

Statement of Accounting Policies

REPORTING ENTITY

Ōpōtiki District Council (ODC) is a territorial local authority established under the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) and is domiciled and operates in New Zealand. The relevant legislation governing the Council's operations include the LGA and the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

The Council provides local infrastructure, local public services, and performs regulatory functions to the community. The Council does not operate to make a financial return.

The Council has designated itself as a public benefit entity (PBE) for the purpose of complying with generally accepted accounting practice.

The financial statements of ODC are for the years from 1 July 2018 through to 30 June 2028.

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 financial statements of ODC have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the 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).

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the reduced disclosure of a Tier 2 PBE accounting entity. ODC qualifies for the Tier 2 exemptions as it does not have debt or equity instruments that are traded in a public market nor hold assets in a fiduciary capacity for a broad group of outsiders; and has total expenses between \$2 million and \$30 million. These financial statements comply with PBE Standards.

Presentation currency and rounding

The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000), other than the remuneration in Note 26, the severance payments in Note 27, contingencies in Note 24 and the related party transaction disclosures in note 25. These transaction disclosures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

Standards issued and not yet effective, and not early adopted

Standards and amendments, issued but not yet effective that have not been early adopted, and which are relevant to the Council are:

Impairment of Revalued Assets

In April 2017, the XRB issued *Impairment of Revalued Assets* (PBE IPSAS 21), which now scopes in revalued property, plant, and equipment into the impairment accounting standards. Previously, only property, plant, and equipment assets measured at cost were scoped into the impairment accounting standards. The new standard is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019, with early adoption permitted.

The Council plans to apply the new standards in preparing the 30 June 2020 financial statements. The Council has not yet assessed the effects of this new standard.

Interests in other entities

In January 2017, the XRB issued new standards for interests in other entities (PBE IPSAS 34 – 38). These new standards replace the existing standards for interests in other entities (PBE IPSAS 6 – 8). The new standards are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019, with early adoption permitted.

The Council plans to apply the new standards in preparing the 30 June 2020 financial statements. The Council has not yet assessed the effects of this new standard.

Financial instruments

In January 2017, the XRB issued PBE IFRS 9 *Financial Instruments*. PBE IFRS 9 replaces PBE IPSAS 29 *Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement*. PBE IFRS 9 is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2021, with early adoption permitted.

The Council plans to apply the new standards in preparing the 30 June 2022 financial statements. The Council has not yet assessed the effects of this new standard.

Other changes in accounting policies

There have been no other changes in accounting policies.

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Revenue

Revenue is measured at the fair value.

The specific accounting policies for significant revenue items are explained below:

Exchange Transactions

Exchange transactions are transactions where Council receives assets or services, or has liabilities extinguished, and directly gives approximately equal value to another entity in exchange.

Specific accounting policies for major categories of exchange revenue transactions are listed below.

Interest and dividends

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method.

Dividends are recognised when the right to receive payment has been established. When dividends are declared from pre-acquisition surpluses, the dividend is deducted from the cost of the investment.

Sale of goods

Revenue from the Sales of goods is recognised when a product is sold to the customer.

Provision of Commercially based Services

Revenue derived through the provision of services to third parties in a commercial manner is recognised in proportion to the stage of completion at balance date.

Other gains and losses

Other gains and losses includes fair value gains and losses on financial instruments at fair value through surplus or deficit, unrealised fair value gains and losses on the revaluation of investment properties and realised gains and losses on the sale of PPE held at cost.

Non-Exchange Transactions

Non-exchange transactions are transactions that are not exchange transactions. In a non-exchange transaction, Council either receives value from or gives value to another entity without directly giving or receiving approximately equal value in exchange, or where the value given or received is not able to be accurately measured.

An inflow of resources from a non-exchange transaction, whether this be an asset or revenue, is only recognised if a liability is not also recognised for that particular asset or revenue.

A liability is only recognised to the extent that the present obligations have not been satisfied. A liability in respect of a transferred asset is recognised only when the transferred asset is subject to a condition, such as a condition for the asset to be consumed as specified and/or that future economic benefits or service potential must be returned to the owner.

Specific accounting policies for major categories of non-exchange revenue transactions are listed below.

Rates revenue

The following policies for rates have been applied:-

- General rates, targeted rates (excluding water-by-meter) and uniform annual general charges are recognised at the start of the financial year to which the rates resolution relates. They are recognised at the amounts due. The Council considers the effect of payment by instalments is not sufficient to require discounting of rates receivables and subsequent recognition of interest revenue
- Rates arising from late payment penalties are recognised as revenue when rates become overdue
- Revenue from water-by-meter rates is recognised on an accrual basis based on usage. Unbilled usage, as a result of unread meters at year end, is accrued on an average usage basis
- Rates remissions are recognised as a reduction of rates revenue when ODC has received an application that satisfies its rates remission policy
- Rates collected on behalf of Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC) are not recognised in the financial statements as ODC is acting as agent for BOPRC.

New Zealand Transport Agency Roading Subsidies

ODC receives funding assistance from New Zealand Transport Agency, which subsidises part of the costs of maintenance and capital expenditure on the local roading infrastructure. The subsidies are recognised as revenue upon entitlement, as conditions pertaining to eligible expenditure have been fulfilled.

Other Grants Received

Other grants are recognised as revenue when they become receivable unless there is an obligation in substance to return the funds if conditions of the grant are not met. If there is an obligation, the grants are initially recorded as grants received in advance and recognised as revenue when conditions of the grant are satisfied.

Building and Resource Consent Revenue

Fees and charges for building and resource consent services are recognised on a percentage completion basis with reference to the recoverable costs incurred at balance date.

Infringement Fees and Fines

Infringement Fees and Fines mostly relate to fees and fines for use of library books. The fair value is determined based on the probability of collecting fines, which is estimated by considering the collection history of fines over the preceding 2-year period.

Vested or donated physical assets

For assets received for no or nominal consideration, the asset is recognised at its fair value when ODC obtains control over the asset. The fair value of the asset is recognised as revenue, unless there is a use or return condition attached to the asset.

The fair value of vested or donated assets is usually determined by reference to the cost of constructing the asset. For assets received from property developers, the fair value is based on the construction price information provided by the property developer.

For long-lived assets that must be used for a specific use (e.g. land must be used as a recreation reserve), ODC immediately recognises the fair value of the asset as revenue. A liability is recognised only if the Council expects that it will need to return or pass the asset to another party.

Donated and Bequeathed Financial Assets

Donated and Bequeathed Financial Assets are recognised as revenue unless there are substantive use or return conditions. A liability is recorded if there are substantive use or return conditions and the liability released to revenue as the conditions are met (e.g. as the funds are spent for the nominated purpose).

Direct charges

Rendering of services at a price that is not approximately equal to the value of the service provided by the Council or Group is considered a non-exchange transaction. This includes rendering of services where the price does not allow the Council to fully recover the cost of providing the service (such as resource consents, building consents, water connections, dog licencing, etc.), and where the shortfall is subsidised by income from other activities, such as rates. Generally there are no conditions attached to such revenue.

Revenue from such services is recognised when the Council or Group issues the invoice or bill for the service. Revenue is recognised at the amount of the invoice or bill, which is the fair value of the cash received or receivable for the service. Revenue is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the service to the extent

that the Council or Group has an obligation to refund the cash received from the service (or to the extent that the customer has the right to withhold payment from the Council or Group for the service) if the service is not completed.

Borrowing Costs

Borrowing Costs are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

Grant Expenditure

Non-discretionary grants are those grants that are awarded if the grant application meets the specified criteria and are recognised as expenditure when an application that meets the specified criteria for the grant has been received.

Discretionary grants are those grants where ODC has no obligation to award on receipt of the grant application and are recognised as expenditure when a successful applicant has been notified of ODC's decision.

Leases

Finance leases

A finance lease is a lease that transfers to the lessee substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an asset, whether or not title is eventually transferred.

At the commencement of the lease term, ODC recognises finance leases as assets and liabilities in the statement of financial position at the lower of the fair value of the leased item or the present value of the minimum lease payments.

The finance charge is charged to the surplus or deficit over the lease period so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability.

The amount recognised as an asset is depreciated over its useful life. If there is no certainty as to whether ODC will obtain ownership at the end of the lease term, the asset is fully depreciated over the shorter of the lease term or its useful life.

Operating Leases

An operating lease is a lease that does not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an asset. Lease payments under an operating lease are recognised as an expense on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Lease incentives received are recognised in the surplus or deficit as a reduction of rental expense over the lease term.

Receivables

Receivables are recorded at their face value, less any provision for uncollectability.

A receivable is considered to be uncollectable when there is evidence that the amount due will not be fully collected. The amount that is uncollectable is the difference between the amount due and the present value of the amount expected to be collected.

Other Financial Assets

Financial assets are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs unless they are carried at fair value through surplus or deficit in which case the transaction costs are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on trade-date, the date on which the Council commits to purchase or sell the asset. Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred and the Council has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership.

Financial assets are classified into the following categories for the purpose of measurement:

- fair value through surplus or deficit;
- loans and receivables;
- held-to-maturity investments; and
- fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense

The classification of a financial asset depends on the purpose for which the instrument was acquired.

Financial assets at fair value through surplus or deficit.

Financial assets at fair value through surplus or deficit include financial assets held for trading. A financial asset is classified in this category if acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short term or it is part of a portfolio of identified financial instruments that are managed together and for which there is evidence of short-term profit-taking. Derivatives are also categorised as held for trading unless they are designated into a hedge accounting relationship for which hedge accounting is applied.

Financial assets acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short-term or part of a portfolio classified as held for trading are classified as a current asset.

After initial recognition, financial assets in this category are measured at their fair values with gains or losses on re-measurement recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Currently, ODC does not hold any financial assets in this category.

Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They are included in current assets, except for maturities greater than 12 months after the balance date, which are in non-current assets.

After initial recognition they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment. Gains and losses when the asset is impaired or derecognised are recognised in the surplus or deficit

Loans to community organisations made by ODC at nil, or below-market interest rate are initially recognised at the present value of their expected future cash flows, discounted at the current market rate of return for a similar financial instrument. The loans are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The difference between the face value and the present value of expected cash flows of the loan is recognised in the surplus or deficit as a grant expense. The loans are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Held to maturity investments

Held to maturity investments are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturities and there is the positive intention and ability to hold to maturity. They are included in current assets, except for maturities greater than twelve months after the balance date, which are included in non-current assets.

After initial recognition they are measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest method less impairment. Gains and losses when the asset is impaired or derecognised are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense

Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense are those that are designated into the category at initial recognition or are not classified in any of the other categories above. They are included in non-current assets unless management intends to dispose of the investment within 12 months of the balance date or if the debt is not expected to be realised within 12 months of balance date. ODC includes in this category:

- Investments that ODC intends to hold long-term but which may be realised before maturity; and
- Shareholdings that ODC holds for strategic purposes.

These investments are measured at their fair value, with gains and losses recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense, except for impairment losses, which are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

On de-recognition the cumulative gain or loss previously recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense is reclassified from equity to the surplus or deficit.

Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets are assessed for objective evidence of impairment at each balance date. Impairment losses are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Loans and receivables, and held-to-maturity investments

Impairment is established when there is evidence that ODC will not be able to collect amounts due according to the original terms of the receivable. Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter into bankruptcy, receivership, or liquidation and default in payments are indicators that the asset is impaired. The amount of the impairment is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted using the original effective interest rate. If assets are impaired, the amount not expected to be collected is recognised in the surplus/deficit.

Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense

For equity investments, a significant or prolonged decline in the fair value of the investment below its cost is considered objective evidence of impairment.

For debt investments, significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter into bankruptcy and default in payments are considered objective indicators that the asset is impaired.

If impairment evidence exists for investments at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense, the cumulative loss (measured as the difference between the acquisition cost and the current fair value, less any impairment loss on that financial asset previously recognised in the surplus or deficit) recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense is reclassified from equity to the surplus or deficit.

Equity instrument impairment losses recognised in the surplus or deficit are not reversed through the surplus or deficit.

If in a subsequent period the fair value of a debt instrument increases and the increase can be objectively related to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised, the impairment loss is reversed in the surplus or deficit.

Non-current assets held for sale

Non-current assets held for sale are classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction, not through continuing use. Non-current assets held for sale are measured at the lower of their carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell.

Any impairment losses for write-downs of non-current assets held for sale are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Any increases in fair value (less costs to sell) are recognised up to the level of any impairment losses that have been previously recognised.

Non-current assets (including those that are part of a disposal group) are not depreciated or amortised while they are classified as held for sale.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment consists of:

Operational assets — These include land, buildings, plant, machinery and vehicles, fixtures, fittings and equipment and library collections.

Restricted assets — Restricted assets land and buildings owned by ODC which provide a benefit or service to the community and cannot be disposed of because of legal or other restrictions.

Infrastructure assets — Infrastructure assets are the fixed utility systems owned by ODC. Each asset class includes all items that are required for the network to function, for example, sewer reticulation includes reticulation piping and sewer pump stations.

Land (operational and restricted) is measured at fair value, and buildings and infrastructural assets are measured at fair value less accumulated depreciation. All other asset classes are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Revaluation

Land, buildings (operational and restricted) and infrastructural assets (except land under roads) are revalued with sufficient regularity to ensure their carry amount does not differ materially from fair value.

Revaluation movements are accounted for on a class of asset basis.

The net revaluation results are credited or debited to other comprehensive revenue and expense and are accumulated to an asset revaluation reserve in equity for that class of asset. Where this results in a debit balance in the asset revaluation reserve, this balance is not recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense but is recognised in the surplus or deficit. Any subsequent increase on revaluation that reverses a previous decrease in value recognised in the surplus or deficit will be recognised first in the surplus or deficit up to the value of the amount previously expensed, and then recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense.

Additions

The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised as an asset if, and only if, it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to ODC and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Work in progress is recognised at cost less impairment and is not depreciated.

In most instances, an item of property, plant and equipment is initially recognised at its cost. Where an asset is acquired through a non-exchange transaction, it is recognised at fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Costs incurred subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised only when it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with this item will flow to ODC and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

The costs of day-to-day servicing of property, plant, and equipment are recognised in the surplus or deficit as they are incurred.

Disposals

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the disposal proceeds with the carrying amount of the asset. Gains and losses on disposals are reported net in the surplus or deficit. When revalued assets are sold, the amounts included in asset revaluation reserves in respect of those assets are transferred to accumulated funds.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis on all property, plant and equipment other than land, at rates that will write off the cost (or valuation) of the assets to their estimated residual values over their useful lives. The useful lives and associated depreciation rates of major classes of assets have been estimated as follows:

Buildings

- Structure 35 to 85 years (2.86% - 1.18%)
- Roof 40 years (2.5%)
- Services 15 to 50 years (6.67% - 2.0%)
- Internal fit out 15 to 35 years (6.67% - 2.86%)

Plant and machinery 5 to 10 years (10% - 20%)

Fixed plant @refuse recovery centre 30 years (3.33%)

Motor vehicles 5 years (20%)

Fixtures, fittings and equipment 3 to 5 years (33% - 20%)

Library collections 5 to 10 years (10% - 20%)

Roading network

- Formation – not depreciated
- Sub base – not depreciated
- Basecourse (unsealed) 8 years (12.5%)
- Basecourse (sealed) 25 to 50 years (2% - 4%)
- Seal 15 years (6.67%)
- Bridges 100 years (1.0%)
- Hot mix 10 years (10.0%)
- Cycleways 50 years (2%)

Kerb and footpaths 50 years (2.0%)

Reticulation 5 to 100 years (1% - 20.0%)

Traffic facilities (roading components) 10 to 20 years (5.0% - 10.0%)

Culverts (roading components) 50 years (2.0%)

Pumps 10 to 20 years (5.0% - 10.0%)

Meters, valves and connections 25 to 75 years (1.33% - 4.0%)

River protection works 100 years (1.0%)

Open drains associated with the roading infrastructure is not depreciated. The annual maintenance programme set out in the asset management plan will ensure the specific level of service is maintained.

The residual value and useful life of an asset is reviewed, and adjusted if applicable, at each financial year end.

Intangible assets

Software acquisition and development

Acquired computer software licenses are capitalised on the basis of the costs incurred to acquire and bring to use the specific software.

Costs that are directly associated with the development of software for internal use by ODC, are recognised as an intangible asset. Direct cost will include the software development, employee costs and appropriate portion of relevant overheads.

Staff training costs are recognised in the surplus or deficit when incurred.

Costs associated with maintaining computer software are recognised as an expense when incurred.

Costs associated with development and maintenance of the Council's website is recognised as an expense when incurred.

Easements

Easements are recognised at cost, being the costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to its intended use.

Easements have an indefinite useful life and are not amortised, but are instead tested for impairment annually.

Amortisation

The carrying value of an intangible asset with a finite life is amortised on a straight-line basis over its useful life. Amortisation begins when the asset is available for use and ceases at the date that the asset is derecognised. The amortisation charge for each period is recognised in the surplus or deficit.

The useful lives and associated amortisation rates of major classes of intangible assets have been estimated as follows:

Computer software 3 to 5 years (20% - 33%).

Impairment of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets

Intangible assets that have an indefinite useful life, or not yet available for use, and goodwill are not subject to amortisation and are tested annually for impairment.

Property, plant and equipment and intangible assets that have a finite useful life are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable.

An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

For revalued assets, the impairment loss is recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Value in Use for Non-cash-Generating Assets

Non-cash-generating assets are those assets that are not held with the primary objective of generating a commercial return.

For non-cash-generating assets, value in use is determined using an approach based on either a depreciated replacement cost approach, restoration cost approach, or a service units approach. The most appropriate approach used to measure value in use depends on the nature of the impairment and availability of information.

Value in Use for Cash-Generating Assets

Cash-Generating Assets are those assets that are held with the primary objective of generating a commercial return.

The value in use for cash-generating units is the present value of expected future cash flows.

Investment property

Properties leased to third parties under operating leases are classified as investment property unless the property is held to meet service delivery objectives, rather than to earn rentals or for capital appreciation.

Investment property is measured initially at its cost, including transaction costs.

After initial recognition, ODC measures all investment property at fair value at each reporting date.

Gains or losses arising from a change in the fair value of investment property are recognised in surplus or deficit.

Payables

Short-term creditors and other payables are recorded at their face value.

Borrowings

Borrowings are initially recognised at the amount borrowed plus transaction costs. Interest due on borrowings is subsequently accrued and added to the borrowings balance.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless ODC has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after balance date.

Employee entitlements

Short-term employee entitlements

Employee benefits expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employee renders the related service are measured based on accrued entitlements at current rates of pay. These include salaries and wages accrued up to balance date, annual leave earned to, but not yet taken at balance date, and sick leave.

A liability for sick leave is recognised to the extent that absences in the coming year are expected to be greater than the sick leave entitlements earned in the coming year. The amount is calculated based on the unused sick leave entitlement that can be carried forward at balance date, to the extent that ODC anticipates it will be used by staff to cover those future absences.

A liability and an expense are recognised for bonuses where the Council has a contractual obligation or where there is a past practice that has created a constructive obligation.

Presentation of Employee Entitlements

Sick leave and annual leave are classified as a current liability. All other employee entitlements are classified as a non-current liability.

Superannuation schemes

Defined contribution schemes

Obligations for contributions to defined contribution superannuation schemes are recognised as an expense in the surplus or deficit as incurred.

Provisions

A provision is recognised for future expenditure of uncertain amount or timing when there is a present obligation (either legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of future economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Provisions are measured at the present value of the expenditures expected to be required to settle the obligation using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the obligation. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as an interest expense and is included in "finance costs".

Equity

Equity is the community's interest in ODC and is measured as the difference between total assets and total liabilities. Equity is disaggregated and classified into the following components.

- Accumulated funds
- Council created reserves
- Asset revaluation reserves
- Fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense reserve

Council Created reserves

Council created reserves are a component of equity generally representing a particular use to which various parts of equity have been assigned. Reserves may be legally restricted or created by ODC.

Council created reserves are those subject to specific conditions accepted as binding by ODC and which may not be revised by ODC without reference to the Courts or a third party. Transfers from these reserves may be made only for certain specified purposes or when certain specified conditions are met.

Also included in council created reserves are reserves restricted by Council decision. The Council may alter them without references to any third party or the Courts. Transfers to and from these reserves are at the discretion of the Council.

Asset revaluation reserves

This reserve relates to the revaluation of property, plant and equipment to fair value.

Fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense reserves

This reserve comprises the cumulative net change in the fair value of assets classified as fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense.

Good and Service Tax (GST)

All items in the financial statements are stated exclusive of GST, except for receivables and payables, which are stated on a GST inclusive basis. Where GST is not recoverable as input tax then it is recognised as part of the related asset or expense.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) is included as part of receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

The net GST paid to, or received from the IRD, including the GST relating to investing and financing activities, is classified as an operating cash flow in the statement of cash flows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed exclusive of GST.

Budget figures

The budget figures are those approved by the Council in its 2018-28 Long Term Plan. The budget figures have been prepared in accordance with NZ GAAP, using accounting policies that are consistent with those adopted by ODC for the preparation of the financial statements.

Cost allocation

ODC has derived the cost of service for each significant activity of ODC using the cost allocation system outlined below.

Direct costs are those costs directly attributable to a significant activity. Indirect costs are those costs, which cannot be identified in an economically feasible manner, with a specific significant activity.

Direct costs are charged directly to significant activities. Indirect costs are charged to significant activities using appropriate cost drivers such as actual usage, staff numbers and floor area.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

In preparing these financial statements ODC has made estimates and assumptions concerning the future. These estimates and assumptions may differ from the subsequent actual results. Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations or future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below:

Infrastructural assets

Note 13 provides information about the estimates and assumptions in determining the fair value of infrastructural assets.

Landfill aftercare provision

Note 18 discloses an analysis of the exposure of ODC in relation to the estimates and uncertainties surrounding the landfill aftercare provision.

Critical judgments in applying accounting policies

Management has exercised the following critical judgments in applying accounting policies.

Classification of property

The Council owns land and buildings previously occupied by the Council Depot. A portion of the property was leased and this portion was classified as investment property. The property has been redeveloped and the entire property is now classified as investment property.