

Councils' Annual Residents Surveys Benchmarking Report 2023/2024







Research background





Research Objectives

The specific objectives of this research were:

- To understand residents' satisfaction with services and facilities provided by Councils across New Zealand.
- To benchmark the key performance indicators against other Councils.

Method

- Surveys were undertaken with 18 different Councils across New Zealand in 2023/24, including 15 District Councils and 3 City Councils.
- Respondents were selected at random from the Electoral Roll, ratepayers database and/or email contacts collected through previous years' surveys.
- The questionnaires were designed in consultation with Councils and were structured to provide a comprehensive set of measures relating to core activities, services and infrastructure, and to provide a wider perspective of performance. This includes assessment of reputation and knowledge of Council's activities.
- Post data collection, the samples were weighted to be exactly representative of key population demographics for each area based on the 2018 Census.
- At an aggregate level the surveys have an expected 95% confidence interval (margin of error) of between +/- 3.2% and +/-4.8%.
- Maximum, minimum and average scores for key performance indicators are shown and benchmarked based on 18 Council's performances. Questions used are either identical or closely related, allowing for comparison.
- To allow better and more extensive benchmarking, several measures are presented as an average score of all related measures in the relevant section.

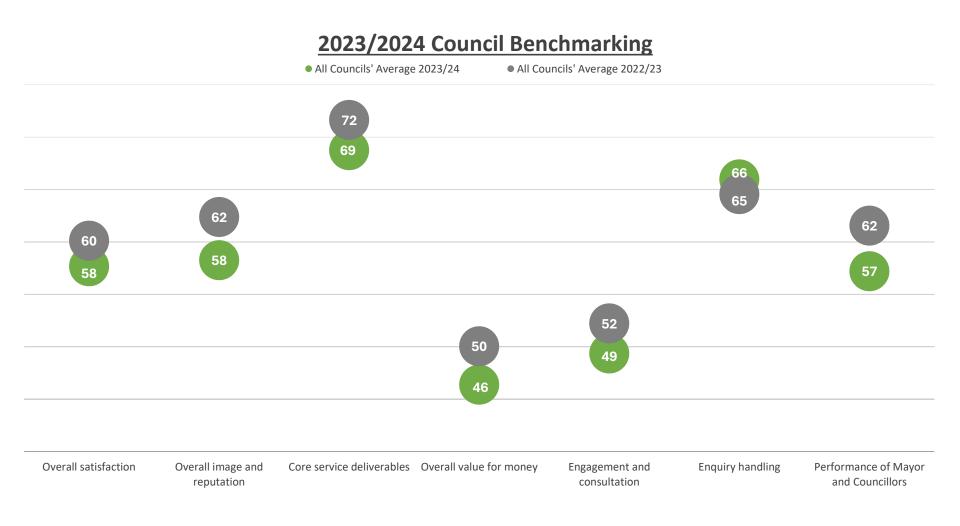


Councils included in 2023/24 Benchmarking report

- Far North District Council
- Gisborne District Council
- Hauraki District Council
- Kaipara District Council
- Manawatū District Council
- Nelson City Council
- Palmerston North City Council
- Rotorua Lakes District Council
- South Taranaki District Council
- South Waikato District Council
- Stratford District Council
- Tararua District Council
- Tauranga City Council
- Timaru District Council
- Waikato District Council
- Waipa District Council
- Waitaki District Council
- Western Bay of Plenty District Council



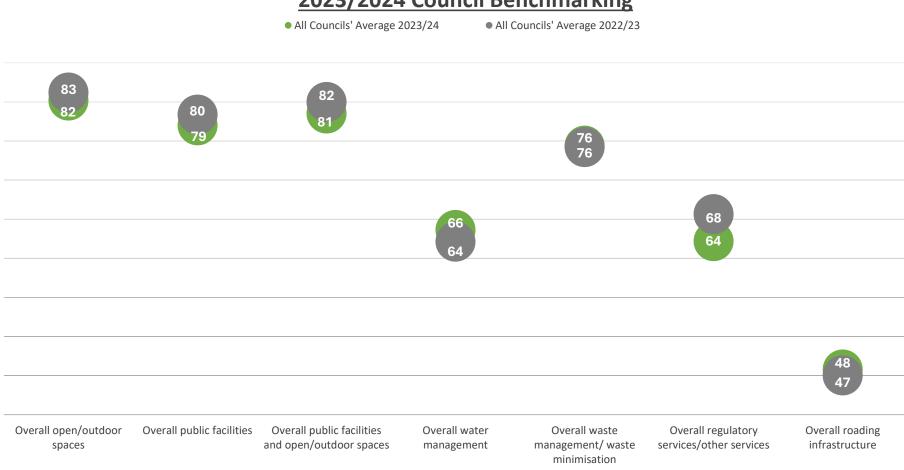
Year on year change (% 6-10) - Overall





Year on year change (% 6-10) – Core service deliverables







Overall measures





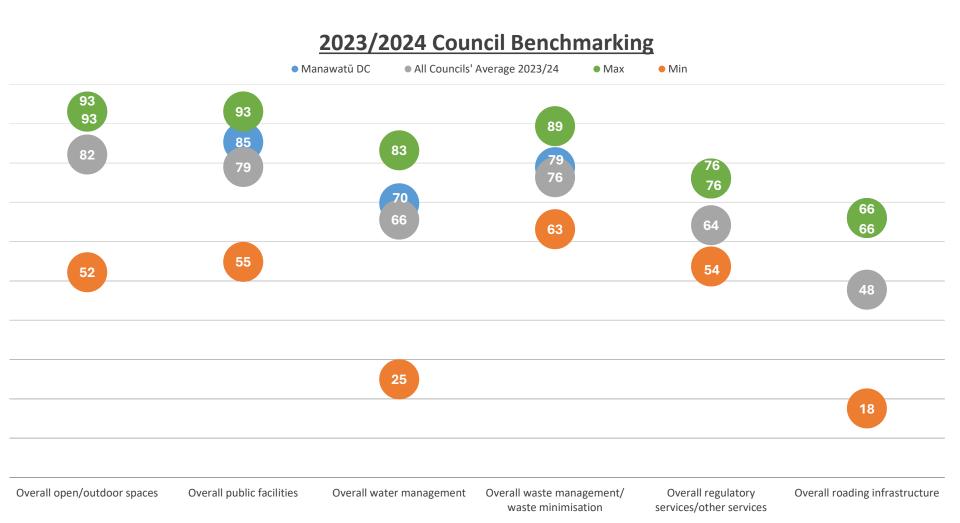


Overall measures

| % 6-10 | Your Council % | Average based on 18 Councils % | point diff % | Top performance % | point diff % | Lowest performance % | point diff % |
|------------------------------|----------------------|---|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Overall satisfaction | 67 | 58 | +9 | 75 | -8 | 27 | +40 |
| Overall image and reputation | 70 | 58 | +12 | 84 | -14 | 27 | +43 |
| Core service deliverables | 82 | 69 | +13 | 82 | - | 43 | +39 |
| Overall value for money | 45 | 46 | -1 | 62 | -17 | 22 | +23 |
| Engagement and consultation | 67 | 49 | +18 | 73 | -6 | 30 | +37 |
| Enquiry handling | 57 | 66 | -9 | 87 | -30 | 49 | +8 |



Core service deliverables



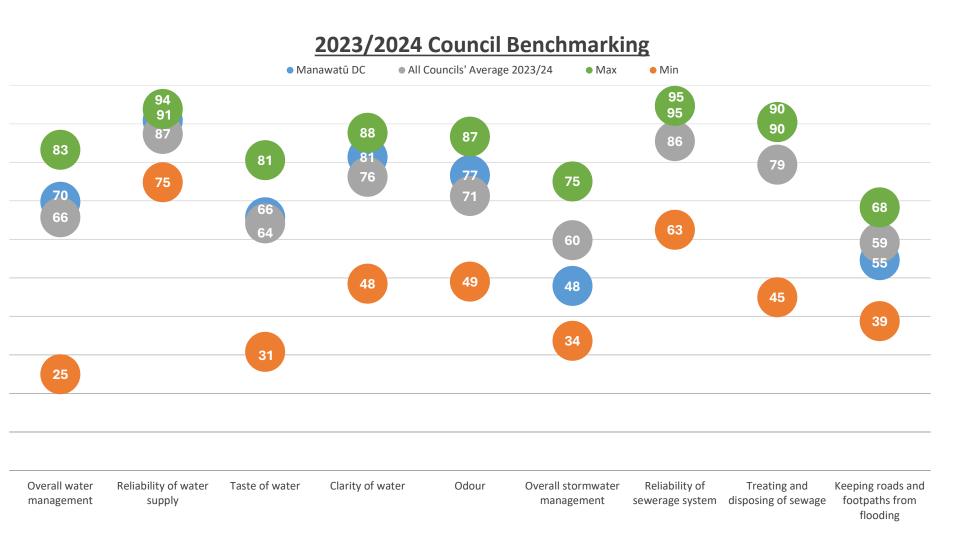


Core service deliverables

| % 6-10 | Your Council % | Average based on 18 Councils % | point diff % | Top performance % | point diff % | Lowest performance % | point diff % |
|---|----------------------|---|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Overall open/outdoor spaces | 93 | 82 | +11 | 93 | - | 52 | +41 |
| Overall public facilities | 85 | 79 | +6 | 93 | -8 | 55 | +30 |
| Overall water management | 70 | 66 | +4 | 83 | -13 | 25 | +45 |
| Overall waste management/ waste minimisation | 79 | 76 | +3 | 89 | -10 | 63 | +16 |
| Overall regulatory services/other services | 76 | 64 | +12 | 76 | - | 54 | +22 |
| Overall roading infrastructure | 66 | 48 | +18 | 66 | - | 18 | +48 |



Water management



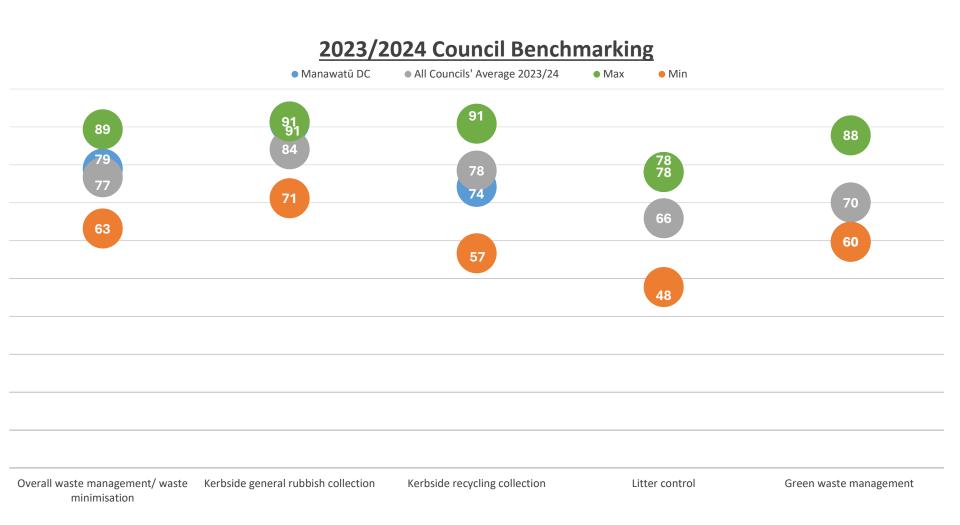


Water management

| % 6-10 | Your Council % | Average based on 18 Councils % | point diff % | Top performance % | point diff % | Lowest performance % | point diff % |
|---|----------------------|---|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Overall water management | 70 | 66 | +4 | 83 | -13 | 25 | +45 |
| Reliability of water supply | 91 | 87 | +4 | 94 | -3 | 75 | +16 |
| Taste of water | 66 | 64 | +2 | 81 | -15 | 31 | +35 |
| Clarity of water | 81 | 76 | +5 | 88 | -7 | 48 | +33 |
| Odour | 77 | 71 | +6 | 87 | -10 | 49 | +28 |
| Overall stormwater management | 48 | 60 | -12 | 75 | -27 | 34 | +14 |
| Reliability of sewerage system | 95 | 86 | +9 | 95 | _ | 63 | +32 |
| Treating and disposing of sewage | 90 | 79 | +11 | 90 | - | 45 | +45 |
| Keeping roads and footpaths from flooding | 55 | 59 | -4 | 68 | -13 | 39 | +16 |



Waste management



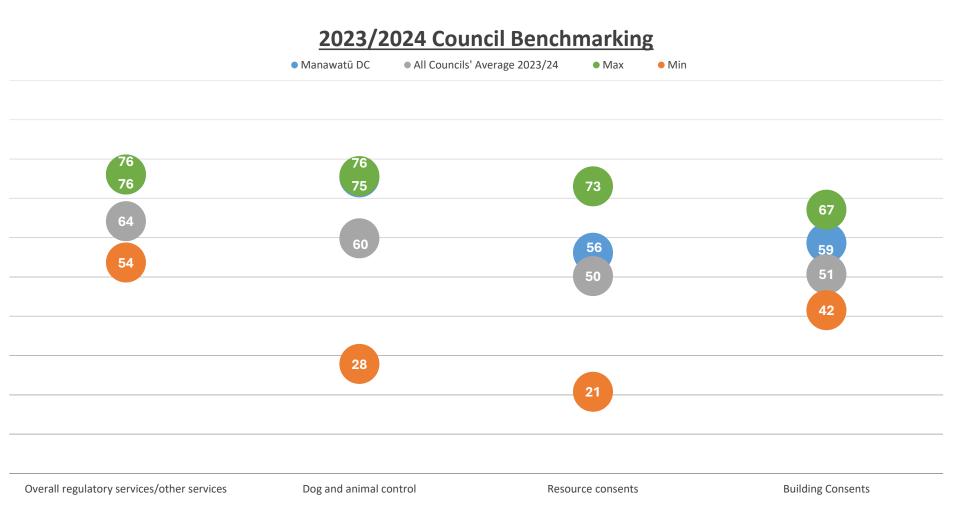


Waste management

| % 6-10 | Your Council % | Average based on 18 Councils % | point diff % | Top performance % | point diff % | Lowest performance % | point diff % |
|---|----------------------|---|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Overall waste management/ waste minimisation | 79 | 77 | +2 | 89 | -10 | 63 | +16 |
| Kerbside general rubbish collection | 91 | 84 | +7 | 91 | - | 71 | +20 |
| Kerbside recycling collection | 74 | 78 | -4 | 91 | -17 | 57 | +17 |
| Litter control | 78 | 66 | +12 | 78 | - | 48 | +30 |
| Green waste management | 60 | 70 | -10 | 88 | -28 | 60 | - |



Regulatory services





Regulatory services

| % 6-10 | Your Council % | Average based on 18 Councils % | point diff % | Top performance % | point diff % | Lowest performance % | point diff % |
|--|----------------------|---|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Overall regulatory services/other services | 76 | 64 | +12 | 76 | - | 54 | +22 |
| Dog and animal control | 75 | 60 | +15 | 76 | - | 28 | +47 |
| Resource consents | 56 | 50 | +6 | 73 | -17 | 21 | +35 |
| Building Consents | 59 | 51 | +8 | 67 | -8 | 42 | +17 |



Reputation







Reputation profile





Reputation

| % 6-10 | Your Council % | Average based on 18 Councils % | point diff % | Top performance % | point diff % | Lowest performance % | point diff % |
|------------------------------|----------------------|---|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Overall image and reputation | 70 | 58 | +12 | 84 | -14 | 27 | +43 |
| Leadership | 66 | 57 | +9 | 76 | -10 | 28 | +38 |
| Trust | 60 | 53 | +7 | 75 | -15 | 24 | +36 |
| Financial management | 51 | 44 | +7 | 66 | -15 | 20 | +31 |
| Quality of services | 74 | 63 | +11 | 82 | -8 | 29 | +45 |



Facilities







Facilities

| % 6-10 | Your Council % | Average based on 18 Councils % | point diff % | Top performance % | point diff % | Lowest performance % | point diff % |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Parks, reserves and green spaces | 92 | 84 | +8 | 95 | -3 | 52 | +40 |
| Libraries | 77 | 87 | -10 | 99 | -22 | 77 | - |
| Playgrounds | 90 | 83 | +7 | 91 | -1 | 74 | +16 |
| Sportsfields | 90 | 84 | +6 | 90 | - | 73 | +17 |
| Public swimming pools/aquatic centres | 81 | 77 | +4 | 85 | -4 | 54 | +27 |
| Cemeteries | 94 | 83 | +11 | 94 | - | 66 | +28 |
| Public toilet | 76 | 68 | +8 | 83 | -7 | 43 | +33 |



Roading infrastructure





footpaths

of cycleways

cycleways



Roading infrastructure

| % 6-10 | Your Council % | Average based on 18 Councils % | point diff % | Top performance % | point diff % | Lowest performance % | point diff % |
|--|----------------------|---|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Overall roading infrastructure | 66 | 49 | +17 | 70 | -4 | 18 | +48 |
| Maintenance of roads/quality of roads | 59 | 42 | +17 | 59 | - | 15 | +44 |
| Levels of safety when driving on the roads | 60 | 50 | +11 | 78 | -18 | 15 | +45 |
| Maintenance of footpaths/quality of footpaths | 66 | 62 | +4 | 80 | -14 | 46 | +20 |
| The availability of footpaths | 58 | 59 | -1 | 72 | -14 | 31 | +27 |
| Provision for dedicated walkways and cycleways | 69 | 66 | +3 | 69 | - | 62 | +7 |
| The availability/suitability of cycleways | 56 | 54 | +2 | 65 | -9 | 46 | +10 |
| Availability of parking in the city | 74 | 58 | +16 | 74 | - | 51 | +23 |



Value for money





Value for money

| % 6-10 | Your Council % | Average based on 18 Councils % | point diff % | Top performance % | point diff % | Lowest performance % | point diff % |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|---|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Overall value for money | 45 | 46 | -1 | 62 | -17 | 22 | +24 |
| Rates being fair and reasonable | 45 | 40 | +5 | 53 | -8 | 17 | +28 |



Quality of life





Quality of life

| % 6-10 | Your Council % | Average based on 18 Councils % | point diff % | Top performance % | point diff % | Lowest performance % | point diff % |
|--|----------------------|---|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| District is going in the right direction | 72 | 61 | +11 | 76 | -3 | 31 | +41 |



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