

# Palmerston North City indicator framework for monitoring community wellbeing

Our indicator framework for monitoring community wellbeing takes into consideration the following:

**The New Zealand Living Standards Framework** as example and guidance. It is a comprehensive series of indicators to measure individual and collective wellbeing. The first national-level report, Te Tai Waiora Wellbeing in Aotearoa New Zealand, was published in 2022.

**The availability and quality of local data.** Understanding that data used for indicators at national and international is often not available at a territorial authority level, our indicators rely mainly on information that is available, affordable, and accessible to us.

**Appropriateness of data for our purpose.** Indicators identified are related to our community wellbeing outcomes of our city goals. They help us understand how the city is doing in the four goals at a city level. For example:

1. Some indicators align with national and regional targets for committing council resources and seeking co-funding from national agencies and programmes. E.g. national greenhouse gas emissions budgets, national waste strategy targets, and regional land transport plan targets for active and public transport.
2. Some indicators focus the attention of stakeholders to achieve a common goal for the city. E.g. participation in physical activity, perception of Palmerston North as a welcoming and friendly city.

**Our indicators are relevant and easy to understand** and will be continually updated and published on our City Dashboards alongside demographic information about our city.

**Our indicators and targets are “SMART”** in that they are

- **Specific** – in that they reflect the outcomes that are relevant to community outcomes / wellbeing.
- **Measurable** – in that information is available, such as from census and Annual Residents’ Surveys.
- **Achievable** – if they are targets, they are not over-ambitious or too aspirational taking into account the resources allocated to achieving them
- **Realistic and relevant** – in that they are meaningful as community outcomes / wellbeing
- **Timely** – in that they are defined over a period or cycle (eg. annually, census, elections, long-term plan, regional plan)

## Exclusions

Indicators for monitoring wellbeing are not performance indicators of council services or activities. Nevertheless, it is widely acknowledged that the delivery of council services contributes to community wellbeing. Operational indicators are presented in reports to council.