months and an economic report produced bimonthly including such indicators as dwelling unit numbers and sales. This information is not incorporated into the SER for Palmerston North which confines itself to biophysical issues.
9. **Overall Monitoring Strategy:** The PNCC produces an annual “City Vision” report which is an overall monitoring strategy containing social and economic indicator information.
10. **Noise:** The PNCC is close to finalising a noise survey for the City.
11. **Biodiversity:** The PNCC is concentrating on linkages between bush areas and potential ecological health as environmental performance indicators of biodiversity.
12. **Versatile soils:** The Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council does not monitor the changes associated with the use of versatile soils and the City Council has taken a proactive and protective stance on the issue. It is appropriate that the PNCC undertake the monitoring of this issue as they are the organisation that grants subdivision and land use consents.

QUEENSTOWN-LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

- A. Types of monitoring undertaken:**
1. compliance monitoring **Yes**
 2. effectiveness of plans and policies **No**
 3. state of the environment monitoring **No**
- B. Joint monitoring with other statutory bodies** **Yes**
- C. Overall monitoring strategy** **No**
- D. Inclusion of state of the environment monitoring section** **No**
- E. Overall state of the environment report** **No**
- F. Frequency of state of the environment report** **N/A**
- G. First year SER published:** **N/A**
- H. Key resource management issues:**

KEY ISSUES	MONITORED	FREQUENCY
Air quality		
Climate	Yes	
Contaminated sites	Yes	
Decision making	Yes	
Groundwater use		
Health		
Heritage		
Leisure and recreation		
Land use		
Local economy		
Natural features		
Natural hazards		
Transportation		
Waste management		
Water quality		
Water quantity		

I. COUNCIL CONTACTS

ISSUE	NAME	PHONE
Decision making, and land use	Claire MacDonald	(03) 442 7330

J. COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Further relevant points made in discussion with the Queenstown-Lakes District Council are as follows:

1. **Issue of Growth:** There are varying stances that a Council can take with respect to growth within a District - it can be proactive or reactive depending on the political climate at the time.
2. **City Plan preparation:** QLDC is undertaking the development of the District Plan and resources have been put into the development of the plan rather than into state of the environment monitoring and reporting.
3. **Council function monitoring:** The QLDC undertakes considerable monitoring of the activities of staff and Council functions by way of an annual residents survey. There are also performance audits - random surveys of staff effectiveness.
4. **Socio/ economic monitoring:** There was a commitment in the past to monitoring of socio-economic issues but this is no longer undertaken by the Council.
5. **Landscape:** Landscape is an important part of the Queenstown-Lakes Plan and indicators are being developed for the monitoring of the changes to the landscape.
6. **Political Support:** There is some political resistance to SEM.

RODNEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

- A. Types of monitoring undertaken:**
1. compliance monitoring **Yes**
 2. effectiveness of plans and policies **Yes**
 3. state of the environment monitoring **Yes**
- B. Joint monitoring with other statutory bodies** **Yes**
- C. Overall monitoring strategy** **Yes**
- D. Inclusion of state of the environment monitoring section** **Yes**
- E. Overall state of the environment report** **Yes**
- F. Frequency of state of the environment report** **5 yearly**
- G. First year SER published:** **June 1999**
- H. Key resource management issues:**

KEY ISSUES	MONITORED	FREQUENCY
Amenity	Yes	2-3 yearly surveys
Biodiversity	Yes	
Coastal habitat and ecosystems	Yes	
Employment and unemployment	Yes	Every five years, using an annual update
Housing provision	Yes	Every five years, using an annual update
Leisure and recreation	Yes	Annual
Land use	Yes	Every 2-5 years
Local economy	Yes	Every five years
Natural features	Yes	
Natural hazards	Yes	As required
Noise	Yes	As required
Population growth	Yes	Every five years, using an annual update
Transportation		

I. COUNCIL CONTACTS

ISSUE	NAME	PHONE
Amenity, biodiversity, coastal habitat and ecosystems, natural features	Michaela Cosyn	(09) 426 5169
Employment and unemployment, housing provision, local economy, population control	Rob Bates	(09) 426 5169
Natural hazards	Lesley Jenkins	(09) 426 5169
Noise	David James	(09) 426 5169

J. COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Further relevant points made in discussion with the Rodney District Council are as follows:

1. **Frequency of SER:** The RDC is planning to release their first SER in June 1999. A SER will be produced every five years as well as a development strategy every five years. An environmental trends report is produced every 2.5 years. This report identifies environmental issues within the District.
2. **Issue Identification:** As part of the preparation of the District Plan review, management issue papers were prepared and released on various issues of concern and consultation with the community was undertaken to determine the important issues to be monitored. A critical issue for Rodney District is the following:
 - rural character and amenity
 - rural subdivision
 - physical infrastructure
 - population growth
3. **Social well-being:** The Rodney District Council undertakes an annual survey of satisfaction of the community.

SOUTHLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

A.	Types of monitoring undertaken:	
1.	compliance monitoring	Yes
2.	effectiveness of plans and policies	Yes
3.	state of the environment monitoring	No
B.	Joint monitoring with other statutory bodies	No
C.	Overall monitoring strategy	Yes
D.	Inclusion of state of the environment monitoring section	No
E.	Overall state of the environment report	No
F.	Frequency of state of the environment report	N/A
G.	First year SER published:	N/A

H. Key resource management issues:

KEY ISSUES	MONITORED	FREQUENCY
Amenity	No	
Biodiversity	No	
Coastal habitat and ecosystems	No	
Decision making	No	
Education	No	
Employment and unemployment	No	
Education	Yes	Every four years
Heritage	Yes	Every four years
Leisure and recreation	Yes	
Land use	No	
Local economy	No	
Natural features	No	
Natural hazards	No	
Noise	Yes	Every three years
Population growth	Yes	
Public access to foreshore	No	
Riparian vegetation	No	
Transportation	No	
Waste management	Yes	Constantly
Water quality	No	
Water quantity	No	

I. COUNCIL CONTACTS

ISSUE	NAME	PHONE
Leisure and recreation	R Broomfield	(03) 218 7259
Maori consultation	B Halligan	(03) 218 7259
Noise	I Nicolson	(03) 218 7259

J. COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Further relevant points made in discussion with the Southland District Council are as follows:

- 1. Financial Constraints:** The Southland District Council discussed SEM during the Plan hearings but has decided that it is a considerable expense and other issues have greater priority.

2. **Biodiversity:** Biodiversity is an important issue within the Southland District. The Southland DC is evaluating environmental performance indicators at present for monitoring biodiversity issues in Southland including changes in vegetative cover. The SDC is considering the use of a land cover database to assist in this monitoring.
3. **Socio-economic issues:** The SDC has a full time strategic planner involved in socio-economic and strategic planning. This includes analysing census figures, impacts of census data. There are three growth areas in the District and other areas of negative growth. Furthermore, the SDC has divided the District up into 22 separate areas, covering approximately 95% of the population of the District, and completed a “Community Services Strategy” for each area which involves an analysis of economic and social indicators. These reports have been put out to public consultation and submission. However, state of the environment monitoring using biophysical indicators has not been particularly well covered.
4. **Noise:** A District wide noise study was undertaken in 1994, which indicated that Southland District is a quiet area, and accordingly the District Plan provisions dealing with noise should reflect these low ambient noise levels.
5. **Odour:** It is considered that the roles of the District and Regional Council roles in this area could be clarified.
6. **Waste:** The Council is undertaking monitoring of waste relating to quantities and composition as part of a comprehensive waste management strategy.
7. **Water Quality:** The District Council undertakes water quality monitoring of all water supplies in all towns and also nitrate levels in groundwater supplies.
8. **SEM Education:** It would be extremely good for the Councillors to understand the purpose and potential results of a SEM programme rather than the nuts and bolts of the programme.
9. **Financial constraints:** The geography and size of the District and the growth within most parts of the District limits SEM and increases cost.

TAUPO DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

A.	Types of monitoring undertaken:	
1.	compliance monitoring	Yes
2.	effectiveness of plans and policies	No
3.	state of the environment monitoring	No
B.	Joint monitoring with other statutory bodies	Yes
C.	Overall monitoring strategy	No
D.	Inclusion of state of the environment monitoring section	No
E.	Overall state of the environment report	No
F.	Frequency of state of the environment report	N/A
G.	First year SER published:	N/A

H. Key resource management issues:

KEY ISSUES	MONITORED	FREQUENCY
Air quality	Monitored by RC	
Amenity		
Contaminated sites	Monitored by RC	
Culture and cultural needs	No	
Energy supply, usage and efficiency	Monitored by RC	
Groundwater	Monitored by RC	
Heritage	Yes	
Health	Yes	
Housing provision	To be undertaken as part of DP process	
Industry trends	To be undertaken as part of DP process	Every 3-5 years
Leisure and recreation	To be undertaken as part of DP process	Every 3-5 years
Land use	To be undertaken as part of DP process	
Maori consultation	No	
Natural features	To be undertaken as part of DP process	
Natural features	To be undertaken as part of DP process	
Noise	To be undertaken as part of DP process	
Odour	To be undertaken as part of DP process	
Population growth	Census data	
Public access to foreshore	DP and individual land management plans	
Transportation	To be undertaken as part of DP process	
Waste management	To be undertaken as part of DP process	
Water quality	To be developed	

I. COUNCIL CONTACTS

ISSUE	NAME	PHONE
Health	Eric Folely	(07) 377 9853

J. COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Further relevant points made in discussion with the Taupo District Council are as follows:

1. **City Plan preparation:** The Taupo DC is undertaking the development of the District Plan and resources have been put into the development of the plan, with draft by the end of 1998, rather than into state of the environment monitoring and reporting. Some socio-economic baseline work and a hazard management study was undertaken as part of the preparation of the District Plan. This material was reported to the Council but there is no ongoing socio-economic or biophysical monitoring results given to the Council.
2. **Amenity:** The issue of urban amenity is important in Taupo because of the increase in growth. Surveys of the local population were undertaken as part of the District Plan preparation. The bulk of complaints received by the Council relate to urban amenity issues.
3. **Surveys:** The Council is intending to undertake surveys every three to five years to monitor the effectiveness of the Proposed Plan and other issues such as natural features and values.

TAURANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

A.	Types of monitoring undertaken:	
1.	compliance monitoring	Yes
2.	effectiveness of plans and policies	No
3.	state of the environment monitoring	No
B.	Joint monitoring with other statutory bodies	Yes
C.	Overall monitoring strategy	Yes
D.	Inclusion of state of the environment monitoring section	No
E.	Overall state of the environment report	No
F.	Frequency of state of the environment report	N/A
G.	First year SER published:	end of 1999

H. Key resource management issues:

KEY ISSUES	MONITORED	FREQUENCY
Amenity		
Biodiversity		
Coastal habitat and ecosystems	Yes	
Culture and cultural needs	Yes	
Energy supply, usage and efficiency		
Heritage	Yes	
Industry trends	Yes	
Leisure and recreation		
Land use	Yes	
Local economy		
Maori consultation		
Natural features		
Natural hazards	Yes	
Noise	Yes	
Pests and weeds		
Population growth	Yes	
Public access to the foreshore		
Riparian vegetation		
Transportation	Yes	
Waste management	Yes	
Water quality	Yes	
Water quantity		

I. COUNCIL CONTACTS

ISSUE	NAME	PHONE
Contaminated Sites	Roy Jackson	(07) 577 7071
Demographics, land use	James Low	(07) 577 7000
Hazards	Paul Baunton	(07) 577 7062
Heritage	Richard Hills	(07) 577 7000
Transportation	Rob Holford	(07) 577 7000
Waste management	Nick Roosenberg	(07) 577 7221

J. COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Further relevant points made in discussion with the Tauranga District Council are as follows:

1. **SEM Framework:** A framework for the monitoring is being developed at present with particular emphasis of linking the results back into the District Plan. There is already a lot of State of Environment Monitoring information being collected by the Council but it is not being reported in a State of Environment Report. A question always needs to be asked as to how policy relevant the state of the environment monitoring is.
2. **Specific SEM Project:** A “State of the Tauranga Harbour” booklet relating to the quality of the harbour and its catchment has been produced.
3. **Biophysical Indicators:** water quality and quantity, as issues in Tauranga District, are generally considered to be regional council functions. There should be greater integration of monitoring between regional and district councils throughout New Zealand.

WAITAKERE CITY COUNCIL

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

- A. Types of monitoring undertaken:**
- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | compliance monitoring | Yes |
| 2. | effectiveness of plans and policies | Yes |
| 3. | state of the environment monitoring | No |
- B. Joint monitoring with other statutory bodies** **Yes**
- C. Overall monitoring strategy** **No**
- D. Inclusion of state of the environment monitoring section** **No**
- E. Overall state of the environment report** **Yes (in part)**
- F. Frequency of state of the environment report** **N/A**
- G. First year SER published:** **1998**
- H. Key resource management issues:**

KEY ISSUES	MONITORED	FREQUENCY
Amenity	Informally	
Biodiversity		
Contaminated sites	Yes	Not ongoing
Crime statistics	Yes	
Culture and cultural needs	Yes	
Education	Yes	
Employment and unemployment	Yes	
Housing provision	Yes	
Leisure and recreation	Yes	
Personal safety	Yes	
Population growth	Yes	
Public access to onshore		
Riparian vegetation		
Social well-being	Yes	
Transportation		

I. COUNCIL CONTACTS

ISSUE	NAME	PHONE
Biodiversity	J Fuller	(09) 836 8000 x 8442
Crime statistics	A Cochrane	x 8554
Culture and cultural needs	G Ferguson	x 8404
Education, social well-being	M Courley	x 8632
Employment and unemployment	S Wilcox	x 8454
Housing provisions	D Mead	x 8432
Leisure and recreation	R McLeod	
Personal safety	M Devlin	
Population growth	G Lock	

J. COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Further relevant points made in discussion with the Waitakere City Council are as follows:

1. **Biodiversity:** Biodiversity is a major issue in Waitakere City. The City Council is producing a “West Coast Plan” which is a state of the Environment report for a section of the District. The City is divided into two ecological districts - Waitakere and Tamaki. The Waitakere SER is due at the end of June 1998. The Waitakere SER will be published in a newspaper format for distribution to the public. The West Coast Plan includes the eastern foothills of the Waitakeres and addresses “the State of the Coast and the Ranges”. Vegetation in the City is registered on GIS including information from the PNA (Protected Natural Areas) programme. There is a strong political commitment to the issue of biodiversity.
2. **Socio-economic Issues:** The Waitakere City Council publishes a report entitled “Towards Wellbeing” addressing socio-economic issues in the City. It is published every three years.
3. **Pests and Weeds:** Pests and weeds are a major issue for Waitakere City.
4. **Council functions:** The WCC undertakes an annual household consultation survey of how well the WCC is undertaking its own functions.
5. **Overall Strategy:** The Waitakere CC produced a “Green Print” that is a strategic Plan for the Council containing 21 targets for the City.

WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

A.	Types of monitoring undertaken:	
1.	compliance monitoring	Yes
2.	effectiveness of plans and policies	Yes
3.	state of the environment monitoring	Yes
B.	Joint monitoring with other statutory bodies	Yes
C.	Overall monitoring strategy	No
D.	Inclusion of state of the environment monitoring section	Yes
E.	Overall state of the environment report	Yes
F.	Frequency of state of the environment report	every three years
G.	First year SER published:	1996

H. Key resource management issues:

KEY ISSUES	MONITORED	FREQUENCY
Amenity	Yes	
Biodiversity	Yes	Every three years
Contaminated sites	Yes	
Crime statistics	Yes	
Decision making	Yes	
Employment and unemployment	Yes	
Heritage	Yes	
Housing	Yes	
Industry trends	Yes	
Leisure and recreation	Yes	
Land use	Yes	
Local economy	Yes	
Maori consultation	Yes	
Personal safety	Yes	
Population growth	Yes	Every five years
Public access to foreshore	Yes	
Transportation	Yes	
Waste management	Yes	
Water quality	Yes	
Water quantity	Yes	

I. COUNCIL CONTACTS

ISSUE	NAME	PHONE
Biodiversity	Mike Oates	(04) 801 3601
Contaminated sites, waste management	Fiona Johnson	(04) 801 3580
Crime, population growth	Pete Davis	(04) 801 3515
Culture and cultural needs	W Walker	(04) 801 3169
Decision making	N Hubbard	(04) 801 3497
Heritage	M Hartfield	(04) 801 3541
Housing provision		
Industry trends, local economy	N Hubbard	(04) 801 3497
Leisure and recreation	S Ryall	(04) 801 3136
Land use	E Jamieson	(04) 801 3520
Maori consultation	K Vakauta	(04) 801 3306
Personal safety	M Doyle	(04) 801 3810
Public access to foreshore, transportation	J Taylor	(04) 801 3698
Water quantity	C Davis	(04) 801 3884

J. COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Further relevant points made in discussion with the Wellington City Council are as follows:

1. **Council Strategy:** The Wellington CC produced a consultation document and implementation plan entitled “Our City - Our Future” containing 134 key indicators for the monitoring of the State of the City.
2. **SER:** The WCC produces a “State of the City” report once every three years and an annual report containing monitoring using 75 indicators entitled “Right Here - Right Now”. The annual report is now being reviewed to assess how the information is being used; what is the end use of the data to be collected; and, the flow of information back into policy development.
3. **Indicators Database:** The WCC is compiling an indicators database. There is ongoing dialogue with other territorial local authorities on indicator development. There is a possibility of a smaller number of TLAs being involved in a focus group on indicator development.