

Annual Report Summary

2024/25



Hakatere: Te rohe ka whiria mō te āhua noho, me te hapori

Ashburton: The district of choice for lifestyle and opportunity



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Message from our Mayor and Chief Executive

It is our pleasure to present to you the Annual Report for the 2024/2025 year, marking the first year of delivery under our 2024-34 Long Term Plan.

This report reflects the work and achievements of Council during a period led by the previous Mayor, Neil Brown, and the elected members who served until the October 2025 local elections. We would like to acknowledge and thank them for their leadership and commitment to serving our district throughout the 2024/25 year.

Over the past year, Council's efforts have been focussed on maintaining reliable day-to-day services that keep our district running: safe drinking water, reliable wastewater systems, maintained roads and effective waste services.

We've made progress in upgrading our water supplies to meet the new national rules. This year saw the opening of the Mount Somers membrane treatment plant, along with the start of our \$10 million programme installing UV disinfection equipment across our deep groundwater supplies.

In wastewater, the grit chamber sewer main renewal and the new sludge drying beds in Rakaia were both delivered under budget, improving network performance and environmental outcomes.

We also engaged with our community this year about the Government's *Local Water Done Well* programme, which will shape how drinking water, wastewater and stormwater services are delivered in the future. Feedback showed residents value the quality of Council's work in this area to date, and Council decided to continue delivering our water services inhouse, using a Standalone Business Unit.

Improving our roading network continues to be a high priority. This year we spent \$20.7 million maintaining

and upgrading our roading and footpath network. This includes \$2.5 million of unsubsidised funding included in response to reductions made to the amount allocated by New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) Waka Kotahi to our roading programme. This allowed us to undertake an additional 50km of resealing, along with a number of other smaller projects.

Exciting progress has been made on the second urban bridge across the Ashburton River. Following the government's announcement that they would fund a new bridge we signed an agreement with NZTA Waka Kotahi for the full project – meaning they will be responsible for design and construction of the bridge and connecting roads. Council will fund the connecting road to the bridge from Carters Terrace to Grahams Road.

This year we also tendered our longest and largest contract for waste management, with WasteCo being the successful tenderer, to deliver our waste management contract for the next nine years. The contract will begin 1 September 2026 and include the new food and organic waste collection.

Beyond water, roads and waste, we also rebuilt 16 elderly persons housing units at Friendship Lane, installed new toilets at the Ashburton Domain and the Lower Hakatere Huts, and had 59,000 visitors attend our flagship event – the EA Networks Glow in the Park at the Ashburton Domain.

Our recreation centres have continued to be hubs of activity for our community, with almost 264,000 items issued from Te Kete Tuhinga (Ashburton Library), and a record setting 512,800 visitors through the EA Networks Centre across the year. We also celebrated our first year at Te Whare Whakatere, which has become a thriving community hub.

Financially, this year resulted in a surplus of \$8.33 million before taxation and other comprehensive income. Total revenue was \$4.46 million above a budget of \$103 million. This was mainly due to increased income from rates revenue, development

and financial contributions and the sale of the old Civic Building. Our total operational expenditure was 8.9% above budget primarily due to higher than expected depreciation and amortisation, along with unbudgeted losses on asset disposals, including the disposal of stockwater races and the old Polytech building on Cameron Street.

Our financial performance this year has seen us meet the goals of our Financial Strategy which focusses on prudence, stability, service and planning for the future. We also met nine out of the ten goals of the government's mandatory financial affordability performance benchmarks. We did not meet the balanced budget benchmark due to higher than expected depreciation, and lower than budgeted subsidy received for the roading programme.

Finally, I would like to thank our elected members, staff, contractors and the many volunteers for their hard work, expertise and commitment. We cannot properly reflect on the past year without acknowledging all these people for their ongoing efforts to foster our district as the district of choice for lifestyle and opportunity – *te rohe ka whiria mō te āhua noho, me te hapori*.

Ngā mihi nui



Liz McMillan
Mayor

Hamish Riach
Chief Executive

80%

Performance measures met the target (67%: 2023/24)

\$99.4M

Total operational expenditure
(109% of \$91.2M budget)

\$32.4M

Total capital expenditure
(74% of \$43.8M budget)

\$144M

Total external debt
(85% of \$169M forecast,
increase of \$13M on 2023/24)

\$1.25B

Total assets
(increase of \$130M
on 2023/24)

\$54.4M

Total rates collected
(51% of total revenue,
\$1.34M higher than budget)

Nau mai, haere mai - welcome

Each year we produce an annual report to let our community know how we performed against our budget and work programme.

This Annual Report explains how Ashburton District Council performed in the 2024/25 financial year. It describes our progress on delivering key projects, programmes and services that will help us create a district of lifestyle and opportunity. It considers:

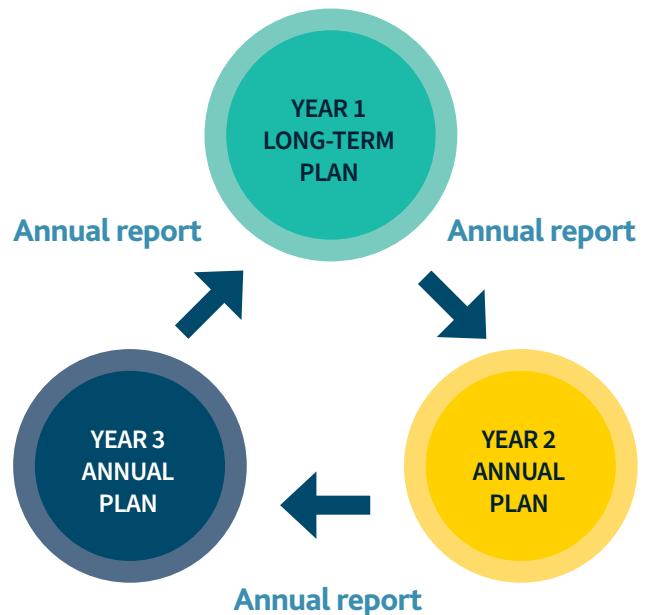
- did we do all we said we would do?
- did we meet our budgets?
- did we perform as expected?
- did we contribute to improvements in the overall wellbeing of our district?

Our targets for the year are set through the Long Term Plan or Annual Plan, for our:

- forecast income and expenditure
- planned work programmes, and
- level of service provided to the community.

Any variations to what was forecast, are outlined and explained.

The period covered is from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. This is our first report against our 2024-34 Long Term Plan.



View our planning and reporting documents



On our website

ashburtondc.govt.nz/ashburton-district/Plans-Reports-and-Strategies



In hardcopy

Te Whare Whakatere
Council Services
2 Baring Square East, Ashburton







Part 1:

OVERVIEW

Tirohaka Whānui



Our district | Tō tātau rohe

Our district is a great place to live -residents have a strong sense of community, enjoy the lifestyle the district provides, and 83% of those that live here are satisfied with their quality of life.

In the heart of New Zealand, Ashburton District stretches from the Pacific Ocean to the Southern Alps, between the Rakaia and Rangitata rivers.

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In the heart of New Zealand, Ashburton District stretches from the Pacific Ocean to the Southern Alps, between the Rakaia and Rangitata rivers.

Ashburton District has a population of around 38,000 and is home to both long-established families and newer residents, including migrants and seasonal workers, contributing to a diversifying community.



6181 km²

Area of our district

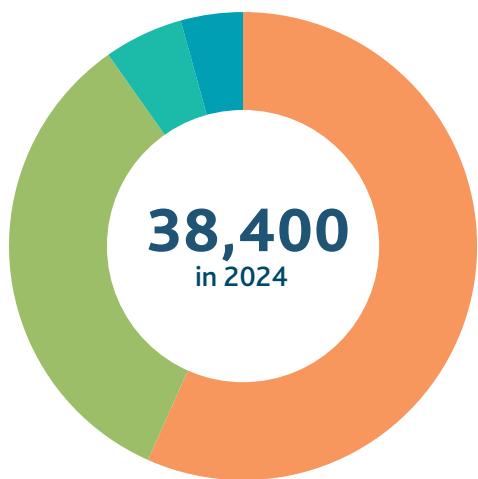
16,367

Rateable properties

\$20.7B

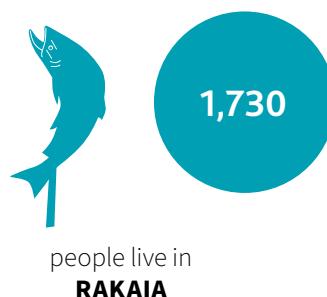
Total rateable value of the district (at 30 June 2024)

Our people, our district



Between 2018 and 2024,
our **population grew** by

11%



83%
Satisfaction with quality of life

83%
Sense of community in neighborhood

95%
Satisfaction with lifestyle
opportunities

95%
Believe Ashburton district is a great
place to live

Sources of information:
Stats NZ Census 2023 and 2024/25 Annual Residents' Survey

Council in numbers: Our infrastructure & services

Our day-to-day work covers a wide range of services that help to keep our district functioning smoothly. The following is a snapshot of some of the services and facilities we provide to our community.

Infrastructure Services

Provide safe drinking water to



10 community drinking water supplies



533km of water mains



13 water treatment plants



3 urban wastewater treatment systems



20 stations that pump wastewater to other parts of the gravity network



213km of wastewater pipes



2868 wastewater manholes



44km of stormwater mains



9.5ha of stormwater detention and infiltration basins



777 stormwater manholes

Collected kerbside waste and recycling from over

12,357

households, including:



5,064
tonnes of rubbish
(red bin)



900
tonnes of recycling
(yellow bin)



580
tonnes of recyclable glass
(green bin)



Diverted
29.5%

of household waste from
landfill to recycling



Collected an additional
10,723

tonnes of rubbish and recycling
through our resource recovery
parks and rural drop off points.



Sold
116,530

items through the
re-use shop



1522km
sealed road



1100km
unsealed road



279km
footpaths



15km
cycle lane &
cycleway



293km
kerb and channel



over
3200
streetlights



more than
11,000
signs



over
3000
culverts



189
bridges
(including RDR bridges)

Public Services



Reviewed / developed

11

policies, plans & strategies



Wrote

15

submissions to advocate on our district's behalf



Received feedback from

771

community members through our consultations



Gave out

\$1.14 million

in grants and funding to 90 groups and organisations



Held

32

Council meetings

Sold **41.4ha**

of rural land

Sold **5,059m²**

of commercial property

Managed over **1,400**

properties including 845 leases and licenses

Managed **1,168**

hectares of forestry

Managed **10,204**

aircraft movements at Ashburton Airport

Had **59,000**

attend Ashburton Glow in the Park

Placed **76**

youth into employment through Mayor's Taskforce for jobs

Supported **66**

community events

Welcomed **231**

newcomers through Citizen Ceremonies

Ran over **40**

digital advertising campaigns, garnering over 9M impressions



39

public toilets



102

elderly persons houses



20

reserve boards and memorial hall committees



513 ha

parks & open spaces



138 ha

sports parks



31

neighbourhood playgrounds



16

cemeteries



63%

of households visited the EA Networks Centre



66%

of households visited the Ashburton Library – Te Kete Tuhinga



40%

of households visited the Ashburton Art Gallery & Museum



263,723

items issued to borrowers at our library (227,020 last year)

Regulatory Services



Issued
599

building consents



Issued
865

Code of Compliance Certificates



Inspected
178

swimming pool fences



Audited
114

food premises with food control plans



Registered
6,646
dogs



Responded to
760
reports of found, wandering or barking dogs



Responded to
356
occasions where noise control were called

Our strategic direction | Tā mātau ahuka rautaki

Everything we do contributes to our strategic direction.

Our **vision** is the overall, future focussed goal towards which we are working. **Community outcomes** also look to the future and take a ‘whole-of-community’ view. They are focussed on improving the district’s social, cultural, environmental and economic wellbeing. Our **guiding principles** outline how we will function and deliver activities and services to our community.



Guiding Principles | Kā Mātāpono Ārahi

Plan and provide fit-for-purpose services.

Kia whakamaheretia, kia whakarawea kā ratoka whaitake

Represent the district on regional/national issues and partner with others when needed.

Ka whakakonohi i te rohe i kā take ā-takiwā tae atu ki kā take ā-motu ā, ka matea ana, ka mahi tahi ki ētahi atu.

Work with the community and engage in meaningful conversations.

Ka mahi pakahiwi-tahi ki te hapori, ā ka whai wāhi atu ki kā kōrero whaitake.

Lead the community with clear and rational decision-making.

Ka ārahi atu i te hapori i kā tukaka whakatau kia mārama, kia āta whakaarohipa

The four wellbeings

The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) defines our power and responsibilities. The purpose of local government is:

- to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and
- to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future (we call these the four wellbeings).

For all the activities in this Annual Report we indicate how the work contributed to the relevant wellbeings.

<h3>Social wellbeing</h3> <p>Involves individuals, their families, whanau, hapu, iwi, and a range of communities being able to set goals and achieve them, such as education, health, the strength of community networks, financial and personal security, equity of opportunity, and rights and freedoms.</p> 	<h3>Environmental wellbeing</h3> <p>Whether the natural environment can sustainably support the activities that constitute healthy community life, such as air quality, fresh water, uncontaminated land, and control of pollution.</p> 
<h3>Economic wellbeing</h3> <p>Whether the economy can generate the employment and wealth necessary to provide many of the requirements that make for social wellbeing, such as health, financial security, and equity of opportunity.</p> 	<h3>Cultural wellbeing</h3> <p>The shared beliefs, values, customs, behaviours and identities reflected through language, stories, visual and performing arts, ceremonies and heritage that make up our communities.</p> 

Your 2024/25 elected representatives |

Kā mākai pōtihia

Mayor



Neil Brown

P 307 7765 | M 027 301 6018
mayor@adc.govt.nz

Western Ward



Deputy Mayor Liz McMillan

M 021 708 013
Liz.McMillan@adc.govt.nz



Cr Rob Mackle

M 027 456 6872
Rob.Macke@adc.govt.nz



Cr Lynette Lovett

M 027 435 9619
Lynette.Lovett@adc.govt.nz



Cr Richard Wilson

M 027 274 3477
Richard.Wilson@adc.govt.nz

Eastern Ward

Ashburton Ward



Cr Leen Braam

P 307 2330 | M 027 436 2636
Leen.Braam@adc.govt.nz



Cr Carolyn Cameron

M 021 729 098
Carolyn.Cameron@adc.govt.nz



Cr Tony Todd

M 027 436 8256
Tony.Todd@adc.govt.nz



Cr Phill Hooper

M 027 464 6805
Phill.Hooper@adc.govt.nz



Cr Russell Ellis

M 027 438 0112
Russell.Ellis@adc.govt.nz



Methven Community Board



Kelvin Holmes
P 302 8882 | M 021 225 4355
Kelvin.Holmes@adc.govt.nz



Richard Owen
M 027 809 2261
Richie.Owen@adc.govt.nz



Megan Fitzgerald
M 027 262 1602
Megan.Fitzgerald@adc.govt.nz



Robin Jenkinson
M 027 484 1112
Robin.Jenkinson@adc.govt.nz



Allan Lock
M 027 201 9137
Allan.Lock@adc.govt.nz





Part 2:

SUMMARY OF OUR YEAR

Community outcomes

Meeting our community outcomes is not just the work of Council - numerous organisations also contribute towards achieving these outcomes through the activities and services they provide. For this reason, we do not set targets for these outcomes, rather we monitor the desired trend.

The trend indicated below in the tables is the direction of travel across the past three years.

Residents are well represented, included and have a voice - <i>Ka whai wāhi, ka whakaputa kōrero kā kainoho</i>				
How we measure success	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Trend
Residents feel a sense of community with others in their neighbourhood	89%	89%	89%	-
Residents feel they have opportunities to have their say on Council business	90%	89%	92%	↑
Residents believe they can influence Council decision-making	64%	61%	68%	↑
Numbers responding to consultations	549	2,659	771	↓
Numbers participating in local elections ¹	51%	N/A	N/A	N/A



¹ Local Body Elections are only held once every three years, with the most recent election held in 2022. There will be another election held later in 2025.

A district of great spaces and places - *He tiriwā, he wāhi pai i tēnei takiwā*

How we measure success	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Trend
Resident satisfaction with available local community facilities	94%	92%	93%	↓
Resident satisfaction with the general lifestyle opportunities available in our district	93%	95%	95%	↑
Resident view of their overall quality of life	86%	83%	88%	↑
Satisfaction and usage ² levels of recreational facilities				
Ashburton Art Gallery & Museum	Satisfaction: Not available		92%	N/A
	Usage: Not available		40%	N/A
Ashburton Domain	Satisfaction: 95%	97%	97%	↑
	Usage: 81%	83%	81%	-
Ashburton Library – Te Kete Tuhinga	Satisfaction: 96%	96%	97%	↑
	Usage: 48%	54%	66%	↑
EA Networks Centre	Satisfaction: 88%	89%	89%	↑
	Usage: 67%	66%	63%	↓
Playgrounds	Satisfaction: 94%	94%	95%	↑
	Usage: 58%	57%	56%	↓
Ashburton Trust Event Centre	Satisfaction: Not available			N/A
	Usage: 59%	59%	54%	↓



² Satisfaction refers to overall satisfaction of those who responded through the Annual Residents' Survey, not just those that have used the facility. Usage is not foot traffic, but rather, recorded through the Annual Residents' Survey in response to the question: Have you or someone in your household visited the following facilities...?'

A prosperous economy based on innovation, opportunity and high quality infrastructure - *He ōhaka whairawa i ruka i te aroka hou, i te whai āheika me te tūāhaka kouka*

How we measure success ³	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Trend
Housing affordability index	4.1	4.3	4.3	↑
Rental affordability index	18.9%	19.3%	20.4%	↑
District GDP	\$3,133M	\$3,185M	\$3,216M	↑
Unemployed rate	2.3%	3.2%	3.8%	↑
Tourism spend	\$247M	\$274M	\$269M	↑
Building consents issued	685	502	599	↓
Value of work for building consents issued	\$203M	\$142M	\$187M	↓

The housing (rental) affordability index is the ratio of the average house value (weekly rent) to average household income. A higher ratio suggests average house prices (rent) are a greater multiple of typical income – indicating lower housing (rental) affordability.

A balanced and sustainable environment - *He taiao toitū*

How we measure success	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Trend
Resident satisfaction with the state of the district's environment and biodiversity	89%	87%	88%	↓
Resident satisfaction with Council's activity to care for the district's environment and biodiversity	88%	87%	89%	↑
Council meets its resource consent conditions for consents held (e.g. water abstraction, wastewater discharges)	98%	97%	98%	-



³ Information for the measures of this outcome is taken from the [Infometrics Quarterly Monitor](#).

Our non-financial performance – in summary

The following figures show the overall performance for all 109 of Council's performance measures. This does not include the 51 DIA drinking water supply measures in relation to the drinking water quality assurance rules. These are reported separately.

When reporting performance, we have indicated whether the measure was in one of the following categories:

- **Met** (at or exceeding target)
- **Almost met** (within 10% of meeting the target)
- **Not met** (greater than 10% from meeting the target)
- **Not measured**

This is the first year of performance reporting against the 2024-34 Long Term Plan. A number of performance measures were not included in the previous Long Term Plan and are therefore included in the 'not measured' category when comparing with the previous year. This means there are a total of 89 measures when comparing performance with the previous year.

100 out of 109

Performance measures were met or almost met this year

100%

Compliance measures were met this year

over 90%

Community satisfaction and expectation measures were met this year

41 out of 89

Performance measures show improved performance this year (24 reduced)

The following graphs and charts provide an overview of the overall performance for all 109 performance measures.

Council achieved a result of 92% of performance measures being met or almost met (100 out of 109).

When looking at the performance measures that met or almost met their target:

- 89 met or exceeded their target
- 11 are within 10% of meeting their target
- 37% (37) had improved performance over last year's result
- 21% (21) had a reduction in performance.

Overall, 38% of measures have improved since last year compared with 22% that had a reduction in performance. 18% were either not measured this year or last year and therefore a comparison was unable to be made.

Figure 1. 2024/25 overall performance - total



Figure 2. 2024/25 performance vs 2023/24

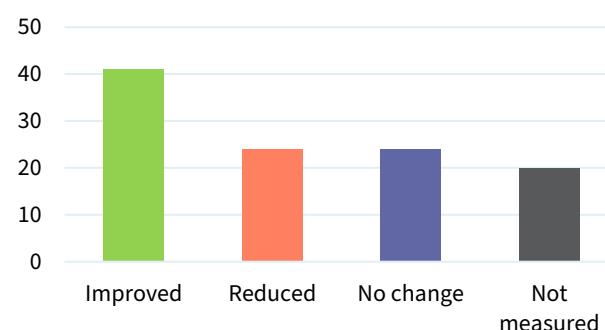
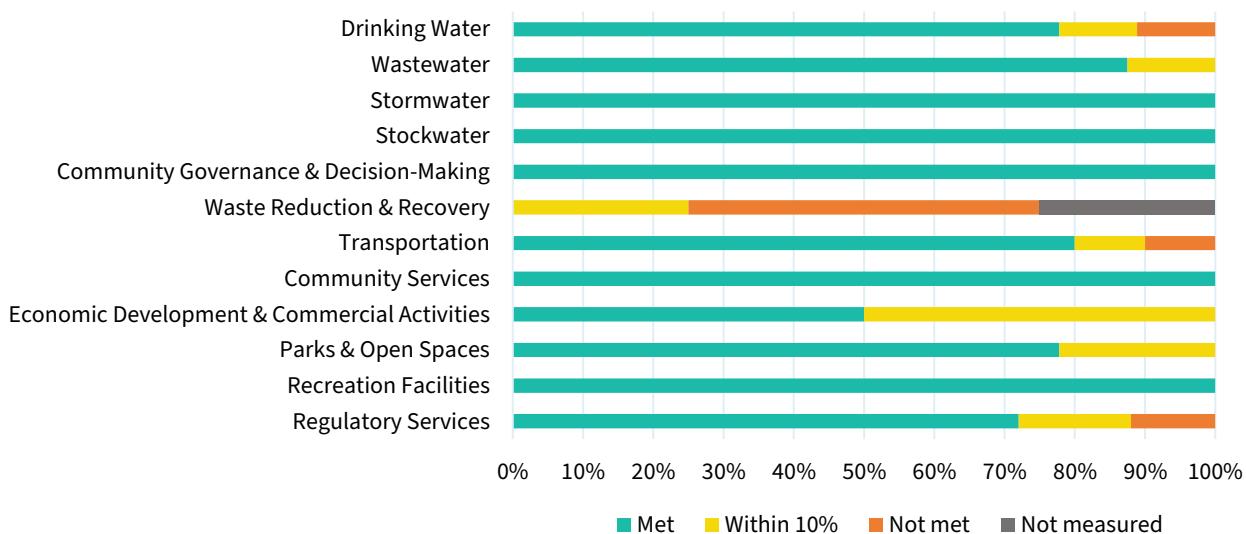


Figure 3. Performance by activity area



The following table shows Council's performance measures across the following dimensions of service:

- **Compliance** - such as meeting our consent conditions for wastewater, stormwater and stockwater, assessing swimming pool fences, monitoring of licenced premises
- **Satisfaction** - based on data collected through the Annual Residents' Survey
- **Customer expectations** – activities we do that have an expected provision, such as the number of playgrounds across the district, activity sessions delivered by our recreation facilities, community response plans developed etc
- **Utilisation** - for example, occupancy rates of commercial tenancies and the number of visitors at our recreation facilities
- **Timeliness** - our response times to issues raised and consent approval times
- **Sustainability** – volumes of recyclable material.

Service dimension	% met or almost met target	Total number of measures	Compared with 2023/24			
			Improved	Reduced	No change	Not measured in 2023/24
Compliance	100%	15	3	1	11	0
Satisfaction	96%	23	10	9	3	1
Customer expectations	97%	33	11	6	5	11
Utilisation	92%	12	4	3	0	5
Timeliness	87%	23	11	5	5	2
Sustainability	0%	3*	2	0	0	1

* 1 measure not measured as it relates to the delivery of the food and organic waste collection due to begin in 2025/26

Overall, the Council performed well, with high results in five out of six areas. However, none of the sustainability measures met or almost met their target. This dimension contains only three measures, all of which relate to the Waste Reduction and Recovery activity. These measures were impacted by a significant reduction in glass being recycled in the last few years resulting in the targets not being met.

Most of the compliance measures did not change across the two years, and all met their target this year.

The only satisfaction measure to neither meet or be within 10% of its target, is satisfaction with sealed roads, although this has improved by six percentage points on the previous year.

Only one of our customer expectations performance measures neither met or was within 10% of the target: number of touring exhibitions held at the Ashburton Art Gallery & Museum, although the overall target for exhibitions held was met. The target is for three touring exhibitions across the year, but only one was held due to budget constraints and availability of exhibitions.

Many of the customer expectation performance measures improved compared to last year, including:

- Wastewater - dry weather overflow incidents
- Transportation – sealed local road network is well maintained, volume of metal replaced on unsealed roads and reductions in fatalities and serious injury crashes
- Community Services – public conveniences per residents
- Parks & Open Spaces – hectares of neighbourhood reserve and number of playgrounds, per residents
- Ashburton Library - number of activity and programme sessions - with a total of 1,499 sessions delivered compared to 760 the previous year.

The only utilisation measure to neither meet or be within 10% of the target was the percentage of real water loss from reticulated systems. Improvements were seen with higher utilisation of the Ashburton Library, internet sessions at the library and EA Networks Centre – which surpassed 500,000 visitors across the year for the first time. There was also a reduction in the average water consumption per resident per day.

For timeliness, response times for subdivision plan approval certificates, as well as response times for urgent incidents and found, wandering or barking dog incidents, were below target. Improvements were seen in our response times to drinking water and wastewater callouts, along with a number of response times in the environmental services when compared to the previous year.

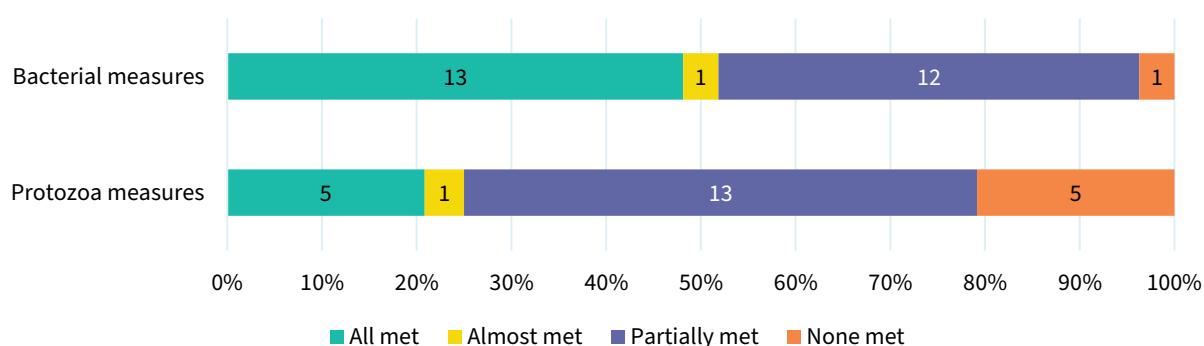


Compliance with the Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules

The categories of performance are defined by the Department of Internal Affairs as:

- All met 100%
- Almost met 95-99%
- Partially met 1-94%
- None met 0%

The following chart summarises the extent to which our drinking water supplies complied with the relevant drinking water quality assurance rules across the year. The following table displays the results by water supply and bacterial / protozoa measures.



Water supply	Population size	Bacterial measures					Protozoa measures			
		Bacterial Rules	Microbiological Monitoring Rule	Treatment Monitoring Rules	Chlorine Rules	Distribution System rules	Protozoal Rules	Treatment Monitoring Rules	Filtration Rules	UV Rules
Ashburton	20,450	None met	All met	-	-	-	All met	-	-	-
Methven	2,670	Partially met	Partially met	-	-	-	All met	-	-	-
Rakaia	1,340	Almost met	All met	-	-	-	All met	-	-	-
Chertsey	210	-	-	Partially met	All met	All met	-	Partially met	Partially met	None met
Dromore	100	-	-	Partially met	All met	All met	-	Partially met	Partially met	None met
Hakatere	270	-	-	Partially met	Partially met	All met	-	Partially met	Partially met	Partially met
Hinds	340	-	-	Partially met	Partially met	All met	-	Partially met	Partially met	None met
Mayfield	150	-	-	Partially met	Partially met	All met	-	Partially met	Partially met	None met
Montalto	90	-	-	Partially met	All met	All met	-	Partially met	Partially met	None met
Mt Somers	330	-	-	All met	Partially met	All met	-	All met	All met	Almost met



Key projects & achievements

Awards received across the year

Over the past year we have received a number of awards and recognitions, including the following:

- Canterbury Trusted designation from Business Canterbury –signifies a business or organisation meets certain criteria and was reputable and trustworthy within the community.
- Te Whare Whatatere won:
 - 2025 Canterbury Architecture Awards
 - Placemaking category and People's Choice Award at the Taituara Excellence Awards, for the way it has transformed the centre of Ashburton and told the story of how both pakeha and Maori travelled to and occupied the Ashburton District.
- Long-Term Plan 2024-34:
 - 5 for our future media campaign received the Bronze Award from Public Relations Institute of New Zealand (PRINZ).
 - Consultation document received a highly commended award from Taituara.

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

Three waters delivery model

Under legislation, every council was required to consult with their community this year, to decide who will manage and deliver their water services in the future. Following consultation, Council decided to continue delivering our water services inhouse, using a Standalone Business Unit.



Drinking Water

A number of water projects were completed this year, with the Mount Somers membrane treatment plant officially opened at the end of August 2024. We also completed the upgrade of the Tinwald, Hinds, Rakaia and Mayfield water supplies, with cartridge filters and UV disinfection equipment. A further five supplies are underway with these upgrades, with completion due later in 2025.



Wastewater

The two main projects in the Wastewater area this year were the grit chamber sewermain renewal and construction of sludge drying beds in Rakaia.

The grit chamber sewermain is a critical trunk pipeline between the Trevors Road grit chamber facility and the new Ashburton River crossing pipeline. Construction was completed this year, with the project coming in approximately \$1.0 million under the \$4.0 million budget.

In response to ongoing compliance issues at the Rakaia wastewater treatment plant, we constructed 12 sludge drying beds which remove water from wastewater sludge through drainage and evaporation. The project came in approximately \$1.5 million under the \$3.0 million budget.



Stormwater

We had planned to undertake the detailed design for the West Street attenuation and treatment facility this year, however, with construction being pushed back a year to 2026/27, this was not completed and will be done in the next financial year.

Over the past year a risk prioritisation framework has been developed to assess the risk of industrial sites discharging contaminants to the Council stormwater network. This will be used in the following financial year to identify high risk sites, and work with the landowners to improve onsite stormwater management practices.



Stockwater

In September, Council formed a Stockwater Transition Working Group to oversee the transitioning away from delivering stockwater. The group adopted the Stockwater Exit Transition Plan in December. Since then, a number of intakes have been surveyed.



Transportation

Second urban bridge across the Ashburton River project

At the end of 2024 it was announced that Central Government would pay for a bridge across the Ashburton River from Chalmers Avenue to Carters Terrace, and that Council would pay for a new connecting road from Carters Terrace to Grahams Road. Soon after, Council signed an agreement with New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) Waka Kotahi for the full project – meaning NZTA Waka Kotahi will be responsible for design and construction of the bridge and connecting roads. The project will be tendered in the next financial year.



Additional unsubsidised roading funding

In response to the reductions made by NZTA Waka Kotahi when confirming their Land Transport Programme, it was decided to include an additional

\$2.5 million of unsubsidised funding, which would have been our share of the budget that did not receive approval from NZTA Waka Kotahi. This allowed an additional 50km of resealing to be undertaken, along with a number of other smaller projects.

Waste Reduction & Recovery

This year we tendered our longest and largest contract, with WasteCo being the successful tenderer, for the nine year solid waste management contract. This includes kerbside collection of general refuse, recycling and the new food and garden organics service which will be introduced from the contract start date of 1 September 2026. It also includes full operation of the resource recovery parks in Ashburton and Rakaia, and the school and rural drop-off sites, alongside public space litter and various other related activities.

This year, we also installed a new rubbish compactor at the Ashburton Resource Recovery Park at a cost of

\$350,000 and asphalted the grounds at the Rakaia Resource Recovery Park for \$159,000.



PUBLIC SERVICES

Community Governance & Decision Making

Representation Review

At the end of 2024 it was announced that Central Over the past year we completed our Representation Review, where we look at the number of councillors and how they are elected, the existence of wards and their boundaries, community boards and Māori wards. Following consultation, no changes were made to the number of councillors or Community Board, with the ward boundaries adjusted slightly to include newly developed areas.

Welcoming Communities

The Welcoming Communities program supported several initiatives, including:

- Muslim funeral training – for staff and emergency services, which increased awareness of cultural processes and created an open space for discussion about specific requirements.
- Food Handling talk – in response to a need highlighted by migrant communities.
- Invited communities to host language weeks at the library
- Alongside the Hakatere Multicultural Council, supported the delivery of learning community hubs across the district, providing parents with information sessions on how the New Zealand education system works.



Community grants & funding

In 2024/25, we received 92 community grant applications for our contestable funds. Of these, 84 applicants were successful and received \$428,758 collectively. An additional six other agencies received \$720,000 in funding for the year.

Economic Development & Commercial Activities

Economic Development

- The Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs supported 76 individuals into employment, with 24 of them being in apprenticeships through targeted training, mentoring and job placement services.
- We assisted 65 locally run events with their road closures, liquor licensing, land use and health and safety requirements.
- Provided four Council-led events for the community, with free activities ranging from Christmas celebrations to live jazz in the Domain, and our flagship event – EA Networks Glow in the Park, where approximately 59,000 people attended.
- Updated the Experience Mid Canterbury website, set up tourist information in Te Whare Whakatere and coordinated familiarisation visits for five domestic influencers and a family from Taiwan to increase awareness of our district and its offerings.



Community Services

Friendship Lane rebuild

Over the past year we rebuilt 16 of the 51 affordable housing units at Friendship Lane, in Ashburton. The project cost just under \$4 million, with 43% of the project funded by an Affordable Housing Fund grant from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development.

Public Conveniences

This year we installed new toilets at the Ashburton Domain in the picnic area, and at the Lower Hakatere Huts.



Parks & Open Spaces

Lake Hood

In response to the recurring cyanobacteria blooms at Lake Hood, we purchased a weed harvester this year which removed 1100 tonnes of lake weed over the summer. This initiative aims to reduce nutrient levels and improve water quality over time. We are also working with NIWA, Lincoln University and Environment Canterbury to better understand the lake's ecosystem and underlying causes of the blooms.

A number of projects were undertaken at the Ashburton Domain, including new pathways, development of heritage and botanical trails, upgraded playground, fencing enhancements, bridge renewals, fixed irrigation in the annual beds, West Street brick wall restoration and pond edge reinstatement.

Other projects across the district include:

- restoring the heritage listed RDR pipe shed, located near the Garden of Harmony in Methven
- constructing a new playground in the Barrhill village
- developing an app to record individual tree histories to record damage, health and safety of trees across the district
- safety upgrades at playgrounds in Methven, Rakaia, urban and rural reserves
- upgraded lighting in Methven.



Recreational Facilities

Ashburton Art Gallery & Museum

In April this year, we made one combined reception and retail space for the art gallery and museum, downstairs. The previous upstairs art gallery reception was converted into more exhibition space. We had planned to undertake a branding and website development project, however, due to limited resources this has been delayed until 2025/26.

Ashburton Library – Te Kete Tuhinga

The move of the Ashburton Library into Te Whare Whakatere has created a wave of new active library members. Across the year, 263,723 items were issued on loan, compared to 227,020 the previous year. The space has also allowed for more programmes and activities to be held, with 16,504 people taking part in 1,499 programmes compared to 13,555 taking part in 760 programmes and activities the previous year.

EA Networks Centre

- Adopted the EA Networks Centre and surrounding land 30 year masterplan which shows what can be achieved on the land we currently own.
- Hosted the Under 14 Southern Regional Basketball Championships which involved 54 teams and resulted in 23,000 people at the centre over the four days of the tournament.
- Bought forward the electronic scoreboards replacement from 2025/26 due to their intermittent failing.
- Developed the concept plans for the 18 hole mini golf course for the land in front of the centre. Construction will take place in 2025/26.



REGULATORY SERVICES

Emergency Management

This year we developed Community Response Plans alongside our communities in Fairton and Hakatere Huts and reviewed our plans with Mt Somers and Rakaia. We participated in a regional exercise that focussed on the response to, and recovery from, a magnitude 8 rupture of the Alpine Fault and worked with our partner agencies to deliver presentations on the risks we face within Ashburton District to a number of community organisations and groups.

Building consents

This year we issued 204 building consents for new housing, compared to 162 building consents in the previous year. Of these, 21% of the new housing consents were for the Methven area. Overall, new housing consents equated to 34% of our consent work.

Planning and Land Information Memorandums (LIM)

This year we processed a total of 215 consents, compared to 197 consents the previous year. The increase in volumes has primarily been an increase in subdivision consents, reflecting the high residential acuity in the market. Plan Change 6 was also processed across the year and is now operative.

LIMs have seen an increase of 19% year-on-year with a total of 1,013 provided, the second highest volume ever processed. These were all processed with an average processing time of less than three days (with ten days being the statutory requirement).





Local Water Done Well

Under the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements (WSPA)) Act 2024, Council was required to determine its future service delivery approach for water services – drinking water, wastewater and stormwater.

Over the course of 2024/25, Council has worked through the process to determine this, culminating in community engagement in March/April 2025, based on a business case and financial modelling. Council consulted on two options – an inhouse Stand-Alone Business Unit (SABU) (Council's proposed option) and a single Council Water Services Council Controlled Organisation (WSCCO). The Council consultation closed in April 2025 with feedback from the 234 submissions strongly favouring the SABU model. A council hearing was held in May, with Council finally deciding on the inhouse SABU model on 21 May 2025.

As required under the WSPA Act, Council prepared a Water Services Delivery Plan (WSDP) based on implementing this model. This was adopted by Council on 20 August 2025 and lodged as required with the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) on 21 August 2025, prior to the legislative deadline of 3 September 2025. Council received acceptance of the WSDP on 20 October 2025 from the DIA and are now working towards implementation. The reforms to date have had no effect on the 2025 financial statements or performance information.

In the meantime, government have enacted the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025 on 27 August 2025 which provides the enduring settings for the new water services delivery approach. Council is working through understanding the full implications of this Act and implementation of the SABU approach within Council. Further information on Water Services and Local Water Done Well can be found in the groups of activity information in Section Three of the full Annual Report.

Our financial performance – in summary

Operating expenditure
for 2024/25

\$99.4M

Capital expenditure
for 2024/25

\$32.4M

Debt at the
end of 2024/25

\$144M

Expenditure

Operational spend

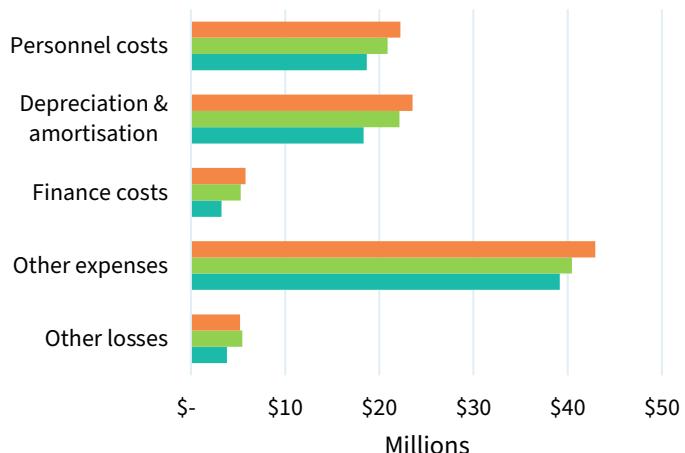
This year we looked after about \$1.25 billion worth of infrastructure, assets and facilities – that includes roads, pipes, buildings and land, right down to the bins at our domains.

We also undertook the large task of running, regulating and monitoring all the activities and services that contribute to where and how we live, work and play in our district.

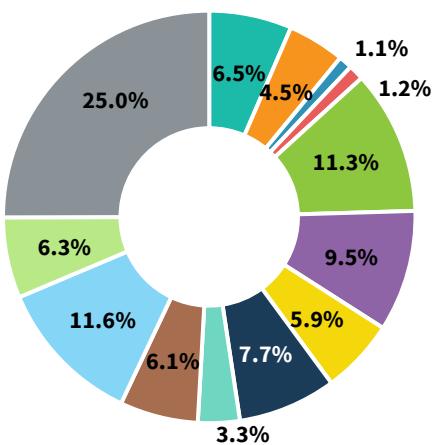
The cost of delivering and running our services this year, was \$99.4 million (compared to \$91.2 million budgeted). This is our **operating expenditure** – our day-to-day running costs.

Operational spend

2024/25 2023/24



Operational spend by activity



More information about our operational spend for the year is detailed in Notes 8-10 to the financial statements, in Section 4.

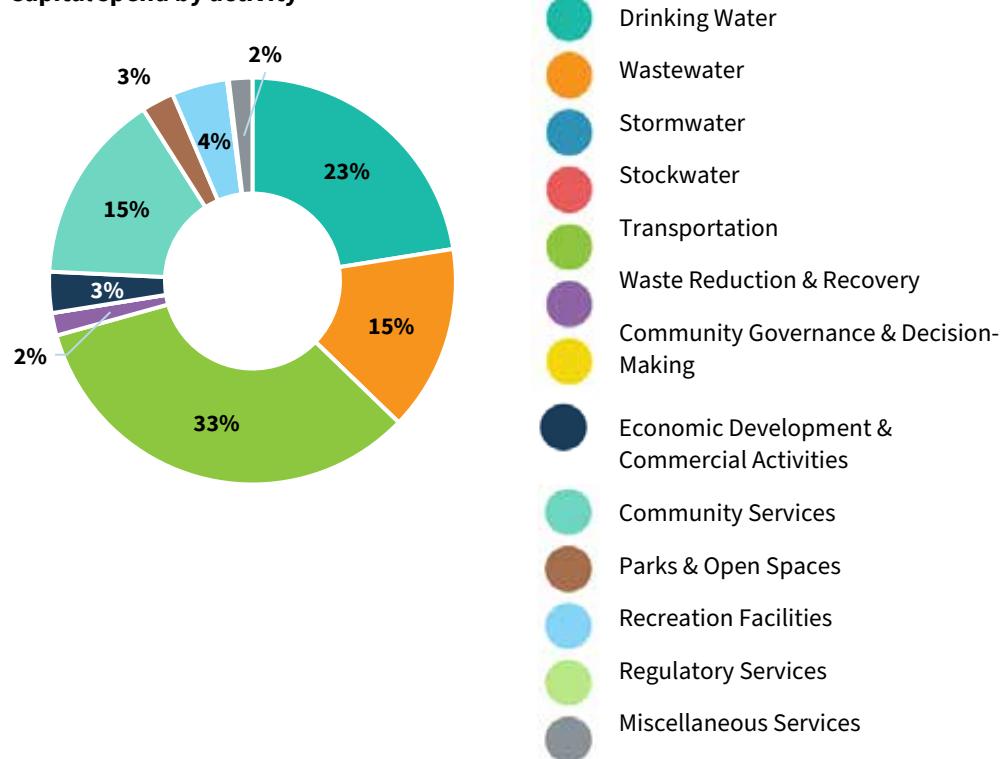
Capital spend

Capital expenditure is used to renew or upgrade existing assets or to build new assets to provide a higher level of service or account for growth.

We had a significant capital expenditure programme in place with \$32.4 million spent across the year. This included significant investment in our water services, with \$12.1 million spent on drinking water and wastewater projects. We also spent \$10.8 million for roading works, for both renewals and improvements to the level of service.

The total capital expenditure spend was less than that indicated in Year 1 of the Long Term Plan (\$43.8 million). This is primarily due to project delays in the drinking water area. These projects are now due to be completed in the first half of the 2025/26 year. The underspend was partially offset by the work at Friendship Lane being brought forward, due to receiving a government grant for this work.

Capital spend by activity

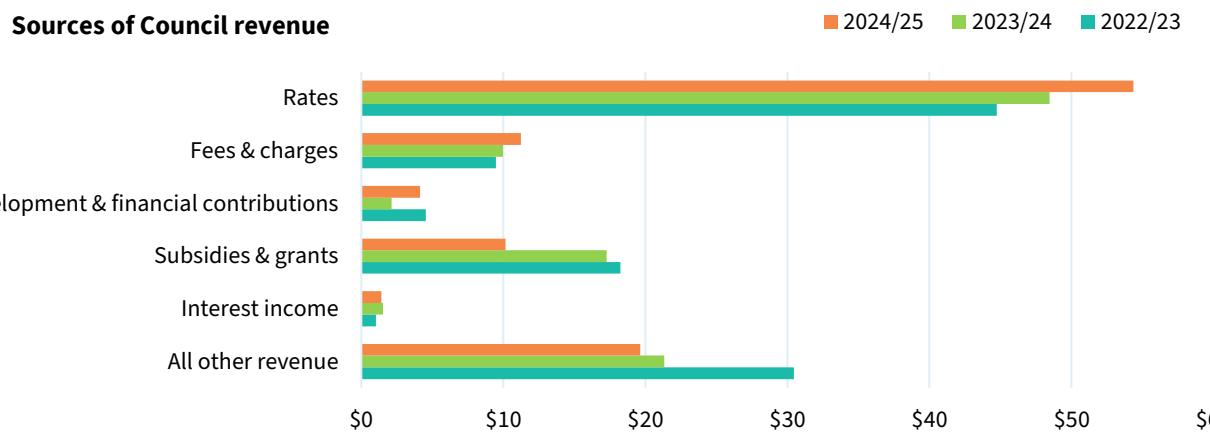


Revenue

Operational income

Our main source of funding is from rates, which makes up 51% of our total income of \$108 million. Fees and charges contributed about 10% of total revenue - money charged for using Council services such as planning consents, meeting rooms and swimming pools.

The graph below shows the main sources of revenue for the Council.



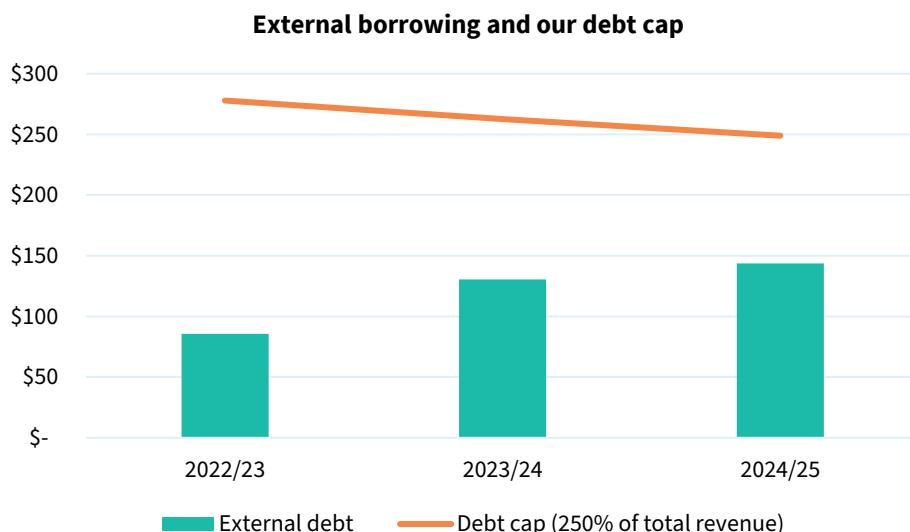
The main sources of revenue from Council's operating activities are:

- Landfill fees - \$3.49M (2023/24: \$3.15M)
- Building and resource consents fees - \$2.75M (2023/24: \$2.26M)
- Dividend income - \$2.10M (2023/24: \$1.7M)
- Investment property rental income - \$1.85M (2023/24: \$1.78M)
- Swimming pool revenue - \$1.35M (2023/24: \$1.78M)
- Sales, services and other income - \$3.50M (2023/24: \$3.80M)

More information about our revenue sources is detailed in Notes 2-6 to the financial statements, in Section 4.

Borrowing for the year

We borrow to fund upgrades to our assets or to invest in new infrastructure. This allows us to spread the cost of funding this expenditure over the multiple generations that will benefit from the investment. For 2024/25, external borrowings were \$143.6 million at the end of the year, equating to 136% of our total revenue – compared to the Council-imposed cap of 250%. This is an increase of \$13 million from the previous year which is less than that indicated in Year 1 of the Long Term Plan.



More information on our borrowings is detailed in Note 27 to the financial statements, in Section 4.

52%	\$3,322	11.47%	\$8,774
Proportion of rates to total income (46% last year)	Average rates per rateable property (\$3,010 last year)	Proportion of total assets as public debt (12% last year)	Public debt per rateable property (\$8,111 last year)

Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense

This table summarises the total revenue received, and expenses incurred over the financial year, showing whether the Council and the Group operated at a surplus (more revenue than expenses) or a deficit (more expense than revenue).

It includes both **operating revenue and expenses** (such as rates, grants, employee costs, and depreciation) and non-operating items, called **other comprehensive revenue and expense** (like asset revaluations or investment gains / losses), which may not affect day-to-day cash flow, but do impact overall financial performance.

The 'Council' columns show only the financial results of the Council itself, without including the subsidiaries.

The term 'Group' includes the Ashburton District Council and its wholly owned subsidiaries – Ashburton Contracting, as well as its in-substance subsidiary, the Ashburton Community Water Trust. Its 20% equity share of its associate Rangitata Diversion Race Management Limited and its 33% equity share of its joint venture Eastfield Investments Limited are equity accounted.

The 'Group' columns include the financial results of the subsidiaries, with any transactions between the Council and its subsidiaries removed to avoid double-counting.



Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense

	Council		Group		2024 Actual, as restated \$000
	2025 Actual \$000	2025 Budget \$000	2024 Actual, as restated \$000	2025 Actual \$000	
For the year ended 30 June					
Revenue					
Rates	54,372	53,031	48,462	54,372	48,462
Fees, charges	11,227	10,654	9,982	11,227	9,982
Development and financial contributions	4,127	2,295	2,120	4,127	2,120
Subsidies and grants	10,162	12,704	17,278	10,162	17,278
Finance income*	1,420	450	1,640	1,521	1,869
Other revenue	19,644	22,883	21,344	49,928	54,413
Other gains*	6,799	1,278	1,600	6,799	1,600
Total revenue	107,751	103,295	102,426	138,136	135,724
Expenditure					
Personnel costs	22,258	21,360	20,901	35,980	34,486
Depreciation and amortisation	23,198	19,286	22,133	25,137	23,695
Finance costs	5,796	6,574	5,300	5,875	5,398
Other expenses*	42,950	43,947	41,949	58,875	58,467
Other losses	5,217	-	5,450	5,253	5,467
Total expenses	99,419	91,167	95,733	131,120	127,513
Share of associates and joint venture surplus (deficit)	-	-	-	(550)	(241)
Surplus (deficit) before taxation	8,332	12,128	6,693	6,466	7,970
Income tax expense (revenue)	19	-	17	445	712
Surplus (deficit) after taxation	8,313	12,128	6,676	6,021	7,258
Other comprehensive revenue and expense					
<i>Items that will be reclassified to surplus (deficit)</i>					
Financial assets at fair value	(54)	-	65	(54)	65
<i>Items that will not be reclassified to surplus (deficit)</i>					
Gain on infrastructure revaluation	107,036	25,878	11,944	107,036	11,944
Gain in parks, cemetery and domains revaluation	1,410	-	5,704	1,410	5,828
Gain on land and buildings revaluation	-	-	-	160	-
Gain on fair value of investment in associate	-	-	-	6,543	3,022
Deferred tax on revaluation of buildings	-	-	-	-	(20)
Total other comprehensive revenue	108,392	25,878	17,713	115,095	20,839
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSE	116,705	38,006	24,389	121,116	28,097

* Refer to the full Annual Report, Note 31, for the impact of the restatements on the comparative figures.

Significant variations

Explanations are for major variances (> \$1 million) from the Council's budget figures in Year 1 of its Long Term Plan 2024-34.

Total revenue was \$4.4m higher than budget. Major variances included:

- Development and financial contributions are \$1.8M higher than budget. The budget did not reflect the increased development contribution fee structure adopted in the Long-Term Plan.
- Subsidies and grants are \$2.5M below budget. Roading received \$2.9M less than budget due to the non approval of Low-Cost Low-Risk projects by NZTA. Footpath subsidy was under budget \$491k due to only 34% of the requested footpath capital expenditure being approved by NZTA. These unfavourable variances are partially offset by the Elderly Person Housing which received grants \$632k higher than budget for the funding towards the Friendship Lane Development project for which works were brought forward.
- Other revenue is below budget by \$3.2M. Budgeted land sales in the Industrial Park did not eventuate.
- Other gains are \$5.5M higher than budget. \$2.7M of this variance relates to the gain on sale of parcel of land to Lake Hood and \$1.9M of this variance relates to the fair value movement on Glasgow leased properties and other investment properties.

Total expenses were \$8.2m higher than budget. Major variances included:

- Depreciation and amortisation expenses is \$3.9 million higher than budget. This is primarily due to the capitalisation of significant water projects brought forward, along with the reconstruction of roading assets as a result of the severe weather events in previous financial years (after the budget was set).
- Other expenses are \$1.0M lower than budget. Grant expenditure was under budget due the Ashburton A&P Society not uplifting their budgeted grant of \$500k. Commission costs are under budget as a result of the lack of property sales. The repairs and maintenance budget is underspent for Elderly Person Housing as there were less refurbishments undertaken during the year.
- Other losses are \$5.2 million higher than budget. This is made up of \$3.4M loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment, \$1.2M loss on changes in fair value on interest rate swaps and \$490k of losses on changes of investment properties.

Other comprehensive revenue and expense was \$82.5m higher than budget. Major variances included:

- Gains on revaluation for infrastructure of \$81.1M and parks and open spaces of \$1.4M are both above budget.

Statement of Financial Position

The Statement of Financial Position is the Council's balance sheet. Total assets minus total liabilities equals equity – Council's net worth.

Assets are items of economic value owned or controlled by the Council / Group. The Council's total assets are worth \$1.25 billion, and include major assets such as:

- property, plant and equipment, including land, buildings and infrastructure assets
- other assets, including investment properties and investments in controlled entities and associates.

Further capital investment is spent each year on constructing and developing assets around our district which contribute to the balance of property, plant and equipment.

Liabilities are amounts owed to lenders and suppliers. The Council's total liabilities are \$161 million. The major liabilities of the Council include:

- gross borrowings
- payables and deferred revenue.

The Council's **net worth** on 30 June 2025 is \$1.1 billion. This is calculated as the difference between the total assets and the total liabilities of the Council. Net worth is represented in the financial statements as **equity**.



Statement of Financial Position

	Council			Group	
	2025 Actual \$000	2025 Budget \$000	2024 Actual, as restated \$000	2025 Actual \$000	2024 Actual, as restated \$000
As at 30 June					
Current assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	18,901	33,764	15,057	21,988	18,535
Receivables *	9,682	16,375	10,267	13,753	16,834
Other financial assets *	43	-	38	43	38
Inventories	92	90	72	2,815	2,519
Income tax receivable	-	-	-	-	-
Property inventory	616	616	155	616	155
Non-current assets held for sale *	-	323	267	-	267
Derivative financial instruments	26	-	-	26	-
Total current assets	29,360	51,168	25,856	39,241	38,348
Non-current assets					
Receivables *	-	688	-	323	-
Deferred taxation asset	-	-	-	-	-
Local Authority stocks and bonds	4,166	3,157	4,055	4,166	4,055
Other financial assets *	7,305	2,042	6,352	7,315	6,362
Investment in council-controlled organisation	4,500	4,500	4,500	-	-
Investment in associates and joint ventures	1,795	1,795	1,795	43,390	37,488
Property inventory	3,312	1,617	3,773	3,312	3,773
Investment properties	36,272	36,733	36,799	36,072	36,599
Forestry assets	2,985	4,487	3,025	2,985	3,025
Intangible assets	141	390	253	1,042	1,311
Property, plant and equipment	1,152,321	1,098,983	1,024,140	1,164,273	1,037,515
Work in progress	9,745	-	12,503	9,745	12,503
Derivative financial instruments	-	-	444	-	444
Total non-current assets	1,222,542	1,154,392	1,097,639	1,272,623	1,143,075
TOTAL ASSETS	1,251,902	1,205,561	1,123,495	1,311,864	1,181,423

	Council		Group	
	Actual 2024/25 \$000	LTP 2024/25 \$000	Actual 2023/24 \$000	Actual 2024/25 \$000
Current liabilities				
Payables and deferred revenue *	12,750	11,902	15,488	14,320
Employee benefit liabilities	2,396	2,310	2,308	3,394
Provisions	660	15	15	660
Borrowings	45,000	9,727	32,000	45,000
Tax payable	19	-	17	40
Derivative financial instruments	16	-	-	16
Total current liabilities	60,841	23,954	49,828	63,430
Non-current liabilities				
Payables and deferred revenue	196	299	299	196
Employee benefit liabilities	242	246	244	302
Provisions	113	117	107	113
Deferred taxation liability	-	-	-	689
Derivative financial instruments	848	-	58	848
Borrowings	98,600	159,640	98,600	99,600
Total non-current liabilities	99,999	160,302	99,308	101,748
TOTAL LIABILITIES	160,840	184,256	149,136	165,178
Equity				
Ratepayers' equity *	546,476	617,399	536,900	563,300
Other reserves	544,587	403,906	437,459	583,387
Total equity	1,091,063	1,021,305	974,359	1,146,687
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	1,251,902	1,205,561	1,123,495	1,311,864
				1,181,423

* Refer to the full Annual Report, Note 31 for the impact of the restatements on the comparative figures.

Significant variations

Explanations are for major variances (>\$5 million) from the Council's budget figures in Year 1 of its Long Term Plan 2024-34.

Current assets were \$21.8m lower than budget. Major variances included:

- Cash and cash equivalents are \$14.9M below budget as cash was used to offset overall borrowing resulting in reduced borrowing costs.
- Receivables are \$6.6M less than budgeted as Council engaged a new debt collector and has proactively managed the collection of its receivables.

Non-current assets were \$68.1m lower than budget. Major variances included:

- Property, plant and equipment and work in progress are a combined \$63.1M above budget. This is partly due to higher than anticipated valuation movements for water, wastewater, stormwater and open spaces assets, partially offset by higher depreciation in the current year.

Current liabilities were \$36.9m higher than budget. Major variances included:

- Payables and deferred revenue is \$0.8M higher than budget as income received in advance and retentions held at balance date were higher than expected.
- The current portion of borrowings is \$35.3M higher than budgeted, due to the maturity profile of borrowing.

Non-current liabilities were \$60.3m lower than budget. Major variances included:

- The non-current portion of borrowing is \$61.0M lower than budget due to the increased portion of borrowing in current liabilities because of Council's maturity profile combined with lower than budgeted capital spending. Some projects that were budgeted to be loan funded such as the Friendship Lane Elderly Persons Housing project were funded via a grant, and some water projects have been deferred to the 2025/26 year resulting in reduced borrowing.



Statement of Cash Flows

This table details the cash flows in and out of Council over the year, divided into operating, investing and financing activities.

It shows how cash is generated and used. The increase or decrease in cash, is agreed to the final cash balance in the Statement of Financial Position.

	Council		Group	
	2025 Actual \$000	2025 Budget \$000	2024 Actual, as restated \$000	2025 Actual \$000
Cash flows from operating activities				
Receipts from customers	87,825	87,116	87,282	122,261
Interest received	1,206	450	1,423	1,307
Dividends received	2,100	1,800	1,746	827
Payments to suppliers and employees	(63,245)	(69,750)	(62,410)	(95,465)
Sale of council subdivisions	-	4,500	2,039	-
Interest paid	(5,796)	(6,574)	(4,838)	(5,877)
Net GST (paid) received	-	-	(781)	12
Income tax	(17)	-	77	(469)
Net cash flow from operating activities	22,073	17,542	24,538	22,596
Cash flows from investing activities				
Sale of property, plant and equipment	2,399	(200)	9,564	2,729
Sale of investment property	1,349	-	-	1,349
Sale / maturing of shares and investments	-	-	547	-
Advances repayments	-	-	-	-
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(34,158)	(44,496)	(67,128)	(34,598)
Purchase of intangible assets	-	-	(116)	(59)
Purchase of shares and investments	(751)	-	(2,068)	(751)
Loans to related and third parties	(68)	-	(2,962)	(227)
Advances	-	-	-	(1,482)
Net cash flow from investing activities	(31,229)	(44,696)	(62,163)	(31,557)
Cash flows from financing activities				
Loans raised	45,000	26,616	69,000	45,000
Loan repayments	(32,000)	(10,421)	(24,000)	(32,586)
Net cash flow from financing activities	13,000	16,195	45,000	12,414
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH HELD	3,844	(10,959)	7,375	3,453
Add opening cash resources	15,057	44,723	7,682	18,535
TOTAL CLOSING CASH RESOURCES	18,901	33,764	15,057	21,988
* Refer to the full Annual Report, Note 31 for the impact of the restatements on the comparative figures.				

Statement of Changes in Net Assets / Equity

	Council		Group	
	2025 Actual \$000	2025 Budget \$000	2024 Actual, as restated \$000	2025 Actual \$000
Balance at 1 July	974,358	983,299	949,969	1,025,896
Reclassification of equity	-	-	-	(325)
Surplus (deficit) after taxation	8,313	12,128	6,676	6,021
Other comprehensive revenue and expenses	108,392	25,878	17,713	115,095
Total comprehensive income and expenses	116,705	38,006	24,389	121,116
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE	1,091,063	1,021,305	974,358	1,146,687
				1,025,896

* Refer to the full Annual Report, Note 31 for the impact of the restatements on the comparative figures.

Contingent assets and liabilities

For the year ended 30 June	Council		Group	
	2025 Actual \$000	2024 Actual \$000	2025 Actual \$000	2024 Actual \$000
Performance bonds	-	-	126	-
Asbestos management	53	-	53	-
Total contingent liabilities	53	-	179	-

Operating and capital commitments

For the year ended 30 June	Council		Group	
	2025 Actual \$000	2024 Actual \$000	2025 Actual \$000	2024 Actual \$000
Non-cancellable operating leases as lessor:				
Less than one year	1,709	964	1,709	964
Between one and five years	2,945	2,702	2,945	2,702
Later than five years	2,098	2,592	2,098	2,592
	6,752	6,258	6,752	6,258
Capital commitments contracted at balance date not yet incurred				
ACL PPE	-	-	4	75
Roading	974	4,725	974	4,725
Solid Waste	-	795	-	795
Wastewater / Stormwater / Water	4,441	1,595	4,441	1,595
Parks	-	1,386	-	1,386
EA Networks Centre - Gymnasium	377	-	377	-
Commercial Property	-	3,602	-	3,602
Total capital commitments	5,792	12,103	5,796	12,178



Statement of accounting policies

Reporting entity

The Ashburton District Council (the Council) is a territorial local authority established under the Local Government Act 2002 and qualifies as a public benefit entity (PBE) under the New Zealand equivalents to the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS).

The group consists of the Ashburton District Council and its wholly owned subsidiaries Ashburton Contracting Limited (Council controlled trading organisation) and its in-substance subsidiary the Ashburton Community Water Trust. Its 20% equity share of its associate Rangitata Diversion Race Management Limited and its 33% equity share of its joint venture Eastfield Investments Limited are equity accounted. All Ashburton District Council subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures are incorporated and domiciled in New Zealand.

The primary objective of the Council and group is to provide goods or services for the community or social benefit rather than making a financial return.

The financial statements of the Council and group are for the year ended 30 June 2025. The financial statements were authorised for issue by Council on 3 December 2025.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis, and the accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the period.

Statement of compliance

The Council and group financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA), and the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 (LG(FRP)R), which include the requirement to comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand (NZ GAAP).

The financial statements and service performance information in the full Annual Report have been prepared in accordance with Tier 1 PBE accounting standards.

These financial statements comply with Public Benefit Entity Financial Reporting Standard 43 (PBE FRS 43 Summary Financial Statements).

Presentational currency and rounding

The functional currency of Ashburton District Council is New Zealand dollars and accordingly the financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars and all values rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$000).

Summary financial statements

The summary financial statements do not include all disclosures provided in the full financial statements and cannot be expected to provide a complete understanding as provided by the full financial statements in the Annual Report 2024/25. The specific disclosures included in these summary financial statements have been extracted from the full financial statements.

A full copy of this report is available at ashburtondc.govt.nz/Ashburton-district/Plans-Reports-and-Strategies or from council offices.

The financial statements presented in this summary report have been audited by Audit New Zealand. An unmodified audit opinion was issued on the full Annual Report.

Statutory deadline

Section 98 of the Local Government Act 2002 requires that Council adopt its full Annual Report within four months of the end of the financial year. Council was unable to meet this requirement for the year ended 30 June 2025 and the Annual Report was not adopted until 3 December 2025.

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Annual Report Summary 2024/25
Published December 2025

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the readers of Ashburton District Council summary of the annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025

The summary of the annual report was derived from the annual report of the Ashburton District Council (the Council) for the year ended 30 June 2025.

The summary of the annual report comprises the following information on pages 25 to 29 and 43 to 52:

- the summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025;
- the summaries of the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense, statement of changes in net assets/equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2025;
- the notes to the summary financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information; and
- the summary statement of service provision referred to as “Our non-financial performance – in summary”.

Opinion

In our opinion:

- the summary of the annual report represents, fairly and consistently, the information regarding the major matters dealt with in the annual report; and
- the summary statements comply with PBE FRS 43, *Summary Financial Statements*.

Summary of the annual report

The summary of the annual report does not contain all the disclosures required by generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand. Reading the summary of the annual report and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the full annual report and the auditor's report thereon.

The summary of the annual report does not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our auditor's report on the full annual report.

The full annual report and our audit report thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the information we audited in the full annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025 in our auditor's report dated 3 December 2025.

The Council's responsibility for the summary of the annual report

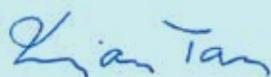
The Council is responsible for preparing the summary of the annual report which includes preparing summary statements in accordance with PBE FRS 43.

The auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary of the annual report represents, fairly and consistently, the information regarding the major matters dealt with in the full annual report and whether the summary statements comply with PBE FRS 43.

Our opinion on the summary of the annual report is based on our procedures, which were carried out in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

In addition to the audit, we have carried out a limited assurance engagement related to the Council's debenture trust deed. This engagement is compatible with those independence requirements. Other than the audit, our report on the disclosure requirements, and this limited assurance engagement, we have no relationship with, or interests in, the Council or its controlled entities.



Julian Tan,
Audit New Zealand
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Christchurch, New Zealand
19 December 2025

Annual Report Summary

2024/25

Our Place | Our Plan

