

Quality of Life in New Zealand's Largest Cities

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Overview

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3. Framework of the next report
4. Method and criteria for indicator selection
5. Data collection issues
6. Impact of the Local Govt Act
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Background

- Began in 1999
- 6 largest cities representing 40% NZ population
- Focussed on the growing pressures on urban communities
- Concern about the impacts of urbanisation
- Effects of this on the well-being of citizens
- First report published 2001
- Tool for advocacy on urban issues
- www.bigcities.govt.nz

Purpose

To advocate for quality of life and sustainable development in the largest urban centres of NZ through applying indicators of social, environmental and economic and governance conditions.

Report Framework

2001 report:

Demographics

Housing

Health

Education

Safety

Democracy

Urban Environment

Employment & Economy

Community Cohesion

2003 report:

The People

Housing

Health

Knowledge & Skills

Safety

Civil & Political Rights

Urban Environment

Natural environment

Economic Standard of Living

Economic Development

Social Connectedness

Method

- Local, national, international best practice
- Alignment – locally and nationally
- Initial framework and broad indicator set
- Consultation on this and narrowing down
- Criteria applied
- Analysis by region, by city, by ward, by ethnicity, by age - to rest of NZ or whole of NZ for each indicator
- Looked for linkages - cause and effect - trends

Data collection issues

- Data Availability
- Lack of robust time series data
- Data age
- Data Consistency
- Monitoring of long term trends
- Geographical boundaries mismatch

Local Govt Act

Local Authorities must:

- Monitor community outcomes
- Must attach 'measurable' and realistic indicators to outcomes
- Data must be available at a local level to be able to do good monitoring
- Partnership approach
- Need to build data relationships
- Need to address data challenges

How our reports hang together

Monitoring Progress Toward A Sustainable NZ

MSD
The
Social
Report

MED
NZ
Economy
Report

MFE
State of the
Environment
Report

Min
Maori Dev
& Pacific
Isl Dev
Reports

Quality of Life in NZ Largest Cities

State of
city

State of
city

State of
city

State of
city

State of
city

Where to from here...

- Joint surveys
- Indicator alignment
- Measurement standards on environmental indicators
- Enhancing and developing partnerships
- Expand product range
- Expand reach of work to other local authorities
- Provide 'best practice' advice on indicators / surveys / outcome measurement