Statement of Accounting Policies

Reporting Entity

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

The Kaikōura District Council group (KDC) consists of Kaikōura District Council and its subsidiary, the Kaikōura Enhancement Trust, a charitable Trust controlled by the Council. That Trust in turn owns 100% of Innovative Waste Kaikōura Ltd. The Council has an 11.5% interest in the Marlborough Regional Forestry joint venture with the Marlborough District Council holding the 88.5% shareholding.

The primary objective of Kaikōura District Council is to provide goods and services for the community or social benefit rather than making a financial return. Accordingly, the Council has designated itself and the group as public benefit entities for the purposes of New Zealand equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (NZ IFRS).

The forecast financial statements of the Council are for the year ended 30 June in each of the ten years of the Long-Term Plan.

The person or body that authorised the issue of the prospective financial statements by the local authority is responsible for the prospective financial statements presented, including the appropriateness of the assumptions underlying the prospective financial statements and all other required disclosures

The prospective financial statements were authorised for issue by the Council on 28 July 2021.

Basis of Preparation

Statement of Compliance

The financial statements of the Council have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002: Part 6, Section 98 and Part 3 of Schedule 10, which includes the requirement to comply with New Zealand generally accepted accounting practice (NZ GAAP).

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Tier 2 PBE Accounting Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime, on the basis that the Kaikōura District Council have expenses of more than $2 million and less than $30 million, and is not publicly accountable. These financial statements comply with PBE Standards.

Measurement Base

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis, modified by the revaluation of land and buildings, infrastructure assets, investment property and financial instruments.

The preparation of prospective financial statements in conformity with PBE accounting standards requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, revenue and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about carrying value of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimates are revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The accounting policies set out below will be applied consistently to all periods presented in the financial estimates.

The Council and management of the Kaikōura District Council are responsible for the preparation of the prospective financial statements.

The prospective financial statements have been prepared in accordance with PBE financial reporting standard 42.

Functional and Presentation Currency

The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest dollar. The functional currency of the Council is New Zealand dollars.

Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements.

Subsidiaries

The Council publishes both parent and group financial statements for historical reporting purposes in its Annual Reports but does not publish group prospective financial statements for its Long-Term Plans or Annual Plans. This is because the Council believes presentation of group financial statements would cause the prospective financial information to be overly complex for the purposes of a Long-Term Plan or Annual Plan.

The Council consolidates as subsidiaries in the Group financial statements, all entities where the Council has the capacity to control their financing and operating policies so as to obtain benefits from the activities of the entity. This power exists where the Council controls the majority voting power on the governing body or where such policies have been irreversibly predetermined by the Council or where the determination of such policies is unable to materially impact the level of potential ownership benefits that arise from the activities of the subsidiary.

The Council measures the cost of a business combination as the aggregate of the fair values, at the date of exchange, of assets given, liabilities incurred or assumed, in exchange for control of the subsidiary plus any costs directly attributable to the business combination.

Basis of consolidation

The purchase method is used to prepare the consolidated financial statements, which involves adding together like items of assets, liabilities, equity, revenue, and expenses on a line-by-line basis. All significant intra-group balances, transactions, revenue, and expenses are eliminated on consolidation.

The Council's investments in its subsidiaries are carried at cost in the Council's own "parent entity" financial statements.

Joint ventures

A joint venture is a contractual arrangement whereby two or more parties undertake an economic activity that is subject to joint control. For jointly controlled operations the Council recognises in its financial statements its share of the assets that it controls, the liabilities and expenses it incurs, and the share of Revenue that it earns from the joint venture.

Of the Council's interest in the Marlborough Regional Forestry joint venture, 13.37% is held in trust on behalf of Environment Canterbury. This is recognised as a non-current liability in the financial statements.

Revenue

Revenue is measured at the fair value of consideration received.

Rates revenue

Rates are set annually by a resolution from the Council and relate to a financial year. All ratepayers are invoiced within the financial year to which the rates have been set. Rates revenue is recognised when payable.

Rates collected on behalf of Environment Canterbury are not recognised in the financial statements as the Council is acting as agent for Environment Canterbury.

Donations and bequests

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 is released to revenue as the conditions are met (for example, as the funds are spent for the nominated purpose).

Other revenue

Water billing revenue is recognised on an accrual basis. Unbilled usage, as a result of unread meters at year end, is accrued on an average usage basis.

Government Grants

The Council receives government grants from NZ Transport Agency, which subsidises part of the costs of maintaining the local roading infrastructure. The subsidies are recognised as revenue upon entitlement as conditions pertaining to eligible expenditure have been fulfilled.

Other grants & subsidies 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 such an obligation, the grants are initially recorded as grants revenue as the conditions are met (for example, as the funds are spent for the nominated purpose).

Provision of Services

Revenue from the rendering of services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the transaction at balance date, based on the actual service provided as a percentage of the total services to be provided.

Sale of Goods

Sales of goods are recognised when a product is sold to the customer. The recorded revenue is the gross amount of the sale (excluding GST).

Vested Assets

Where a physical asset is acquired for nil or nominal consideration, the fair value of the asset received is recognised as revenue. Assets vested in the Council are recognised as revenue when control over the asset is obtained.

Agency Arrangements

Where revenue is derived by acting as an agent for another party, the revenue that is recognised is the commission or fee on the transaction.

Interest and dividends

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method.

Dividends are recognised when the right to receive payment has been established. Dividends are recorded net of imputation credits.

Development Contributions

The revenue recognition point for development and financial contributions is at the later of the point when the Council is ready to provide the service for which the contribution was levied, or the event that will give rise to a requirement for a development or financial contribution under the legislation.

Borrowing Costs

The Council has elected to defer the adoption of NZ IAS 23 Borrowing Costs (Revised 2007) in accordance with its transitional provisions that are applicable to public benefit entities.

Consequently, all 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 the Council has no obligation to award on receipt of the grant application and are recognised as expenditure when a successful applicant has been notified of the Council's decision.

Foreign currency transactions

Foreign currency transactions (including those for which foreign exchange contracts are held) are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Income Tax

Income tax expense in relation to the surplus or deficit for the period comprises current tax and deferred tax.

Current tax is the amount of income tax payable based on the taxable profit for the current year, plus any adjustments to income tax payable in respect of prior years. Current tax is calculated using rates that have been enacted or substantially enacted by balance date.

Deferred tax is the amount of income tax payable or recoverable in future periods in respect of temporary differences and unused tax losses. Temporary differences are differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the corresponding tax bases used in the computation of taxable profit.

Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all taxable temporary differences. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which the deductible temporary differences or tax losses can be utilised.

Deferred tax is not recognised if the temporary difference arises from the initial recognition of goodwill or from the initial recognition of an asset and liability in a transaction that is not a business combination, and at the time of the transaction, affects neither accounting profit nor taxable profit.

Deferred tax is recognised on taxable temporary differences arising on investments in subsidiaries and associates, and interests in joint ventures, except where the company can control the reversal of the temporary difference and it is probable that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax is calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the period when the liability is settled or the asset is realised, using tax rates that have been enacted or substantially enacted by balance date.

Current tax and deferred tax is charged or credited to the surplus or deficit, except when it relates to items charged or credited directly to equity, in which case the tax is dealt with in equity.

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

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

Debtors and Other Receivables

Short-term debtors and other receivables are recorded at their face value, less any provision for impairment.

Impairment of a receivable is established when there is objective evidence that the Council 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 considered indicators that the debt 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. The carrying amount of the asset is reduced through the use of an allowance account, and the amount of the loss is recognised in the surplus or deficit. When the receivable is uncollectible, it is written off against the allowance account for receivables. Overdue receivables that have been renegotiated are reclassified as current (that is, not past due).

Derivative financial instruments and hedge accounting

The Council does not engage in the use of derivative financial instruments and hedging activities.

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:

a) Fair value at fair value through surplus or deficit
b) Loans and receivables
c) Held to maturity investments
d) Fair value through other comprehensive revenue

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 profit and loss 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 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. The current/non-current classification of derivatives is explained in the derivatives accounting policy above.

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.

The Council 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 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.

Loans to community organisations made at nil or below-market interest rates 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 present value of the expected future cash flows of the loan is recognised in the surplus or deficit as a grant.

The Council's loans and receivables comprise debtors and other receivables, community and related party loans. Loans and receivables are classified as "debtors and other receivables" in the statement of financial position.

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 12 months after 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.

The Council's investments in this category include bank term deposits.

Fair value through other comprehensive revenue

Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive revenue 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 share investment within 12 months of balance date or if the debt instrument is not expected to be realised within 12 months of balance date.

The Council includes in this category:

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

These investments are measured at their fair value, with gains and losses recognised in other comprehensive revenue, 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 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 other receivables

Impairment is established when there is objective evidence that the Council will not be able to collect amounts due according to the original terms of the debt. Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy, and default in payments are considered 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.

For debtors and other receivables, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced using an allowance account, and the amount of the loss is recognised in the surplus or deficit. When the receivable is uncollectible, it is written-off against the allowance account. Overdue receivables that have been renegotiated are reclassified as current (that is, not past due). Impairment in term deposits, local authority stock, government stock, and community loans, are recognised directly against the instruments carrying amount.

Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive revenue

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 bankruptcy, and default in payments are considered objective indicators that the asset is impaired.

If impairment evidence exists for the investments at fair value through other comprehensive revenue, 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) recognized in other comprehensive revenue 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.

Inventory

Inventory held for distribution or consumption in the provision of services that are not supplied on a commercial basis are measured at the lower of cost, adjusted when applicable, for any loss of service potential. Where inventory is acquired at no cost or for nominal consideration, the cost is the current replacement cost at the date of acquisition.

Inventories held for use in the production of goods and services on a commercial basis are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. The cost of purchased inventory is determined using the first-in first-out (FIFO) method.

The amount of any write-down for the loss of service potential or from cost to net realisable value is recognised in the surplus or deficit in the period of the write-down.

When land held for development and future resale is transferred from investment property/property, plant and equipment to inventory, the fair value of the land at the date of the transfer is its deemed cost.

Costs directly attributable to the developed land are capitalised to inventory, except for infrastructural asset costs which are capitalised to property, plant and equipment.

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 in the surplus or deficit up to the level of any impairment losses that have previously been 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. Interest and other expenses attributable to the liabilities of a disposal group classified as held for sale continue to be recognised.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment consists of:

Operational assets

These include land, buildings, harbour assets, library books, computer equipment, office furniture, vehicles and plant.

Infrastructure Assets

These are the fixed utility systems owned by the Council, such as roads and three-waters. Each asset class includes all items required for the network to function, for example sewer reticulation includes reticulation pipes and sewer pump stations.

Property, plant and equipment is shown at cost or valuation, less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Revaluation

Those asset classes that are revalued are valued on a three-yearly cycle on the basis described below. All other asset classes are carried at depreciated historical cost. The carrying values of revalued items are reviewed at each balance date to ensure that those values are not materially different to fair value.

Land and buildings

Land and buildings were valued effective as at 30 June 2019 by Cameron Ferguson, (B.Com, VPM) of Quotable Value NZ, at fair value as determined from market-based evidence. Carrying values for those specific assets are shown less accumulated depreciation and plus any subsequent additions at cost.

Infrastructure assets

This includes roads, bridges & footpaths, water systems, sewerage systems and stormwater systems, stated at fair value determined on a depreciated replacement cost basis by an independent valuer. At balance date the Council assesses the carrying values of its infrastructure assets to ensure that they do not differ materially from the assets' fair values. If there is a material difference, then the off-cycle asset classes are revalued. Roading, water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure were valued internally as at 1 July 2020 and the valuation was independently reviewed by Rachel Wells and John Vessey of WSP.

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 the Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

In most instances, an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised at cost. Where an asset is acquired at no cost, or for nominal cost, it is recognised at fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Disposals

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount of the asset. Gains and losses on disposals are included 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 retained earnings.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis on all property, plant and equipment other than land, at rates which will write off the cost (or valuation) of the assets to their estimated residual values over their useful lives.

The estimated useful economic lives of major classes of assets, and the depreciation rates to apply to them, are as follows:

Operational Assets	**Estimated Life (years)**	**Rate (Rounded)**
Land		Not Depreciated
Buildings – Structure	50	2%
Buildings – Services	15 - 33	From 3% to 6.67%
Buildings – Internal Fit out	4 - 33	From 6.67% to 25%
Harbour Seawall & Wharf	30 – 50	From 2.0% to 3.45%
Computer Equipment	5	20%
Plant, Vehicles and Machinery	5 - 50	From 2% to 20%
Library books	12	8%
Library non-books	5	20%
Park Furniture & Other Assets	8 – 50	From 2% to 12.5%
Artwork		Not Depreciated

Infrastructural Assets	Estimated life (years)	Rate (Rounded)
Roading		
Road formation and base course		Not Depreciated
Bridges	50	1.93%
Sealed Top Layer	7	15.46%
Kerb and Channels	50	2.72%
Drainage	50	1.73%
Traffic Facilities	4	20.2%
Seawalls	50	2.09%
Footpaths – Structure		Not Depreciated
Footpaths – Surface	25	5.39%
Street Lighting	17	5.79%
Sewerage		
Equipment & Oxidation Ponds	50	From 0.28% to 5.03%
Pump Stations	17 - 100	From 2.51% to 6.67%
Catchment Mains & Reticulation	25 – 77	From 1.13% to 2.71%
Water		
Pump Stations	12 – 25	From 4.22% to 7.74%
Pipes & Reticulation	7 – 99	From 1.19% to 13.14%
Stormwater		
Catchment Mains & Reticulation	70 – 99	From 1% to 1.42%
Structures	19 – 75	From 5.26% to 1.33%

In relation to infrastructural assets, depreciation has been calculated at a component level based on the estimated remaining useful lives as assessed by the Council's engineers and independent registered valuers. A summary of these lives is detailed above. The residual value and useful life of an asset is reviewed, and adjusted if applicable, at each financial year-end.

Subsequent costs

Costs incurred subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised only when it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Council 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.

Deemed cost

Land under roads

Land under roads, was valued based on fair value of adjacent land determined by Connell Wagner Ltd effective 30 June 2001. Under NZ IFRS, the Council has elected to use the fair value of land under roads as at 30 June 2001 as deemed cost. Land under roads is no longer revalued.

Library collections

Library Books were valued at 30 June 2007 using actual cost per book, by the Kaikōura District Librarian, and this value has been deemed cost at that date. Library collections are no longer revalued.

Accounting for revaluations

The Council accounts for revaluations of property, plant and equipment on a class of asset basis.

The results of revaluing are credited or debited to an asset revaluation reserve for that class of asset. Where this results in a debit balance in the asset revaluation reserve, this balance is expensed in the surplus or deficit. Any subsequent increase on revaluation that off-sets a previous decrease in value recognised in the surplus or deficit will be recognised first in the surplus or deficit up to the amount previously expensed, and then credited to the other comprehensive revenue and revaluation reserve for that class of asset.

Forestry Assets

Forestry assets owned via the Marlborough Regional Forestry joint venture, and also the Council's own forestry assets, are independently revalued annually at fair value less estimated point of sale costs. These valuations were performed at 30 June 2020, by Forme Consulting Group for the joint venture, and by Merrill & Ring Ltd for the South Bay plantation. Fair value is determined based on the present value of expected net cash flows discounted at a current market determined pre-tax rate.

Gains or losses arising on initial recognition of forestry assets at fair value less estimated point of sale costs and from a change in fair value less estimated point of sale costs are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

The costs to maintain the forestry assets are included in the surplus or deficit.

Investment Property

Properties leased to third parties under operating leases only classified as investment property if the property is held to earn net rental yields or for capital appreciation. Most of the Council's leased properties are held to meet service delivery objectives and therefore are not classified as investment property.

Investment property is measured initially at cost, including transaction costs. After initial recognition, the Council measures all investment property at fair value as determined annually by an independent valuer, Quotable Value New Zealand.

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

Intangible Assets

Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) – Marlborough Regional Forestry

Marlborough Regional Forestry (MRF) (in which the Council holds a share as a joint venture) is a participant in the ETS with regard to both its significant holdings of "pre-1990" forests and currently minor holdings of "post 1989" forests.

Pre-1990 emission units (NZU's) received under the ETS Allocation Plan are recognised at cost and subsequently measured at cost subject to impairment. It is not anticipated that MRF will have any future liabilities or obligations with regard to its pre-1990 forests.

Post 1989 NZU's received for carbon stored are recognised at cost and subsequently measured at cost subject to impairment. Where there is an obligation to return units when carbon is lost the expense and liability are recognised and are measured at the carrying value of units on hand plus the fair value of any additional units required. If operations proceed as planned there will always be post 1989 units on hand in excess of any liability.

Any future cash flows associated with units receivable/payable will be taken into consideration in determining the valuation of the forest estate.

Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) – Council Forestry

In addition to its share of forestry in MRF, the Council owns forestry assets. However, the small forest at South Bay does not meet the minimum criteria to enter the scheme.

Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) – Council Landfill

The Council's landfill entered the ETS from 1 January 2013. The Council does not hold carbon credits, instead purchasing carbon credits when required to meet its immediate obligations arising from landfill emissions.

Impairment of Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangible Assets

Non-financial assets that have an indefinite useful life, are not yet available for use and are not subject to amortisation are tested annually for impairment. Assets that have a finite useful life are reviewed for impairment whenever events and 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.

Value in use is depreciated replacement cost for an asset where the future economic benefits or service potential of the asset are not primarily dependent on the assets ability to generate net cash flows and where the entity would, if deprived of the asset, replace its remaining future economic benefits or service potential.

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

If an asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount the asset is impaired and the carrying amount is written down to the recoverable amount. For revalued assets the impairment loss is recognised against the revaluation reserve for that class of asset. Where that results in a debit balance in the revaluation reserve, the balance is recognised in the surplus or deficit.

For assets not carried at a revalued amount, the total impairment loss is recognised in the surplus or deficit.

The reversal of an impairment loss on a revalued asset is credited to the revaluation reserve. However, to the extent that an impairment loss for that class of asset was previously recognised in the surplus or deficit, a reversal of the impairment loss is also recognised in the surplus or deficit.

For assets not carried at a revalued amount, the reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Creditors and other payables

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

Borrowings

Borrowings are initially recognised at their fair value net of transactions costs incurred. After initial recognition, all borrowings are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the Council has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the balance date or if the borrowings are expected to be settled within 12 months of balance date.

Employee Entitlements

Short-term benefits

Employee benefits that the Council expects to be settled within twelve months of balance date are measured at nominal values 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 compensated 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 the Council anticipates it will be used by staff to cover those future absences.

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

Long-term benefits

Superannuation schemes

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

The Council belongs to the Defined Benefit Plan Contributors Scheme (the scheme), which is managed by the Board of Trustees of the National Provident Fund. The scheme is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme.

Insufficient information is available to use defined benefit accounting, as it is not possible to determine from the terms of the scheme, the extent to which the surplus/(deficit) will affect future contributions by individual employers, as there is no prescribed basis for allocation. The scheme is therefore accounted for as a defined contribution scheme.

Provisions

A provision for future expenditure of uncertain amount or timing is recognised when there is a present obligation (either legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that expenditure will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses.

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.

Equity

Equity is the community's interest in the Council and is measured as the difference between total assets and total liabilities. Equity is disaggregated and classified into a number of reserves.

The components of equity are:

- Public equity – accumulated funds
- Special reserves
- Special funds
- Asset revaluation reserves
- Fair value through other comprehensive revenue reserves

Special reserves and special funds

Special reserves and funds 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 the Council.

Restricted (special) reserves are those subject to specific conditions accepted as binding by the Council and which may not be revised by the Council 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.

Council-created reserves (special funds) are reserves which may be altered without reference 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 reserves

This reserve comprises the cumulative net change in the fair value of fair value through other comprehensive revenue instruments.

Goods and Services 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.

Cost Allocation

The cost of service for each significant activity of the Council has been derived 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 significant activity.

Direct costs are charged directly to significant activities. Indirect costs are allocated to Council activities based on the total operating costs of the activity proportionate to the total operating costs of the Council.

Statement of Cash Flows

Cash means cash balances on hand, held in bank accounts, demand deposits and other highly liquid investments, with original maturities of three months or less, in which the Council invests as part of its day-to-day cash management.

Operating activities include cash received from all revenue sources and cash payments made for the supply of goods and services. Agency transactions (the collection of Regional Council rates) are recognised as receipts and payments in the Statement of Cash Flows because they flow through the Council's main bank account.

Investing activities are those activities relating to the acquisition and disposal of non-current assets.

Financing activities comprise the change in equity and debt structure of the Council.

Standards issued but not yet effective

PBE IPSAS 41 Financial Instruments

PBE IPSAS 41 Financial Instruments was issued in March 2019. The standard supersedes PBE IFRS 9 Financial Instruments, which was issued as an interim standard. It is effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2022. Although the Council has not assessed the effect of the new standard, it does not expect any significant changes as the requirements are similar to PBE IFRS 9.

PBE FRS 48 Service Performance Reporting

PBE FRS 48 replaces the service performance reporting requirements of PBE IPSAS 1 and is effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2022 following consultation that has been initiated by the External Reporting Board. The Council believes the application of PBE FRS 48 will not have any significant impact on its statement of performance as the Council has well established service performance reporting processes.

Critical Accounting Estimates and Assumptions

In preparing these financial statements, the Council has made estimates and assumptions concerning the future. These estimates and assumptions may differ from the subsequent actual results. Estimates and judgements 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:

Landfill aftercare provision

The Council estimates the current Scarborough Street landfill will reach the end of its useful life in 2024, and plans to reconfigure the space as a transfer station. The landfill will be capped in that same year, and all aftercare will be undertaken as part of the transfer station site operations.

Infrastructural assets

There are a number of assumptions and estimates used when performing DRC valuations over infrastructural assets.

These include:

- The physical deterioration and condition of an asset, for example the Council could be carrying an asset at an amount that does not reflect its actual condition. This is particularly so for those assets which are not visible, for example stormwater, wastewater and water supply pipes that are underground. This risk is minimised by the Council performing a combination of physical inspections and condition modelling assessments of underground assets;
- Estimating any obsolescence or surplus capacity of an asset;
- Estimates are made when determining the remaining useful lives over which the asset will be depreciated. These estimates can be impacted by the local conditions, for example weather patterns and traffic growth. If useful lives do not reflect the actual consumption of the benefits of the asset, then the Council could be over or under-estimating the annual depreciation charge recognised as an expense in the surplus or deficit. To minimise this risk, the Council’s infrastructural asset useful lives have been determined with reference to the NZ Infrastructural Asset Valuation and Depreciation Guidelines published by the National Asset Management Steering Group, and have been adjusted for local conditions based on past experience. Asset inspections, deterioration and condition modelling are also carried out regularly as part of the Council’s asset management planning activities, which gives further assurance over useful life estimates.

Experienced independent valuers perform the Council’s infrastructural asset revaluations.

Critical Judgments in Applying the Council's Accounting Policies

Kaikōura District Council management has exercised the following critical judgments in applying accounting policies for financial years 2021-2031:

Classification of property

The Council owns property which is maintained primarily to provide housing to pensioners. The receipt of market-based rental from these properties is incidental to holding these properties. These properties are held for service delivery objectives and to meet community outcomes. These properties are accounted for as property, plant and equipment.

Prior year comparisons

Where financial statements include a comparison for the prior year (2020/2021) those comparisons are sourced from the Council's Annual Plan and are not the Council's actual financial results.

The Council's actual financial results from any financial year have not been incorporated in this Long-Term Plan.

Updates to prospective financial information

The Council does not intend to update the prospective financial information contained within this Long-Term Plan after presentation. The Council does, however, intend to update this information in the future for the purposes of future Annual Plans (annually) and Long-Term Plans (every three years).

Purpose

The prospective financial statements in this Long-Term Plan have been prepared for the purpose of a forecast, based on assumptions that the Council can reasonably expect to occur, along with the actions it reasonably expects to take, as at the date the forecast was prepared. We recommend caution if this prospective financial information is used for any purpose other than as a Long-Term Plan prepared under the Local Government Act (2002).

The actual results are likely to vary from the forecast information, and such variations are likely to be material.

Changes in Accounting Policy

There have been no significant changes in accounting policies.